



OLLSCOIL NA GAILLIMHE
UNIVERSITY OF GALWAY



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

Postdoctoral Researcher - MODCONS Project,

Ryan Institute, School of Engineering, College of Science and Engineering,

Ref. No. 011335

JOB ADVERTISEMENT

Applications are invited from suitably qualified candidates for a full-time, fixed-term 8-month contract position as a Postdoctoral Researcher with the Timber Engineering Research Group ([TERG](#)) at University of Galway, Ireland.

This position is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and is available from 1st September 2025 to contract end date of 30th April 2026.

The Modular Mass Timber Building for the Circular Economy (MODCONS) Project is funded by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine under the 2019 Competitive Research Call (Project Ref: 2019R471) and is being carried out in partnership with Munster Technological University and 5 industry partners.

Project Background:

The supply of raw materials from Irish forests has been predicted to double in the period 2017-2035. This presents an opportunity to grow the circular bioeconomy by utilising the increased supply in novel sustainable mass timber building solutions. The project aims to design, develop and test sustainable prefabricated modular units using mass timber panels, maximising the use of Irish timber and optimising building performance for structural integrity, fire, acoustics and vibration, and future reconstruction and reuse. A further objective is the life cycle assessment and life cycle costing of the optimised system.

This research will be conducted using the equipment, technical expertise, office and research space within the School of Engineering at University of Galway. The [Alice Perry Engineering building](#) houses state-of-the-art Structural Engineering facilities, testing laboratories, research space and computer suites.

Salary: Postdoctoral Researcher salary scale €46,305 - €59,063 per annum, (subject to the project's funding limitations), and pro rata for shorter and/or part-time contracts.

The default position for all new public sector appointments is the 1st point of the salary scale. This may be reviewed, and consideration afforded to appointment at a higher point on the payscale (subject to the project's funding limitations), where evidence of prior years' equivalent experience is accepted in determining placement on the scale above point 1, subject to the maximum of the scale. ([Research Salary Scales - University of Galway](#))

Closing date for receipt of applications is 17:00 (Irish Time) on 26th September 2025. It will not be possible to consider applications received after the closing date.



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JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Description:

The successful candidate will work with the project team to achieve the objectives of the MODCONS project, primarily associated with the modular assembly of mass timber units, acoustic assessment of the timber products, and whole life cycle assessment (LCA) and life cycle costing (LCC) of the optimised building solutions using timber.

Duties:

- Support the implementation of the project programme in association with the PI
- Structural design, specification, testing and assembly of modular mass timber building solutions
- Develop and implement an experimental testing programme (structural and acoustic)
- Life cycle assessment and costing of optimised solution(s)
- Contribute to supervision and mentoring of PhD students
- Coordinate and liaise with project partners, industry partners, colleagues and stakeholders
- Preparation of project reports and research outputs for publication in international peer reviewed journals and conference
- Carry out routine administrative tasks associated with the research project to ensure that project is completed on time and within budget. These might include organisation of project meetings and documentation, risk assessment of research activities.
- Disseminate and publicise research findings of the project, as outlined in the Knowledge Transfer plan (social media, industry and outreach activities, workshops, webinars, etc).
- Plan own activities within the framework of the agreed research programme.
- Plan for the use of research resources, laboratories and workshops where appropriate.
- Assist with project proposals and grant applications to external bodies.
- Build internal and external contacts and participate in networks for the exchange of information, and to form relationships for future collaboration.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Essential Requirements:

- Minimum of Primary Degree (level 8) in Structural or Civil Engineering (or related discipline)
- A PhD (including near completion with thesis submitted prior to start date) in a related discipline or 4 years full-time relevant research experience after primary degree
- Experience in the design and experimental testing of mass timber assemblies and connections for modular construction
- Excellent communication skills, demonstrated commitment to deliver and publish results, adaptability and the ability to work in a team environment and engage with industry to achieve project outputs.
- Demonstrable experience of project management, including organisation of resources and administrative processes

Desirable Requirements:

- Experience in Building Information Modelling



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- Experience in mass timber product manufacturing
- Expertise in acoustic modelling and testing
- Experience in LCA, LCC and life-cycle inventory analysis

CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Researchers at University of Galway are encouraged to avail of a range of training and development opportunities designed to support their personal career development plans. University of Galway provides continuing professional development supports for all researchers seeking to build their own career pathways either within or beyond academia. Researchers are encouraged to engage with our Researcher Development Centre (RDC) upon commencing employment - see [HERE](#) for further information.

FURTHER INFORMATION/LINKS

- **TO APPLY:** [Search Current University of Galway vacancies](#). Applications must be submitted online.
 - [How to apply guide](#)
- For informal enquiries, please contact Dr Patrick J. McGetrick, Director of the Timber Engineering Research Group: patrick.mcgetrick@universityofgalway.ie
- [University's Strategic Plan](#)
- [Working in Research at University of Galway](#)
- [Moving to Ireland \(Euraxess\)](#)
- [Applicant Information](#)
- We reserve the right to re-advertise or extend the closing date for this post.
- University of Galway is an equal opportunities employer.
- All positions are recruited in line with Open, Transparent, Merit (OTM) and Competency based recruitment.



An Roinn Talmhaíochta,
Bia agus Mara
Department of Agriculture,
Food and the Marine