

VACANCY NOTICE

Remote Sensing Scientist

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.

As an intergovernmental European Organisation, EUMETSAT has 26 Member States (Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, 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: Remote Sensing Scientist

LOCATION: Darmstadt, Germany

**DURATION
OF INITIAL
CONTRACT:**

The initial contract will be limited to 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.

DUTIES:

The holder of the post will be a leading scientist working on the advancement of the understanding and utilisation of passive satellite microwave instruments on environmental satellites. He/she will have a good background in the derivation of humidity and temperature from satellite radiance measurements. A direct contribution to the realisation of pertinent concepts is expected, and includes prototype software development. Good understanding of microwave instruments and soundings from Metop is also important.

The post-holder will take responsibility for scientific developments toward improved use of microwave sounding data from Metop and follow on

satellites. The work will often involve the appropriation of cutting edge science, the design and implementation of innovative retrieval algorithms and their evaluation through the realisation of prototype software and interactions with users. The work will require a strong collaboration with scientists and engineers in EUMETSAT as well as a close cooperation with external scientists and the user community.

The main duties of the post will be as follows:

- Contribute to and pursue the advancement of understanding and utilising microwave measurements from satellite and their applications in Numerical Weather Prediction, climate monitoring and other applications;
- Contribute to improving the use and application of current EUMETSAT operational satellite microwave instruments;
- Develop advanced satellite algorithms for microwave sounders and applications of EUMETSAT satellites with the goal to establish or evolve the existing meteorological product suite;
- Develop prototype software realising new scientific concepts and documentation of the development; Guide the development of the use of products in close cooperation with selected users.
- Support the implementation and evaluation of new algorithms in the EUMETSAT operational ground system.
- Establish and implement, with the remote sensing and user communities, plans for evaluating and benchmarking candidate retrieval algorithms and other scientific deliverables.
- Provide coherent guidance to the scientific development of the processing chains for MHS and AMSU-A on the Metop satellites, support the pertinent work towards a microwave sounding instrument on EPS-SG satellites, and conduct in-house scientific studies.
- Maintain and develop a strong cooperation with leading external scientists helping the appropriation of cutting edge science within EUMETSAT.
- Instigate and lead external scientific studies, including management of external contracts, relevant to the development of future satellite applications;
- Cooperate and interact actively with the external operational user community of EUMETSAT satellite products and services.
- Support Satellite Application Facilities (SAF) related activities.
- Support reprocessing and calibration activities performed by the Climate Monitoring Team in the User Support and Climate Services Division in the Operations Department.

Background of the position:

The post of the Remote Sensing Expert is within the Atmospheric Profiling Team of the Remote Sensing and Products Division (RSP) within the new Technical and Scientific Support Department effective from 1 January 2013. The AP Team is responsible for the scientific development, maintenance, validation and routine monitoring of a subset of remote sensing products in support of the development and operations of EUMETSAT geostationary and polar orbiting systems.

The main products concerned for the AP Team are related to atmospheric sounding from hyperspectral and low resolution infrared, microwave and radio-occultation instruments. Furthermore, the AP Team cooperates closely with the other teams in RSP and the Real-Time Services and System Operations team in the Operations Department on the definition of requirements for product validation and monitoring as well as visualisation tools and operational procedures.

In addition, the AP Team supports reprocessing and calibration activities performed by the Climate Monitoring Team in the User Support and Climate Services Division in the Operations Department.

Finally the AP Team supports the EUMETSAT Satellite Application Facility work as required.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- University degree in Meteorology, Remote Sensing, Physics or equivalent.
- Minimum of 5 years' experience in remote sensing and processing of data from spaceborne microwave sounding instruments.
- Experience in developing scientific application software and experience with scientific development projects and working with user communities and researchers.
- Scientific and operational expertise of microwave atmospheric sounding. Additional expertise on infrared sounding is an advantage;
- Strong background in remote sensing with expertise in microwave sounding, and knowledge in radiative transfer. Strong background in radiative transfer is an advantage.
- Experience and expertise in applications of passive microwave sounding in meteorology is an advantage.
- Strengths in analysis, synthesis and presentation, coupled with good interpersonal skills and a proven ability to apply these to the interactions within a team and between teams.

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

CLOSING DATE: 31 March 2013

Interviews are tentatively scheduled for week 18/2013.

Applications in English or French should be sent via our online form (attaching curriculum vitae and covering letter quoting Reference VN(12)23) at

www.eumetsat.int

This post is graded A2/A3 on the EUMETSAT salary scales. The minimum basic salary for this post is EURO 5,003 per month (net of internal tax) which may be negotiable on the basis of skills and experience. The salary scale provides for increments on the anniversary of taking up employment, 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.