

**Lab/field technician: Ecotoxicology**

**Fixed term; 18 months (with the potential for a permanent role); start date from 15<sup>th</sup> February**

**Location: Boxworth, Cambridgeshire, UK**

**Salary: £25,800 per annum**

Cambridge Environmental Assessments is part of RSK ADAS. With over 75 years' experience, ADAS has an amazing track record of providing environmental consultancy and research expertise to an enviable range of clients both in the private and public sector. We are a recognised and highly respected leader in the environmental and rural sectors.

CEA and the wider ADAS are supported by parent company, RSK Group, a leading provider of engineering and environmental consultancy and technical support services and ranked number 42 in the Sunday Times Fast Track 200 which rates the success of private companies in the UK. There has never been a more exciting time to join.

CEA specialises in designing and conducting higher tier studies, modelling, effects and fate and regulatory environmental risk assessments for chemicals, toxicology and REACH compliance. CEA provides strategic and dossier support for chemical and product registrations across Europe encompassing agrochemicals, biocides, veterinary and human pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, food additives, novel foods and general chemicals.

The Experimental Studies team provide consultancy and research for both commercial and government clients in the areas of aquatic and terrestrial ecotoxicology. This role sits within the CEA team at Boxworth, where we specialise in the design and conduct of bespoke aquatic (mesocosm) field studies, terrestrial field sampling studies, laboratory-based studies with many species of aquatic invertebrates and plants, the taxonomic identification of aquatic organisms and statistical analyses of study data.

**The role:**

To help deliver novel and innovative higher tier aquatic studies, primarily mesocosm studies, to GLP, within a varied, dynamic and supportive environment. Training will be offered on all aspects of the position. This is a great starter/graduate role to gain experience in a professional industry, and both laboratory and field studies.

This will involve:

- Ensuring all duties are carried out in compliance with Good Laboratory Practice (GLP).
- Assist in the conduct of outdoor mesocosm and laboratory-based studies, including single and multiple species studies on standard and non-standard test organisms.
- Assist in the conduct of terrestrial field sampling studies, and sample processing, compliant with the necessary Health and Safety protocols.
- Taxonomic identification and enumeration of aquatic organisms (phytoplankton, zooplankton and macroinvertebrates) using basic microscopy techniques and relevant identification keys.

**RSK Group is an Equal Opportunities Employer**

- Assisting laboratory management in the day-to-day laboratory/mesocosm maintenance; including culturing of standard and non-standard organisms for testing.
- Sampling of water systems using various techniques and traps.
- Perform all field and laboratory work, data analysis and report writing in a timely manner, to a high standard and in accordance with relevant study protocols and SOP's.
- Providing quality control (QC) of data to ensure its integrity
- Assist in problem solving and the development of novel approaches to ecotoxicological studies.
- Maintaining and building CEA's reputation and relationship with clients and regulators by taking part in face-to-face meetings, conference calls and presentations, as required.

#### **Successful candidate will:**

##### **Must have:**

- Experience in field based and/or scientific laboratory environment.
- A working knowledge of Microsoft Excel, Word and Powerpoint.
- The ability to work well individually and as part of a team.
- A willingness to work flexibly.
- Good verbal and written communication skills, good organisational and planning skills, and good interpersonal and team working skills
- Key Attributes: Keen, proactive, detail oriented, well organised, good time keeping.

##### **Desirable:**

- Hold a graduate degree (or equivalent) in a relevant scientific discipline.
- A working knowledge of basic statistical analysis.
- Knowledge of aquatic testing with a good grasp of general ecotoxicology and risk assessment strategies.
- Knowledge of GLP

#### **What can you expect from us?**

We recognise that staff are our most valuable asset and that their integrity, commitment and loyalty is vital to how we conduct our business, and to the long-term success of the company. In addition to a competitive salary, you can expect an open and relaxed management culture. We also offer a flexible benefits programme including the option to buy additional holidays and private health care and regular training and development opportunities.

We operate an open and relaxed management culture that nurtures continuous improvement and innovation. This also enables us to achieve a staff turnover rate that's consistently below the industry average. Adopting a proactive growth strategy helps us to run a sustainable and profitable business while providing new and exciting career opportunities for all.

**RSK Group is an Equal Opportunities Employer**



As an entrepreneurial organisation, we encourage and foster the growth of our employees. When joining RSK, a mentor works with you to ensure you set and achieve your goals. We want to accelerate your professional development, including opportunities for a promotional fast track. Further, retaining staff is the building block of a successful organisation. As a company, RSK wants to ensure you maintain a healthy work-life balance, with many opportunities for flexible working hours, locality flexibility, social activities, and community involvement projects.

The company prides itself on providing its staff with a rewarding and challenging career, encouraging Continuous Professional Development, allowing employees to reach their full potential. Having been recently placed within the top 10 UK environmental consultancies (Environmental Analyst, December 2017) and number 42 in the Sunday Times Fastrack 200 which rates the success of private companies in the UK, there has never been a more exciting time to join.

**RSK Group is an Equal Opportunities Employer**

