At **The NOVA Optical Infrared instrumentation Group** at ASTRON in Dwingeloo, we craft world-leading optical and infrared instruments for some of the most prestigious international observatories. We work closely with astronomers from the NOVA universities and our extensive network of industrial partners. Our exciting goal is to develop instruments for the Extremely Large Telescope (ELT, see the website of the European Southern Observatory: elt.eso.org), building on our rich history with the Very Large Telescope and the James Webb Space Telescope.

Our team is a dynamic and agile group of about 30 professionals, covering all phases of instrument creation—from feasibility, through design, to testing and commissioning. We work across various disciplines, including optical, mechanical, and control electronics.

We're on the lookout for a passionate and detail-oriented:

Instrument Engineer (**0,8 – 1,0 FTE**)

If you're positive, accurate, and driven by results, we'd love to hear from you!

You'll ensure quality during manufacturing and perform and guide the assembly and integration of precision mechanical parts into sub-systems, including those for NOVA's ELT projects. You collaborate with our quality assurance manager, technicians, designers, and project managers, and you also play a key role in enhancing our design and production processes.

Your main tasks include:

- Performing and guiding Assembly, Integration and Verification (AIV) activities including vacuum- and cleanroom related activities
- Conducting manufacturability assessments for optics, milled parts and assemblies including performing material and process analyses
- Evaluating production findings and determining and implementing corrective actions
- Inspecting and releasing parts produced by NOVA and suppliers
- Writing technical documentation and supporting procurement processes

We're looking for someone with:

- A bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering or an MBO instrument maker degree
- Over 5 years of experience in a precision mechanical production setting or an

instrument workshop
- Preferably, experience with cryogenic instrumentation and vacuum technology
- A strong understanding of various materials and their applications
- Quality consciousness and experience in quality assurance is a plus
- Good English and Dutch communication skills

Competencies and skills we value:

- Team spirit with strong communication skills
- Accurate and results-driven mindset
- Innovative thinking and a hands-on approach

Here's what we offer:
- An initial contract for two years (32-40 hours per week), with the potential to become indefinite depending on good performance and sufficient funding
- A gross monthly salary of € 3.802,- to € 5.241 (scale 9), based on a 40 hour work week and experience
- Opportunities and encouragement to grow and develop yourself and your career.
- A pleasant and stimulating work environment in a beautiful office in the heart of one of Drenthe's National Parks.
- A comprehensive benefits package including a pension scheme, insurance discounts, travel allowances, and flexible work conditions

Your primary workplace will be in Dwingeloo within the NOVA OIR group. We embrace diversity and strongly encourage applications from women and underrepresented groups. Discover what it's like to work at ASTRON by clicking: this link

Information:
For information about this vacancy, please contact Michiel Kregel (Group Lead, kregel@astron.nl). If you have any questions about the procedure, please contact HRM via hrm@astron.nl

Comments:
If you have come this far reading this vacancy and are interested in this exciting opportunity, we would like to invite you to apply for this vacancy, even if not all the requirements are met! Leave your CV & motivation letter on our website http://www.jobsatastron.nl.