



The **WALT DISNEY** Company
Europe, Middle East & Africa

Head of Automation

Job Title	Head of Automation	Department	Automation Department
Position Type	Fixed Term Contract	Location	London, UK
Reports to	Company Management, Production Management, General Management	Direct reports	Deputy Head of Automation, Automation Assistants, Show Riggers, Deps

Overview of the Business

Step into the spotlight and be part of the magic behind the curtain!

Our Commitment to Inclusion

Disney is committed to creating a diverse and inclusive workforce. We encourage applicants of every race, ethnicity, belief, gender, sexual identity, disability, age, and culture to apply.

Overview of Role

We are seeking a passionate and motivated individual to join the **Automation** department for a musical on a fixed-term basis.

As **Head of Automation**, you will work closely with the Production Manager, General and Company Management. You will act as the main point of contact between the Disney office and Automation department, taking the lead on Health and Safety within your team and contributing to the overall excellence of the production.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Manage, supervise, and schedule members of the automation and show rigging team.
- Operate the show automation for performances, replicating the show's design.
- Ensure all automation equipment is maintained so it is in working order for each performance.
- Ensure all circus equipment is maintained so it is in working order for each performance
- Maintain the quality of the show as instructed and dictated by the artistic requirements and under the direction of the Production Manager and Creative Team.
- Perform daily setup, oversee automation rig checks, and provide clear communication within the automation team.
- Ensure the circus training area is kept in working order
- Report and feedback show and staff-related issues promptly.
- Create accurate production paperwork and ensure the efficient flow of information as necessary for the smooth running of the show.
- Acquire familiarity with all plots/tracks within the automation department to provide holiday or absence cover for other members of the department as required.
- Take an active role in teaching new members of staff and work closely with theatre staff to ensure the smooth running of the production.
- Liaise between the Company Management, Stage Management, Technical departments, Resident Creative Team, Production and General Management Teams to ensure the smooth running of all rehearsals and performances.
- Ensure awareness of understudy and swing performances ahead of each show and make necessary adjustments.

- Attend rehearsals as required and weekly head of department meetings.
- Work in full compliance with Disney’s Health and Safety Policy and maintain knowledge of relevant legislation and best practices

Skills Required

- **Background:** Experience in a similar role within a large-scale musical production. Knowledge of performer flying is desirable
- **Technical Knowledge:** Strong knowledge of setting up, maintaining, and operating automation systems, including electronics, electric motors, winches, and both manual and automated rigging devices.
- **Operation:** Experience in the operation of computerised automation control equipment. Commitment to the highest safety standards
- **Working at Height:** Comfortable with working at height as part of daily responsibilities.
- **Team Collaboration:** Strong interpersonal skills and the ability to foster positive working relationships across departments.
- **Problem-Solving:** Excellent initiative and practical problem-solving skills, particularly in high-pressure backstage situations.
- **Calm Under Pressure:** Able to handle issues that arise during performances with focus, professionalism, and composure.
- **Communication:** Clear and confident communicator, with the ability to make informed decisions and collaborate effectively with cast, creative, and production teams.
- **Health & Safety:** Solid understanding of health and safety legislation relevant to the role, including LOLER, PUWER, and Working at Height regulations.

The Right Fit: You Are...

- Proven ability to solve problems quickly and efficiently.
- Highly effective team player with strong collaboration skills.
- Capable of managing a large team, and ensuring safety awareness is paramount
- Capable of following instructions and adhering to department protocols.
- Motivated to learn new skills and committed to upholding the quality of a major production
- Demonstrates discretion and professionalism when working closely with others. Well-organised and detail-oriented in all aspects of work.

Additional Information

- **Contract Type:** Fixed-Term 48 hours per week.
- **Start Date:** Early 2027
- **Run Dates:** 2027-2028
- **Hours:** 48 hours per week
- **Schedule:** Monday-Saturday schedule with a midweek and weekend matinee
- **Health & Safety:** This role will require the candidate to understand and follow the Health and Safety Rules & Regulations at the production.

How to Apply:

Ready to help create theatrical magic? Submit your application to dtg.recruitment@disney.com

Closing date for applications: 16th July 2026

Created By

Recruitment Coordinator

Date

June 2026