Ecosystem manager Belgian Quantum Communication Network (BeQCI)

Ghent University – IMEC
Technologiepark-Zwijnaarde 126, B-9052 Gent, Belgium

Context

The aim of the BeQCI-project (https://beqci.eu) is to setup the first Quantum Key Distribution network within Belgium. The project is part of a large effort, funded by the European Union, to set up a quantum communication infrastructure spanning the whole of Europe. The project started Jan 1st of 2023 and involves partners from Academia, Research Institutes, and Industry. It is coordinated by imec.

An important task within the project is related to outreach and training, towards different stakeholders (academia, industry, general public)

Job description

You will be responsible for:

- Facilitating communication and networking amongst the consortium members and the stakeholders of the project, both in the public and private sector. The longer-term goal is to build a sustainable ecosystem around quantum communication (QC), involving all the relevant actors in academia, the public sector and industry.
- Raise awareness of the project results and more in general of quantum science and technology with the general public.
- Educating engineering and physics students on novel quantum technologies, including quantum cryptography and QKD.
- Supporting overall coordination and execution of the project.
- Possibility to get involved in one of the different scientific research projects defined within the BeQCI network.

Profile

- You have either a Master or PhD in Telecom, Photonics, Applied Physics or Quantum Optics.
- You have notions of quantum mechanics or quantum key distribution
- You have excellent social skills, and you are open to collaborate and interact with a large range of people (academics, industrials and general public)
- You will be expected to travel and commute regularly to the respective consortium partners (imec Ghent Leuven Hasselt, Belnet, academic partners), including occasional EU coordination meetings with international partners.
- You are fluent in English. Knowledge of Dutch and/or French is appreciated.

Benefits

Benefits include mandatory health insurance, laptop, travel to conferences.

Both full-time and part-time employment can be considered.

About the Photonics Research Group

While you will work for the project as a whole, you will be embedded in the Photonics Research Group at Ghent University. The group (about 100 people) is associated with IMEC, and is part of the Department of Information Technology of Ghent University. The main research directions are silicon nanophotonics, heterogeneous integration, optical communication, neuromorphic computing, quantum optics, photonic (bio)sensors and photonic integrated circuits for biomedical applications in the near-infrared and mid-infrared wavelength range. The group has been awarded five ERC Independent Researcher Starting Grants, one ERC Consolidator Grant and two ERC Advanced Investigator Grants (see: http://photonics.intec.ugent.be).

Application

The position is open at the date of publication and evaluations are performed as they are received. To apply, submit your CV and a cover letter to dries.vanthourhout@UGent.be

For more information, please contact:

- Prof. Dries Van Thourhout (dries.vanthourhout@UGent.be)
- Karel Dumon (BeQCI project manager) (karel.dumon@imec.be)