

Date: 15th March 2023

Ref: Junior Propulsion Engineer



Junior Propulsion Engineer

Role Description

The **Junior Propulsion Engineer** is a full-time role that works within the engineering team to support thruster design, build and qualification. This includes both analytical design tasks, as well as hands-on tasks such as assembly and test preparation.

As part of the engineering team within a small dynamic startup, this role will also engage directly with Protolaunch's institutional partners (ESA, UKSA, etc) and customers.

About Protolaunch

Protolaunch is a chemical propulsion startup developing new thruster technology for in-space mobility targeted to the IOSM market. Headquartered in Cambridge, Protolaunch also operates a dedicated Propulsion Test Facility located at E-Site, Westcott Venture Park, Buckinghamshire, UK.

Originally founded in 2019, Protolaunch has recently secured significant funding for growth to commercialise our in-house *FOx* propulsion technology. The company is undertaking a substantial R&D program to progress the thruster technology from TRL 4 to TRL 7. You will be working directly on this program. As part of this period of growth, plans are underway to grow the Protolaunch team to 5-7 people by the end of 2023. This is a transitional period for the company moving from a very small team delivering project-based work for global customers, to a rapidly growing company delivering specific propulsion products.

This role of **Junior Propulsion Engineer** will be one of the early employees at the company beyond the original founders and will be a core part of the team. We're looking for someone motivated to get stuck in during the early days of a startup, prepared to accept a high-level of responsibility, and who is excited at the prospect of building a high growth Newspace company. A compensation package combining a competitive salary with company stock options is designed to reflect the business-building nature of this role. As additional team members are employed at Protolaunch, this role will have a clear path for career progression within the growing engineering team.

Job Details

Job Location

Combination of in-person and remote working. Several days per week in-person work is expected either at the Cambridge office location or at the Westcott Venture Park test facility as required.

During test campaigns, and other times as needed, you will be required to travel to Westcott Venture Park, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire, HP180XB on a daily basis. It is very difficult to travel to and from Westcott Venture Park without your own vehicle.

www.protolaunch.co.uk | careers@protolaunch.co.uk

E site, Westcott Venture Park, Aylesbury, HP18 0NX, England

Protolaunch Ltd is registered in England. Company No: 11804963. VAT No: 342 6565 94.

Date: 15th March 2023

Ref: Junior Propulsion Engineer



Job Responsibilities

Protolaunch is a small dynamic startup and so all roles are expected to help colleagues and support work on other tasks according to business needs. This is potentially a graduate level role, however, previous space sector experience is significantly advantageous.

For this role in particular, the primary responsibilities and measurements of success are:

- Taking ownership of design tasks – performing supporting design calculations, CAD work, and documenting design process.
- Preparing BOMs, sourcing components, and inspecting components on delivery.
- Designing test and qualification procedures for subcomponents.
- Operating test stand equipment with direction.
- Take direction and balance multiple projects.
- Operate effectively in a dynamic team.

Essential Skills & Qualifications

- Masters degree in an Engineering discipline or equivalent subject.
- Motivated to work in a small company with a rapidly changing startup environment.
- In-depth and numerical understanding of thermodynamics as applied to rocket propulsion systems.
- Experience designing/assembling pressurised fluidic systems.
- Passionate about space, curious and eager to learn.
- Take ownership and accountability for your own actions and mistakes.
- Can-do attitude and outstanding communication skills.
- Fluent English.

Desirable Skills

- Python programming language.
- Solidworks CAD experience.
- Hands on practical experience building things.
- Previous experience in a relevant industry (space sector strongly preferred).

To Apply:

Applicants should email a cover letter and CV to careers@protolaunch.co.uk. A start date of May/June 2023 is desirable.