

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Leatherhead Food Research receives £9m investment
in new headquarters**

Leatherhead Food Research (Leatherhead), the leading provider of science and technology services to the food and drinks sector, today announces details of its new headquarters at one of the UK's leading laboratory heritage sites near Epsom. The substantial freehold property, "Great Burgh", including nine acres of grounds and a spectacular Grade II listed building, has been purchased by Leatherhead's parent, Science Group plc, and will form a new South-of-London hub for the Group, complementing the existing North-of-London R&D centre in Harston, Cambridge. This announcement comes hot on the heels of Leatherhead's acquisition by Science Group plc in September and represents a £9m (\$15 million) investment in Leatherhead by its new owners to establish a world-leading food and drink R&D centre.

"We are delighted to have found Great Burgh and excited about the future for Leatherhead. The property not only has extensive, modern office space but also perfect areas for new laboratory facilities, a state-of-the-art consumer sensory centre and an unparalleled conference and training centre in the original building," comments Chris Wells, Managing Director, Leatherhead. "The investment by Science Group is fantastic news for our Members, employees and customers and reflects the focus on innovation that sets Leatherhead apart. The new facilities at Great Burgh will enable us to continue to provide market leading services to the food and drink industry."

Through its history, Great Burgh has provided the laboratory and R&D facilities for Distillers Group, BP and Beecham, becoming the Global HQ of the R&D operations for Smith Klein Beecham Pharmaceuticals. Comprising approximately 50,000 sq ft of space, Great Burgh has benefited from a substantial investment in its infrastructure and facilities and now provides an ideal base and an incredible opportunity for the Science Group's South-of-London operations.

Leatherhead's operations will start to relocate to Great Burgh in January 2016 and it is anticipated that all activities will have been transferred by the middle of 2016.

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Notes to editors:

About Leatherhead Food Research

Leatherhead Food Research provides expertise and support to the global food and drink industry with practical solutions that cover all stages of a product's life cycle from consumer insight, ingredient innovation and sensory testing through to food safety consultancy and global regulatory advice. Leatherhead operates a membership programme which represents a who's who of the global food and drinks industry. Supporting all members and clients, large or small, Leatherhead provides consultancy and advice as well as training, market news, published reports and bespoke projects. Alongside the Member support and project work, Leatherhead's world-renowned experts deliver cutting-edge research in areas that stimulate long term commercial benefit for the food and drink industry.

Leatherhead Research Limited is a Science Group (AIM:SAG) company. Science Group provides independent advisory and leading-edge product development services focused on the Group's in-depth science and technology capability. It has six offices globally, two dedicated, UK-based R&D innovation centres and more than 350 employees. Other Science Group companies include Oakland Innovation, OTM Consulting and Sagentia.

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