

Speech by Liam Connellan, Director General, Confederation of Irish Industry, at Business Conference on the Irish Economy in Stuttgart, Wednesday, 26th September 1990 at 10.00a.m.

## IRELAND - A TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED ECONOMY

Ireland is one of the most technologically advanced economies in the European Community. High technology products such as computers, electronics, electrical, chemical and pharmaceutical goods account for a higher proportion of national output and exports than in any other member state of the Community.

Ireland now exports 80% of its manufacturing output, and our total exports per capita are about 20% higher than in the Federal Republic. This demonstrates the outward orientation, openness, and dynamism of the Irish economy.

The main contribution to the rapid expansion of output, in high technology industries has been made by overseas firms. There are now almost 1,000 overseas-owned industrial companies in Ireland. Germany, with over 130 firms, is the third largest investor from abroad after the United States and Britain.

In a European Community where there are substantial skill shortages, Ireland is unique in having an overall surplus of engineering, science, and business graduates. Irish people place a very high value on education and about one-third of the relevant age group now undertakes undergraduate studies at our universities and regional technical colleges. While almost one-third of our science and technology graduates go abroad to gain experience, the great majority wish to return to Ireland and contribute to the development of the Irish economy.

The Confederation of Irish Industry plays an active role in encouraging young Irish graduates to gain work experience on mainland Europe and has a specific post-graduate training programme whereby young Irish graduates are sponsored by Irish firms to gain work experience in Germany and France. In this way these young graduates gain a greater appreciation of the culture and

business practices in other parts of the European Community and assist Irish industry to integrate more fully into the Community.

Ireland is a specialised producer for the total European market. Already almost 40% of the total output of Irish manufacturing industry is sold on mainland Europe and that proportion is rising every year. Ireland is a particularly suitable location for the manufacture of knowledge intensive high technology products. Our young highly qualified labour force combines with an outward looking, confident and dynamic business approach to create favourable conditions for continued expansion.

Finally, Ireland is a committed member of the European Monetary System and there has been no variation between the value of the Irish pound and the deutschmark for over four years. This has resulted in a situation where inflation over the last twelve months has been only 2.9% which is the fourth lowest in the European Community. I am confident that our position as a low-inflation economy adopting prudent fiscal policies and offering a favourable environment for enterprise will be sustained in the coming years.

END

**Exports**  
**80 %**  
**Manufacturing**  
**Output**



**Exports / Capita**

000's DM

Ireland / 11

FRG 9



**Main Exports**

%

|                    |    |
|--------------------|----|
| Computers          | 20 |
| Chemicals & Pharm. | 14 |
| Meat               | 7  |
| Electrical         | 6  |
| Dairy              | 6  |



**Value of Exports**

DM bn

|                    |   |
|--------------------|---|
| Computer           | 7 |
| Chemicals + Pharm. | 5 |
| Electrical         | 3 |



**Education**  
**Third Level**  
**30%**



**Graduate Surplus**  
**Employed In Ireland**

|             | %  |
|-------------|----|
| Engineering | 45 |
| Science     | 59 |
| Commerce    | 75 |



**Industry / Education**

**Industrial Parks**  
**Research**  
**Masters**  
**Doctoral**



**Overseas Industry**

|               |            |
|---------------|------------|
| U.S.          | 350        |
| Britain       | 200        |
| FRG           | 130        |
| <u>Others</u> | <u>220</u> |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>900</b> |



### **Computers**

Digital  
Intel  
Nippon Elec.  
Fujitsu  
Apple  
Wang



### **Engineering**

Airmotive  
Liebherr  
De Beers  
Alcan  
CRH



### **Electrical**

Westinghouse  
Krupps  
Packard  
MF Kent  
Glen Dimplex



### **Software**

IBM  
Ericsson  
Lotus  
Kindle  
Microsoft



**Aviation**

**Boeing**  
**GPA / Lufthansa**  
**Garrett**



**Financial Services**

**4% Workforce**  
**Financial**  
**Services Centre**



**Financial Services Centre**  
**130 Companies**

**Commerzbank**  
**Deutsche Bank**  
**Dresdner**  
**West LB.**  
**Wuerttembergische Portfolio**



# INVESTMENT IN IRELAND

## 37 FIRMS FROM

### BADEN-WÜRTTEMBERG

Automatisierungs-Technic GmbH  
Ettingen

PAT (Ireland) Ltd.  
Shannon

Christian Beha GmbH  
Glottertal

Connemara Electronics  
Carrigaline

Christian Beha GmbH  
Glottertal

Connemara Electronics  
Galway

Beru Mfg GmbH  
Ludwigsburg

Beru Electronics  
Tralee

Beru Mfg GmbH  
Ludwigsburg

Beru Manufacturing  
Tralee

G. Bohler GmbH  
Denzlingen

Kinsale Tools Ltd.  
Kinsale

Brandner GmbH & Co. KG  
Eningen

Brander GmbH  
Wexford

Deutsche Star Kugelhalter GmbH  
Schweinfurt

Star Ball Retainer Co. of Irl. Ltd.  
Skibbereen

Duscholux GmbH  
Schriesheim

Showerlux (Cork) Ltd.  
Cork

Elasto Metall GmbH  
Ottersweier

Elasto Metall  
Leitrim

M. Föhrenbach GmbH  
Unadingen

Föhrenbach Precision  
Sligo

German Interests

IMT Manufacturing & Trading Co.  
Ltd.  
Shannon

German Interests

Storsack Ltd.  
Cork

GMT-Gummi Metall-Technik

Rubber Mountings Ltd.  
Clifden

August Läpple GmbH & Co. KG  
Heilbronn

Läpple (Ireland) Ltd.  
Carlow

Max Mauch KG  
Neufra

Max Mauch Ireland Ltd.  
Wexford

Ferdinand Menrad Brillenfabrik  
Schwabisch

Studio Eyewear Ltd.  
Ennis

Microtherm GmbH  
Pforzheim

Microtherm Ltd.  
Limerick

Moog GmbH  
Boblingen

Moog Ltd.  
Cork

P. Pfeiffer/K Menrad  
Radolfzell

Caidel MP Teo  
Mayo

Schaefer Electronic GmbH  
Gamshurst

Schaefer Electronic Ltd.  
Cork

Karl Schaeff GmbH & Co.  
Langenburg

Schaeff (Ireland) Ltd.  
Killarney

Max Schloetter GmbH & Co. KG  
Geislinger

Schloetter (Ireland) Ltd.  
Newbridge

Dr. Willmar Schwabe GmbH  
Dreux, France

Cara Partners  
Cork

Stablbau Schauenberg GmbH  
Rathbachstrasse 6

Schauenberg Int. Ltd.  
Dublin

Stern Plastik Hollstern KG  
Hegastrasse

Stern Plastic (Ireland) Ltd.  
Kinsale



Stribel GmbH  
Frickenhausen

SIM Stribel Manufacturing GmbH  
Dundalk

SWS Software Service GmbH  
Pforzheim

SWS Software Services Ltd.  
Limerick

Thermal-Werke  
Hockenheim

Millex Ltd.  
Drogheda

Tubex Vertreb GmbH  
Rangendingen

Tubex Ltd.  
Nenagh

Wampfler GmbH  
Rhein-Markt

Wampfler Ltd.  
Wicklow

Wiedenbach Apparatebau GmbH  
Moos

Wiedenbach Apparatebau Handels  
GmbH  
Westmeath

Württembergische Feuerversicherung AG  
Stuttgart

Württembergische Portfolio  
Management Services Ltd.  
Dublin

Willibald

Willibald  
Killorgan

Liebherr

Liebherr  
Killarney

Schiesser

Schiesser  
Carrick-on-Suir

Schiesser  
Clonmel