

VN 26/39 Mission Planning Operations Engineer

EUMETSAT operates a fleet of spacecraft to observe the Earth's atmosphere, oceans and land surfaces in support of climate monitoring, weather forecasting, oceanography and hydrology. This includes satellites both owned by EUMETSAT or operated by EUMETSAT on behalf of the European Commission's Copernicus programme.

Within the Mission Planning Team of the Flight Operations (FLO) Division, the Mission Planning Operations Engineer supports the routine operations of flying satellites, and the development & operations preparation of future missions.

Duties

The following duties are foreseen for this role:

- Manage and perform Mission Planning operations, including activity scheduling, database maintenance, support for recurrent launches, anomaly tracking and resolution, operational configuration updates, development of operational processes, training of personnel, and the development and maintenance of operational documentation;
- Through close liaison with other teams within EUMETSAT (particularly the Flight Dynamics, Spacecraft Operations, Mission Control Systems and Data Processing teams), understand and
- Contribute to evolutions of operational Mission Planning systems, software or processes, from the definition of upgrades/changes arising from evolving user requirements to the verification, validation, acceptance and documentation of updated systems. Liaise/support the in-house software maintenance team and external contractors during the upgrade process;
- In support of future developments, participate in the procurement, operations preparation and validation campaigns involving Mission Planning and related systems and tools;
- Coordinate with mission



LOCATION

Darmstadt,
Germany



QUALIFICATIONS

A university degree (or equivalent) in a relevant engineering or scientific discipline.



LANGUAGES

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



DEADLINE

15 October 2026

implement all Space and Ground segment operational needs that must be met through Mission Planning systems and processes;

partners such as ESA, CNES, NOAA and NASA to implement mission planning and cross-support agreements;

- Support the Mission Planning Manager as necessary, particularly in the management of the Mission Planning Operations service team.

Skills and Experience

The following skills/experience are considered mandatory:

- Experience in the field of Mission Planning, gained during the operations and/or development of Low Earth Orbit (LEO) and/or Geostationary (GEO) satellite systems;
- Experience of LEO or GEO mission planning system specification, development and procurement, preferably including Assembly, Integration and Validation (AIV) related activities (test case and procedure generation; requirements tracking, verification and validation; support to test campaign management and execution; etc.);
- Experience producing and maintaining mission planning operational rules using JBoss Drools, and knowledge of Bash/Python;
- Experience in managing small teams;
- Ability to work proactively in a clear, structured manner with a minimum of supervision, within a small team. In particular, professional experience demonstrating personal initiative, action orientation and an ability to synthesise complex technical concepts in clear and concise formal documents and verbal presentations.

The following skills/experience would be advantageous:

- Ability to programme in languages such as C++ or Java (or similar) for Linux and MS Windows;
- Experience with the Linux operating system, relational databases and SQL, preferably involving PostgreSQL, Oracle and MariaDB/MySQL;
- Experience with container application environments (e.g. Docker);
- Experience of working with files in XML format, including XML file edition, schema validation and related tools (Oxygen and/or XMLSpy), and with Git and GitLab;
- Experience interfacing with partner agencies and organisations, and with industrial service and product providers.

Employment Conditions

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.

This post is graded A2/A4 on the EUMETSAT salary scales. The minimum basic salary for this post is EURO 7,553 per month (net of internal tax but excluding pension contribution and insurances) 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.

About EUMETSAT

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 States in Europe, as well as other users worldwide.

EUMETSAT also operates several Copernicus 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.)

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