



## **Thuringian State Observatory Tautenburg**

### **Project Engineer (m/f/d) in Mechanical Engineering, Precision Engineering, or a related field (100%)**

The Thuringian State Observatory (TLS) is a research institution of the State of Thuringia located near the university city of Jena, currently employing approximately 50 staff members. The TLS conducts research in a wide range of astrophysics fields, ranging from the study of the Sun, exoplanets, star formation, diffuse magnetized plasma in galaxies and galaxy clusters, to radio galaxies. To this end, the TLS operates the 2-meter Alfred Jensch Telescope, serves as a development laboratory for the Solar Physics Research Integrated Network (SPRING), participates in international instrumentation projects such as the ESO Extremely Large Telescope (ELT), operates a station of the international Low Frequency Array (LOFAR), and plays a key role in analyzing data from the MeerKAT radio telescope.

**TLS is currently advertising a vacancy for a**

**Project Engineer (Dipl.-Ing, B.Sc., M.Sc.) (m/f/d)  
specializing in Mechanical Engineering, Precision Engineering or a comparable  
discipline.**

#### **Job Description:**

This position is affiliated with the TLS Research Group for Optical Technologies and Photonics. The group develops state-of-the-art optical instrumentation for TLS research facilities. In addition, the TLS participates in national and international projects. The incumbent will work closely with scientists, optical engineers, and the TLS workshops and will be involved in national and international collaborations.

The position is initially limited to 2 years with the option of extension (subject to funding). Compensation is based on the position holder's qualifications and assigned duties in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement for state employees (TV-L).

#### **Responsibilities include:**

- Independent creation of 3D designs for opto-mechanical assemblies in accordance with optical specifications and the design and operational requirements of the respective instruments,
- Collaboration on the international ELT-ANDES\* project, in which TLS is participating with two work packages,
- Support for other instrumentation projects,
- Simulation (ANSYS, 3D-CAD analysis) of mechanical and thermal properties,
- Specifying purchased parts, soliciting quotes, awarding contracts, and performing quality control,
- Overseeing manufacturing (in-house and outsourced),
- Support for the commissioning and maintenance of instruments,
- Preparation of documentation in English in accordance with project specifications.

**Your profile:**

- A completed degree (B.Sc., M.Sc., Dipl.-Ing.) in mechanical engineering, precision engineering, mechatronics, or a comparable field,
- Proficiency in using 3D CAD tools, preferably Inventor.
- Knowledge of creating and analyzing ANSYS models or experience using relevant CAD tools for FEA,
- Experience in the fields of optics, laboratory technology, automation, or thermal design,
- Good written and spoken English skills,
- Enjoyment of collaborating in an interdisciplinary and international team,
- Ability to work independently while coordinating with project stakeholders,
- Willingness to travel for work and participate in international project meetings.

**We offer:**

- An attractive position at the Thuringian State Observatory near the university city of Jena,
- An independent role in an attractive, challenging, and varied field of work within an internationally active and renowned research institute,
- Challenging and diverse design tasks in research projects,
- Flexible, family-friendly working hours and the option to work remotely.

Candidates with severe disabilities will be given preference if they have equivalent professional and personal qualifications.

To address the underrepresentation of women in the field of the advertised position, we strongly encourage qualified female candidates to apply.

Questions regarding the advertised position can be directed to Prof. Markus Roth (mroth@tls-tautenburg.de) or Dr. Michael Sigwarth (sigwarth@tls-tautenburg.de).

If you are interested, we look forward to receiving your detailed application materials.

By mail to: Thuringian State Observatory Tautenburg  
Attn: Ms. Köhler  
Sternwarte 5  
07778 Tautenburg

By email to: [stellenausschreibung@tls-tautenburg.de](mailto:stellenausschreibung@tls-tautenburg.de)

Incoming applications will be reviewed on an ongoing basis until the position is successfully filled.

\* <https://elt.eso.org/instrument/ANDES/>