



Chanelle staff celebrating win with Paschal McCarthy, President, Irish Exporters Association (far right)

# Galway pharma company named Exporter of the Year

ELEVEN IRISH COMPANIES FROM A RANGE OF SECTORS SCOOP AWARDS AT THE EXPORT INDUSTRY AWARDS 2016

**A**Loughrea-based pharmaceutical company has been named Exporter of the Year at the Export Industry Awards 2016. The event recognises “remarkable achievements of companies” working in the export industry in Ireland. The Chanelle Group, which provides a spectrum of services in areas of research and development, as well as registration and production of pharmaceuticals, for both human and veterinary needs, walked away with the overall Exporter of the Year Award for 2016, as well as the Life Sciences Exporter of the Year and the Export Innovation of the Year titles. Set up in 1983 by veterinary surgeon Michael Burke, the firm has its headquarters Loughrea, Co. Galway, where it employs over 300 people and is an important employer for the area. The company has 385 staff in total, and exports to over 80 countries worldwide, with key markets in the EU, Australia, New Zealand, Japan, South Africa and the Middle East. Over 500 export industry professionals attended the black tie awards ceremony and gala dinner on Friday, November 25 at the Convention Centre, Dublin. Eleven companies from a variety of sectors won awards at the premier event. Tadhg Enright, journalist and presenter, emceed

the event, which included a keynote address by Martin McVicar, managing director and co-founder of Combilift, two-time winner of the Exporter of the Year Award in 2008 and 2015. Speaking at the awards ceremony, Paschal McCarthy, president of the Irish Exporters Association (IEA) said: “The IEA annual awards ceremony honours the many achievements of the export sector and the companies that support it. It highlights the range of exporting companies driving our economy which enable us to compete globally.” McCarthy added that this year has been the most competitive yet in the standard of award entrants. However, the judges were struck by The Chanelle Group’s “pioneering approach to product innovation, in particular, the development of super generics, a key factor in the company’s substantial growth in recent years”.

“Over the past 12 months Chanelle has catapulted to become a key player in the pharmaceutical industry. The company has surpassed industry norms in areas of product development and commercialisation and has ambitious growth plans. We wish The Chanelle Group every success in the years to come,” he said. McVicar, whose company Combilift employs 440 staff and exports to 75 countries, said: “The real value of being a member of the IEA is not only the advice the IEA gives Combilift regarding exporting into new markets, it is the opportunity within the networking events the IEA creates between its members and particularly within its alumni programme.”



The Export Industry Awards 2016 is supported by a number of corporate and industry sponsors: Bank of Ireland, Etihad Airways, KPMG, Kuehne + Nagel, UCD Smurfit School of Business, Bord Bia, Enterprise Ireland, the Irish Maritime Development Office and Iarnród Éireann Irish Rail.

## 2016 Export Industry Award Categories and Winners

### Exporter of The Year 2016 sponsored by Etihad Airways

**Overall Winner: The Chanelle Group, Loughrea, Co Galway**

### Export Innovation of the Year, sponsored by KPMG

**Shortlisted:** eShopWorld, Swords, Co Dublin; Irish Distillers (Permod Ricard), Dublin; Major Equipment Intl Ltd, Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo; Megazyme, Bray, Co Wicklow.

**Winner: The Chanelle Group, Loughrea, Co Galway**

### Services Exporter of the Year

**Shortlisted:** Adams & Butler, Mount Merrion, Dublin; Compliance & Risks, Cork; TransferMate Global Payments, Kilkenny; Ventac, Blessington, Co Wicklow.

**Winner: Roomex.com, Dublin**

### Life Sciences Exporter of the Year, sponsored by Kuehne+Nagel

**Shortlisted:** Abbvie Ireland NL B.V., Ballytivnan, Sligo; Megazyme, Bray, Co Wicklow; Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Manufacturing Limited, Swords, Co Dublin; Trend Technologies Mullingar Limited, Mullingar, Co Westmeath.

**Winner: The Chanelle Group, Loughrea, Co Galway**

### Medium Size Exporter of the Year, sponsored by Bank of Ireland

**Shortlisted:** Aran Ard Teo (TA Gallaghers Bakery), Ardara, Co Donegal; Irish Dog Foods, Naas, Co Kildare; Major Equipment Intl Ltd, Ballyhaunis, Co Mayo; Vizor Software, Dublin.

**Winner: eShopWorld, Swords, Co Dublin**

### Small & Emerging Exporter of the Year

**Shortlisted:** Ben & Anvil, Dublin; Dublin Design Studio, Dublin; Episcan, Sligo; Hyde Irish Whiskey (Hibernia Distillers Ltd), Innishannon, Co Cork.

**Winner: Keogh's Crisps, Oldtown, Co Dublin**

### Multinational Exporter of the Year, sponsored by Iarnród Éireann, Irish Rail

**Shortlisted:** ABP Food Group, Ardee, Co Louth; Portwest Ltd, Westport, Co Mayo; Siemens Healthcare Diagnostics Manufacturing Limited, Swords, Co Dublin; The Chanelle Group, Loughrea, Co Galway.

**Winner: Green Isle Foods, Naas, Co Kildare**

### Food & Drink Exporter of the Year, sponsored by Bord Bia

**Shortlisted:** ABP Food Group, Ardee, Co Louth; BFree Foods Ltd, Dublin; Glenmar Shellfish Ltd, Union Hall, Co Cork; Green Isle Foods, Naas, Co Kildare.

**Winner: Dawn Farms, Naas, Co Kildare**

### High Potential Exporter Award, sponsored by Enterprise Ireland

**Shortlisted:** Cognikids, Dublin; IP Translator, Dublin; KantanMT, Dublin; Polypico, Galway

**Winner: ChannelSight, Dublin**

### Maritime Services Company of the Year, sponsored by the Irish Maritime Development Office

**Shortlisted:** CLdN Ro Ro SA, Dublin; Maersk Line, Dublin.

**Winner: Irish Continental Group, Container & Terminal Division, Dublin**

### Technology Exporter of the Year

**Shortlisted:** Dublin Design Studio, Dublin; Kyckr Ireland, Carriganore, Waterford; TransferMate Global Payments, Kilkenny; Vizor Software, Dublin.

**Winner: eShopWorld, Swords, Co Dublin**

### Logistics Exporter of the Year

**Shortlisted:** GEODIS Ireland Ltd, Dublin; Kuehne + Nagel, Swords, Co Dublin; McArdle Skeath, Dundalk, Co Louth; Network International Cargo, Dublin.

**Winner: Ace Express Freight, Lusk, Dublin**

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