

MSD announces additional €7m investment in its Carlow facility

Decision further strengthens MSD Carlow's position in company's global network

Sunday, 27th May, 2012 – MSD is to make an additional €7 million investment in its Carlow facility, the company announced today.

The €7 million strategic investment, which brings to €227 million the company's total investment in Carlow, will see the creation of additional jobs in engineering, automation and project management.

New technological capabilities will be added at the company's state-of-the-art facility in Carlow. This will allow for the manufacture of the company's newest pipeline of vaccine and biologic products for treatment across a range of disease areas, including rheumatology, oncology and pneumonia.

Capacity will be considerably increased, including the addition of new frozen storage facilities. This will enable MSD's Carlow facility to handle an additional number of products at any given time.

Work on the new investment has commenced and is due for completion in July 2013.

The company currently employs 146 people in Carlow with a further 60 roles to be filled this year in production, quality, IT and technical operations. To view upcoming roles please visit www.msd.ie for further information on the positions as they appear.

MSD employs 2,300 people in Ireland across 8 businesses in Cork, Dublin, Wicklow, Tipperary and Carlow. In the past five decades, the company has invested over €2.2 billion in Ireland.

Welcoming the decision, Bryan Meehan, General Manager, MSD Carlow said: 'This investment further strengthens MSD Carlow's position in the company's

global network. It also reflects MSD's continued advancements in the areas of vaccines and biologics.

'We have made rapid progress over the past 24-months as we move to full production and ultimately, this additional €7 million investment will allow us to do more. It broadens our reach of products, adds to our production capacity, and enhances our technological capabilities.

'We are on target to commence full operations at Carlow from next year and estimate that we will produce up to 800 doses of vaccines every minute', Mr Meehan concluded.

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Notes to Editor

Today's MSD is a global healthcare leader working to help the world be well. MSD is known as Merck in the United States and Canada and MSD elsewhere. Through our prescription medicines, vaccines, biologic therapies, and consumer care and animal health products, we work with customers and operate in more than 140 countries to deliver innovative health solutions. We also demonstrate our commitment to increasing access to healthcare through far-reaching policies, programmes and partnerships.

MSD in Ireland

MSD employs 2,300 people at operations at sites in Dublin, Carlow, Cork, Tipperary and Wicklow. In the past five decades, the company has invested over €2.2 billion in Ireland. MSD is one of Ireland's leading exporters and contributes significantly towards making the pharmaceutical industry the country's leading export sector. MSD is a member of Guaranteed Irish and manufactures or packages many of its leading products for the world market in Ireland. For more information, visit www.msd.ie.