

Masters Postgraduate Research Opportunity in Aquatic Science

Ref: SHELLTEC 2

Project Title: 'Developing Optimised Commercial Scale Protocols for the Storage and Marketing of Live Shellfish Species'

Funding Agency: An industrial funded partnership with Sofrimar Ltd, Co. Wexford

Description: Collaboration between Sofrimar of Co.Wexford and the SHELLTEC Centre at Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology has created the opportunity for the appointment of a Manager by Sofrimar who will actively engage in the operation and optimisation of new shellfish holding technologies through an innovative industry-driven research programme. The successful candidate will also be registered for a Masters by Research at GMIT.

Sofrimar is a Co.Wexford-based company (www.sofrimar.ie) specialising in high-quality shellfish processing and marketing. It has recently established a large close-circulation seawater holding system that is the first of its kind in Ireland. This is used to hold live shellfish (principally lobsters) for prolonged periods in pristine condition by carefully controlling the storage environment. The Enterprise Ireland funded SHELLTEC Centre at GMIT is leading research in these technologies for Irish industry. The appointee will be based primarily at Sofrimar and be responsible for the day-to-day management of holding systems and stock, while working with GMIT guidance to develop a parallel research programme that provides optimised methods and protocols for the commercial operation of the facility. A flexible attitude to working hours will be required to ensure that system breakdowns are corrected promptly.

Requirements/Background: Candidates should possess a primary degree in a relevant discipline. A good practical understanding of seawater systems and a hands-on approach to maintenance and shellfish handling is required. Computer literacy is essential. Candidates must have their own transport and be willing to travel to Galway for project meetings. As the appointee will be employed directly by external industrial funding, continuation of the post and M.Sc. studentship is subject to performance that is satisfactory to both partners.

Project Start-Date: June 2007

Project Duration: 2 years

Conditions: €1,250 - €2,083 per month (depending on experience). Postgraduate fees for EU students and any travel costs incurred during the project will also be covered.

(Candidates from beyond the EU are eligible to apply, but will be expected to provide evidence of sources of additional funds to cover excesses associated with **Non-EU fees that could amount to €6,000 per year**)

Further Information on the Project: Martin Robinson at martin.robinson@gmit.ie or lorcan@sofrimar.ie

Application Form (which must be forwarded by post) is available at:
<http://www.gmit.ie/research/vacancies.html> or by phone: +353 (0)91 742759

(Please note that applications forwarded by email **will not** be accepted)

Completed Application Form to be returned to: Research Recruitment,
Development Office,
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology,
Dublin Road, Galway, Ireland.

Closing Date for receipt of Application Forms: 12.00 noon, Friday 25th May 2007