



JOB POSTING

Auto-ID Centre Europe

FROM: Duncan McFarlane

TO: Public

DATE: January 24, 2002

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RESEARCH ASSOCIATE (SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE)

Positions exist for Research Associate (or Senior Research Associate) positions in the European Auto ID Centre based in the Institute for Manufacturing in Cambridge, England. The project involves collaboration with sister centres based at MIT in the USA and Adelaide University in Australia and is funded by a over 40 industrial sponsors which include Wal Mart, Proctor and Gamble, Unilever, Sun Microsystems, Tesco, Gillette, Intel and SAP. The project is a highly ambitious undertaking and will establish an electronic extension to the Bar Code through low cost electronic tagging which provides a unique identifier for any retail item. Then, by deploying suitable tag reading devices and through appropriate networking, significant advances in supply chain management, manufacturing operations and retail services can be achieved. The Cambridge centre's research is focused on the development of suitable languages which enable tagged products to communicate with machines and devices and on the development of closed loop control systems which support direct interactions between networked products, machines and customers. So called *multi agent* software methods are being used in this development. Applications of these developments in manufacturing, distribution and retail and domestic situations are under consideration. Significant additional details can be found at www.autoidcenter.org.

Research Associates will be given specific responsibilities for research deliverables in the above areas as well as contributing more broadly to a growing research team at Cambridge. A significant part of the role would involve collaborating with the MIT research team and interacting with industrial partners. A suitable background would include a PhD in Artificial Intelligence (esp Multi Agent Systems), Control Systems or Software Engineering along with 2-3 years industrial experience, but other relevant backgrounds would also be considered. Experience with Java programming and object oriented methods in general would be a significant advantage, as would be experience with both theoretical and applied aspects of distributed control systems. Demonstrated project management skills are highly desirable and the ability to undertake and deliver self directed work essential.

The appointment will be initially for two years starting 1 March 2002 or as soon as possible thereafter. Salary for a Research Associate is in the range £17,278 to £25,969 but is negotiable for more senior applicants (who would be considered for a Senior Research Associate position). Further details and an application form may be obtained from Karen Sherriff, Auto ID Centre Europe, Institute for Manufacturing, University of Cambridge, Mill Lane, Cambridge, CB2 1PZ, (Tel +44 (0)1223 765910, Fax +44 (0)1223 338076, email kas49@eng.cam.ac.uk), to whom a letter of application and a cv

should be sent so as to reach her not later than 20 February 2002. Technical enquiries regarding the positions can be made to Dr Duncan McFarlane, Research Director, Cambridge Auto ID Centre on dcm@eng.cam.ac.uk