



Job title	Chief Engineer	Job family and level	Administrative, Professional and Managerial Level 7
School/ Department	Faculty of Engineering – Zero Carbon	Location	Jubilee Campus, University of Nottingham

Purpose of role

The Zero Carbon programme supports high-TRL translation within the University of Nottingham to deliver advanced engineering capability and facilities to accelerate the development and industrialisation of low-carbon propulsion and electrification technologies. Building on the foundations created through major national and industrial programmes, we provide world-class engineering, experimental and translational capability to support the transition of emerging technologies from research through to validation and demonstration towards industrial deployment. The Chief Engineer provides senior engineering leadership and technical authority for the delivery of multi-million programmes and their associated engineering activities. This role places strong emphasis on programme leadership and will result in project delivery, utilisation of capability, and external engagement, ensuring the facility operates as a trusted, industry-facing asset.

The role acts as the head of engineering delivery for the domain, ensuring that complex experimental and industrial programmes are delivered safely, credibly and on schedule. The role is responsible for ensuring the facilities operate safely, credibly and effectively to deliver high-TRL experimental, demonstration and translational programmes in hybrid and electrified propulsion systems.

The Chief Engineer reports directly to the Zero Carbon Director and works as part of the senior leadership team. The role provides technical insight to support organisational planning, programme development and capability evolution, ensuring that engineering delivery aligns with strategic objectives and technology roadmaps.

	Main responsibilities (Primary accountabilities and responsibilities expected to fulfil the role)	% time per year
1	Engineering Delivery Leadership - Lead engineering teams delivering complex experimental and industrial programmes in the agreed pathway. - Ensure engineering activities support the successful delivery of projects and programmes safely, credibly and on schedule. - Provide leadership during system integration, commissioning and testing of complex engineering systems. - Provide engineering leadership during critical programme phases including system integration, experimental validation and demonstrator development.	30%

	Ensure the safe, credible and effective operation of the experimental facilities and associated engineering infrastructure supporting programme delivery.	
2	Technical Authority and Engineering Governance - Act as the senior technical authority for engineering delivery within the domain. - Lead major technical reviews including architecture reviews, design maturity reviews and test readiness reviews. - Ensure engineering outputs meet required standards of performance, safety, quality and traceability. - Provide authoritative engineering judgement on complex system-level issues across electrical, mechanical and thermal domains.	20%
3	Engineering Team Leadership - Lead and develop multidisciplinary engineering teams within the centre. - Foster a strong culture of engineering professionalism, technical excellence and safe experimental practice. - Provide mentoring and guidance to engineers and support development of engineering capability within the organisation. - Lead through technical credibility and engineering expertise.	15%
4	Programme Delivery Support - Support programme planning and technical execution alongside project teams and operational leadership. - Identify and manage technical risks during project delivery. - Lead engineering responses to complex technical challenges during experimental programmes. - Support resolution of technical issues during system integration and testing.	10%
5	Engineering Capability and Facility Development - Support development and utilisation of experimental facilities - Identify future engineering and facility capability needs required to support programme delivery and technology roadmaps. - Contribute to development of engineering capability aligned with emerging technical requirements. - Ensure effective utilisation of the facility to support delivery of high-TRL experimental, demonstration and translational programmes.	10%
6	Technical Engagement with Industry - Provide technical engagement with industrial partners in support of programme delivery. - Support technical discussions with Industry partners with other member of senior leadership team - Ensure engineering activities remain aligned with industrial requirements and expectations.	10%
7	Strategic and Support to ZC Director	5%

	• Provide engineering insight and technical advice to the ZC Director to support organisational planning and programme development. • Advise the Director on technical strategy, investment priorities, capability development and technical risk. • Support alignment between engineering delivery, technology strategy and industrial programmes. • Deputise for the ZC director when required. • Other duties commensurate with the role.	
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Person specification

	Essential	Desirable
Skills	• Provide engineering leadership through technical skills, credibility, expertise and sound engineering judgement. • Strong hands-on engineering judgement and active engagement in complex experimental activities where senior technical authority is required. ▪ Exceptional engineering team leadership skills in a complex, experimental environment. ▪ Outstanding applied analytical skills within complex engineering systems and can provide system-level technical judgement. ▪ Superior planning and organisational skills to support delivery of complex engineering programmes. ▪ Managing technical priorities across multiple projects and engineering teams. ▪ Highly developed communication skills to explain complex technical issues clearly to senior stakeholders, industrial partners, internal multidisciplinary teams and represent the engineering capability internally and externally ▪ Highly skilled in ensuring safe operation of high-power experimental systems.	▪ Skilled in core systems, policy and procedures within a research intensive HEI.
Knowledge and experience	▪ Deep engineering knowledge relevant to technology focus. ▪ Proven experience in delivering large and complex projects. ▪ Extensive experience in resolving complex engineering challenges, guiding teams through technically demanding problems. ▪ Strong understanding of experimental engineering, test methodologies and engineering assurance. ▪ Experience working in environments where system	▪ Has applied engineering and technical experience within a HEI context. ▪ Experience of contributing to peer reviewed research papers. ▪ Experience of applying Lean principles when appropriate to support continuous improvement. ▪ Exposure to development and embedding of quality management systems.

	behaviour may not be fully understood and engineering judgement is required. ▪ Strong understanding of engineering standards, safety practices and compliance requirements associated with experimental engineering facilities. ▪ Expert in controlling budgets and understanding financial procedures. ▪ Experienced in oversight of operational readiness, availability and technical performance of major equipment and infrastructure	
Qualifications, certification and training (relevant to role)	▪ Postgraduate degree in relevant engineering discipline or equivalent experience.	▪ Membership of a relevant professional engineering body or ability to demonstrate equivalent professional standing.



Athena
Swan
Gold Award



Race
Equality
Charter
Bronze Award



Expectations and behaviours

The University has developed a clear set of core expectations and behaviours that our people should be demonstrating in their work, and as ambassadors of the University's strategy, vision and values. The following are essential to the role:

Valuing people	Role models the highest ethical standards to cultivate a collaborative workplace that develops talent and enhances wellbeing, whilst also balancing the needs of the various stakeholders.
Taking ownership	Translates the vision into a strategy for own area, enabling people to take the right action for the wider organisation. Can resolve complex problems, balancing the needs of varied stakeholders.
Forward thinking	Always has the overall strategic goal in mind, manages to stimulate agile and forward thinking in others, motivating them and giving them the confidence to drive for continuous improvement.
Professional pride	Goal is to be best in class; ensuring this can be achieved in line with long term strategy regardless of short term challenges. Supports people to do what is best for both the organisation and the department.
Always inclusive	Promotes how collaboration and positive partnerships are essential to success, constantly looking ahead to explore how to involve other potential stakeholders.

Key relationships with others

