

EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

Vacancy in the Directorate of Technical and Quality Management

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

POST Radio Frequency Communications Engineer in the Communication, TT&C Systems and Techniques Section, RF Payload Systems Division, Electrical Engineering Department, [Directorate of Technical and Quality Management](#).

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

LOCATION ESTEC, Noordwijk (The Netherlands).

DUTIES The postholder will be assigned as integrated support to the Directorate of Science and Robotic Exploration. The incumbent will be in charge of the supervision of the design, development, and procurement of the Telemetry, Tracking and Command Subsystem of the Solar Orbiter mission, consisting of the RF Communications Module and the Antenna Subsystem. The postholder will report to the Head of the Avionics Section.

Within the programme guidelines and constraints, the duties will include the following:

- contributing to the establishment and maintenance of the spacecraft requirements documentation for what concerns the RF communications requirements, among others by analysing the relevant mission performance, interface and functional needs of the spacecraft and payload;
- contributing to the definition of the technical content of the work to be performed by the industrial space segment contractors in the area of spacecraft RF communications;
- managing technical and programmatic aspects of the industrial development and verification of the on-board Antenna Subsystem and Communication Module throughout its lifecycle, among others through the coordination of appropriate technical reviews, meetings and workgroups;
- ensuring that the specifications and architecture of the RF Communications Subsystem satisfy the functional and performance needs of the mission, and that verification evidence to this effect is obtained at unit, subsystem, spacecraft and mission level;
- participating in the definition, execution, and evaluation of the relevant functional, performance, and environmental tests;
- ensuring provision of the necessary project and industry inputs to the design, development, integration and validation of the RF communications elements of the Ground Segment, and coordinating project and industry support to reviews and test activities, to support in particular the spacecraft-to-ground segment compatibility verification;

- ensuring that the necessary inputs in the area of RF communications are provided by the Solar Orbiter industrial space segment contractors to the Mission Operations Centre with regard to spacecraft user manuals, flight operations procedures and spacecraft database development; participating in other tasks of the Project and of the Projects Department where the postholder's experience can be brought to bear.

Upon completion of the Integrated Support assignment, the postholder will return to the Communication, TT&C Systems and Techniques Section where the incumbent will be assigned new tasks and responsibilities within the postholder's domain of competence. The activities of this Section cover both project support as well as research and development (R&D).

QUALIFICATIONS Applicants for this post should have a university degree in Electrical Engineering or equivalent qualification, a solid experience in one of the fields relevant to the task described and sufficient knowledge of the remaining fields to perform their duties supported by technical experts. Experience of a satellite project environment is required.

Candidates shall demonstrate a proactive approach to problem solving, a strong attitude to team working and in building positive relationship with industrial partners in achieving common goals.

Applicants shall also demonstrate to possess strong interpersonal skills, the capability to work effectively in a team as well as excellent analytical, communication and organisation skills.

The working languages of the Agency are English and French. A good knowledge of one of these two languages is required. Knowledge of another member state language is an asset

CLOSING DATE The closing date for applications is **06 November 2012**.

Applications from external candidates for this post should preferably be made on-line at the ESA Web Site (www.esa.int/careers). Those unable to apply on-line should submit their CV to the Head of the Human Resources Division, ESTEC, Keplerlaan 1, 2201 AZ Noordwijk ZH (The Netherlands).

ESA staff members wishing to apply for this post should fill in the [Internal Application Form](#) and email it to [Apply2ESTEC](#).

The Agency may require applicants to undergo selection tests.

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, Portugal, Romania, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom and Canada.

Priority will be first 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.