Physikalisch-Meteorologisches Observatorium Davos
World Radiation Center

Project Manager / Systems Engineer Space Projects (80-100%)

PMOD/WRC is a research and calibration institute in Davos, Switzerland, specializes in solar and climate research and is actively involved in space projects. The technical department offers a position for a project manager and systems engineer in space projects. While the work environment is highly international, the position is based in Davos Dorf, Switzerland. PMOD/WRC holds an affiliated professorship at the ETHZ department D-Phys.

This position **is available immediately**.

Project Background

The Mars - Magnetosphere ATmosphere Ionosphere and Space-weather SciencE (M-MATISSE) mission will focus on synergetic and simultaneous multi-point measurements of the Martian plasma system (both in-situ and remote-sensing) in order to characterise the Magnetosphere-Ionosphere-Thermosphere (MIT) coupling. M-Matisse is one of three finalists for the next ESA Medium-class space mission. PMOD/WRC are leading the Mars Solar Spectral Irradiance Monitor (M-SoSPIM) which will monitor solar flares and measure the impact on the Martian atmosphere and this is in phase A study. The selection of the next M-class mission will take place in 2026.

Key Responsibilities

Your main tasks include programmatic and financial project planning and control. You will serve as the key contact for the instrument prime contractor, PMOD/WRC subcontractors, the mission prime contractor, and ESA.

A strong technical background is essential, as you will oversee and coordinate engineers and subcontractors. Ideally, you have extensive experience in mechanical, electrical, or thermal engineering with solid knowledge of the other fields. Experience in space project engineering, vacuum applications, or instrument development is a plus.

Main Tasks as Project Manager/Systems Engineer

- Implementation of the project proposal content
- Plan and oversee key PMOD/WRC project tasks
- Continuous monitoring of project progress and financial aspects
- Preparation of project proposals for future phases
- Preparation of milestone document deliverables
- Maintain communication and reporting with external partners (University of Leicester, ESA)
- Establish international instrument consortium
- Coordination of the project team member’s tasks
- Support development of the instrument team for phase B
- Systems engineering (interface definition, requirements management, review of technical documentation)
- Technical lead in the project team during development and breadboarding
- Communication with external partners on technical aspects

Qualifications

- Master’s degree in an engineering discipline (University of applied sciences / University degree)
- Proven experience in project management and in addition, several years of engineering activity
- Experience in space development or space industry
- Experience with ECSS standards application
- Team leading capability
- Language: Fluent in English (written and spoken)

Additional assets

- Knowledge on contractual issues (client or contractor side)
- Language: German
- Team leading experience

What We Offer

An initial one-year contract with possibility of renewal, 80-100% full time employment. Dynamic work environment at a leading space research institute involved in missions like Solar-C, ESA Vigil, and ESA TRUTHS. Competitive salary and several benefits in scenic Davos, Switzerland.

Support for work-life balance, professional growth, and diversity. More on our website (https://www.pmodwrc.ch/en/institute/gender-equality-plan/).

Application Process

Please send your complete application (cover letter highlighting relevant expertise and interests, detailed CV and contact information for at least two professional references) to Eliane Tobler (eliane.tobler@pmodwrc.ch). **Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis until the position is filled.**

For additional information, please contact Valeria Büchel (valeria.buechel@pmodwrc.ch) or Dany Pfiffner (daniel.pfiffner@pmodwrc.ch).

Join us at PMOD/WRC for future space exploration! We look forward to your application!