

## Research Scientist Position (CR2 MEEDDM)

‘Network services and urban dynamics (Europe, North America)’

Year 2010

**DISCIPLINE:** SPATIAL PLANNING

**SPECIALITY:** Urban planning

**INSTITUTION:** Ecole des Ponts ParisTech

**UNIT:** LABORATOIRE TECHNIQUES, TERRITOIRES ET SOCIETES (UMR CNRS 8134)

**CONTACT:** OLIVIER COUTARD - tel : +33/0 1 64 15 35 94 – [coutard@latts.enpc.fr](mailto:coutard@latts.enpc.fr)

---

### **Rationale**

Urban network services have been a central research topic for Latts since its creation; and the centre is renowned at national and European scales as the main research centre in France in this domain. These services are now the object of renewed interest, both on scientific and policy levels, as a result of their links to questions of sustainable urban development and economic competition between cities. The recruitment of a permanent researcher aims at reinforcing the strengths of Latts on this strategic topic and, more broadly, those of the ‘City’ pole within Université Paris-Est.

### **Description of the position**

The researcher (female or male) will contribute to research undertaken within Latts on the urban dynamics of (large) European cities, analyzed through the study of the development, functioning and governance of infrastructure networks and network services (in particular telecommunications and energy), and the specific forms of territoriality produced by these socio-technical systems.

She/he will study in particular the links between urban change and ‘infrastructure transitions’ within a context where:

- The traditional forms of organization of network services are challenged by a combination of factors (liberalization of network sectors; increasing use of information and communications technologies in network management; increasing collective concern for environmental questions, and notably climate change);
- The traditional forms of the spatial organization of economic activities are challenged by globalization, metropolitan development and the increasing financialization of the economy.

She/he will participate in developing the topic of ‘urban services’ within the ‘City’ pole of Université Paris-Est (through collaborative projects, teaching, and expertise).

She/he will reinforce the visibility, networks and research projects of Latts at European and international levels. This is particularly important in a domain in which the French scientific community is of limited size.

### **Desired profile**

Candidates must hold a PhD in planning or urban geography, should have acquired some research experience in the study of urban network services, and if possible have published on this topic in peer-reviewed journals. Being fluent in English would be appreciated (written and spoken) as well as active presence in existing European and/or international research networks.