

<b>Job Title:</b>	Technology Network Manager
<b>Reports to job title:</b>	Head of Robotics and AI
<b>Department</b>	Delivery
<b>Location:</b>	Remote or attached to Edinburgh, Telford, York or Milton Keynes hubs
<b>Contract Type:</b>	Fixed Term until 30/11/2025.
<b>Salary:</b>	£55,000 - £65,000

## About Us

The UK Agri-Tech Centre is a new organisation launched on 1 April 2024 and created from three of the original Agri-Tech Centres.

Utilising our UK-wide assets, world-class facilities, and expertise, our new organisation is a gateway for funding programmes, such as the Farming Innovation Programme and Horizon Europe, and it provides benefits to the whole supply chain, the UK economy, and beyond.

We offer a complete life cycle of support, driving Agri-Tech innovation and adoption through world-class facilities, expert knowledge and business support to accelerate progress.

We strengthen the connections between science, business, and funders to accelerate research and development, tackling the industry's most critical challenges, such as climate change, labour availability, disease mitigation and environmental sustainability.

## Job Purpose

The Technology Network Manager will serve as the technical lead for a pioneering project aimed at establishing a comprehensive framework for regulation and standards for agricultural robotics. The project aims to create a network of stakeholders overseeing the roadmap for new technical standards and regulations, guiding the industry in adopting best practices and ensuring the safety and reliability of robotic systems. The network will collaborate with regulators, policymakers, and industry stakeholders to upskill staff, address current and future regulatory challenges, and provide evidence-based guidance for progressive regulation. Ultimately, the network will become a trusted partner to regulators, policymakers, and developers, driving the safe and effective operation of autonomous robotic systems within the agricultural sector.

This is a collaborative project between the UK Agri-Tech Centre and leading universities and RTOs in the UK's agricultural robotics sector. The person taking on this role will be expected to build the network through their personal influence on the potential stakeholders while also having an extensive understanding of how regulations and standards affect robotics development. This is a complex role with many possible avenues of work and exploration.

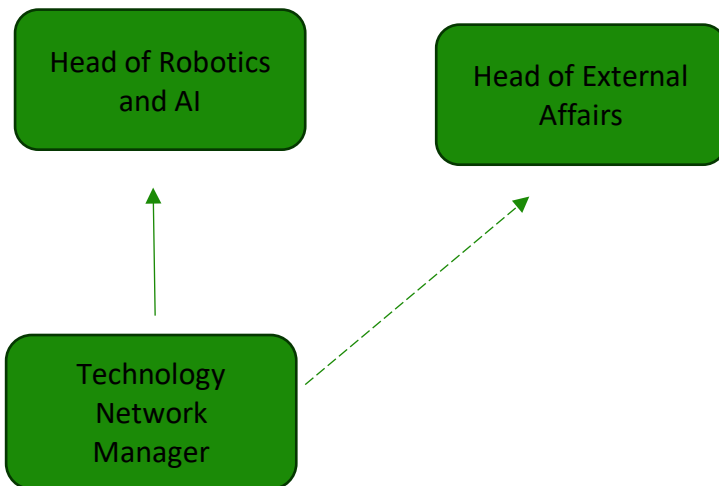
This role is initially a fixed term 1-year post. However, the project's primary aim is to establish the means for the network to become self-funded after this period for at least 5 years. If successful, this role will then transition to a permanent position.

## Main Duties

This role is primarily about bringing together and leading a community interested in the regulatory and standards landscape around agricultural robotics and wanting to effect change in the area. While the role's main duties are building and maintaining that network, there will also be a need to drive the technical understanding of standards and regulations. The main duties are:

- **Technical Leadership:** Lead the technical aspects of the project, working with project partners to establish the requirements of the network and plan its future model
- **Stakeholder Engagement:** Build and maintain strong relationships with key stakeholders, ensuring their active participation and contribution to the network, especially regulators and BSI
- **Government Policy:** Lead understanding of the policy landscape, including effective engagement with government departments, regulators and associated government and industry bodies
- **Regulatory Science & Innovation:** Drive the consortiums understanding the development and implementation of regulations, standards and accreditation in other industries
- **Knowledge Exchange:** Lead a work package focused on knowledge exchange (KE) between the network, regulators, policymakers, industry, and users. Facilitate workshops, develop a Standards Roadmap, and create a KE hub to promote shared understanding and collaboration
- **Sustainability plan:** Establish the long-term sustainability plan for the network to secure future funding, potentially including membership fees, government grants and commercial investment

## Organisation Chart



## Qualifications, Skills and Experience

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- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to engage and influence a diverse range of stakeholders to build a network
  - Experience in engaging with regulators, government departments and industry bodies to understand the policy development landscape
  - Proven experience in the development or adherence to technical regulations on the safety of autonomous systems, particularly in the automotive or manufacturing sectors

- Experience in verification and validation of autonomous systems, especially using safety standards such as ISO26262, IEC 61508, ISO 18497 and ISO 34503, including functional safety
- Strong technical leadership skills with a track record of successfully leading complex, multi-stakeholder projects
- A successful history of applying for grant funding and commercial tenders
- Experience conducting certified training on the operation of autonomous systems
- Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities, with a focus on innovative and practical solutions
- Degree in Engineering, Computer Science, Robotics, or a related field. Advanced degrees preferred
- Ability to deliver under own initiative and when teamed with others
- Highly collaborative and inclusive approach with the ability to manage conflicting agenda

## Additional Information

If you feel that you are a good fit for the role but do not meet every single one of the requirements listed above, please still get in touch.

Additionally, the applicant should have a full UK driving license and the right to work in the UK.

## Application Process

Please use this link to apply [Technology Network Manager](#)

Submit your application by January 10 2025