



MEDIA RELEASE
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ETB Means Business When It Comes to Gender Equality in SET

The Engineering and Technology Board (ETB) has signed a CEO Charter on gender equality, drawn up by the UK Resource Centre for Women in Science, Engineering and Technology (UKRC). Paul Jackson, Chief Executive of the ETB, accepted a certificate, attesting the commitment, at an UKRC event held at the BT Tower on 5th November.

The UKRC CEO Charter is written with the purpose of doubling the number of women in science and engineering, and to ensure that their skills are used by industry to the best advantage. Consequently, Paul Jackson on behalf of the ETB commits to implement positive culture change to increase the participation and progression of women in SET.

Research shows that only 27% of women who achieve science, engineering and technology degrees go on to pursue a career in these areas, compared with 54% of men. The ETB is committed to address this issue by delivering targeted programmes and activities which appeal to people with a wide arrange of backgrounds and across the gender divide.

Paul Jackson accepted the certificate at a launch of the UKRC's new SET Fair Standard taking place at the BT Tower on 5th November. Senior executives across industry, academia, professional bodies and institutes attended the event that focused on effective gender equality solutions and services to employers in the SET sector.

Paul Jackson said:

“With engineering set to play a key role in the economic recovery, it is vital to encourage more women to come through the engineering pipeline. Women can and will play a key role in widening the science and engineering talent pool and boosting the UK economy. The ETB is working with partners to do exactly this by delivering large scale engagement initiatives with an increased focus on gender targeting, such as The Big Bang”.

Annette Williams, Director of the UKRC said:

“It's great that the ETB has signed the CEO Charter to encourage more women to go into science and engineering. The CEO Charter is a significant UKRC initiative that can be seen alongside several programmes, not least the new SET Fair Standard, all designed to assist women in SET becoming qualified, finding employment and progress in their chosen career”.

ENDS

Notes to Editors

1.) The Engineering and Technology Board (ETB) is an independent organisation that promotes the vital contribution of engineers, engineering and technology in our society. The ETB partners business and industry, government and the wider science and engineering community: producing evidence on the state of engineering, sharing knowledge within engineering and inspiring young people to choose a career in engineering, matching employers' demand for skills. For more information about the ETB please visit www.eteachb.co.uk.

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