

June 17, 1999

OVER \$25 MILLION IN NEW BUSINESS AWARDS IN FORTH QUARTER

Dublin, Ireland, June 17 -- ICON plc (Nasdaq: ICLR - news) -- Speaking at the Goldman Sachs Annual Healthcare Conference in Dana Point, California today, Mr. Peter Gray, the Chief Financial Officer of ICON announced that the company had been awarded over \$25 million of new business in its fourth quarter ended 31 May 1999. As a result, the company estimates that it already has booked over 80% of forecast revenues for the financial year ended March 31, 2000. Mr. Gray also announced that ICON had hired the data management team from a biotech company in Irvine, California, and will be opening a new office in Irvine for this team and for further expansion.

"We are pleased with the success of our accelerated business development efforts and the strong visibility they have given to our revenues," said Mr. Gray. "The opportunity to continue to develop our data management capabilities through the hiring of a team in Irvine, fits well with our growth strategy, and came as our new business flow was developing strongly. We look forward to further developing our West Coast business with this addition to our global network."

ICON provides contract clinical research services to the global pharmaceutical industry. The company currently has 11 offices in eight countries and over 600 employees worldwide.

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Information in this press release contains "forward-looking statements." These statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially including, without limitation, actual operating performance, the ability to maintain large client contracts or enter into new contracts, the ability to manage the opening of new offices, and the ability to maintain client relationships. Additional factors that could cause actual results to differ materially are discussed in the Company's recent filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including its Forms F-1 and S-8.

SOURCE: ICON plc