The Powder Technology Laboratory (LTP) located at the Materials Department of EPFL (http://ltp.epfl.ch/) is concerned with the research, development and functionalization of inorganic nanoparticles for biomedical applications. The use of nanotechnology in medicine holds great potential to essentially improve diagnosis, treatment and follow-up of diseases. This activity is part of an international and interdisciplinary research project aiming at the development of novel nanotechnology based diagnostic systems for rheumatoid arthritis and osteoarthritis (NanoDiaRA: http://www.nanodiara.eu/).

For the expansion of our team dedicated to the development of modified superparamagnetic nanoparticles (SPION) we are looking for a

Full Time Technician/Engineer (100%)

Your responsibilities:
You are working in a small team of academic researchers that is responsible for the synthesis, characterization, coating of SPION for biomedical research, improving current production technologies, colloidal stability in biological media and performing cell/bio-assays. Your main responsibility will be the execution of cellular assays for the evaluation of new coating candidates on cells viability and uptake of nanoparticles in collaboration with senior and junior scientists, as well as the maintenance and development of the cell lab facilities. This includes the design, practical organization and detailed recording of performed experiments in the lab journal, generation of reports and protocols and technical training to internal/external collaborators or students. Besides, you will support the team in the production and characterization of nanoparticles based on well-established protocols, as well as in managing and overseeing equipment, ordering and participating in the organization of the laboratory.

Your profile:
- Completed studies in bioengineering, biology, (bio)chemistry, analytical chemistry and related discipline or technician with professional experience (degree as professional technician, a B.Sc or MSc.).
- You are well experienced in cell culture techniques, cell metabolism with proven expertise in the conduction of cell assays in a research or industrial environment.
- Preferably you have also excellent wet bench/chemistry skills, as well as in analytical methods, e.g. UV-Vis spectroscopy, FT-IR, SDS-page etc…, imaging and microscopy e.g. TEM, SEM, confocal microscopy, and strong willing in acquiring new techniques.
- You are accurate, flexible, independent and highly motivated to work in an international research project at the crossroad of technological sciences and life sciences and you have strong computing and organizational skills.
- Good command of French and English at very good level are required.
- Previous experience to work with nanoparticles, nanosciences, nanomedicine would be a plus.

We are offering:
EPFL offers an exciting working environment, opportunities for personal development, competitive salary and a beautiful location. The appointment will be initially for one year with the possibility of extension. The applicant will work under the supervision of the project leader and lab director.

Start date:
This position is immediately available with preference for a start 01 April 2011.

Contact:
For further information, please contact Prof. H. Hofmann. We are looking forward to receiving your complete application documents in PDF including details of your experimental skills and contact information of at least 2 scientific referees. To apply, send an email to heinrich.hofmann@epfl.ch and geraldine.coullerez@epfl.ch with the **Reference LTP-LabTech until March 15**.