



ESO

European Organization
for Astronomical
Research in the
Southern Hemisphere



INTERNAL VACANCY

For the Directorate of Engineering (DoE) at the Headquarters in Garching near Munich, Germany, ESO is searching an

Instrumentation Engineer/Physicist

The position is in the DoE's Instrument Systems Department that is responsible for the design and development of advanced optical and infrared instrumentation for the telescopes of ESO's La Silla-Paranal Observatory and for the future Extremely Large Telescope. Some of the instruments are developed in-house at ESO – when manufacturing is usually sub-contracted to industry – but most are developed and built by consortia of Institutes in the community, with ESO being the customer for these instruments.

We are looking for an experienced instrumentation engineer who will be responsible for the development and building of astronomical instrumentation from the first concepts to the final product delivered to and tested at the observatory.

The successful candidate will be motivated not only by the new technical and managerial challenges but also in developing her/his interpersonal skills within an international environment.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will

- Work within the core teams responsible for in-house instrument development fulfilling the formal role of system engineer and/or project manager, and leading the team of engineers working on the project, or
- Work within the core teams collaborating with/supervising external instrumentation consortia, supporting project management and/or system engineering from the ESO side
- Collaborate with ESO engineers from other projects and observatories to define common approaches and standards
- Provide support to the Observatory staff for maintenance and problem solving for delivered instrumentation
- A limited amount of time (20%) may be available for scientific research.

Duty trips, e.g. to ESO sites in Chile, are required.

Reports to:

The Head of the Instrument Systems Department



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Experience:

- At least five years experience in the technical development of opto-mechanical or opto-electronical systems, ideally for astronomical applications;
- Several years experience in system engineering and/or management of small to medium size projects;
- Several years experience in working in large multi-disciplinary teams.

Key Competences:

- Work both on your own initiative and as part of a team;
- Contribute ideas for improvements and developments to the working of the team;
- Take over responsibility and take decisions;
- Build strong collaborative working relationships with people from different cultural backgrounds and disciplines;
- Flexibility in adapting to changes of requirements and priorities as well as of assignments;
- Capability to work for different projects and with different teams (matrix structure), also in parallel.

Qualifications:

University degree in astronomy, physics or an engineering discipline

Language Skills:

Excellent command of the English language

Career Path: V

Starting date: as soon as possible

Application:

Please upload a letter of motivation in English via the ERP Web Service application.

Closing date for applications is 31 May 2014.

The post is equally open to suitably qualified female and male applicants.