

Research Officer

Project Title: 'Technologies for the Marketing of Live Shellfish Products'

Funding Agency: Enterprise Ireland, Applied Research Enhancement

Description: The main objective of the ARE SHELLTEC Research Centre is to develop methodologies and innovative technologies to optimise the delivery of high quality live shellfish (crustaceans and bivalves) products from the BMW region to European and world markets. This will provide for significant additional economic value to Irish companies through greater control of the marketing chain.

The utility of recirculation seawater holding systems for use by the Irish shellfish industry is being assessed as part of the SHELLTEC project. Initial experimentation with imported Canadian units has shown that R&D is required to achieve configurations and technologies that are suitable for mixed species storage for medium durations, these being well suited to the European marketplace. The appointee will work closely with the project Principal Investigator (PI) to engage with Irish companies to provide a cost-effective, Irish-built solution to shellfish holding. The researcher will develop a HACCP user manual for operation of systems developed and oversee the manufacturing process for components of the system that are not currently available with Ireland. An assessment of running costs will be conducted and novel ways to reduce these to minimum explored (heat recovery, minimising pumps), while working with the PI will ensure that the potential for commercialisation and sustainability of SHELLTEC is maximised. The SRO will assist in the development of industrial training programmes, maintain existing systems within the facility and support other workpackages as defined by the PI. Co-supervision of postgraduate students, report and grant writing and other administrative duties essential for the smooth running of the group may also be required.

Requirements/Background: Experience in the design, assembly and operation of closed-circulation seawater systems is essential, particularly in relation to shellfish holding. Candidates should possess a postgraduate qualification and have a proven track record in a relevant research area. Experience of supervision and project management would be an advantage and candidates with a proven ability to work within the relevant industry will be given preference. A full driving licence is essential and sea safety training an advantage. The appointee must be flexible with regarding working hours, be enthusiastic, motivated and able to integrate well with an existing dynamic and multidisciplinary research team. Knowledge of the application of sustainable energy systems and the Irish shellfish vivier export industry is desirable.

Project Start-Date: June 2007

Project Duration: 2 Year Fixed Term

Salary: €42,500.00 per annum

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

Please submit a detailed Curriculum Vitae along with a covering letter clearly indicating the project title to:

*Human Resources Department,
Galway-Mayo Institute of Technology,
Dublin Road, Galway.
Email: hr@gmit.ie
Telephone No.: (091) 742763/742767/742737
Fax No.:(091) 770545*

Latest date for receipt of application is: 12 noon on Friday, 25th May 2007.