

Benthic Taxonomist



SOI Ltd is a wholly owned subsidiary of the University of St Andrews. It is the commercial arm of the Scottish Oceans Institute and is overseen by an independent Board of Directors. SOI Ltd employs a core of key staff to provide commercial, administrative and scientific support and advice to clients and partners. SOI Ltd provides access to expertise and staff at the [Scottish Oceans Institute](#) at the University of St Andrews, including [SERG](#). These facilities have an international reputation for the work they carry out in the coastal and transition zones of the UK and beyond. Additional information on our activities can be found at [SOI Ltd](#).

MAIN DUTIES/RESPONSIBILITIES

Reporting to Dr Emma Defew, you will provide support to a range of projects, collecting and processing marine and estuarine benthic samples and identifying to species level. The successful candidate will provide technical expertise in invertebrate taxonomy and nomenclature and would be familiar with taxonomic literature and be able to interact with appropriate organisations. Candidates with a familiarity of the field and some knowledge of the market would be an advantage. Future staff development might be supported (e.g. further degree such as MSc).

Whilst initially a six month fixed term contract, this job represents an opportunity for a motivated individual to become involved in business development and we would look for candidates who are able to help the Company expand in the field of marine invertebrate taxonomy.

Primary Job Responsibilities include:

- Processing benthic samples to species level
- Participating in the NMBAQC scheme and maintaining technical quality
- Supporting business development initiatives
- To contribute to the general work of SOI Ltd as necessary

QUALIFICATIONS / EXPERIENCE / SKILLS

Essential Skills:

- At least one years' experience of processing benthic invertebrate samples
- Excellent taxonomic skills
- Degree in a relevant discipline
- Proven ability to work as part of a team with evidence of good inter-personal skills
- Able to organise efficient laboratory work
- Track record in quality control/audits/accreditations

Desirable Skills:

- Other taxonomic skills and experience of field work
- Able to write reports, interpret data and undertake statistical analysis of data
- Knowledge of relevant Directives and legislation
- Business development skills and contacts

Salary:

This post is a full time position, initially for a fixed period of 6 months, attracting a competitive salary in the region of £17,500 – 22,500 according to experience.

To Apply:

Please apply by sending in a CV, together with a covering letter outlining your suitability, to recruitment@soi.ltd.uk or by post for the attention of Fiona Skilbeck, Office Manager, SOI Ltd, New Technology Centre, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9SR.

The deadline for applications is 11th March 2010.