

Postdoc Coordination of sustainable service logistics (1.0 fte) (214347)

Organisation

Since its foundation in 1614, the University of Groningen has enjoyed an international reputation as a dynamic and innovative centre of higher education offering high-quality teaching and research. Belonging to the best research universities of Europe and joining forces with prestigious partner universities and networks, the University of Groningen is truly an international place of knowledge.

Faculty of Economics and Business

The Faculty of Economics and Business has an inspiring study and working environment for students and employees. International accreditation enables the Faculty to assess performance against the highest international standards. It also creates an exciting environment of continuous improvement. FEB's programs, academic staff and research do well on various excellence ranking lists.

The Faculty of Economics and Business has one postdoc position available on the topic 'Coordination of sustainable service logistics'.

Job description

The postdoc position is part of the research project 'Sustainable service logistics for offshore wind farms' in which the researcher will work together with companies, permanent staff and a number of PhD researchers. The research project is funded by the NWO programme Sustainable Logistics (see <http://www.nwo.nl/financiering/onze-financieringsinstrumenten/maqw/duurzame-logistiek/duurzame-logistiek.html>).

The researcher will work in the Department of Operations, one of Europe's largest research groups in Operations. The department offers a high level research environment along the whole range of Operations, both with respect to content and methodology. The researcher is also expected to collaborate extensively with project partner DHL, one of the world's leading logistics service providers.

The goal of the research project 'Sustainable service logistics for offshore wind farms' is developing new innovative methods for the sustainable design and operation of service logistics for offshore wind farms. This project is composed of several work packages that cover network design, advanced maintenance strategies, coordination of transportation, as well as collaboration and governance aspects. In each work package, new methods will be developed that can serve as enablers for an improved service logistics process, thereby combining theoretical challenges in Operations Research with practical and societal relevance.

The postdoc researcher will be developing algorithms for coordinating the transportation of spare parts and tools (variants of the pickup-and-delivery problem and the orienteering problem). Any given maintenance activity requires a set of spare parts and tools (kit) to be available at the appropriate location before the scheduled start time of that activity. Transportation of spare parts is therefore not merely a matter of moving the products, but also about synchronized availability at the destination (wind farm, departure location of ship or helicopter, or intermediate point in the network). Other transport request can be integrated (cross-chain control) without altering the model-building challenges. Uncertainty about the actual start time of the maintenance activity, e.g. due to weather conditions, also plays a role. The postdoc researcher is expected to build solution methods for vehicle assignment, routing and timing of transportation, acknowledging the need for storage of spare parts and resilience of the supply chain. Besides the main research activity, the researcher will also create links to other work packages, and will provide support to project partners (in particular DHL) in their valorization efforts.

Qualifications

- PhD in Operations Research, Applied Mathematics, Industrial Engineering, or related fields (please note that candidates who will defend their PhD not later than 1 September 2015 are also invited to apply)
- strong academic record as evinced by curriculum vitae and list of publications
- demonstrated competences for quantitative modeling (i.e., Operations Research)
- a background in logistics or supply chain management is appreciated
- candidates should be fluent in English
- affinity with or experience in working in business settings is a pre.

Conditions of employment

The University of Groningen offers a starting salary depending on qualifications and work experience between € 2,427 and € 4,462 gross per month (salary scale 10 or 11 Dutch Universities) based on a full-time position. The full-time (1.0 fte) appointment is temporary for a period of two years. In addition, the university offers a 8% holiday allowance and a 8.3% end of year bonus.

Starting date: as soon as possible, preferably before 16 March 2015.

Applications

Candidates are invited to send a motivation letter and curriculum vitae before 17 November 2014 Dutch local time by means of the application form (click on "Apply" on the advertisement on the university website, see <http://www.rug.nl/about-us/work-with-us/job-opportunities/overview?details=00347-02S0004AYP>).

Unsolicited marketing is not appreciated.

Information

For information you can contact Prof. Kees Jan Roodbergen (k.j.roodbergen@rug.nl).

(please do not use for applications)