EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Operations

The European Space Agency is an equal opportunity employer and encourages applications from women

POST

Space Debris Analyst in the Space Debris Office, Ground Systems Engineering Department, Directorate of Human Spaceflight and Operations.

This post is classified in the A2/A4 grade band of the Coordinated Organisations’ salary scale.

LOCATION

ESOC, Darmstadt (Germany).

DUTIES

The postholder will report to the Head of the Space Debris Office and will be responsible for the following tasks:

- participating in operational support activities related to collision avoidance and re-entry of risk objects (requiring on-call support), as well as in ad hoc contingency management and the development and maintenance of related procedures;

- providing technical support to ESA programmes with relevance to space debris, such as the Space Situational Awareness (SSA) Programme and ESA’s Cleanspace and e.Deorbit initiatives;

- supporting projects by verifying their compliance to space debris mitigation standards, mainly in the areas of post-mission disposal, estimation of collision avoidance fuel budgets and on-ground casualty risk;

- evolving and maintaining ESA’s software systems for the verification of space debris mitigation requirements (DRAMA, SCARAB) and supporting the associated user community;

- supporting the maintenance of and upgrading existing space debris software in the areas of debris and meteoroid environment modelling, sensor performance modelling, collision avoidance, re-entry prediction, and orbit determination;

- defining and managing related development and analysis activities, following up the work and performing acceptance testing;

- defining studies in space debris disciplines related to modelling, radar and optical measurements, and space debris mitigation under the existing ESA study programmes; specifying, procuring and managing the related contracts;

- supporting the organisation of conferences and workshops in the area of space debris and being an active part of the ESA delegation to the Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC);
• supporting the management and evolution of facilities under the control of the Space Debris Office, such as the space debris observation system at the OGS (Optical Ground Station), the DISCOS database and the Office’s IT infrastructure;

• managing quality assurance tasks in the area of responsibility;

• following up current developments and performing their own research within the space debris community.

QUALIFICATIONS

Applicants for this post should have a Master’s degree or equivalent in engineering, physics, or mathematics. They should have a good background and several years of work experience in orbit mechanics, space debris issues, radar and optical measurements and related database systems. Candidates should also demonstrate their familiarity with modern programming techniques and software engineering practices.

The incumbent will be required to work in a diverse and international environment liaising with engineers in and outside the department. Excellent team-working, communication and relationship management skills are therefore required, together with a proactive attitude towards solving problems and the ability to achieve solutions in line with agreed objectives.

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these languages is required. Knowledge of another Member State language would be an asset.

CLOSING DATE

The closing date for applications is **18 September 2014**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made online from the ESA website ([www.esa.int/careers](http://www.esa.int/careers)). Those unable to apply online should submit their CV to Human Resources, ESOC, Robert-Bosch-Str. 5, D-64293 Darmstadt, Germany.

ESA staff members wishing to apply for this post should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESOC](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

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Under ESA Regulations, the age limit for recruitment is 55. Please note that applications are only considered from nationals of one of the following States: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Priority will first be given to internal candidates and secondly to external candidates from under-represented Member States.

In accordance with the European Space Agency’s security procedures and as part of the selection process, successful candidates will be required to undergo basic screening before appointment.