

## **MARINE INSTRUMENTATION & DATA SCIENTIST (FULL TIME POST)**

### **SIR ALISTER HARDY FOUNDATION FOR OCEAN SCIENCE**

**Plymouth, Devon, UK <http://www.sahfos.ac.uk/>**

Salary range £27,558 - £33,893 (possibly more for an exceptional candidate)

SAHFOS is seeking a Marine Instrumentation and Data Scientist to lead the development and delivery of SAHFOS's programme of deployment of instrumentation on the CPR fleet and to ensure the data quality and appropriateness and its timely submission into the SAHFOS databases.

The role requires someone experienced in the deployment of electronic instrumentation at sea and familiar with handling large environmental datasets. A full understanding of the practicalities and limitations of such instrumentation, including, but not limited to issues such as: detection limits, precision, accuracy, calibration and data quality control is essential.

Whilst we would not envisage the post-holder to be an expert in instrument design and electronics the person should have enough experience and familiarity of instrumentation to be aware of the appropriate deployment of instrumentation in the CPR environment. The role requires experience in the handling of the data-outputs from the instrumentation and to be able to interface with data-base experts in the development of data products. The latter ideally will be based on a reasonable understanding of the marine science background of the measurements.

The person appointed will be required to be the leader of the SAHFOS instrumentation strategy and be the senior person responsible, supported by a small team, for its delivery.

The person appointed will be required to go to sea, probably on local day-trips in small vessels but longer trips on large ships cannot be excluded.

The post requires a person trained to at least first degree level (or equivalent) with several years experience of working as a self-motivated team-leader.

### **Background**

The successful candidate can look forward to working in a unique international Centre of Excellence in Marine Plankton Taxonomy. As a UK registered international charity SAHFOS manages the Continuous Plankton Recorder (CPR) Survey. Since 1931 the Survey's monitoring programme has collected epipelagic plankton using CPRs, towed by volunteer merchant 'ships of opportunity', on regular monthly shipping routes in the North Atlantic, North Sea, North Pacific and Southern Ocean.

In recent years the Survey has expanded into the Arctic Ocean and has plans to extend into the Baltic and Mediterranean Seas. The dataset of plankton biodiversity, created from these tows, and historical sample set is temporally and spatially unique. It provides a wide range of environmental and climatic indicators and is used throughout the world by marine scientists and policy makers to address marine environmental management issues such as harmful algal blooms, biodiversity, pollution, eutrophication, climate change and fisheries.

The database is an internationally significant resource that is used by marine scientists and policy makers throughout the world. The database is expanding with plans to achieve a global perspective to understand drivers such as climate, pollution, and fisheries that influence the plankton.

If you wish to discuss general aspects of the post, please contact Professor Nicholas Owens ([njpo@sahfos.ac.uk](mailto:njpo@sahfos.ac.uk)) or [+44 \(0\)1752 633271](tel:+44(0)1752633271).

Interviews will be held during the week commencing 24 February in Plymouth. Reasonable travelling expenses will be paid.

To apply please send a covering letter, full CV and details of two referees **by Friday 31 January 2014** to: Marion Smith, SAHFOS, The Laboratory, Citadel Hill, The Hoe, Plymouth PL1 2PB. Tel: 01752 633288. E-mail: [sahfos@sahfos.ac.uk](mailto:sahfos@sahfos.ac.uk)