# Position Details

## Research Projects- CSOF5

|  |
| --- |
| The following information is for applicants |
| Advertised Job Title | Photonics Packaging Process Engineer |
| Job Reference | 99963 |
| Tenure and work schedule | Specified Term of 30 months Full-time*We will explore options for flexible work arrangements based on needs of the role and individual circumstances.* |
| Salary Range | AU$114,219 – AU$123,605 per annum (pro-rata for part-time) plus up to 15.4% superannuation |
| Location(s) and office arrangements | Brisbane (Pullenvale), QLD |
| Relocation Assistance | Will be provided to the successful candidate if required |
| Applications are open to | Australian/New Zealand Citizens and Australian Permanent Residents Only |
| Position reports to the | Team Leader, Distributed Mine Sensing Team |
| Client Focus – Internal | 60% |
| Client Focus – External | 40% |
| Number of Direct Reports | 0 |
| Enquire about this job | Contact Matt van de Werken, Team Leader – Distributed Mine Sensing Team, via email at matt.vandewerken@csiro.au |
| Support and workplace adjustments | We offer a range of reasonable supports and workplace adjustments. Please let us know via email Vicki.Ferrar@csiro.au (Vicki Ferrar – Talent Acquisition Partner) if we can help you to equitably participate in our recruitment process or the role itself. |
| How to apply | Apply online at <https://jobs.csiro.au/> Internal applicants please apply via **Jobs Central**We encourage you to reach out if you require any support or experience difficulties when applying – please email careers.online@csiro.au |

**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](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/Indigenous-engagement/Reconciliation-Action-Plan).

**About CSIRO**

As Australia's national science agency, CSIRO is solving the greatest challenges through innovative science and technology. Many of our iconic innovations were once considered impossible until someone, just like you, joined us and took on the challenge.

As one of the world’s largest multidisciplinary mission-driven research organisations, we are focused on the issues that matter the most: for our quality of life, for the economy and for our environment. We believe diverse teams are more effective and deliver more innovative outcomes. When we all focus on the big things that really matter, and work in partnership with our communities and [Indigenous Australia](https://www.csiro.au/research/indigenous-science), Australian science and technology can solve seemingly impossible problems and create new value for all Australians. Visit [CSIRO.au](https://www.csiro.au/) for more information.

### Role Overview

The role of Research Projects staff in CSIRO is to collaborate in scientific and technological activities with other research staff usually by assisting with detailed planning, undertaking or assisting with experimental, observational or technology development work, and in carrying out the more practical aspects of the work.

As a key member of the Distributed Mine Sensing Team within the Sustainable Mining Technologies research program, the successful applicant will advance the development of photonic packaging solutions supporting both the Sustainable Mining Technologies Program and the Queensland Advanced Photonics Packaging Facility, based at the Queensland Centre for Advanced Technologies.

The successful candidate will lead the design, optimisation, and execution of advanced photonic packaging strategies—overseeing optical coupling solutions, precision fibre alignment, and assembly techniques geared for high performance, scalability, and field robustness. A strong emphasis is placed on cleanroom operations, and the successful candidate will not only perform but also coordinate cleanroom activities, ensuring compliance with safety and quality standards, maintaining equipment, and contributing to the evolution of facility protocols.

Experience in fibre-to-chip coupling, optical assembly using active and passive alignment, semiconductor packaging (including die attach, wire bonding, and flip-chip methods), and process integration will be crucial. The role also involves contributing to optical simulation workflows and overseeing the assembly and performance evaluation of photonic modules for laboratory and field deployments—including challenging mining environments.

This position requires engagement with internal collaborators and external partners to shape joint development initiatives and translate research outputs into real-world photonic systems. The candidate will play a pivotal role in strengthening CSIRO’s footprint in applied photonic integration and packaging, while supporting the growth of Queensland’s photonics innovation ecosystem.

### Duties and Key Result Areas

* Lead the development of low-loss, scalable, and cost-efficient photonic chip packaging solutions.
* Design and direct implementation of new assembly processes tailored to silicon photonic system requirements.
* Operate electrical wire bonders, two-photon polymerisation tools, die bonders, and optical alignment systems in a cleanroom environment.
* Manage and maintain cleanroom infrastructure and associated packaging equipment, ensuring high operational standards and procedural compliance.
* Develop SOPs and training material for cleanroom personnel with an emphasis on safety.
* Design heterogeneous integration (HI) processes for seamless photonic-electronic co-packaging at chip level.
* Perform Multiphysics modelling (thermal, mechanical, optical) using tools such as Ansys Lumerical and ZEMAX.
* Maintain collaborative partnerships across the Queensland photonics network to drive strategic innovation and technical alignment.
* Present findings and author comprehensive technical reports for both internal stakeholders and industry partners.
* Work collaboratively as part of a multi-disciplinary, regionally dispersed research team to carry out tasks in support of CSIRO’s scientific objectives, and communicate openly, effectively and respectfully with all staff, clients and suppliers in the interests of good business practice, collaboration and enhancement of CSIRO’s reputation.
* Adhere to the spirit and practice of CSIRO’s Values, Code of Conduct, Health, Safety and Environment procedures and policy and diversity initiatives.
* Perform additional tasks as required, demonstrating flexibility to meet evolving team and organisational priorities.

## **Selection Criteria**

#### Essential

*Under CSIRO policy only those who meet all essential criteria can be appointed.*

1. Minimum qualification of a Master’s degree in Electrical Engineering, Physics (ideally majoring in Optics), Materials Science, Mechanical Engineering, or a closely related field.
2. Strong background in photonics, photonic integration, device-level modelling (e.g., Lumerical, COMSOL, Tiny3D), and optical system design (ZEMAX).
3. Strong background in semiconductor packaging technologies including die attach, wire bonding, flip-chip assembly, and optical micro-assembly.
4. Proficiency in scientific programming (MATLAB, LabVIEW, C++, or Python).
5. Experience with PCB Design and CAD design tools.
6. Demonstrated leadership in solving complex technical challenges and delivering project outcomes.

## **Desirable**

1. Experience in fibre handling, cleaving, and characterisation of fibre-coupled devices.
2. Experience with die-scale electro-optical testing and automation using Python or similar tools with motion controllers.
3. Proven experience with active and passive optical fibre alignment techniques for fibre-to-chip coupling.
4. Background in developing optical and electro-optical characterisation methods.
5. Hands-on experience in photonic IC (PIC) design.
6. A publication history of authorship on scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals and/or reports, grant applications or patent applications.

## **Not sure if you meet all the criteria?**

While it is CSIRO policy that the successful candidate must meet all the essential criteria, there are many ways to demonstrate this. Don’t let the list discourage you. If you are unsure about applying, please reach out to the contact on page 1 of this document so we can discuss the role further.

## **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:** Sets up and maintains effective and efficient work teams and manages performance and resources, to achieve objectives. Chooses appropriate management strategies and communication styles to maintain high levels of motivation and productivity. Gives feedback for development purposes and provides support and direction for improvement.
* **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:** Plans, sets and works to meet challenging standards and goals for self and/or others. Recognises where endeavours will make the most impact or difference, decides on desired outcome and sets realistic goals to reach this target.
* **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.

## **Setting you up for success**

We understand that not everyone works in the same way and sometimes people may require reasonable support and adjustments to perform at their best. Whether related to the recruitment process and or the role itself, this may include options such as providing different methods of communication, flexible hours or physical adjustments to work methods. If you feel comfortable, we encourage you to share any support and adjustments you may need to carry out the inherent requirements of the role. Please let us know via email Vicki.Ferrar@csiro.au (Vicki Ferrar – Talent Acquisition Partner) if we can help you to equitably participate in our recruitment process or the role itself.

## **Life at CSIRO and flexible working arrangements**

We [work flexibly at CSIRO](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/life-at-csiro/Flexible-work), offering a range of options for how, when and where you work.  We can discuss flexible work arrangements with you during the recruitment process. CSIRO also offers a range of leave entitlements, [benefits](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/life-at-csiro/Benefits) and [career development](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/life-at-csiro/Career-development) opportunities. To learn more, visit [Careers at CSIRO](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers).

We celebrate the uniqueness of our workforce and are committed to creating [diverse and inclusive teams](https://www.csiro.au/en/careers/life-at-csiro/Diversity-inclusion-belonging) where everyone feels they belong. CSIRO is an equal employment opportunity organisation dedicated to recruiting people based on merit, and reflecting the diversity of the community we serve. We recognise true diversity encompasses all ages, nationalities, abilities, cultures, genders, sexualities, faiths, levels of education, diversity of thought and many more aspects of identity. By empowering diverse teams, our community is reflected in the solutions we create.

## **CSIRO values**

CSIRO is a values-based organisation committed to values-based leadership.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Value** | **Descriptor** | **Behaviour** |
| **People first** | Our priority is the safety and wellbeing of our people. We believe in, and respect, the power of diverse perspectives. We seek out and learn from our differences.  | * Respectful
* Caring
* Inclusive
 |
| **Further together** | We achieve more together than we ever could alone. We listen and collaborate, in teams, across disciplines, across boundaries. We embrace ambiguity and use discussion and persistence to generate unique solutions to complex problems. | * Accountable
* Authentic
* Courageous
 |
| **Making it real** | We do science with real impact. We thrive when taking on the big challenges facing the world. We take educated risks and defy convention. We celebrate successes and failures and leverage them to learn as we strive to be the force for positive change. | * Partnering
* Cooperative
* Humble
 |
| **Trusted** | We’re driven by purpose but remain objective. We fight misinformation with facts. We earn trust everywhere through everything we do. We trust each other and we hold each other accountable. Together our actions drive Australia’s trust in CSIRO. | * Curious
* Adaptive
* Entrepreneurial
 |

## **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](https://www.csiro.au/en/about/policies/child-safe-policy).

Special Requirements

Appointment to this role is subject to provision of a pre-employment background check and may be subject to other security/medical/character clearance requirements.

* The successful candidate will undertake a pre-employment background check. 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.