



ESO

European Organization
for Astronomical
Research in the
Southern Hemisphere



For the Data Management and Operations Division at its Headquarters in Garching near Munich, Germany, ESO is opening the position of

Technical Support Engineer

(Career Path IV)

Purpose and Scope of the Position:

ESO is part of a coordinated effort in collaboration with other partners in Europe known as EURO-Virtual Observatory (VO). One of the goals is to support the uptake of the necessary software protocols and standards in house as well as by other European data centres necessary to electronically publish astronomical data through the EURO-VO Data Centre Alliance (DCA). The dissemination of knowledge and good practice is a major task of ESO's contribution to DCA. This position is supported by the Framework Programme of the European Union.

The successful candidate will be part of the Virtual Observatory Systems Department of the Data Management and Operations Division.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The successful candidate will work on VO standard interfaces and tools. He or she will actively participate in the preparation of hands-on technical workshops, collaborate with other data centres, which wish to publish their data in a VO compliant way, adopt and deploy tools, and document such activities as technical recipes for general use.

Professional Requirements / Qualifications:

A Bachelor of Science in Software Engineering or in Astronomy is required.

The ideal candidate will be familiar with astronomical data and archives, data reduction, VO tools, manipulation of large volumes of data, and SQL. An excellent command of the English language is required, both spoken and written. Ability to work on

projects as a team member with other geographically dispersed groups is a must.

Applicants with additional experience in several of the following areas are strongly encouraged to apply: XML document processing and programming in Java or C++, web and grid service frameworks, web content management, Java, Perl or Python.

Duty Station: Garching near Munich, Germany.

Starting Date: As soon as possible.

Remuneration and Contract: This is an appointment based on a fixed-term contract (Paid Associate) of one year. We offer an attractive remuneration package including a competitive salary (tax free), comprehensive social benefits as well as financial help in relocating your family and the possibility to place your child(ren) in the Kinderkrippe. Furthermore, an expatriation allowance as well as some other allowances may be added. 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 25 February 2008.

Although recruitment preference will be given to nationals of ESO Member States (members are: 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.