

Position Details

Research Projects – CSOF4

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS FOR APPLICANTS

Advertised Job Title	Station Configuration Specialist - SKA-Low Telescope
Job Reference	99627
Tenure	Specified Term - Full-time, Part-time or Job-share
Salary Range	CSOF4 - AU\$96,811 to AU\$109,527 per annum, plus 15.4% superannuation
Location(s)	Geraldton or Perth, Western Australia (Geraldton is preferred)
Relocation Assistance	Will be provided to the successful candidate if required
Applications are open to	All candidates
Client Focus – Internal	0%
Client Focus – External	100%
Position reports to the	This position will report to the SKA-Low Deployment and Maintenance Manager
Number of Direct Reports	0
Enquire about this job	To enquire about this job please reach out to the SKA-Low Deployment and Maintenance Manager, Pablo Carrillo, on pablo.carrillo@csiro.au for more information.
How to apply	Apply online at https://jobs.csiro.au/ Internal applicants please apply via Jobs Central If you experience difficulties when applying, please email careers.online@csiro.au or call 1300 984 220.

Acknowledgement of Country

CSIRO acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the land, sea and waters, of the areas that we live and work on across Australia. We acknowledge their continuing connection to their culture and pay our respects to their Elders past and present. View our [vision towards reconciliation](#).

The CSIRO Experience

As an employee of CSIRO, you will be eligible for the many benefits of working at Australia's National Science Agency. You can read more here:

1. [Life at CSIRO](#)
2. [Personal Development & Learning](#)
3. [Generous Leave & Conditions](#)
4. [Work / Life Balance](#)

Background

The SKA Observatory (SKAO) is a next-generation radio astronomy facility that will revolutionise our understanding of the Universe and the laws of fundamental physics. Enabled by cutting-edge technology, it promises to have a major impact on society, in science and beyond. As an intergovernmental organisation, the SKAO brings together sixteen countries around the world.

The SKAO has an international footprint and consists of the SKAO Global Headquarters in the UK, the SKAO's two telescopes at radio-quiet sites in South Africa and Australia, and associated facilities to support the operations of the telescopes.

Constructing and operating these telescopes will position the SKAO as the leading research infrastructure for radio astronomy globally, providing science capabilities to the international astronomical community for decades to come.

Australia will host the SKAO's low frequency telescope (SKA-Low) in remote Western Australia on Wajarri Yamaji Country.

The Traditional Owners and native title holders, the Wajarri Yamaji, have gifted CSIRO with the traditional name Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara for the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory, home to the SKA-Low telescope. The traditional name means 'sharing sky and stars' in the Wajarri language.

In Australia, SKAO is collaborating with CSIRO to operate and support the construction of the SKA-Low Telescope. SKA-Low teams are operating out of:

- Inyarrimanha Ilgari Bundara, the CSIRO Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory on Wajarri Yamaji Country.
- Our Engineering Operations Centre on Nhanhangardi, Naaguja, Wilyny and Amangu Country in Geraldton.
- Our Science Operations Centre on Whadjuk Noongar Country in Perth.

Further Reading: [Explore CSIRO and the SKA-Low Telescope project](#)

Role Overview

SKA-Low will be the world's largest low frequency radio telescope, made up of 512 stations. Each SKA-Low station consists of 256 antennas, power distribution and signal processing subsystems, located at the telescope site. The SKA-Low Station Configuration Specialist is a key member of the Low Station Deployment and Maintenance Team and will be responsible for configuration management activities during the station construction phase.

These activities include managing the As-Built register and auditing of the SKA-Low stations, configuration control and tracking of SKA-Low station components during the logistics supply chain. The role will also administer the SKA-Low CMMS platform, supporting users of the SKA-Low Telescope.

The SKA-Low Station Configuration Specialist will support the Deployment Team in the construction of the telescope components on site and, in that process, gather the required as-built configuration. The SKA-Low Station Configuration Specialist will also interact with the SKA-Low Logistics and Planning Team and the manufacturers of SKA-Low components (some of them in different countries), to ensure information is duly delivered in advance for deployment.

The SKA-Low Configuration Specialist will collaborate closely with the SKA-Low Configuration Manager, based in the UK and the SKA-Low Station Team locally to ensure the as-installed and as-maintained configuration status is properly managed. The SKA-Low Station Configuration Specialist will also be responsible for providing the acceptance data package confirming completed construction of the Stations.

The position will be line-managed within the Engineering Operations team.

This role will be based at the SKA-Low Engineering Operations Centre (EOC) in Geraldton Western Australia, with frequent travel to SKA-Low Telescope site. Travel to site is on a small 6-10 seat aircraft.

CSIRO and the SKA Observatory value and respect difference, and we are committed to building an inclusive culture by creating an environment where you can balance a successful career with your commitments and interests outside of work. We believe that you will do your best at work if you have a work / life balance. We are open to discussing flexible working opportunities with this role being offered on a full-time, part-time or job share basis. Please raise your preference in your application.

Duties and Key Result Areas

- Responsible for maintaining the correct as-installed and as-maintained configuration for SKA-Low stations using the available SKAO configuration and maintenance platforms and communicating this to other parts of the Observatory.
- Administer the SKA-Low Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) giving users the necessary support and training when required, in close coordination with the Engineering Performance Group in UK.
- Create processes and procedures to comply with SKA's configuration management guidelines.
- Collaborate with stakeholders for coordination and collaborative working.
- Guide and mentor team members in configuration management.
- Compile and audit the "As-Built" Product Breakdown Structure for SKA-Low Station products.
- Act as a skilled technical/engineering resource, helping to meet budget, timeframe, and quality objectives for SKA-Low Station.
- Adhere to the spirit and practice of both the CSIRO's and the SKA Observatory's values, Code of Conduct, health, safety and environment procedures and policies, diversity initiatives and zero harm goals.
- Participate in Configuration Management workshops and meetings, where required.

Selection Criteria

CSIRO is an Equal Opportunity employer working hard to recruit world-class talent that represents the diversity across our society. As part of our commitment to equitable employment outcomes for under-represented groups, preference will be given to Indigenous Australian people and women who meet the role criteria.

Essential

Under CSIRO policy only those who are able to demonstrate how they can meet the essential criteria may be appointed.

- A degree in a technical discipline, or equivalent relevant experience demonstrating a strong understanding of electronic, computing, network, or similar technical systems.
- Experience and foundational knowledge of configuration management principles and asset management, with a strong interest in developing expertise in Computerized Maintenance Management Systems (CMMS) and asset registers. Ability to learn and apply “As-Built” and “As-Maintained” processes in a large-scale, technical environment.
- Proven ability to build relationships and act as the first point of contact for stakeholders, providing helpful consultative advice. Demonstrated teamwork skills with a focus on clear communication, collaboration, and delivering results in team-based settings.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills, with the ability to present complex technical information in a clear, concise manner for non-specialist audiences, and the ability to work collaboratively within teams and effectively communicate with diverse stakeholders.
- Strong organisational skills with demonstrated experience in managing multiple tasks, prioritising workloads, and meeting deadlines.
- Proficiency in office suite software (e.g., Microsoft Office) and database management, with the ability to effectively use these tools to support administrative and reporting tasks.

Desirable

- Understanding of project management concepts, with a strong planning and organisational skills. Experience in managing or supporting projects, particularly in technical or engineering environments.
- Knowledge of configuration management principles, including familiarity with Configuration Management Principles like SAE EIA-649C.
- Familiarity with Quality Assurance and auditing techniques, particularly in technical or engineering contexts.
- Practical knowledge of electronic or network systems, including experience with their installation and maintenance.
- Experience working in remote locations and performing technical tasks in challenging field conditions, particularly in large-scale scientific installations or projects.

Required Competencies

- **Teamwork and Collaboration:** Cooperates with others to achieve organisational objectives and may share team resources in order to do this. Collaborates with other team as well as industry colleagues.
- **Influence and Communication:** Uses knowledge of other party's priorities and adapts presentations or discussions to appeal to the interests and level of the audience. Anticipates and prepares for others reactions.
- **Resource Management/Leadership:** Allocates activities, directs tasks and manages resources to meet objectives. Provides coaching and on the job training, recognises and supports staff achievements and fosters open communication in the team.
- **Judgement and Problem Solving:** Investigates underlying issues of complex and ill-defined problems and develops appropriate response by adapting/creating and testing alternative solutions.
- **Independence:** Recognises and makes immediate changes to improve performance (faster, better, lower cost, more efficiently, better quality, improved client satisfaction).
- **Adaptability:** Copes with ambiguity or situations that lack clarity. Adapts readily to changing circumstances and new responsibilities (which may include activities outside own preferences) in the interests of achieving team objectives. Recognises the need for and undertakes personal development as a result of changes.

Special Requirements

- The successful candidate will be required to gain a National Police Clearance or equivalent. This will be conducted by CSIRO, Talent Services, through our provider HireRight. Please note that individuals with criminal records are not automatically deemed ineligible. Each application will be considered on its merits.
- The successful candidate will be required to undertake a pre-employment medical examination prior to commencement.

Child Safety

CSIRO is committed to the safety and wellbeing of all children and young people involved in our activities and programs. View our [Child Safe Policy](#).

CSIRO and SKAO Values

Visit [CSIRO Online](#) and [Space and Astronomy](#) and [SKAO online](#) and [SKAO Location](#) for more information. In your application and at interview you will need to demonstrate behaviours aligned to our values of:

CSIRO	SKA Observatory
<ul style="list-style-type: none">● People First● Further Together● Making it Real● Trusted	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Diversity and Inclusion● Excellence● Collaboration● Creativity and Innovation● Sustainability and Safety