

## International Women in Engineering Day

International Women in Engineering Day is taking place on the 23rd June. Established by the Women's Engineering Society (WES), currently celebrating its 95th anniversary, this annual event is designed to focus attention on the outstanding achievements being made by women in engineering and technical roles and make girls and young women aware of the wide range of opportunities available to them.



**INTERNATIONAL WOMEN  
In ENGINEERING DAY**

**23 June 2017**

### AN INTERVIEW WITH **ERIKA RUBYTE**

#### **"I'd say "Go for it!" to any young woman who's thinking about a career in engineering**

**Q.Can we start with you telling us something about your role at Kelvin Hughes?**

**A.**I've been with Kelvin Hughes for nearly 10 years – which tells you something about the company! – and my current role is Assistant Programme Manager. As a result, I have the opportunity to liaise with many different departments across the business and with various different customers around the world.

My main responsibility is to manage and coordinate all activities relating to my projects. This means I'm involved in monitoring deadlines that need to be met, costing, project reporting, coordinating engineering design gateway reviews, corresponding with the customer and also many other areas such as licensing, project planning and the logistical requirements required to deliver the equipment to the customer in the most effective way.

It's a very varied role which has given me exposure to many areas

of the business which has enabled me to learn a lot of valuable skills.

**Q.Were you always interested in a career in engineering?**

**A.** To be honest, not really. I sort of fell into engineering by accident. I started off quite early in my career in manufacturing as it presented good areas of opportunity and I discovered that it was something I was naturally quite good at. I have developed over the years into more and more senior roles with everything I have learned.

**Q.What would be a typical day be for you?**

**A.** Well, that's one of the things I most enjoy about working in engineering. There's no such thing as a typical day! Every day presents new challenges and opportunities. That's what makes it so exciting and interesting. There are always new problems to solve.



Erika Rubyte  
Programme Manager  
at Kelvin Hughes





**Q. How do you think the profile of women in engineering could be raised and to help bring more young women into the industry?**

**A.** First, all women in engineering should be celebrated. Women bring a lot of skill and determination to any environment but particularly within engineering as there is often a perception that they can't do certain things. This just promotes resilience and determination to achieve better things. I have seen lots of examples where women perform equally, if not better, than men in the same position. This should be recognised more widely.

**Q. So, what advice would you give to young women thinking about a career in engineering?**

**A.** Go for it! Be brave and believe in what you can achieve.

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