

For immediate release

American chromatography company establishes European hub in Wexford

TUESDAY, JUNE 16 2015: Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Brendan Howlin TD today (TUESDAY) announced that United Chemical Technologies (Irl) Ltd, will establish a new European manufacturing facility in Wexford, creating **17 jobs**.

United Chemical Technologies (Irl) Ltd, a registered subsidiary of United Chemical Technologies, Inc, will be based in **Ardcavan Business Park, Wexford town**.

The company was introduced to Ireland through ConnectIreland, the company responsible for delivering the Government's *Succeed in Ireland initiative*, as part of the Action Plan for Jobs, in association with IDA Ireland.

Welcoming the announcement, **Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, Brendan Howlin TD said:** *"UCT has made an excellent choice in establishing its new European facility in Wexford. This facility will create 17 jobs in a company that is a world leader in its field and highlights that the Action Plan for Jobs is delivering. This Government's stated aim is to ensure that the economic recovery reaches all parts of the country. The improving employment levels in County Wexford are further proof that this policy is working".*

The company is a world leader in the field of silica-based Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) technology, routinely used in Clinical, Forensic & Environmental Laboratories for the extraction of trace analytes in complex samples. The main functions of the Irish operations will include manufacturing, quality assurance, distribution and technical support services for the European market.

Globally, UCT employs over 100 people, and the company plans to grow this by a further 17 employees at the Irish base by the end of 2017.

Recruitment will commence immediately for five positions in production and product inspection. A senior European support specialist has already been employed for the Irish operation.

The company was introduced to ConnectIreland through an Irish business associate, Gerry Grady.

Company president Bethany Magrann said: *"United Chemical Technologies is looking forward to expanding our European business segment. Ireland is the perfect location for this development due to its innovative workforce and committed business environment. Both ConnectIreland and Gerry Grady have played an integral part in helping make this process a seamless one."*

Mr Grady heard about the company's expansion plans through a chance conversation.

"I heard UCT might be planning something for Europe and I knew one or two people in the US plant so I rang them up and we had a discussion regarding setting up in Ireland. As the project evolved there's an element of national pride in it – providing opportunities to people who may not have had them. It's very rewarding. It's been a very positive experience," **said Mr Grady**.

UCT chose to locate in Wexford due to the availability of a suitable facility, the positive approach of everyone encountered in Wexford, as well as access to a well-educated, efficient and committed workforce.

Michael McLoughlin, CEO of ConnectIreland, commented: “It is fantastic to see a company of UCT’s quality, a market leader, choosing Wexford for their European operations. Wexford County Council and the local community have been great advocates for the Community Action Plan and it is great to see the county being rewarded with such a fantastic investment.”

Register as a connector and you could earn a reward of up to €1,500 per job created (maximum 100 jobs).

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Editor’s Note:

About UCT

UCT Inc. is a world leader in the field of silica-based Solid Phase Extraction (SPE) technology. This technology is widely used in clinical, forensic and environmental laboratories as part of the determination of low levels of analytes in complex matrices. Headquartered in Bristol, Pennsylvania, UCT’s diverse product offering (from columns to well plates, derivatising reagents, GC liners, flash columns and manifolds), vertically integrated manufacturing and unique commitment to quality along with their dedicated employees and loyal customer base has made UCT leaders in their field.

About ConnectIreland

ConnectIreland is an innovative way to create new jobs in Ireland by harnessing the power of your connections. The aim is to attract foreign companies that are expanding internationally to Ireland. The Irish Government will financially reward those who, through their introductions, help create new, sustainable jobs in Ireland. The programme, part of the Government’s Action Plan for Jobs, is delivering the Succeed in Ireland Initiative, in partnership with IDA Ireland. www.connectireland.com.