

SCIENCE GROUP PLC ACQUIRES LEATHERHEAD FOOD INTERNATIONAL LIMITED

London, 16 Sept 2015: Science Group today announces that it has acquired the business and assets of Leatherhead Food International Ltd, a subsidiary of Leatherhead International Limited. Going forward, the business will operate as Leatherhead Research Ltd as part of Science Group and will continue to provide technical consultancy services, including scientific research, regulatory advice, market insights, and testing services to the food and drink industry.

“The global food and beverage marketplace is an exciting and growing sector. We view the acquisition of Leatherhead, a very well established brand with a strong client base and staff, as strengthening the Science Group’s position in this market, supplementing our existing Sagentia and Oakland Innovation operations,” remarks Martyn Ratcliffe, Chairman, Science Group plc. “The combined businesses form a substantial UK player in this global industry.”

Founded in 1919, Leatherhead Food Research is a trusted partner to the food industry and has developed a worldwide reputation for expertise in regulatory consultancy, product development, consumer research, nutrition science, food safety, information services and training.

The Science Group offers independent advisory and leading-edge product development focused on science and technology initiatives. Its specialist companies, Sagentia, Oakland Innovation and OTM Consulting, collaborate closely with their clients in key vertical markets to deliver clear returns on technology and R&D investments.

“Leatherhead has strong history of operating in the global food & drinks marketplace dating back almost a century,” says Dr Geoff Spriegel, Chief Executive, Leatherhead. “The last 12-18 months have been challenging for our business, particularly due to a legacy pension deficit, but with the investment from Science Group supported by the obvious synergies, our position is strengthened, both financially and technically. Working with like-minded scientists will undoubtedly lead to innovative solutions in the food industry, particularly at this time when the industry faces tough challenges and innovation is a vital part of the solution.”

Further details of the acquisition can be found at www.sciencegroup.com/news

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About Science Group plc

Science Group plc offers independent advisory and leading-edge product development services focused on science and technology initiatives. Its specialist companies, Sagentia, Oakland Innovation and OTM Consulting, collaborate closely with their clients in key vertical markets to deliver clear returns on technology and R&D investments. Science Group plc is listed on the London AIM stock exchange and has more than 250 employees, comprised of scientists, engineers, mathematicians and market experts.

Originally founded by Professor Gordon Edge as Scientific Generics in 1986, Science Group was one of the founding companies to form the globally recognised Cambridge, UK high technology and engineering cluster. Today Science Group continues to have its headquarters in Cambridge, UK with additional offices in London, Guildford, Boston, Houston and Dubai.

Sagentia Group plc changed its name to Science Group plc in July 2015.

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Notes to editors

- Science Group saving 150 jobs in the region and looking to develop the Group in Surrey
- £1m additional investment
- Creates an R&D hub for science and technology south of London – with meaningful jobs and investment in UK science and technology capability
- Science Group strengthening capability in food and beverages market – combined businesses of Leatherhead with existing Science Group creates a comprehensive science offering to food & drink market
- Creates one of the UK's leading service providers to the food and drink industry