

TRADE MISSION TO IRELAND

OCTOBER 18-20, 2017

OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

ABOUT THE MISSION

Pennsylvania's Office of International Business Development (OIBD) invites you to join us on a business development mission to Ireland.

Meeting face-to-face with prospective customers and partners is crucial to establishing business relationships in Ireland. We will develop a custom itinerary for your company based on your company's specific needs.

As a mission participant, you will receive:

- Pre-arranged, one-on-one business appointments with prequalified business partners based on your criteria
- Detailed background information about each company provided in advance
- Logistical assistance
- Services of the commonwealth's trade representative
- Follow-up assistance after the mission

REGISTRATION

- **Deadline: August 31, 2017** (All participation agreements must be completed and submitted with full payment by this date.)
- First 10 qualified companies will be accepted
- Registration fee: \$600

Companies are responsible for all travel and business-related expenses.

TRADE MISSION ITINERARY

October 17	Arrive in Dublin, Ireland
October 18-20	Business meetings in Dublin
October 21	Depart for the U.S.

WHY THIS MARKET?

Ireland has been and remains a solid export market for Pennsylvania goods and services, ranking as Pennsylvania's 24th largest export destination in 2017. Other factors contributing to a solid relationship are:

- GDP growth is forecast at 3.8 percent in 2017 and 3.6 percent in 2018
- Growth will be driven by consumption and investment.
- Unemployment continues to fall and is forecasted to reach 5.6 percent by the end of 2018

The growth outlook for the Irish economy remains optimistic for 2016 and 2017, with growth forecasts of 3.8 and 3.6 percent respectively. Domestic sources continue to be the driving force of growth with investment and consumption set to make strong positive contributions to GDP over the forecast period.

Increased activity in the construction sector is impacting both investment and consumption.

In 2016, the continuing improvement in the labor market and rising disposable incomes supported better than expected taxation receipts. If these trends continue, the unemployment rate will fall to 5.6 percent and the government balance will be in surplus by the end of 2018.

The external environment remains highly uncertain in 2017 and 2018 as a hard Brexit becomes increasingly likely and as the US administration assumes more protectionist trade policies. Notwithstanding the risks to the trade forecasts, the outlook for exports is expected to remain positive overall as the US and European economies are expected to grow at a reasonable pace over the next two years.

For more information, contact:

Larry Nelson
Office of International Business Development
717.346.2256 | lanelson@pa.gov

PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT

TRADE MISSION TO IRELAND
OCTOBER 18-20, 2017

Attention: Larry Nelson | Fax: 717.772.5106

A participation check for \$600 must accompany this form. Limited mission slots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Registration deadline is August 31, 2017

The participation fee does not cover ground transportation, shipment of brochures and samples, or travel and hotel expenses. All appointments will be arranged and coordinated by the Commonwealth's Authorized Trade Representative (ATR) in London, U.K. Please make your check payable to the *Commonwealth of PA* and forward with a copy of this agreement to:

Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development
Office of International Business Development
c/o Larry Nelson
Commonwealth Keystone Building
400 North Street, 4th Floor
Harrisburg, PA 17120-0225

COMPANY NAME:		
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
TELEPHONE:	FAX:	
COMPANY CONTACT:	TITLE:	
EMAIL:	WEBSITE:	

As a duly authorized representative of the above-named company, I have read, understand and agree to the following terms necessary to be a participating company in the Trade Mission to Ireland.

- No foreign produced items may be included, except items from foreign countries that have been processed or value-added in Pennsylvania.
- The participating company must have an office and staff or manufacturing facility in Pennsylvania.
- In the event the participating company withdraws from participation in this event, the participating company will be subject to forfeiture of the entire registration fee.
- All participating companies must provide information on the results attained through participation in this trade mission/show to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. "Results" are current and future sales and dealings transacted as an outcome of attending the trade mission/show. This information is confidential and will be held in strictest confidence.

Authorized Representative (print)

Signature

Title

Date