



<b>VACANCY NOTICE</b>	
<b>Post</b>	AF30 – QUALIFICATION OFFICER
<b>Grade</b>	A3*
<b>Division</b>	MALE RPAS Programme Division
<b>Section</b>	Technical Section
<b>Management of Staff</b>	0
<b>Location</b>	Munich/Hallbergmoos, DE
<b>Initial Contract Duration</b>	3 years
<b>Closing Date for Applications</b>	11 August 2026
<b>Start Date</b>	01 November 2026
<b>Interview Date</b>	Week commencing on 07 September 2026

### 1. Background

The European Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Remotely Piloted Air System (RPAS) Programme is a multinational cooperative programme with the participation of the Federal Republic of Germany, the French Republic, the Italian Republic and the Kingdom of Spain, recently joined by Japan and India as observers.

The MALE RPAS Programme Division (MRPD) is responsible for the execution of the Contracts for the Definition, Development, Production and In Service Support for the MALE RPAS, and of any potential additional Contracts in specific areas.

The MALE RPAS Programme Division is based in Hallbergmoos (Munich area), Germany.

To date, the MALE RPAS Programme has successfully passed towards gradual key milestones. A Definition Study was launched in 2016 to define common requirements among the Programme Participating States and was successfully concluded in 2018. The Invitation for Tendering for a Stage 2 Contract (Development and Production including 5 years of Initial In-service Support) was launched in October 2018. The subsequent two years were fully devoted to negotiating and refining the industry offer to ensure that the contract would meet PPS' expectations in terms of performance, affordability and value for money. The Stage 2 Contract was signed on 24 February 2022. The MALE RPAS Programme has successfully passed the Preliminary Design Review in 2024 and the Critical Design Review in 2025 that concludes the design phase enabling the start of prototype production and paving the way to the first flight.

In this context, the Technical Section (TS) is responsible for all MALE RPAS Programme Division technical matters, including Qualification, Certification and Information Security accreditation related activities, by ensuring the implementation of the Stage 2 technical requirements Contract compliance. TS also supports, for the technical matters, the activities associated with the European Defence Fund (EDF), strengthening European sovereignty and continuously aiming at improving the effectiveness of European Industrial Defence Cooperation.

## **2. Duties and Responsibilities**

The Qualification Officer (QO) will report to the Technical Section Leader and will ensure that the necessary qualifications activities are satisfactorily carried out in accordance with OMP 14, so that the Type Acceptance can be declared; they will be supporting predominantly the Technical Manager Type Acceptance and System Engineering for the qualification aspects and also the CQC Chairman for the certification aspects as CQC Secretary. These activities will be performed in close cooperation with Industry and with the National Authorities, including, but not limited to, the National Military Airworthiness Authorities (NMAAs). The Qualification Officer responsibilities are described in detail below:

### **2.1 General**

- Support to the establishment and contribute to the technical meetings with the Contractor, covering the Qualification and Certification process;
- Evaluate and report on the Contractors' performance against programme milestones and objectives, in relation to the Qualification requirements;
- Provide inputs to the Through-Life Programme Management Plan related to System Qualification aspects;

- Monitor the development, implementation and adherence to the safety cases issued by the Contractor or any other Programme stakeholder;
- On demand of Technical Section Leader (his Line Manager), perform other tasks and duties related to their responsibilities or in support of other technical management area or PD Section.

## **2.2 Qualification Management**

- Prepare and update, in coordination with the Contractor, Technical, Qualification and Certification documents and Plans;
- Implement appropriate and effective Risk Management activities for European MALE-RPAS on all Qualification issues;
- Support the establishment and the management of Qualification requirements' compliance matrix for the programme;
- Collect and supports technical evidence evaluation of Contractor's claimed compliance against the qualification requirements, defined within the European MALE RPAS Contract.

## **2.3 Support to Qualification and Certification Activities**

- Participate in the CQ Core Team activities (the coordination body of the CQO, i.e. the forum where the PPS and mainly OCCAR coordinate the CQP expertise) by providing him his primary/daily support, as an assistant:
  - Manage, by using an Electronic Data Processing (EDP) tool, the recording of Qualification and Certification coordination and follow up of recommendations/decisions;
  - Ensure registration of all published CQ documents sent by the CQP Coordinators.
- Act as CQC secretary (but not as a member of the CQC). Depending on existing Technical matters under discussion and will:
  - Provide support to the CQC with secretarial services;
  - Support the writing of the CQC meeting minutes for closed sessions, for submission to the CQC for approval;
  - Distribute all official CQO documents to the concerned entities.

## **2.4 Support to Software and Hardware audits**

- Support the Technical Manager Avionics and Software in the planning and organization of SWCEH (Software and Complex Electronic Hardware) audits; Support in the implementation SWCEH Audits ToRs, including necessary coordination activities, engagement with IND and SWCEH Panel to define audit's dates and processes. The final aim is to reduce the current workload by delegation to the PPS when applicable;
- Participate in technical discussions to facilitate LOI's harmonisation and to define which SOIs are required for various milestones.

## **3. Key competences and skills required for the grade**

(You must provide evidence of meeting these key competences and skills in your Application, Section 12).

- CS 1** The ability to establish and maintain excellent working relationships at all levels in a multicultural context and with respect for diversity;
- CS 2** Excellent interpersonal and team working skills with the ability to interact and communicate at all levels within OCCAR as well as with Nations;
- CS 3** The ability to work in a changing, developing and demanding environment;
- CS 4** The ability to implement clear, efficient and logical approaches to work, to manage assignments, objectives and time;
- CS 5** The ability to use Computer and Information Technology (ICT) facilities and be able to demonstrate a good working knowledge of MS Office software.

## **4. Specialist knowledge and experience required for the post**

(You must provide evidence of meeting these specialist requirements in your Application, Sections 10 and 11).

### **4.1 Essential:**

- ES 1** Proven experience in the qualification processes of military aeronautical systems, and in associated activities supporting the Contractual Authority and the National Military Airworthiness Authority;
- ES 2** Proven experience in the certification processes of military aeronautical systems, and in associated activities supporting the Contractual Authority and the National Military Airworthiness Authority;

- ES 3** Proven experience in international defence cooperation programmes and familiarity with defence structures, organisations and industries including interactions and technical negotiations with Contractors;
- ES 4** Significant experience implementing certification and qualification standards and regulations on aircraft systems (including, but not limited to, EMAR regulations);
- ES 5** Proven experience using requirements management tools (e.g. Doors).

#### 4.2 Desirable:

- DS 1** Proven experience in remotely piloted systems procurement and support to unmanned aerial vehicles military operations and activities;
- DS 2** Experience in monitoring the complex technical aspects of Defence contracts;
- DS 3** Experience in flight test preparation;
- DS 4** Good knowledge of a Certification & Qualification documentation tool (e.g., HONEY) and risk management activities;
- DS 5** Sound understanding of Type Certification and Type Acceptance processes and all associated matters.

### 5. Language Requirements

- ADVANCED level<sup>1</sup> of ENGLISH both oral and written.
- Additional knowledge of another OCCAR Member or Participating State's language will be considered as an asset.

### 6. Qualifications

A master's degree in a relevant discipline (preferably aeronautical or electronic engineering) or equivalent qualification in the activities directly related to the described position is highly desirable.

### 7. Security Clearance

Security clearance at OCCAR Secret level is required for this post.

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<sup>1</sup> The language levels can be found on the OCCAR website, [www.occar.int](http://www.occar.int) Careers / Applying.

## **8. Applications and Points of Contact**

For further information regarding this Post, please contact:

Justin VANDERHAEGHE (Technical Section Leader)

Email: [justin.vanderhaeghe@occar.int](mailto:justin.vanderhaeghe@occar.int)

Applications for this Vacancy Notice should be submitted through the appropriate National Administrations.

### **OCCAR Privacy Statement:**

When applying for an OCCAR vacancy, it is necessary for OCCAR to collect and process personal data about you in order to assess and evaluate your suitability for the vacancy, and (if successful) to coordinate with relevant service providers in preparation of your appointment. For further information please visit our web-site: OCCAR Privacy Statement - <http://www.occar.int/privacy-data-protection>.