HEAD OF THE INSTRUMENTATION SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Context & Job Description

The European Synchrotron Radiation Facility (ESRF) is a world-leading international scientific research infrastructure supported by twenty-two countries with the common intent to enable frontier synchrotron X-ray science and to improve cooperation across disciplinary and national boundaries. It is established as a “Société Civile” under French law and it is located in Grenoble, at the heart of the French Alps. Since the 1990s, ESRF operates a storage ring based synchrotron radiation source and state-of-the-art experimental beamlines. It welcomes close to 6000 scientists every year for experiments in fields such as biology, chemistry, earth and environmental sciences, cultural heritage, materials and surface science, medical imaging and ophthalmology, and physics. The ESRF’s access policy is centered on scientific excellence and the research carried out at its facilities results in about 150 peer-reviewed scientific publications every year, among which more than 400 in highly ranked journals. The ESRF is currently receiving 10 ERC grants and in numerous EC and internationally funded grants.

Openness and scientific and technical interdisciplinarity are key to the ESRF’s success. Recruiting skilled and passionate staff who are motivated to contribute, whether directly or indirectly, to the advancement of science, is crucial for the future of the ESRF as a centre of scientific excellence. The ESRF is committed to training science and technology with the younger generations and offers various educational programmes for students and training for the next generation of scientists, engineers and technical and administrative staff. It also dedicates significant resources to training its staff to fully develop their potential. At the ESRF, the synergies that emerge between people of different fields, cultures and backgrounds are an extraordinary source of creativity and innovation. Diversity is thus part of the ESRF’s identity and a prerequisite to achieve its mission. The ESRF is open to all levels of experience and it employs international staff from over 60 countries. To fulfill its mission, the ESRF operates with an annual budget of around 100 M€.

Since 2009, the ESRF is implementing its Upgrade Programme, which is to be completed in 2024. The second and final phase of this programme, which started in 2015, is the so-called ESRF-Extremely Bright Source programme (ESRF-EBXS), which is centered on the construction and exploitation of the new and revolutionary ultra-bright X-ray source.

The ESRF received its user operation in August 2000 with an X-ray beam performance increased by a factor of 10 in terms of beam brilliance and coherence: https://www.esrf.eu/about-us/upgrade. The ESRF-EBXS is enshrined as a landmark in the European Strategy Forum for Research Infrastructures (ESFRI).

In terms of operational performance, the new ESRF EBXS storage ring is, and for the coming years, the most brilliant high-energy synchrotron radiation source worldwide and will provide its users with unique scientific opportunities.

The ESRF Council appoints the four ESRF Directors:

- The Director General, is the chief executive and legal representative of the ESRF. The DG leads the Directorate (circa 520 staff) and is assisted by four directors:
  - one Deputy Director, responsible for the synchrotron radiation source and in charge of the Accelerator and Source Division (circa 80 staff)
  - two Directors of Research, responsible for the experimental infrastructure and in charge of the Experimental Divisions (circa 220 staffs) and
  - one Director of Administration, responsible for the organisation of all administrative work at the ESRF and in charge of the Administration Division (circa 90 staffs).

- The Director General is assisted further by the heads of the Technical and Instrumentation Services & Development divisions, who each liaise with the directors in their respective fields of responsibility.

The ESRF is now seeking to recruit the next Head of the Instrumentation Services & Development Division (HISDD).

The Function:

- The Instrumentations & Services Development Division (IISDD) provides support to the Accelerator and Source Divisions (ASD) and the Experimental Divisions (EXP). Its contribution to the leadership of the ESRF in X-ray instrumentation through ESRF programmes embodied in a long-term strategy and by monitoring technology developments worldwide. The IISDD is organised in five groups with fourteen teams, and operates more than ten associated laboratories.

- Standby and on-call services are provided to ASD and EXP to ensure continuous operation. Planning and project coordination is implemented to ensure that the required resources are identified and developed to reach the required performance and support the operations and maintenance activities. The IISDD is responsible for the management of humans resources and budgetary matters, and work in the other divisions, groups and services of the ESRF. In addition, they will have the responsibility to promote and represent the ESRF at conferences, workshops and similar events.

Expected Profile

Qualifications and Experience:

You have a degree and PhD in physical sciences, engineering or equivalent, and substantial research experience and recognised experimental/instrumental skills in synchrotron radiation science and techniques. With solid management experience or senior management level, you have strong organizational, planning and analytical skills. You have a cooperative leadership style and the ability to inspire and engage the staff and establish a strong team spirit culture. You are able to work in a complex multidisciplinary and international environment, and have excellent communication skills. You have an excellent command of both oral and written English, and a good level of French would be an asset. You are committed to promoting diversity, ethics, integrity and sustainable development.

Working Conditions

Applications:

The ESRF fosters diversity and an open and family-friendly policy at all levels in the organisation. Applications from women are particularly encouraged and, in the present recruitment campaign, the ESRF is ready to discuss with the successful candidate options to support relocation to the Grenoble area.

The following link provides information on the benefits and advantages offered by the ESRF as an employer: https://www.esrf.eu/homejobs/whatweoffer/benefits-and-more/lifebalance.html

In order to apply to the position of Head of the Instrumentation Services & Development Division (HISDD) at the ESRF, you are invited to submit your CV and motivation letter to jobs@esrf.fr

Deadline for returning applications: 31 December 2023

Interview dates – second half of January 2024