



## European Materials Handling Federation

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### Press Release

## FEM Mapping Initiative: MEP Vicky Ford visits Edmolift in Haverhill, UK

Brussels, 21 October 2015

**On 16 October 2015, the Chair of the European Parliament's Internal Market Committee Vicky Ford visited the Edmolift company located in Haverhill, Suffolk, UK. The event was organised by FEM as part of its Mapping Initiative, which aims at presenting the materials handling industry to Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) through company visits in or near the MEPs' constituencies.**

The meeting kicked off with a brief introduction of FEM, its British member BMHF, the FEM Elevating Equipment Product Group, and Edmolift – a FEM member company manufacturing and supplying scissor lift tables, pallet handling products and manual handling aids.

In her presentation, FEM representative Ioana Smarandache highlighted the importance of safety standards and robust market surveillance for the sector, as well as the need to ensure global market access and align international standards in present and future trade agreements. These principles draw upon the FEM Vision and Strategy 2020 published last year<sup>1</sup>.

*"This visit illustrates the 3 dimensions of FEM – local, national and European – united around a common objective: preserving the competitiveness of the materials handling industry. Who better than the Chair of the European Parliament's Internal Market Committee to bring this message to the EU political arena? We thank Ms. Ford for taking the time to see, listen and exchange with us."* said Mr Olivier Janin, FEM Secretary General.

Susie Dicker, Chairman of Edmolift, said: *"Our products comply with rigorous and robust safety standards and we must ensure that our competitors' products do so too so we can invest and grow without fear of unfair competition. To this end, it is essential that market surveillance ensures that non-compliant machinery does not enter the marketplace"*.

*"The insight gained has been invaluable – a tremendous opportunity"*, Mr Darren Papani, Co-director of Edmolift, continued.

A presentation of Edmolift lift models took place after the introductory session. These were all Mylyft models from a prestige range, being generally installed for aesthetic purposes in luxury hotels and high-end apartment blocks. In the workshop area, Edmolift staff gave a demonstration of a lift model fitted with all-round bellows guarding, and stainless steel and smoked glass fittings on the platform. Another lift shown to Ms Ford was a triple scissor mechanism which travels three times higher than an equivalent single scissor mechanism and is used to transport people with impaired mobility to the height of the gate behind the lift.

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<sup>1</sup> [FEM Vision & Strategy 2020](#) – Preserving the competitiveness of the European materials handling industry

Ms Ford concluded: "I would like to thank FEM and the staff at Edmolift for taking time out to show me their products. We need to do more to ensure compliance on our market and maintain safety standards, and I will be examining what can be done."

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*Ioana Smarandache (FEM), Susie Dicker (Edmolift), Vicky Ford (Member of European Parliament), Mike Vernon (President of BMHF), Darren Papani (Edmolift)*

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#### **About FEM**

*Founded in 1953, FEM is the voice of the European manufacturers of materials handling, lifting and storage equipment. Today, FEM defends the interests of 16 members, thus representing some 1,000 companies (around 80% of the European materials handling industry in value) employing 160,000 people.*