Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing

Why Ireland?

Talent
Ireland has the youngest and fastest growing labour force in Europe. Over 27% of undergrad enrolments were in the areas of Natural Sciences, ICT or Engineering in 2015/2016 academic year.

Regulatory Compliance
Exemplary compliance record with regulatory agencies, including the FDA, the EMA, and the HPRA.

Track Record
The world’s top 10 biopharmaceutical companies all have a manufacturing presence in Ireland.

R&D
Strong track record of clinical and academic research excellence. Ireland ranks 2nd globally for nanotechnology and immunology.

Sub-supply & Engineering
This biopharmaceutical cluster is supported by a sophisticated infrastructure of serviced sites and public utilities as well as a network of specialist support companies and services.

Ireland, the location of choice for Biopharmaceutical Manufacturing – €10 billion invested in new biopharmaceutical production facilities in Ireland in the last decade.
Pfizer is one of Ireland’s leading employers and the largest pharmaceutical sector investor and employer. Pfizer has a rich heritage of innovation and expansion over a forty year period. Pfizer has over 3,300 employees across seven locations based in Cork, Dublin, Kildare and Sligo. Total capital investment by the company in Ireland exceeds $7 billion.

Novartis is one of Ireland’s leading employers in the healthcare industry. One of the first pharmaceutical companies to locate in Ireland in the 1950’s, Novartis has strong history of investing in Ireland over the last sixty years. Novartis employs approximately 1,500 people across three locations in Cork and Dublin. Novartis manufacturing is based in Ringaskiddy, Co Cork.

Established in 2001, Genzyme Waterford, a Sanofi company, is situated on a 37-acre site in Waterford, Ireland’s oldest city. This multi-phased biopharmaceutical facility has seen capital investment of over €500 million and employs more than 550 personnel. It is a state-of-the-art facility that continues to grow in serving patients across more than 70 countries.

Alexion Pharmaceuticals is a biopharmaceutical company that discovers, develops, manufactures and commercialises antibody therapeutics for a variety of severe and ultra-rare disorders, including autoimmune and cardiovascular disease, inflammation and cancer. Since 2013, Alexion has committed to investing over €500 million in two manufacturing operations – a vial fill-finish facility in Athlone and a 20,000 sq. metre new biologics manufacturing facility in Blanchardstown, Dublin.

Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc. is a leading science-driven biopharmaceutical company from Tarrytown, New York. In 2013 Regeneron announced that it was developing a state-of-the art, biopharmaceutical production facility within a 11.88 hectare site, previously owned by Dell in Raheen Business Park, Limerick. In 2016 the company announced it was investing an additional $350 million in its Limerick Industrial Operations and Product Supply (IOPS) bioprocessing campus, bringing the total expected job creation in the Limerick area to 500 jobs and total investment to $650 million by the end of 2017.

In 2014, Bristol Myers Squibb announced plans to construct a new state-of-the-art, large scale biologics manufacturing facility. The 30,000-square meter project will house six 15,000-liter bioreactors and a purification area as well as office and laboratory space. The plant will be built on the grounds of the company’s existing bulk pharmaceutical manufacturing plant. Approximately 350 to 400 scientists, engineers, bioprocess operators, quality specialists and other skilled professionals are expected to work at the facility when construction is completed.

Ireland has a long tradition of pharmaceutical operational excellence and has been attracting manufacturing facilities from major Life Sciences companies for over fifty years. In the last ten years there has been a significant ramp-up in large molecule manufacturing throughout Ireland.

Over €10 billion in new investment has been committed in the last decade for new biotech manufacturing facilities in both drug substance (Alexion, Pfizer, Regeneron, Lilly, J&J, BMS, BioMarin) and drug product (Sanofi–Genzyme, Allergan, Jazz Pharmaceuticals, Amgen, and MSD). Our existing clients have continued to invest and have been joined by an exciting new group of high growth companies.

A deep pool of talented employees, an exemplary regulatory compliance record, strong government support for R&D, and zero-defect biopharmaceutical manufacturing excellence have driven this recent wave of investment in new biotech companies.

The Irish Government is committed to continuing to invest in our education, research and broader ecosystem to ensure that Ireland remains the competitive location of choice for new biotechnology manufacturing operations.

We have established NIBRT, which, with its pilot scale biotech manufacturing equipment, serves as a ‘flight simulator’ for biotech manufacturing. NIBRT is now working with world leading companies and training over 3,500 people annually as well as growing its investment in process research.

Ireland’s Health Products Regulatory Authority (HPRA) has ensured the maintenance of a high quality professional regulatory environment, securing global supply chains for life saving medicines.

IDA Ireland is available to assist you at all stages of your decision making process and we also have a dedicated after care team to assist you with product implementation.

Tommy Fanning
Head of Biopharmaceuticals, IDA Ireland

The National Institute for Bioprocessing Research & Training

The National Institute for Bioprocessing Research and Training (NIBRT) is a global centre of excellence for training and research in bioprocessing. NIBRT is located in a new, world class facility in Dublin, Ireland. This facility is purpose built to closely replicate a modern bioprocessing plant with state of the art equipment. In parallel, NIBRT also undertakes leading edge research in key areas of bioprocessing in collaboration with industry.

For further information: www.nibrt.ie