

VACANCY NOTICE

Head of Remote Sensing and Products Division

EUMETSAT is Europe's meteorological satellite agency. Its role is to establish and operate meteorological satellites to monitor the weather and climate from space - 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. This information is supplied to the National Meteorological Services of the organisation's Member and Cooperating States in Europe, as well as other users worldwide.

From 2016 onwards, EUMETSAT will also operate the Copernicus Sentinel -3, -4, -5 and -6 missions on behalf of the European Union and provide data services to the Copernicus marine and atmospheric services and their users.

As an intergovernmental European Organisation, EUMETSAT has 30 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and the United Kingdom.)

EUMETSAT is now inviting well qualified candidates from its Member States to apply for the following post:

POST: Head of Remote Sensing and Products Division

LOCATION: Darmstadt, Germany

**DURATION
OF INITIAL
CONTRACT:**

The initial contract will be of 4 years' duration, with subsequent 5 year contracts being awarded thereafter, subject to individual performance and organisation requirements. There is no limit to the amount of follow-up contracts a staff member can receive up to the EUMETSAT retirement age of 63, and there are certainly opportunities to establish a long career perspective at EUMETSAT.

BACKGROUND: In the EUMETSAT matrix organization, the Remote Sensing and Products (RSP) Division of the Technical and Scientific Support (TSS) Department maintains, develops and makes available scientific expertise in remote sensing and applications of satellite data and products in a range of Competence Areas, as required to support the efficient exploitation and continuous evolution of operational satellite systems and the development of future, more capable systems, for the maximum benefit of users.

Reporting directly to the Director of the TSS Department, the holder of the post will manage the RSP division, supervise all its Competence Areas and manage the matrix support arrangements established with the Directorate of Operations and Services to Users (OPS) and with the Directorate of Programme Preparation and Development (PRD).

He/she will plan and supervise all divisional activities for the design, prototyping and validation of new algorithms and processing software:

- for the extraction of enhanced and additional state-of-the art products and Climate Data Records from observations of operational satellite systems exploited by EUMETSAT or its international partners, in response to evolving user requirements and taking advantage of advances in remote sensing science and IT technology;
- in support of the specification, design, development and testing of the innovative processing chains embedded in the new, more capable satellite systems being developed by EUMETSAT (e.g. MTG, EPS-SG and Jason-CS).

DUTIES:

The main duties of the post will be as follows:

- Manage the RSP Division in accordance with departmental and matrix management processes:
 - Supervise all Competence Area Managers and Programme Scientists;
 - Implement support arrangements with the OPS and PRD Departments (delegated tasks, support work packages, integrated support, service level agreements), including assessment of support requested, resources and skills involved and formalisation of agreed support;
 - Manage the portfolio of support provided and the resources involved, including the management of interactions with the supported entities, the assessment of deliverables and customer satisfaction, and support to the redefinition of priorities when necessary;
 - Assess skills available against current and future needs, and derive training and recruitment requirements for maintaining skills at the expected level;
 - Plan divisional activities and resources, including delivery of the rolling 4-year Product Development and Implementation Plan and contributions to the Climate Service Development Plan;
 - Deliver inputs to budgets, human resource and financial planning;
 - Support the definition and implementation of standards for efficient product development and validation, and the implementation of the EUMETSAT quality management system;
- Provide scientific support to the exploitation of operational satellite systems and data services and their evolution in response to user needs:
 - Support operations of satellite systems and services, as per the agreed arrangements, including in case of contingencies;
 - Maintain the baseline documents specifying the algorithms, formats and the theoretical basis for the generated products;
 - Maintain the operational Level-1 and Level-2 processing algorithms and provide related support to the maintenance of the operational processors;

- Monitor the quality of the delivered products and ensure that these meet the user requirements;
- Support the commissioning of products for recurrent satellites;
- Assess the feasibility of enhanced and new products through prototyping and develop algorithms and processors for feasible, agreed products;
- Assess the relevance of third party missions and support the development of third party data services;
- Support the EUMETSAT Climate Monitoring activities, in particular for the re-calibration, reprocessing and validation of relevant data and products;
- Provide support to the development of future satellite systems:
 - Provide guidance to the MTG Programme Scientist and to the EPS-SG Programme Scientist;
 - Supervise support to the development of the MTG, EPS-SG and Jason-CS instrument chains, in particular for the selection of algorithms, development of prototype processing software for level 1 and level 2 products, delivery of test data for testing operational processing chains, and calibration and validation of products;
 - Develop and maintain the relevant scientific (algorithms) and technical (product formats, processing, and requirements and specification documents) for the operational product processors;
 - Develop and assure coordination with relevant expert teams and structured interactions with the users communities, to ensure that the delivered products meet user requirements;
- Establish and manage or supervise contracts, in particular for scientific studies and for the maintenance and evolution of prototype and operational processors;
- Coordinate and support scientific aspects of cooperation with other satellite operators and interactions with the user communities:
 - Support bilateral and multilateral (CGMS) cooperation with other satellite operators and WMO;
 - Support the Chief Scientist and the Head of Strategy and International Relations and the Management Board in the assessment of new cooperation opportunities, including for data exchange and participation in EU-funded projects;
 - Support representation/participation of EUMETSAT in international scientific fora and events, in close coordination with the Chief Scientist and the Head of User Support and Climate Services;
 - Maintain an active Visiting Scientists programme, in close coordination with the Chief Scientist;

- Support the preparation of EUMETSAT user conferences and other interactions with user communities, in close coordination with the Head of the User Support and Climate Services and the Chief Scientist;
- Organize the spring and autumn meetings of the Science Working Group involving scientific experts from EUMETSAT Members States.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- University degree in remote sensing, meteorology or equivalent.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE:

- General knowledge of applications of products from meteorological and environmental satellites and of user communities; experience with products from EUMETSAT satellites would be an advantage;
- Recognised expertise in remote sensing science, and experience of processing of data from meteorological/environmental satellites and instruments;
- Experience in developing scientific application software (both technically and in terms of project management) and working with user communities, scientists and engineers;
- Successful experience of management of teams of scientists supporting the development and/or operations of data processing chains embedded in complex satellite or application software systems; experience in a matrix organisation would be an advantage;
- Strong interpersonal skills and coordination capabilities and a proven ability to apply these to the interactions within a team of scientists and with teams of engineers;
- Excellent analysis, synthesis, presentation and communication skills.

The official languages of EUMETSAT are English and French. Candidates must be able to work effectively in English and have a working knowledge of French.

CLOSING DATE: 13 September 2015

Interviews are tentatively scheduled for week 43/2015.

Applications in English or French should be sent via our online form (attaching curriculum vitae and covering letter quoting Reference VN(15)27 at

www.eumetsat.int

This post is graded A4/A5 on the EUMETSAT salary scales. The minimum basic salary for this post is EURO 7,576 per month (net of internal tax) which may be negotiable on the basis of skills and experience. The salary scale provides for regular increments, and scales are reviewed by the EUMETSAT Council with effect from 1 January each year. In addition to basic salary, EUMETSAT offers attractive benefits. Further information, including salary details, is available on the EUMETSAT web site.

EUMETSAT is committed to providing an equal opportunities work environment for men and women.

Please note that only nationals of EUMETSAT Member States may apply. The EUMETSAT Convention requires that Staff shall be recruited on the basis of their qualifications, account being taken of the international character of EUMETSAT. EUMETSAT does not operate a nationality quota system but, in recruiting Staff members, the geographical distribution will be taken into account.