



8 March 2018

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Hyster-Yale committed to STEM on International Women's Day**

Eileen Lavery, Head of Policy, Research and Compliance at the Equality Commission is visiting Hyster-Yale's plant in Craigavon today as part of the Commission's week of activities to mark International Women's Day. Hyster-Yale signed up to the Equality Commission's STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths) Charter in 2015.

"We welcome Hyster-Yale's continued commitment to supporting women in science and technology careers," Eileen Lavery said. "By signing the Charter the company exhibits its commitment to encourage more women to take up scientific and technical jobs in its workforce. It is good to see the work in Hyster-Yale at first-hand and to meet with their employees and STEM Ambassador Rachel Herron and Lauren Cross, who is also currently a candidate on the Miss STEM Europe course."

"The Commission works with businesses across Northern Ireland to encourage more girls and young women to give serious consideration to STEM subjects; both as part of their education and with a view to their future career development. There is an important gender equality issue involved but it also goes further than that. At a wider economic level we need to ensure we have a suitable pool of candidates available for the STEM careers of the future. That is important for Northern Ireland's future prosperity and growth."

Jim Downey, Plant Manager, Hyster-Yale said: "We are delighted to be signatories of the Commission's STEM Charter and we actively support the initiative through our STEM Committee. We are keen to demonstrate Hyster-Yale's continued commitment to ensuring that men and women have equality of opportunity in terms of accessing jobs. There have been many highlights to the activities undertaken by our STEM Committee including outreach to local schools, promotion through our university recruitment programme and supporting promotion internally through our career development schemes. We hope to further develop this work."

The Equality Commission hosts a STEM Employers Equality Network (SEEN) for employers which facilitates the sharing of advice and guidance and gives examples of good practice on workplace gender equality issues. Employers who are interested in signing up to the Charter or would like further information can contact the Commission's Advice and Compliance team – Tel: 028 90 500 600.

## Notes for Editor:

- See the [case-study about Lauren Cross](#) an engineer at Hyster-Yale.
- Read more about the Equality Commission's [STEM Charter](#)
- Miss STEM Europe is a new project initiative delivered by South West College and The Leuven Institute (Funded by Erasmus+). Further information is available [online](#)