



ICON Continues Asia-Pacific Expansion with New Office in Manila, Philippines

New Office Supports Increased Demand for Clinical Development Services in the Region

DUBLIN, Mar 16, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) -- **ICON plc, (NASDAQ: ICLR) (ISIN:IE0005711209)**, a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, today announced that it will expand its footprint in Asia-Pacific with the opening of an office in Manila, Philippines. This announcement follows the recent expansion of ICON's operations in Seoul, Korea and ICON Central Laboratories' move to a larger laboratory facility in Singapore.

"With over 800 employees in 14 Asia-Pac countries and 13 years of successful operations in the region, Asia-Pacific is a key market for ICON," commented Peter Gray, CEO at ICON. "Philippines' large population, coupled with the country's well-established network of hospitals, physicians and investigators has made it an attractive location for our clients, and one which we have supported for a number of years through home-based employees. Investing in local support and infrastructure through the office in Manila will ensure that we can support future client demand as they increasingly look to include Asia in their drug development programs."

ICON has conducted a wide range of clinical studies across all therapeutic areas in Asia-Pacific, and has particular expertise in managing oncology, cardiovascular, CNS and metabolic disorder trials in the region. Current studies range from small local trials to pan-Asia-Pacific and large global programs and are supported by two fully-owned ICON central laboratories, strategically located in Singapore and Bangalore, India. ICON has a presence in 14 countries within the region - Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand and Vietnam.

About ICON plc

ICON plc is a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries. The Company specialises in the strategic development, management and analysis of programs that support clinical development - from compound selection to Phase I-IV clinical studies. ICON currently has around 7,100 employees, operating from 68 locations in 38 countries.

Further information is available at www.iconplc.com

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