

ADVANCED DISTRIBUTION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM ENGINEER ROLE SPECIFICATION



BACKGROUND

Northern Ireland Electricity Networks (NIE Networks) is the owner of the electricity transmission and distribution networks in Northern Ireland, transporting electricity to 910,000 customers including homes, businesses and farms. NIE Networks is owned by ESB but operates as an independent organisation with its own Board and management teams and separate regulation via the Utility Regulator for Northern Ireland. Our role is to maintain and extend the electricity infrastructure across Northern Ireland, connect customers to the network and ensure that our equipment is safe and reliable. We also provide electricity meters and metering data to suppliers and market operators.

We invest over £100 million annually in maintaining and upgrading the electricity transmission and distribution infrastructure in Northern Ireland to ensure it remains in a safe and reliable condition. As the asset owner, we design and procure all equipment that is used on the network. The transmission and distribution network comprise of a number of interconnected networks of overhead lines and underground cables

We have an exciting opportunity available to join our Network Operations Systems team as an Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) Engineer. The successful applicant will report directly to the Network Operations Systems Manager.

The Network Operations business unit is responsible for the real and near time monitoring and operation of Northern Ireland's distribution network, as well as our Emergency Plan to deal with significant network events. Planned and Fault & Emergency work is coordinated via the 24 x 7 Distribution Control Centre (DCC) and Dispatch functions, using a variety of systems owned by the Network Operations Systems and SCADA teams.

THE ROLE

As a member of the Network Operations Systems team, you will be responsible for management of the Network Management System (NMS) which is a critical application used by DCC to ensure the real time control and monitoring of Northern Ireland's distribution network.

The ADMS Engineer will be the senior business lead on all NMS major and minor upgrade projects, working with internal and external project teams to ensure that these multi-million pound projects are delivered within scope and budget to meet the needs of the wider operations team.

The role of the Advanced System Engineer is also set to evolve as NIE Networks transition to a Distribution System Operator (DSO) within our next Price Control Period RP7. To address growing needs for advanced, digital-aided operations driven by the DSO transition, such as Distributed Energy Resources (DER) integration, flexibility management and high network reliability, the successful candidate will play a key role in the NMS evolution to a fully integrated Advanced Distribution Management System (ADMS) which will be capable of fulfilling Network Operations DSO requirements.

The role of ADMS Engineer requires working closely with and building effective relationships with the Distribution Control Centre, Dispatch, Future Networks, SCADA, IT department, and a number of external partners such as Atos, GTEch, Oracle and Hitachi.

Another important aspect of this role is ensuring business preparedness. This will require the successful candidate to work with other parts of the business for the co-ordination and operation of annual Storm simulations, Business Continuity Disaster Recovery exercises, Load Shedding simulations and Black Start simulations. Due to the nature of this job role, it is important that the ADMS Engineer is, or is willing to become, a part of a Local Incident Centre team or a member of a Duty Incident Team.

KEY TASKS

- Become the NMS subject matter expert and manage the daily operation of the NMS application including but not limited to managing user access, undertaking audits, creation of bespoke NMS data related queries.
- Providing expert support on NMS during investigations when presented with system defects and working with relevant internal and external parties to resolve.
- Senior business lead on all NMS major and minor projects including development of scoping and configuration documents, creating business proposals to seek funding and working closely with internal and external project teams to ensure successful delivery of upgrades within scope and budget.
- Act as the main point of contact for the NMS vendor Oracle, ensuring that licence and hardware related areas are effectively managed, Oracle consultants time is efficiently managed within budget limits.
- Manage NMS tests for upgrades and/or emergency exercises to ensure that the NMS system operates as expected under emergency system conditions.
- Represent Network Operations as the NMS subject matter expert at internal and external workshops events to guide conversations on current and future NMS developments.
- Horizon scanning and working with internal and external partners to ensure requirements for NMS are evolving to meet future business needs such as DSO Transition, LV monitoring, Smart Metering etc.
- Development of the future strategy road map for ADMS and working with internal and external partners to develop and manage a program of work which will allow NMS to transition to ADMS.
- Ensuring that NMS users are trained in use of NMS tools and have access to adequate training material/documentation.
- Providing support on NMS data interfaces during planned and unplanned system outages.

Emergency Planning and Response

- Preparation work and co-ordination of annual Storm simulations.
- Preparation work, participation and application testing during annual Business Continuity Disaster Recovery activities.
- Preparation work and participation in annual Load Shedding simulations.
- Preparation work and participation in Black Start simulations.
- Influence to improve business processes relating to Emergency Response procedures.
- Update Emergency Response documentation.
- Operational role as part of a Local Incident Centre or Duty Incident Team.

THE INDIVIDUAL

The successful applicant must be able to demonstrate that they have a high level of a problem solving skills, logical decision making and are capable of working unsupervised. In addition, they must be an effective communicator with the capability to demonstrate strong attention to detail and accuracy at all times.

Essential Criteria

It is essential that the successful candidate meets the following requirements:

- At least three years post graduate experience working in management or technical role(s)
- Educated to graduate level (i.e. HNC / HND / BA, BEng, BSc, MSc) that includes Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Renewable Energy Engineering or Telecommunications (or a related engineering discipline that can be aligned to the role)
- A developed knowledge of electricity networks and their operation
- A practical understanding of Control Centres, Dispatch and SCADA (key functions within Network Operations) and their key processes
- Previous experience of effective involvement with projects and associated project management techniques (either construction or IT related)
- The ability to maintain and further develop effective working relationships and partnerships with internal and external parties
- Excellent IT skills (including Microsoft Office suite)
- Full driving licence and access to a car which can be used for business travel across Northern Ireland.

Desirable Criteria

It would be advantageous if you have any of the following:

- Electricity network operational experience
- Previous experience of effective contract / contractor management
- Computer programming languages including SQL
- Experience of crisis management e.g. as a member of a Local Incident Centre or Duty Incident Team in an NIE Networks context.
- Previous experience of dealing with confidential and sensitive customer information

CORE COMPETENCIES

The person appointed must demonstrate the following core competencies:

Communication

Able to communicate information and ideas clearly and articulately both in oral and written form. Uses appropriate language, style and methods depending on audience and the purpose of communication. Able to convey complex information clearly. Anticipates the information that others will need.

Attention to Detail

Ability to process detailed information effectively and consistently. The ability to accomplish/complete a task while demonstrating a thorough concern for all the areas involved, no matter how small. This means monitoring and checking work or information, while organising time and resources efficiently.

Organised

Able to achieve results in a quality, timely, and cost-effective way. Sees priorities, plans the efficient use of resources, and monitors progress against objectives. Anticipates crucial stages in projects. Formulates alternative means of achieving objectives. Responds effectively to unforeseen events.

Team Work

Actively participates in team. Encourages co-operation. Aware of the needs of others and responds flexibly. Shares information and supports other team members. Can get things done through others and set realistic objectives. Seeks opportunities to develop others. Prioritises team goals over individual goals.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The nature of the job demands that the post holder will be expected to travel from time to time. The successful candidate must therefore have the use of a vehicle. Company mileage will be paid at a generous rate.

THE PACKAGE

An attractive salary and benefits package commensurate with experience and qualifications will be available to the successful candidate. The company also offers many other [benefits](#). (The QR code will take you to the benefits section of our website)



OUR PEOPLE MATTER

At NIE Networks we realise our employees are at the heart of our success and they are the future of an ever-changing energy industry. With employee wellbeing at the core of our approach, we are continually investing in our people and are committed to helping every individual reach their full potential through both professional and personal development. We believe in nurturing effective teams and high performing leaders to deliver the best possible service for our customers.

DISABILITY

NIE Networks will provide reasonable support to disabled applicants throughout the recruitment process. Applicants who may require special arrangements should identify this clearly within their application form to enable us to make any appropriate adjustments.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

NIE Networks has achieved Silver, Diversity Mark Accreditation and is committed to equality of opportunity and acknowledges the unique contribution that all potential candidates can bring in terms of their education, ethnicity, race, gender, nationality, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation and opinions. Applications are positively welcomed from all backgrounds and appointments are made on merit following a fair, open and transparent selection process.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a **CV** and **cover letter** together (detailing alignment to the essential criteria) via the NIE Networks recruitment portal www.nienetworks.co.uk/jobs (The best experience of this portal will be through the [Google Chrome](#) internet browser or click on the QR code.)



- Once you are in the careers page select the Advanced Distribution Management System Engineer role and click on “**Apply Now**”.
- You will initially be asked to create a “Candidate Area” by inputting your email address and a secure password – once you select “Create Candidate Area” you can then log in directly using these same details. The address that you register with will be the address that we contact you on.
- Select “**Apply for Vacancy**”
- Once you have created your profile upload both your CV and Cover Letter within your application.
- Please ensure to review your CV before submission as you will not have the opportunity to amend the CV once it has been submitted.
- You will receive an [email confirmation](#) once your CV and Cover Letter has been submitted (Please check your junk mail too).
- Late applications will not be accepted

Completed [CV's](#) and [cover letter](#) must be submitted no later than **11pm on Sunday 29 September 2024**

NIE Networks is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

If you would like to view up to date information about NIE Networks please visit our website www.nienetworks.co.uk or scan the QR codes below.

About NIE Networks



About NIE Networks History



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