



## MSD sweeps the boards at Pharma Industry Awards 2015

Leading healthcare company recognised as Pharma and Biopharma Company of the Year

**Dublin, Thursday, 5 November, 2015:** Leading healthcare company, MSD, has taken home five awards, including the coveted Pharma Company and Biopharma Company of the Year at the annual Pharma Industry Awards. The accolades recognise outstanding achievement by a company in the pharmaceutical sector, spanning all aspects of business, including commercial success, professional accreditation and pipeline development.

In total MSD took home five awards including Innovation of the Year for Univadis - its online resource for medical professionals, Sustainability Initiative of the Year and, as chosen by the judges, the overall honor - Pharma Industry Company of the Year. The awards initiative, driven by PharmChemical Ireland, salutes innovation and excellence across Ireland's leading export sector and is amongst the most prestigious in the industry.

With 60% of MSD's global to 20 products now manufactured or produced in MSD's Irish sites and €300 million invested in by the company in R&D in Ireland between 2014 and 2015; MSD has made significant advances in drug development, innovation and commercialisation. Over the past year MSD in Ireland has engaged in the development of a total of seven new products, including MSD's new cancer treatment.

Commenting on the industry recognition Louise Houson, Managing Director, Human Health, MSD said, "*The vision and effort needed to bring new medicines to the market and supply global healthcare needs is enormous, so it is a significant vote of confidence to be recognised as the best in the business. Our 2,000 strong Irish workforce continues to be at the forefront of our ambition to preserve and improve human life, leading the way in the development of innovative new medicines - such as our new oncology treatment which will be manufactured in Carlow for the world market, and newly developed Hepatitis C product, set for manufacture in Tipperary.*"

MSD is one of the world's leading healthcare companies, operating in 140 countries and employing more than 2,000 people in six sites across Ireland. The company provides healthcare solutions and innovative medicines in areas such as diabetes, heart disease, immunology, oncology, infectious diseases, women's health and anaesthesiology.

The Irish business is an integral part of the company's expanding global presence and over the past five decades, MSD has invested more than €2.2 billion in Ireland; significantly contributing towards making the pharmaceutical industry the country's leading export sector.

**ENDS**

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## **Notes to editors**

## **About MSD**

MSD, known as Merck in the United States and Canada, has operations in more than 140 countries. In Ireland, MSD employs over 2,000 people across its five sites in Dublin, Carlow, Cork, Tipperary and Wicklow. Its extensive Irish operations encompass manufacturing, commercial and marketing facilities.

MSD is a leader in healthcare, dedicated to helping the world Be Well through a wide range of innovative health solutions. This includes the development, production and distribution of prescription medicines, vaccines and biologic therapies as well as animal health products. MSD's commitment to research and to increasing access to healthcare across the world is demonstrated by clearly focused policies, far-reaching programmes and life-enhancing partnerships.

## **About the Pharma Industry Awards**

The Pharma Industry Awards recognise and celebrate the most original and innovative individuals and companies that demonstrate excellence in the Irish Pharma sector. The winners were announced at The Pharma Industry Awards 2015 on Thursday, 22 October at the Ballsbridge Hotel, Dublin 4. For more information please visit [www.pharmaawards.ie](http://www.pharmaawards.ie)