



ESO

European Organization
for Astronomical
Research in the
Southern Hemisphere



For its Adaptive Optics Department (AOD) inside the Instrumentation Division at its Headquarters in Garching near Munich, Germany, ESO is opening the position of an

Adaptive Optics Project Engineer/ Physicist

(Career Path: V)

Purpose of the Job

In the frame of the AOD programs, ESO is recruiting an Adaptive Optics Project Engineer/Physicist to follow-up the Deformable Mirror activities.

You will complement the AO team under the responsibility of both the Head of Adaptive Optics Department and Adaptive Optics Facility (AOF) Project Manager and report to them. Additionally, you will closely follow-up and monitor at least three industrial contracts managed by European institutes.

Responsibilities and Working Environment

The ESO Adaptive Optics Department (AOD) is a world leading group in building state-of-the-art Adaptive Optics (AO) systems feeding a wide range of astronomical instrumentation (cameras, spectrometers, interferometers, etc.) on Very Large Telescopes. At present there are 7 AO systems routinely in operation and another 3 ongoing projects implementing new AO concepts.

For the ESO VLT, the AOD is leading an upgrade of one of the 8 m telescopes with: a large Deformable Secondary Mirror (DSM); a 4 Laser Guide Star Facility; the development of two Ground Layer correction AO modules for both; a multi-object spectrograph MUSE; and a large field of view Near IR

Imager (HAWK-I). This upgrade is called the AOF and should enable key technologies and design solutions for the European Extremely Large Telescope (E-ELT).

Your main duties and responsibilities include:

- procurement of the DSM for the AOF. You will manage the industrial contract for the development and the delivery of the DSM, as well as to contribute to its integration and test inside the AOF;
- management and animation of the development of new Deformable Mirror (DM) technologies for the E-ELT (large DM) and for its associated post-focal instrumentation (DM with high density of actuators, mini DMs). You will manage directly two design and prototyping industrial contracts.
- co-leading of European Community FP7 activities related to AO studies, following-up and instigating R&D contracts with European institutes in the framework of EC FP7 funded activities.

You will be motivated not only by these technical and managerial challenges but also in developing your interpersonal skills within an international environment.

Qualifications

Degree in Engineering/ Physics, or equivalent

Experience

You should have at least five years demonstrated experience in the AO field in system development, integration and testing of complex Opto-mechanical systems.

Previous management experience of medium size industrial contracts would be an advantage.



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Substantial knowledge of DM technologies and related industrial field is essential.

A good working knowledge of Project Management and the ability to prepare executive project reports is required.

Excellent communication skills and a very good knowledge of English are essential.

Key Competences

- Deep knowledge of contract management, associated with a very good ability to communicate with colleagues and external contacts
- Excellent organizational skills and a high degree of accuracy to your work
- Balancing conflicting demands and responding quickly to changes in priorities in-line with agreed overall objectives
- Contribute ideas for improvements and developments to the team work

Duty Station: Garching near Munich, Germany

Starting Date: As soon as possible.

Remuneration and Contract:

We offer an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary (tax free), comprehensive pension scheme and medical, educational and other social benefits, as well as financial support in

relocating your family, the possibility to place your child/children in daycare up to the age of 3.

The initial contract is for a period of three years with the possibility of a fixed-term or indefinite extension based on technical and managerial achievements. The title or grade may be subject to change according to qualification and the number of years of experience.

Application: If you are interested in working in areas of frontline technology and in a stimulating international environment, please visit (<http://www.eso.org>) for further details.

Applicants are invited to apply online at <https://jobs.eso.org/>. Applications must be completed in English and should include a motivation letter and CV.

Closing date for applications is 06 March 2009.

The position requires three letters of reference to be sent to vacancy@eso.org.

Although recruitment preference will be given to nationals of ESO Member States (members are: Austria, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom) no nationality is in principle excluded.

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