



Final – 18/3/2010

## LAKE REGION MEDICAL LIMITED EMPLOYEES SCOOP ICBE NATIONAL BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARD

Lake Region Medical Limited employees Noel Hennessy, Nicola Merrigan, John Bolger and John O'Dwyer - today received the highly prestigious ICBE 2010 National Business Excellence Award (a sculpture by Patrick Campbell) from the Irish Centre for Business Excellence at a ceremony in Clonmel, Co Tipperary.

The award is given out annually for outstanding contribution to a key objective of the Centre – freely sharing knowledge and best practice among the members of the network.

The team is responsible for implementing Lake Region Medical Limited Operational Excellence strategy at the plants in New Ross, Co Wexford and Parkmore, Galway.

Under the team's guidance, cross functional teams, consisting of employees at all levels, look at end-to-end repeatable processes with a view to improving the customer experience, finding, fixing and stopping problems from returning permanently, standardizing processes, implementing total preventative maintenance, eliminating waste, reducing cost, increasing efficiencies and removing low or non value add activities. Lake Region Medical is now a 'must visit company' to learn and share best practice from the progress made to date at the plant.

The team has been a positive advocate of the ICBE core processes within Lake Region Medical Limited and in the South East Region. They assisted the Centre in establishing the Innovation & Lean Sigma Federation and are active on the steering group of the Innovation & Lean/Sigma Skillnet. They were instrumental in setting up the South East Lean Forum and Noel Hennessy has been its chairman during 2008/2009.

Members of the team have contributed to events organised by the Centre by sharing their experiences for the benefit of others and have arranged several visits to their plant for member companies to witness at first hand the tremendous progress made in implementing Lean Principles,

Speaking after receiving the award, Noel Hennessy said: "I am delighted to accept this award on behalf of myself, the team and Lake Region Medical Limited. It is a great honour for us and marks the contribution made by Lake Region Medical Limited as an organisation to the development and sharing of world class business management concepts and practices in both national and international members of ICBE."

The ICBE, a national promoter of Ireland's development as a knowledge economy, is a non profit network established in 1996 by leading companies on the island of Ireland. Through participation in the core processes of ICBE, members continually compare and measure their organisation's processes, share best practice and participate in networking events, communities of practice, research and training, education and development organised by the centre.