VACANCY NOTICE FOR TEMPORARY AGENT SELECTION

Job title	**Laboratory Technician - Scientific Research**
Reference	**JRC/COM/2026/2399**
Application deadline	12.01.2027 - 12.00 (Brussels time)
Directorate-General	Joint Research Centre (JRC)
Unit	JRC.C.1 Battery and Hydrogen Technologies Unit
Place of assignment	Petten (Netherlands)
Grade range	AST1/3
Domain	Science and Research
Contract type	Temporary Agent 2d

About us ("We are")

As the science and knowledge service of the European Commission, the Joint Research Centre provides independent, evidence-based knowledge and science, supporting EU policies to positively impact society. We provide anticipatory capacity, solid expertise and ability to propose and implement interdisciplinary research. The activities are carried out in collaboration with relevant Commission Services, national and international organisations and stakeholders. At the JRC we organise our work in portfolios which are the main building blocks of our multi-annual work programmes. The JRC is located in five Member States (Belgium, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and Spain). More information about the JRC and its portfolios can be found at: https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/index_en

The current vacancy is with the Directorate for Energy, Mobility and Climate, in the **Battery and Hydrogen Technologies Unit**. We provide knowledge on the battery and hydrogen value chains to support their role in the transition towards a decarbonised European energy system. This work is based on results obtained from testing in our own experimental facilities and on the collection and making sense of scientific and industrial data, and technology monitoring and assessment.

Renewable hydrogen, produced via water electrolysis powered by electricity from renewable sources, plays a crucial role in the energy transition. However, key aspects of electrolysers, such as performance, lifespan, durability, safety and environmental impact, are still not fully understood and must be further investigated. The Electrolyser Testing Facility (ELTEST) is a key research infrastructure

supporting international standardisation efforts through pre-normative research and the validation of testing procedures and protocols for electrolysers. Our work contributes to EU policies aimed at the widespread adoption of electrolysers for renewable hydrogen production.

For a virtual tour around the ELTEST lab, please check the JRC visitors' centre: FUEL CELL 360. More information can be found at: Electrolyser Testing Facility - Joint Research Centre - European Commission

The job is located at the JRC site in Petten, the Netherlands. More about the Energy storage research infrastructures - Joint Research Centre

About the role ("We propose")

We propose a position for an enthusiastic person with a scientific-technical profile who will work together with a team of engineers and scientists in the **Electrolyser Testing Laboratory (ELTEST)**.

You will provide scientific-technical input and support for experimental campaigns on electrolyser membrane assemblies by planning and conducting tests and collaborating with the scientific staff to interpret the generated data. This is a versatile job, involving:

- Design, prepare and execute test campaigns, according to applicable requirements for safety, quality and environmental safeguards in laboratories;
- Conduct scientific analyses, including benchmarking against other results, reporting, and detailing procedures;
- Participate and contribute to technical discussions with external entities, scientific project consortia and other EC services;
- Engage in discussions and suggest alternative methods to scientists and engineers who utilise the JRC electrolyser facilities;
- Propose laboratory upgrades and contribute to the procurement of new equipment by developing technical specifications;
- Follow up of contracts associated with the ELTEST facility as well as prepare and monitor related purchase orders.

You will have the opportunity to contribute to pre-normative research experimental activities, conduct scientific and analytical work primarily focused on testing procedures for electrolysers and fuel cells. You will have substantial autonomy in executing your responsibilities and will have the chance to interact with various external organisations, offering scientific and technical advice as needed.

These tasks require regular presence on-site. Inclusion in the laboratory standby duty team offers a pivotal role in emergency response, safeguarding the facility's operations and ensuring laboratory safety 24/7 throughout the year, including public holidays and holiday periods.
The working environment is technically challenging, safety-oriented and collaborative, with a strong team spirit.

In addition, the JRC offers:

- Plenty of opportunities for training and acquiring new skills and competences throughout your whole career;
- A package of flexible working conditions (flexitime and remote teleworking) – we care about your work-life balance;
- A competitive financial package, including comprehensive healthcare cover, including for children and (non-working) spouse/civil partner, as well as accident insurance worldwide;
- A multilingual, multicultural workplace where personal and career development are strongly promoted;
- Multilingual European School education for your children;
- Social interactions with colleagues and their families in organised events, including various sports and cultural activities as well as Bergen clubhouse arrangements;
- A beautiful workplace, near the beach, in a Nature 2000 dune area, with a convenient bus service connecting the JRC Petten site to the cities of Amsterdam, Bergen, Schoorl and Alkmaar, as well as a campus canteen within walkable distance.

There are reliable and frequent national train services from Alkmaar station and many direct international high-speed train services from Amsterdam Central station to Belgium, England, France, Germany and Switzerland, as well as convenient rail access to Schiphol International airport.

Qualifications, experience and skills ("We look for")
(set criteria in terms of education, professional experience and personal qualities that the ideal applicant should have):

We look for a creative and proactive candidate with a scientific/technical profile and knowledge in electrochemistry in fuel cell and electrolyser applications.

We require:

- A technical school qualification (ISCED-6) or a university degree (Master or equivalent) in engineering (e.g.(electro)chemical, materials, electrical or mechanical), electronics, or another relevant technical discipline.
- At least 2 years of experience in a research or industrial setting relevant to these fields.
- Capacity to safely operate and handle laboratory testing equipment.
- Experience in automation and digitalisation, using software for scripting test runs, data acquisition and data communication software, and post-test data analysis (e.g. Basic, C/C++, Java, LabVIEW, Modelica, Simulink, Python, R, etc.).
- Excellent command of written and spoken English as well as a very good command of another official EU language.

It is advantageous if you have:

- Experience in developing or maintaining laboratory or industrial equipment.
- Hands-on experience with testing fuel cells/electrolysers.
- Good knowledge of electrochemistry and/or recent experience in conducting electrochemical impedance spectroscopy (EIS) measurements and interpretation of the results.
- Knowledge of hydrogen technologies.

- Familiarity with the safe storage, transport and handling of gases, including hydrogen, as well as general (chemical) laboratory safety.
- Experience in communicating results to scientific audiences and drafting scientific publications.

To be successful in this position, the following skills are essential:

- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills complemented with creativity and flexibility in thinking.
- Being able to work in a team and in a multicultural environment.
- Capacity to work autonomously within interdisciplinary teams.
- Capacity to work on different tasks in parallel and meet tight deadlines when required, while complying with safety rules and adhering to financial regulations.

How to express your interest?

You should send your documents in a single pdf in the following order:
1. your CV 2. completed application form.
Please send these documents by the publication deadline to HR-JRC-PTT-SELECTION-RECRUITMENT@ec.europa.eu indicating the selection reference JRC/ COM/2026/2399 in the subject.

No applications will be accepted after the publication deadline.

Only candidates selected for the next step of the selection phase will be notified.

Eligibility

Please review this page to ensure that you are eligible before you apply.