



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

CANDIDATE BRIEF

Research Technician for Microfibre Analysis, School of Design, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures



Salary: Grade 5 (£22,659 – £26,243 p.a.)

Reference: AHC1067

Full time, fixed-term for 12 months. Please note that the availability of this position is subject to confirmation of external funding.

Research Technician for Microfibre Analysis, School of Design, Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Cultures

Are you a researcher with proven abilities to carry out research in fibre and textile technology? Are you able to use your expertise to support or complement our existing strengths in textile technology?

The School of Design is a highly ranked department with a vibrant research culture and a commitment to excellence in teaching. You will join an experienced, innovative and diverse team and will be actively involved in research, producing high quality publications and contributing to the School's Research Excellence Framework (REF).

Working with an established research team, and with the support of an industrial partner, the successful candidate will develop a new testing protocol to investigate the impact of fabric and/or garment ageing on the propensity of microfibre release. This protocol will be used to understand key factors that affect microfibre release during domestic laundry. This will be supported by desk based research to help provide insight into the mechanisms of release. This work will be based on recent research carried out at the University of Leeds which has contributed to the academic, industrial and media discussions about ocean pollution from washing clothes.

You will have a degree in textile technology, polymer material science, or other science and technology related discipline.

What does the role entail?

As a Research Technician, your main duties will include:

- Undertaking a research project to develop a robust and reliable protocol to test textile materials to understand how ageing (physical and chemical) can influence the release of microfibres;
- Analysing and interpreting experimental results, and preparing research reports for the project partner and for publications, under supervision;
- Planning and co-ordinating day-to-day project work with other colleagues, ensuring good progress is maintained and work is undertaken in a systematic way;
- Providing support to members of staff and students, as required;



- Liaising, coordinating and collaborating with internal and external project partners, with regards to organising and coordinating work programme;
- Working within and applying the standard operating procedures, health and safety regulations and quality assurance procedures of the School and being responsible for the health and safety management of research work.

These duties provide a framework for the role and should not be regarded as a definitive list. Other reasonable duties may be required consistent with the grade of the post.

What will you bring to the role?

As a Research Technician, you will have:

- Hold at least a 2:1 BSc or BEng (or equivalent, or with equivalent experience) in textile technology, polymer material science, or other science and technology related discipline;
- Motivation and enthusiasm for developing a technical career in an academic environment;
- Demonstrable experience of working in a technical capacity within a science, technology or engineering discipline;
- Knowledge of textile materials;
- Knowledge and experience of textile testing;
- Experience of experimental work;
- Demonstrable experience of working with external partners;
- Experience of working both independently and as part of multidisciplinary teams;
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills;
- Other IT skills appropriate to support the research project and relevant teaching activities;
- Demonstrable time management and organisation skills, with the ability to meet deadlines.

You may also have:

- Hold a Masters degree or PhD in textile technology, polymer material science, or other science and technology related discipline;
- Demonstrable skills of academic writing report and journal paper;
- Experience of both characterisation and testing of textile materials;



- Knowledge of textile product development process

How to apply

You can apply for this role online; more guidance can be found on our [How to Apply](#) information page. Applications should be submitted by **23.59** (UK time) on the advertised [closing date](#).

Contact information

To explore the post further or for any queries you may have, please contact:

Dr Mark Taylor

Email: M.taylor@leeds.ac.uk

Dr Mark Sumner

Email: M.p.sumner@leeds.ac.uk

Additional information

Further information about the School can be found at <http://www.design.leeds.ac.uk/>
Further information about the Research in the School can be found at <http://www.design.leeds.ac.uk/research/>

Working at Leeds

Find out more about the benefits of working at the University and what it is like to live and work in the Leeds area on our [Working at Leeds](#) information page.

Candidates with disabilities

Information for candidates with disabilities, impairments or health conditions, including requesting alternative formats, can be found on our [Accessibility](#) information page or by getting in touch with us at disclosure@leeds.ac.uk.



Criminal record information

Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974

A criminal record check is not required for this position. However, all applicants will be required to declare if they have any 'unspent' criminal offences, including those pending.

Any offer of appointment will be in accordance with our Criminal Records policy. You can find out more about required checks and declarations in our [Criminal Records](#) information page.

