For the Software Development Division at the Headquarters in Garching near Munich, Germany, ESO is opening the position of a

Software Engineer

Career Path: V

Purpose of the Job

We are looking for a software engineer to develop software tools to support ALMA Science Operations.

Responsibilities and Working Environment

The successful candidate will be assigned to the Observatory Operations Support (ObOps) subsystem and report directly to the subsystem leader.

The ObOps subsystem is a part of the ALMA Computing Integrated Project Team, which is operating in Europe, the United States and Japan. The ALMA Computing Integrated Project Team is developing a wide range of operations support tools for the ALMA Observatory in Chile and its regional support centres.

The main tasks include:

Participating in any of the design, development, documentation and maintenance efforts;

- Development of both desktop (stand-alone) and Web-based applications using Java as the main development language;

- Java-based development of data-centric software applications (GUIs and data servers); and

- Written and spoken communication with end-users and colleagues, e.g. requirements elicitation and documentation.

Duty travel to North and South America may be required, with visits lasting up to three weeks.

Qualifications

University degree in Computer Science, Physics, Electrical Engineering or equivalent.

A good command of the English language is essential.

Experience

The following skills are essential:

- Three or more years of experience in developing Java applications;

- Experience in interfacing Java to relational and/or XML databases;

- Experience with GUIs (Swing, Eclipse RCP) and Web applications features;

- Familiarity with modern software engineering practices and tools, including UML modelling, CVS/Subversion, and unit testing; and

- Familiarity with IDEs (e.g. Eclipse) and Unix/Linux tools and build tools like make, Ant or Maven.

In addition, you should be ready to work at all levels of the software stack (from the GUI to the persistence layer), on the client and server sides.

Key Competences

You should be able to:

- Provide clear, concise and timely oral and written communications, identifying the key issues, examining options and proposing a way ahead;

- Work constructively in a team;

- Adjust quickly to changing circumstances and be prepared to compromise without losing sight of key objectives; and

- Have a pro-active approach to contribute ideas for improvements and developments.

In addition familiarity with international organisations is a welcome trait.

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 medical, educational and other social benefits as well as financial help in relocating your family, the possibility to place your child/children in daycare up to the age of 6. The initial contract is for a period of one year with the possibility of a fixed-term extension.

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 30 April 2009.

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.