

Meath Gaeltacht area to benefit from jobs boost as Clearplas establish operations

Wednesday, December 3rd 2014: An Taoiseach, Enda Kenny, today (Wednesday December 3) announced that a UK-based company will establish operations in Meath, creating **19 jobs in the coming year** in the Gaeltacht area.

The jobs being created are with plastics reprocessing company **Clearplas Ireland Ltd.**

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. Údarás na Gaeltachta was also instrumental in bringing the project to the Gaeltacht region.

Clearplas will open its first plastic separation, sorting and cleaning facility in Ireland. The facility, which will sort mixed dry plastics for use in manufacturing as well as reprocessing plastic products for Europe and Asia, will be located at Baile Ghib (Gibbstown) near Navan, Meath.

The company will use superior sorting and separation technology at its reprocessing facility in the village. The 19 positions are expected to be created in the Gaeltacht area in the coming year, with more to follow. Recruitment is already underway for a variety of technical and administrative positions.

Padraig Shine, Director of Clearplas, said:

"As a Meath native who has been working overseas for several years, I am delighted to finally be able to bring employment to my own local area. I was looking for somewhere suitable to establish this facility and Gibbstown was the perfect match. The ease of doing business and the availability of resources was a win-win for my company. I would also like to pay special thanks to Helen McEntee TD for all her support for this project."

Clearplas was introduced to ConnectIreland by local Meath man Hugh Morris. Simply by striking up a conversation and asking companies to consider Ireland, Hugh has helped to secure these 19 jobs for his local area.

Hugh is now in line to earn a €28,500 reward.

Hugh Morris, connector, said:

"I've known Padraig for many years and when he was discussing a new venture and looking for somewhere to do it, I simply pointed out the benefits and attributes of the Meath region. It was a perfect match in this situation and I am just happy to help."

Michael McLoughlin CEO of ConnectIreland commented:

"Securing companies like Clearplas for regional areas is testament to the great work being done by connectors right across the globe. Simply by asking the question 'have you considered Ireland', people

like Hugh are helping to create job opportunities in their own counties. It is particularly rewarding to see a Gaeltacht area benefitting from such positive interventions.”

Steve Ó Cúláin, CEO of Údarás na Gaeltachta said the authority was pleased to be in a position to support and facilitate the company’s development plans.

“The employment opportunities that this company will generate are crucial to the Meath Gaeltacht area and already, at this early stage, we have seen a number of people employed by the company. This is a good example of how Údarás works with businesses and offers support that allow them to develop and expand their business.”

This announcement brings the number of projects created in Meath by ConnectIreland under the *Succeed in Ireland initiative* to four, creating a **total of 139 jobs** in the region.

Mafic, also introduced by Hugh and announced last year, will create a total of 70 jobs, while SWG and MDS opened their operations at Kells Enterprise Centre last week, bringing a further 50 jobs to the region.

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

-ENDS-

Editor’s Note:

About Clearplas

Clearplas Ireland Ltd is a subsidiary of Clearplas Plastics, a UK-based plastics reprocessing company incorporated in July 2013. The company will operate its first plastic separation, sorting and cleaning facility in Ireland in Baile Ghib (Gibbstown), Meath. The Irish operation will be responsible for sorting mixed dry plastics for use in manufacturing as well as reprocessing plastic products for European and Asian markets.

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.