POSTDOCTORAL position: Haptic Glove for VR

The Soft Transducers Laboratory at the EPFL (Swiss Federal Institute of Technology) has an opening for a postdoctoral researcher in the field of soft actuators for haptic gloves.

Requirements
- Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Physics, or related field on the topic of soft or flexible actuators, haptics, or human machine interfaces.
- Strong experimental skills
- Established track record of publications
- Ability to collaborate closely with colleagues in a multicultural setting.
- Fluent in English, French is a plus.

Context
The EPFL-LMTS is a leader in developing complex microsystems based on smart materials, including dielectric elastomer actuators, shape memory polymers, and miniaturized electromagnetic actuators. We are active in Haptic displays to enable blind and visually impaired users to interact with graphical data, as well as for VR and AR applications.

Tasks
The research will center on developing a VR/AR glove with hundreds of independently controlled actuators, to allow unprecedented realism when interacting with virtual objects using our sense of touch. By leveraging and enhancing our established microfabrication techniques for compliant actuators and sensors, the candidate will design, model, fabricate and characterize the soft actuators, integrate them into different formats (sleeve, thimble, glove), and develop use scenarios.

The candidate must be highly motivated, independent, yet able to work closely and harmoniously with colleagues in this lab and in our partner labs at ETHZ and in industry.

Contract details
- 12 months, renewable up to 36 months
- Starting date: Spring 2018
- Competitive salary
- Excellent facilities (state of the art cleanrooms, dedicated platform for soft matter processing, and extensive characterization equipment)
- Work location is Neuchatel, Switzerland.
- The main languages used for technical discussions in the lab are English and French.

To apply for the position, please email a CV, cover letter and list of three references to herbert.shea@epfl.ch

Further information about our lab can be found at http://lmts.epfl.ch, and about our haptic technology at http://lmts.epfl.ch/haptics