

PhD scholarship in “Innovation management in the context of the space sector”

1 Context of the PhD

The PhD student will be enrolled in the Doctoral Program in Management Science of the Toulouse School of management.

The PhD student will be involved in the SIRIUS Chair that conducts research activities applied to the space sector since 2013.

2 Research project description

Space activities are undergoing many changes. New producers and new customers are entering, new technologies are introduced and more countries consider space as a strategic area. All these changes are referred to as “New Space”.

New Space generates opportunities and threats for existing space companies.

Besides their activities in New Space, existing space companies struggle to improve their competitive advantage in traditional space activities referred to as Main Space (e.g. civil and military institutional programs, traditional Satcoms).

The objective of this research is to understand the current space sector from an innovation strategy perspective and to help existing space organizations to improve their performance.

Three main dimensions are suggested for this research project:

- **Diagnosis:** Identification of the factors affecting the performance of firms in changing sectors (e.g. Malerba, 2002; Lundvall, 2010; Nelson, 2013)
- **Strategy:** Is there a first mover, second mover or late comer advantage in the changing space sector? (e.g. Lieberman and Montgomery, 1988; Kerin, Varadarajan and Peterson, 1992; Suarez and Utterback, 1995; Dobrev and Gotsopoulos, 2010)
- **Implementation:** How to become an ambidextrous organization? (e.g. Gibson and Birkinshaw, 2004; O’Reilly and Tushman, 2008, 2013)

The above dimensions could evolve during the research project.

3 Who are we looking for?

- You hold a Master's degree in innovation management, in strategy, in business administration, in business economics, in business engineering, or a related field (candidates in their final year can also apply but the degree requirements need to be fulfilled at the start of your appointment)
- You have knowledge in research acquired through the completion of courses on research methodology or projects (e.g. master thesis, research projects, publications)
- You have a strong motivation for academic research in the fields of innovation and strategy
- You are strongly interested by research applied to high-technology sectors such as space sector
- Your excellent academic record underlines your potential to publish in top-ranked journals.
- Your working style is team-oriented and you have strong communication skills
- You are proficient in English; additional knowledge in French is also asked
- You have an European citizenship

4 Your tasks

- Investigating innovations models related to the three suggested dimensions of the research project
- Conduct interviews with space managers
- Collect quantitative data
- Implement advanced statistical analysis
- Provide help in the scientific administration of the SIRIUS Chair (e.g. conference organization, scientific monitoring)

5 What can we offer?

Starting date:

We offer a full-time employment of fixed term from September 2019, for 3 years.

Location:

Toulouse, France

Salary:

Salary will correspond to the French standards for a PhD.

Gross salary will be within the range: approximately € 20,500 and € 21,500 per annum.

6 Great opportunities after your doctoral degree

You could undertake a distinguished career in **academia, industry** and **government**.

If you are interested in a career in academia you could apply for a position of **assistant professor** in strategy and innovation management or for a **post-doc**.

If you are interested by industry you could apply for a position of consultant, project manager or business manager in companies involved in space activities as well as in companies considering innovation as central for their activities.

You could also join government organizations such as the European Space Agency, The Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales, the European GNSS Agency, etc.

7 Interested?

For further information please contact Dr. Victor DOS SANTOS PAULINO by email (v.dossantospaulino@tbs-education.fr) and visit our websites:

- TSM doctoral program: <https://tsm-doctoralprogramme.fr/>
- SIRIUS Chair: <http://chaire-sirius.eu/en/space-institute-for-research-on-innovative-uses-of-satellites/>

Take the opportunity to join our team by submitting your complete application documents in one single pdf file via email, including:

- Motivation letter in English (maximum 1 page) explaining:
 - the motivation for conducting a PhD, and for dedicating to the topic for the next years
 - the applicant's background and expertise, with a focus on the skills, knowledge and aptitude they would bring to the position
- Curriculum Vitae (maximum 2 pages) including:
 - education (indicating the grade point average of the bachelor degree and master degree),
 - courses taken as relevant for the position (i.e. methodology, innovation, strategy),
 - specific technical skills,
 - previous work related to the topic (master's thesis, reports and others)
- Bachelor Degree (incl. grades)
- Master Degree (incl. grades)
- A document detailing the courses taken on methodology such as research methods, statistics, econometry, epistemology, etc.

Applicants who are about to complete their degree are explicitly encouraged to apply.

8 Selection process

- The **final closing date for applications is, June 1, 2019.**
- The application should be validated by the Doctoral Program in Management Science.

Send your application to Dr. Victor DOS SANTOS PAULINO by email:

v.dossantospaulino@tbs-education.fr