

MSD to invest €11.5 million at Carlow facility

16th April 2015: Leading healthcare company, MSD, has announced it is to invest €11.5 million in its Carlow site this year, which will significantly enhance facilities and services on-site and speaks to MSD's ongoing commitment to Carlow and the local community.

The announcement was made during an official visit by the United States Ambassador to Ireland, Kevin O'Malley, who toured the facility along with representatives from IBEC and IPHA.

This is the latest phase in a significant investment programme at the Carlow manufacturing facility that has involved a €312 million investment in the facilities over the past seven years. The site, a state-of-the-art 200,000 sq ft biologics operation, is MSD's first stand-alone human vaccine facility, producing vaccines for customers across the world. In addition, it is leading MSD's work in the development of a new oncology treatment.

Speaking about the investment, *Jean-Albert Pittaluga, Site Lead, MSD in Carlow*, said, "The production facilities here in Carlow are best in class internationally and this substantial investment reflects MSD's ongoing commitment, both to Carlow and to supporting the growth and expansion of innovative product lines led by a highly-skilled Irish workforce. Through our continued focus on innovation and new product development, we look forward to growing our manufacturing output in Ireland and offering new treatment options to patients."

Kevin O'Malley, US Ambassador to Ireland, said, "I'm delighted to have the opportunity to meet the MSD team in Carlow and learn more about the world-leading manufacturing facilities and operations. Since taking up the position as US Ambassador to Ireland, I have witnessed first-hand the hotbed of innovation and talent that exists here in Ireland, such as that of MSD. To see such a substantial investment being made in growing and developing these innovations locally in Carlow, particularly in the area of human vaccination, is hugely encouraging."

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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.