



Luca Di Stasio

Researcher & Engineer

-  D-CPR Certified (FR, SE)
-  Driver License Cat. B (IT)
-  Italian & EU citizen
-  Thuwal, Saudi Arabia
-  +966 53 419 7084
-  luca.distasio@gmail.com
-  www.lucadistasioengineering.com

Purpose-driven professional with expertise in R&D and peer-review seeking the position of European Patent Examiner in Materials Science at the European Patent Office

Reference 17202.

I am writing regarding the opening for the position of European Patent Examiner, which I came across in the weekly IEEE Explorer newsletter. I first got interested in the world of patenting during my Master's studies, and I discovered the EPO when I was a Ph.D. student. I've been reading with great interest about the work you do and the important role the EPO plays in support of European innovation. As a postdoctoral researcher with several years of experience working in international settings, I think I am well qualified for the position of European Patent Examiner.

I have a multidisciplinary background strongly rooted in the engineering sciences, as I started my professional journey with a B.Sc. in Aerospace Engineering, obtained then an M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering and an M.Sc. in Space Engineering, and finally completed my formation with a Ph.D. in Materials Science and a Ph.D. in Polymeric Composite Materials. Growing as a researcher, I have had the chance of working on several projects in various subjects, from ankle biomechanics to micromechanics of composite materials, from nano-electromechanical systems to the mechanics of soft materials. I have thus developed a wide perspective on the current developments in the field of materials science and applied mechanics. To tackle problems in different fields, I nurtured the ability to effectively search and analyze the existing body of knowledge (articles, books, patents,...) and form a synthetic picture from the many sources available. Computational modeling has been the common theme of my research experience, which has provided me with solid foundations in software design, programming, multi-physics simulation, and data analysis. I am an active peer reviewer for scientific journals (the Journal of Composite Materials, Frattura ed Integrità Strutturale, and the Journal of Open Research Software). I have experience in research funding and grant application writing, in particular with Vinnova (the Swedish Innovation Agency) for a project on neutron-based imaging of damage in composite materials and Code for Science & Society to fund a series of workshops on good coding and data management practices for researchers in Italy. I have been teaching for many years at different levels (high school, undergraduate, and graduate students), and I have re-designed for remote learning and taught as the main instructor a course on Solid Mechanics at the EEIGM (Ecole Européenne d'Ingénieurs en Génie des Matériaux) in France.

The opportunity of living and working in several countries has allowed me not only to become fluent in different languages but most importantly to master cross-cultural communication skills. Flexibility, adaptability, and rapid response to change are qualities that I have nurtured by navigating multiple work environments. From the experience of my Ph.D. project, which was a collaboration between Université de Lorraine in France and Luleå tekniska universitet in Sweden, and of my postdoctoral fellowship, which started remotely due to the Covid-induced travel restrictions, I have learned how to successfully manage complex projects with uncertain boundaries, multiple requirements, and several stakeholders. Honesty, transparency, and a positive attitude towards challenges have helped me earn the respect and trust of superiors and colleagues, which has led to numerous teaching and supervision tasks entrusted to me by supervisors and senior members of the Institutes I worked at. The ability to communicate candidly in the workplace has allowed me to build over the years a broad network across different countries and specialties.

I believe my skills and experience would prove valuable in the service of the EPO's mission. I am looking forward to a personal interview, and the chance to further discuss the value I could bring to the EPO as a European Patent Examiner. In the meantime, I wish to thank you for taking the time to consider my application and review my qualifications.

Best regards,

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