

News

ClearStream Technologies gets FDA Approval for new product line

ClearStream Technologies has received approval from the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to sell its new 'ReekKross' family of catheters in the United States

Wexford-based ClearStream designs and manufactures specialist medical devices including catheters and drug-eluting stents used in interventional procedures.

The ReekKross is used in the treatment of critical limb ischemia, a condition often caused by diabetes and which, if left untreated, leads to amputation of the affected limb. It was developed under ClearStream's research and development programme which is supported by Enterprise Ireland.

"This FDA approval is potentially one of the most exciting developments for ClearStream in that it enables us to supply the largest market in the world for peripheral catheters," commented ClearStream Technologies' CEO Andrew Jones. "US health-care systems are well developed and organised for interventional treatment of these conditions, and we now have approval to supply some of the most effective products available on the market."

Kerry Biomass launches integrated wood pelletising system

Kerry Biomass has launched what it claims is the world's first integrated wood pelletising system.

A division of Kerry Die Products Ltd, the group operates two facilities, a manufacturing and head office in Fossa, Country Kerry, and a service centre in Gothenburg, Sweden.

The new system comprises of a patented wood pellet press and integrated and integrated calorific processor/condenser. Prior to this, the company says that the wood pellet industry relied entirely on adapted animal feed pelletising technology.

Liam O'Connor, founder and CEO of Kerry Die Products Ltd. explains, "the technology was derived from extensive research in wood sciences undertaken at the University of Vienna, Austria, University of Uppsala, Sweden and the University of Umea, Sweden. The result of the research is an increased understanding of the four main properties of pellets - lignin, cellulose, hemicellulose and ash - which allows us to produce a better pellet at a higher hourly production rate using considerably less energy."

Irish companies to present at Digestive Disease Week in Chicago

The profile of the Irish gastroenterology and immunology community looks set to hit new levels following an 'Irish' symposium having been secured at Digestive Disease Week (DDW) 2009, the world's largest gathering of physicians and researchers in gastroenterology, hepatology, endoscopy and gastrointestinal surgery.

DDW 2009, which takes place in Chicago from May 30 to June 4, 2009, showcases a series of papers, symposiums and exhibits to review innovations, research and techniques.

Enterprise Ireland has gathered Irish key opinion leaders from the global medical and research communities to present a symposium on 'The Host Microbe Interface - Translating Science To Real And Emerging Therapeutic Opportunities. For example, opening remarks will be provided by Dr Joseph A. Murray, M.D., Professor of Medicine, Consultant, Division of Gastroenterology and Hepatology at the Mayo Clinic.

A graduate of the National University of Ireland, Galway, Dr. Murray is a widely published specialist in the area of oesophageal disease, achalasia and celiac disease.

At DDW, the Irish booth will feature research and publications from an array of the Irish GI community, showcasing a compelling series of innovations in probiotics, immunology, drug delivery, endoscopy, therapy and other areas.

Alimentary Health has successfully commercialised innovations in probiotics and has licensed its technologies to Proctor & Gamble for its Align

brand probiotic supplement.

- Opsona Therapeutics is a leading drug development company specialising in the human immune system, specifically the role of toll-like receptors and inflammasome signalling in human immunology.

- AGI Therapeutics (AGI) is focused on the development of differentiated drug products for gastrointestinal diseases and is near completion of testing 'Rezular', an orally-administered multiple mechanism intestinal

regulator, a first-in-class mechanism for the treatment of diarrhoea-predominant irritable bowel syndrome.

- Sigmoid Pharma develops a portfolio of drug delivery products for use in the treatment of gastrointestinal disease, transplantation and neuro-degeneration.

- Pharmatrin specialises in developing small molecule new chemical entities with potential therapeutic application in the areas of

inflammation and autoimmune diseases specifically for the treatment of inflammatory bowel disease.

- Vysera Biomedical has developed its own proprietary biomimetic material enabling minimally invasive treatment of gastro esophageal reflux control.

- Cellix has developed a groundbreaking microfluidics drug screening tool currently being used by over a third of the top ten pharmaceutical companies worldwide.

