



A Symbol of Excellence

April 24, 2013

ICON Wins 'Partnership Pioneers of the Year' Award in Recognition of Global Partnership with Pfizer

DUBLIN--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [ICON plc](#), (NASDAQ: ICLR) a global provider of outsourced development services to the pharmaceutical, biotechnology and medical device industries, today announced that it has received the 2013 "Partnership Pioneers of the Year" award in recognition of its [strategic partnership with Pfizer](#) and PAREXEL.

Presented by the Institute for International Research and Partnerships in Clinical Trials' advisory board, the award recognises two or more companies engaged in a partnership that moves beyond the traditional transactional model to a more strategic approach that can bring innovation to the drug development process.

ICON was selected by Pfizer in May 2011 as one of two strategic partners for global clinical research and development. The partnership was part of Pfizer's comprehensive program of change in R&D to sharpen research focus, deliver differentiated innovation, and create a more flexible cost base through external partnerships for certain R&D services.

Commenting on the award, ICON's CEO, Mr. Ciaran Murray, said: *"I am delighted that ICON has received this award which recognises our commitment to the strategic collaboration with Pfizer. Using our scale, clinical experience, and technology such as Firecrest, we are able to deliver high-quality solutions for the Pfizer partnership. These solutions help reduce cycle times and cost and improve the quality and productivity of drug development. Over the past two years we have worked hard with Pfizer to transform their drug development model and have built a solid platform that will support the continued success and evolution of the partnership in the future."*

"Our new Alliance Partner Model is providing a solid foundation for integrated quality clinical services," said Dr. John Hubbard, SVP of Development Operations for Pfizer. *"ICON and PAREXEL's clinical expertise and innovative technology continues to set the standard for best practice, this award recognises progress toward our goal of creating a common culture dedicated to universally improving clinical trial implementation. We look forward to deepening our relationship with ICON and PAREXEL, to achieve our partnership's full potential, and ultimately deliver medicines to patients in need more quickly and efficiently."*

Pfizer, ICON and PAREXEL accepted the honour during an awards ceremony at the [22nd annual Partnerships in Clinical Trials conference](#).

The statements made in this press release may contain forward-looking statements that involve a number of risks and uncertainties. A description of risks and uncertainties relating to ICON and its business can be found in Forms 20-F for the fiscal year ended December 31st 2012 and in the other forms filed with the US Securities and Exchange Commission, including the F-1, S-8 and F-3. ICON disclaims any intent or obligation to update these forward-looking statements.

Notes to Editors

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 approximately 10,045 employees, operating from 79 locations in 37 countries.

Further information is available at www.iconplc.com

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