Test Engineering Careers

Providing the most comprehensive global hydrographic and geospatial information available to make informed maritime decisions.

The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office (UKHO) is the UK’s agency providing world-leading hydrographic and geospatial data to mariners and maritime organisations across the world.

Supplying defence and the commercial shipping industry, we help ensure Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS), protect the marine environment and support the efficiency of global trade.

As leaders in our field, our global reputation is based on the reliability of our hydrographic and geospatial information.

As recent technology has brought accuracy and data handling abilities that were unimaginable only a few years ago, we continue to invest and optimise our digital capability, information management, production systems, processes and software team to match.

Test engineering team

We currently have a number of teams which are divided between the business divisions to deliver projects, change and third line support.

These teams vary in what they deliver and the types of applications they work on, but all use the latest .Net and Java technologies and deliver with an agile approach.

Some teams deliver external-facing web applications and services, whereas other teams support our chart production and defence requirements with client desktop applications and workflow.

Test engineers help teams test their software utilising the latest thinking in test design, automated and exploratory testing techniques. They learn how to and what to test within a scrum team.

Our tooling and technology

Our testers work with the latest .Net and Java technologies and are leaders in using Microsoft’s build, test and deployment technologies. Our tooling includes Team Foundation Server, Microsoft Test Manager, SpecFlow, Selenium, Jenkins and more.

Test engineers also get the opportunity to work on leading edge technology such as Azure, AWS, Hadoop/Big Data and other technologies.

Why join our team?

As part of our team, you will get the chance to work for a world-leading organisation in a fast-paced, growing sector. We work with emerging technologies to deliver our vision, and our data platform DevOps capability is continuously evolving.
What we offer to test engineers

When you join us
Pluralsight licence and books
Before you begin your role at the UKHO, we offer a Pluralsight licence and a choice of two books, to encourage you in a programme of regularly updating your skills.

MSDN Premium subscription
When you join, you will receive an MSDN Enterprise licence which also has £95.00 per month of Azure credits for training.

Microsoft Office Professional Plus
We offer:
› Microsoft Home Use Program (HUP)
› Microsoft Office Professional Plus (at home for a discounted amount)

Technical mentoring
On your first day, you will be assigned one of our existing software engineers to be your technical mentor to help your transition into the organisation, embed you into your new team and to help with your development.

Test engineering community
We encourage attending the weekly coding club, developer learning lunch, bacon butty Friday, blogging, and there are prizes for the best contributions.

Training and professional development

Training courses
All of our testers are given ITIL training and Professional Scrum Developer training through Scrum.org.

Support for MCSD exams
We support engineers in taking MCSD exams by allowing study time as part of your allocated continuous professional development time and by purchasing books and practice exams.

Career development
We are committed to supporting you in your professional technical development. We actively encourage you to gain relevant technical qualifications/certifications and will pay for learning materials and exams.

All UKHO employees also get one day per month to spend on continuous professional development.

BCS membership
We may also support you in a BCS membership.

Knowledge share opportunities
The test community are all brought together for a monthly meeting to catch up on news and to share information. Testers are encouraged to showcase what they have been working on to encourage the spreading of knowledge throughout teams.

About us
The United Kingdom Hydrographic Office is a leading provider of global marine geospatial data.

We help to inform maritime decision-making for navigation, infrastructure development and the management of marine resources.

Serving users worldwide
Our world-leading location based information is available through ADMIRALTY Maritime Data Solutions to users worldwide.

For more information, contact our global network of ADMIRALTY Chart Agents. Alternatively, contact our customer service team.