

Under embargo until Sunday 18 March 2018

[Insert Company Name] announced as one of Ireland's Best Managed Companies!

***Company receives award for [first/second/third...ninth/tenth] time
Awards celebrate ten years of recognising management excellence***

[Insert Company Name] has been named as one of Ireland's 'Best Managed' companies in the Deloitte Best Managed Companies Awards programme. The company, which demonstrated superior business performance **[for the second, third, fourth...ninth/tenth year running]**, was recognised at an awards gala dinner in Dublin on 15 March 2018.

The Deloitte Best Managed Companies Awards programme is celebrating ten years of recognising management excellence. 22 new companies join a requalifying network of more than 100 companies, built over a decade of the programme. The awards, in association with Bank of Ireland, culminated with the Best Managed Companies Awards symposium and gala, which was attended by over 1,000 people from the Irish business community.

In total 137 companies were recognised as Best Managed Companies and have a combined turnover of over €12 billion. 26 of the 32 counties across the island of Ireland were represented by winning companies.

Commenting on the award, XX, CEO, Company X said: "[Insert Quote – what you attribute the company's success to]."

Commenting, Deloitte Partner, Anya Cummins said:

"2018 marks the 10th year of the Deloitte Best Managed Companies Awards programme, which has grown from 25 companies in year 1 to 137 in year 10. The programme represents companies from different industries with many industry-specific challenges but also common characteristics such as adaptability, innovation and ambition. Their stories are the stories of Irish business this past decade, and they are stories of resilience, recovery and confidence."

Andrew Graham, Director, Bank of Ireland Corporate Banking said:

"The Best Managed programme puts the spotlight on well managed companies that are generating strong returns, as well as growing their businesses through investment in technology, a customer centric approach and commitment to developing leaders of the future. The process and frameworks used by these businesses continues to serve them well in adapting to and succeeding in the dynamic and ever evolving global markets in which they now compete. We have been really impressed by not only the breadth of businesses but also their ambition, drive and determination. I have no doubt that they will continue to set the benchmark for excellence in the years to come and we wish them continued success."

The Deloitte Best Managed Companies programme, in association with Bank of Ireland, promotes and recognises excellence in Irish/Northern Irish owned and managed companies. It is the only awards scheme on the island of Ireland that considers a business' performance from every perspective.

Ends

For Further Information Please Contact

[Insert Company Contact Details]

Notes to Editor

About the Awards

There are four different categories of Best Managed Companies award winners:

- **New Best Managed Companies:** Companies that receive the award for the first time. These companies must go through a Phase I and Phase II Best Managed Companies Awards programme application process.
- **Gold Standard:** Best Managed Companies that receive the award for the fourth year in a row. These companies must go through a Phase I and Phase II Best Managed Companies Awards programme application process.

- **Platinum Standard:** Best Managed Companies that receive the award for the seventh year in a row. These companies must go through a Phase I and Phase II Best Managed Companies Awards programme application process.
- **Re-qualifiers:** Best Managed Companies, already in the programme that are not going for new, gold or platinum status. Companies applying for requalification must satisfy the programme eligibility criteria and go through a requalification review process in order to ensure that the companies continue to uphold the Best Managed standard.

About Company XX

[Insert Company Boilerplate]

About Deloitte Best Managed Companies Awards

The Deloitte Best Managed Companies programme, in association with Bank of Ireland, promotes and recognises excellence in Irish/Northern Irish owned and managed companies. It is the only awards scheme on the island of Ireland that considers a business' performance from every perspective. Entrants to the programme will compete for this designation in a rigorous and independent process that evaluates the calibre of their management abilities and practices.

Programme sponsors are Bank of Ireland, the Irish Management Institute and the Sunday Business Post. For further information, visit www.deloittebestmanaged.ie.

International history of Best Managed Companies Programme

The Best Managed Companies Programme originated in Canada in 1993, where it has been run successfully ever since and is the country's leading business awards programme. In addition to Ireland and Canada, the programme is also run in The Netherlands and Mexico.

About Bank of Ireland

Bank of Ireland Group is one of the largest financial services groups in Ireland. The Group provides a broad range of banking and other financial services. These services include: current account and deposit services, overdrafts, term loans, mortgages, business and corporate lending, international asset financing, leasing, instalment credit, invoice discounting, foreign exchange facilities, interest and exchange rate hedging instruments, life assurance, pension and protection products. All of these services are provided by the Group in Ireland, with selected services being offered in the UK and internationally.

The Group has the largest network of retail branches and ATM outlets in Ireland, as well as partnerships in the UK with the Post Office and the AA, engaged in the provision of consumer financial services. Corporate Banking and Global Markets conduct the Group's international business, with offices in Dublin, London and the US, as well as branches in Paris and Frankfurt.

The Bank of Ireland Group is incorporated in Dublin, Ireland. Our Group Head Office is located at 40 Mespil Road, Dublin 4, D04 C2N4, Ireland.