

17 Solar Grove
Yarm
United Kingdom
Planet Earth

20th January 2054

Dear Commander Zenda,

I am writing in response to your advertisement dated 11th January Stardate 2054 for the position of 'Chief Night Shift Engineer' on Mars' largest moon (Phobos). Whilst I understand that this is a highly sought-after vacancy, I believe I would be the ideal candidate for this role. Please see below for my relevant skills and talents as well as my previous experience.

First and foremost, I pride myself on being able to master any galactic tool or fix any piece of heavy-duty space machinery (no matter how complicated the apparatus.) This would certainly prove to be invaluable to you if there was a failure with the life-support systems - which sustain 26, 000 people at Lunar Base IV - or if one the Martian Dust Crawler's rotator blades were unexpectedly to malfunction. Furthermore, being an outstanding engineer, I am greatly skilled at Mathematics and could assist the Chief Engineer and Base Commander with all manner of complex calculations - space trajectories, fuel supplies, times - if there was such a need. Finally, I am a very resilient individual and could undoubtedly continue to do my duties in spite of the sub-zero temperatures, punishing gravity and lack of material comforts such as a hot bath and a comfortable bed. In fact, I would welcome the challenges of the expedition to Mars as life here in Yarm has become too predictable and I long to test my limits and my abilities.

I would now like to share with you some of my previous experience in similar, but equally challenging, job roles and also as a renowned engineer. Although I did not begin my career in space, I swiftly realised that this was my passion and I have therefore worked on several long-term engineering projects across the galaxy (and beyond) up to this present day. As a matter of fact, my latest assignment involved working on one of Neptune's fourteen moons - which is called Triton - where myself and my team had the difficult task of harnessing the supreme energy of interstellar light beams. This proved to be exceptionally challenging as these light beams only appear for a nanosecond. However, I was able to modify a particular instrument - that we named the Zodex - to complete the task before the deadline. Yet, perhaps my proudest achievement as an engineer was in Stardate 2047 when I worked as part of a group of engineers from sixty-three countries to construct the prototype model for a light-speed engine. This project had many obstacles - and it was a far cry from anything else I had tackled previously - but I was determined to see it through until the end and it may allow us to travel further into deep space than ever before.

As you can see Commander Zenda, I possess the necessary skills, talents and experience to carry out the role of 'Chief Night Shift Engineer' on Mars' moon. I trust that you will consider me for this position and look forward to hearing from you in the near future.

Yours sincerely,

Keith Thompson