

PRESS RELEASE

ICON Central Laboratories in Singapore Moves to New Facility to Meet Growing Demand

Singapore Laboratory Testing Increases by 149% in Past Six Months

Singapore, 26th June 2009 – 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 has moved its Singapore central laboratory to a new, larger facility located at Loyang Way, Eastern Singapore. The new laboratory meets the growth in demand for ICON Central Laboratories' services in Singapore, which has increased by 149% over the past six months. The larger facility also enables ICON Central Laboratories to expand its test menu offerings in the region to include increased esoteric testing as well as flow cytometry, molecular diagnostics and biomarkers, to complement the services of ICON's other wholly-owned central laboratories in Europe, India and the United States.

"As ICON celebrates its tenth year of operation in Singapore, our move to a larger laboratory signals our continued commitment to the region," commented Bob Scott-Edwards, President, ICON Central Laboratories. "Singapore has become a regional hub for drug development in Asia-Pacific and we now have the capacity, the range of testing services and, above all, a highly experienced team of lab professionals to support the growth of clinical trials in the region."

"We join ICON in commemorating your tenth anniversary in Singapore with an expanded central laboratory. ICON's new facility will contribute to our burgeoning biomedical sciences community that has more than 50 companies carrying out R&D and contract research in Singapore. Furthermore, ICON's decision to leverage its expanded facility in Singapore to meet Asia's growing demand reinforces Singapore's position as a preferred location to tap into Asia's growth," said Ms Anna Chan, Assistant Managing Director, Singapore Economic Development Board.

ICON Central Laboratories Singapore supports all major therapeutic areas, including cardiovascular, oncology, endocrinology and metabolism, and virology. The laboratory serves as a regional hub for test samples from Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan, Japan, Thailand, Hong Kong, China and Indonesia. ICON Central Laboratories Singapore received CAP (College of American Pathologists) accreditation in March 2009, ensuring the highest standards of excellence in laboratory services.

Note to Editors

ICON Central Laboratories Singapore has experienced strong growth over the past six months, with as much as 149% growth in laboratory testing; 40% growth in accessions and sample storage seeing a 90% increase.

Globally, ICON Central Laboratories' growth statistics include:

- 556 active studies
- 1,800 studies since 2000;
- 59 million tests performed on 507,500 subjects since 2000;
- Experience in over 70 countries in support of 30,000 investigator sites worldwide;
- Up to 80,000 kits built per month;
- Over 90% repeat business rate.

Singapore was chosen by ICON Central Laboratories as the regional hub for Asia Pacific because of a significant reduction in turnaround time in transportation of laboratory samples, by as much as 24 hours; and the city's efficient logistics chain and easy accessibility to the region.

The new location, only five minutes from the airport's cargo area, with nearby hotels, transportation, and eating amenities that are within walking distance, will make a visit to the lab quite easy for both local and international clients and guests.

Singapore's Ministry of Health approved ICON Central Laboratories operations in Singapore in September 2008. The facility also received CAP (College of American Pathologists) accreditation in March 2009. The CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program is an internationally



Central Laboratories

recognised program that helps laboratories achieve the highest standards of excellence to positively impact patient care. Based on rigorous accreditation standards, the goal of the program is to improve patient safety by advancing the quality of pathology and laboratory services through education, standard setting and ensuring laboratories meet or exceed regulatory requirements.

ICON plc's revenues for FY ending 31 December 2008 were US \$865 million. ICON is traded on the NASDAQ and Irish (ISEQ) exchanges.

About ICON Central Laboratories, Singapore

ICON Central Laboratories Singapore was opened as an Accessioning, Sample Handling and Lab Data Entry Organization in June 2007. On September 13, 2008 the company opened its doors as a Central Laboratory performing safety testing having received approval from the Singapore Ministry of Health on 11th Sept 2008. Since then, ICON Central Laboratories Singapore's support for studies has been continuing to increase, servicing Clinical Sites in the Asia Pacific, specifically: Australia, New Zealand, South Korea, Japan, China, Hong Kong, Thailand, Taiwan, Malaysia, Indonesia and Singapore. In addition to testing, ICL also provides comprehensive support for sample tracking and storage of specimens at both -20°C and -80°C.

The growth of the laboratory business has been amazing with the number of studies tripling from September to February 2009; accessions rising from October to November 2008 by 40%; and sample storage increasing 90% by the end of November 2008. The Client Services Staff is manning ICON Central Laboratories Global Call Center from 8 AM- 5PM SST, allowing 24-hour "manned coverage" for calling Panic Lab Values as well as covering incoming and out-going calls, following the sun for six plus days a week.

About ICON Central Laboratories

ICON Central Laboratories, a division of ICON plc, provides full service, global central laboratory services from core facilities in New York, Dublin, Singapore and India, as well as through quality affiliate laboratories in China and Japan. An extensive test menu of safety, esoteric and custom-developed assays, including global flow cytometry, is complemented by dedicated, sponsor-specific project teams and a single, comprehensive database for each study as well as a user-friendly, web-based, secure remote data access system. ICON Central Laboratories also offers a unique service to manage and compile laboratory data when a client's study requires the use of local laboratories. For more information, visit www.icolabs.com.

ICON Central Laboratories is dedicated exclusively to central laboratory testing and the associated services for clinical trials. All planning, systems, staff training and attention are focused on producing the best service and support for the client, investigator and patient in a quality, timely manner. Services include:

- Extensive test menu of safety, esoteric and custom-developed assays;
- A Global network of wholly owned facilities in New York, Dublin, Singapore and India;
- iRIS (ICON Results Integration Service): Management and compilation of laboratory data when a client's study requires the use of local laboratories;
- Superior Data Management – Close collaboration with our Sponsors to ensure all data are captured and reported in a timely manner, meeting their requirements and in a single database;
- Global logistics management with experience in 70 countries;
- Dedicated, sponsor-specific project teams;
- ICOLabs™, an easy to use web-based, secure, remote data access tool;
- Study protocol and visit-specific test kits and requisitions;
- Study specific project setup and management services;
- Frozen specimen storage and pharmacogenomic extraction services;
- Custom lab report formats with sponsor-specified delta flags, alerts, etiology codes and toxicology grading that mirror the study CRF;
- Multilingual investigator site support including translation services contracted through Language Line™ ;
- Study-specific investigator support materials.

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 teams have successfully conducted over 5500 development projects and consultancy engagements across all major therapeutic areas. ICON currently has over 7,100 employees, operating from 71 locations in 38 countries. Further information is available at www.iconplc.com

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