



Applegreen creates 300 new Irish jobs

- **Applegreen's contract to operate and maintain NRA Motorway Service Areas creates 300 new Irish jobs.**
- **The MSA contract sees the 100% Irish consortium investing €70 million in the Irish economy.**
- **Recruitment Drive is now underway.**

Applegreen, Ireland's leading independent forecourt retailer today announced the creation of 300 new jobs as part of its expansion. The SuperStop Consortium was awarded the Public Private Partnership (PPP) contract, with Applegreen contracted to operate and maintain the 3 Motorway Service Areas (MSAs) by the National Roads Authority (NRA). Each service area consists of two individual sites on either side of the motorway at their specific locations of Castlebellingham, Co Louth (M1), Lusk Co. Dublin (M1) and Enfield, Co. Kildare (M4). Construction is in the final stages with the MSAs due to open during September and October, with the Lusk northbound site the first to open. A recruitment drive is now underway to fill the 300 full and part-time positions that will be needed to operate the sites. The positions will primarily be in the food service area, with additional positions available in retail, cleaning and maintenance. The recruitment drive is now underway with information available on www.applegreen.ie.

The project represents an investment of more than €70 million on behalf of the consortium, operated and maintained by Applegreen. Each of the MSAs will incorporate separate fueling areas for cars and HGVs, Burger King and Costa Coffee restaurants as well as rest areas, showers, playgrounds and other amenities to ensure safe, relaxed travel for road users traveling on the NRA's motorway system.

Commenting on Applegreen's recruitment drive, Joe Barrett, Director of Operations said;

"Applegreen is Ireland's leading independent, 100% Irish owned, forecourt retailer and nothing could give us more pleasure than to create 300 jobs, particularly in these constrained economic times. We have invested heavily in the Irish economy across our network and the MSA investment of €70million are just the latest demonstration of our commitment to provide outstanding value and quality to the Irish motorist and indeed the non motoring public who visit Applegreen stores. We aim to deliver better value always and that is not just on our petrol pricing, that promise includes many leading grocery items such as the much requested late night purchase of "milk for the morning"."

Applegreen's successful bid to manage and run these MSAs saw it as part of the SuperStop Consortium which includes Top Oil, and Piers Contracting. The project is financed by Bank of Ireland.

Ends.

For Further Media Queries, Information, interview opportunities or images, please contact :
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Notes to Editors;

Applegreen is a private Irish Company and is Ireland's largest independent forecourt retailer with 57 sites trading in the Republic of Ireland and an expanding network in the UK. It currently employs over 650 people and continues to grow rapidly since the brand was established in 2004. Its management team is made up of;

Bob Etchingham CEO

Bob had a vision for the forecourt industry when he set up Petrogas in 1992. After many years working as an economist to the industry his decision to strike out on his own was prompted by a deep understanding of where the industry needed to go. With the creation of the Applegreen brand in 2005 this vision really began to take shape and the company has since gone from strength to strength, culminating in Applegreen being awarded the contract to operate Ireland's first motorway services in collaboration with the NRA.

Joe Barrett, Director of Operations

Joe is very well known in the forecourt and convenience retail trade. Since setting up Petrogas with Bob Etchingham in 1992, he has been the face of the company, as well as its overall Operations Director. He has been instrumental in the creation and success of the Applegreen brand. Joe is a regular presenter at industry conferences and a member of numerous retail groups including CSNA and Retail Excellence. He has become a regular spokesman for the industry on many important issues.

Michael O' Loughlin, Managing Director of the UK

Michael O' Loughlin joined the company in 1997. As Operations Manager he built up an extensive knowledge of forecourt retailing and operations in Ireland. He was appointed a Director of the company in 2005. In 2007, Michael led the Applegreen brand's expansion into the UK market as Managing Director Petrogas UK. His keen eye for trends and customer needs has made Applegreen UK one of the most innovative forecourt offers in the UK market. Applegreen Corby recently won a NACS award against some very stiff opposition.

Damian Kennedy, Director of Finance

Damian Kennedy joined the group in August 2007. A qualified Chartered Accountant he first worked with KPMG before moving on to MasterFoods / Mars in 1992 as Finance and Systems Manager in Ireland. In 2003 he was appointed Head of Finance following a year working as a Project Manager in Mars UK. From 2005 to 2007 he fulfilled a number of roles including Finance Director for RTE Television and Project Director with G4S Ireland. He was appointed a Director of Applegreen in May 2008.

The other members of the Applegreen led MSA SuperStop Consortium are;

TOP Oil is an Irish owned fuel importation and distribution business which has been trading for over 50 years. It has a turnover of €1bn, 450 employees and comprises 120 dealer stations and 30 company-owned home heat depots. It owns and operates a 55,000 tonne import terminal in Dublin Port, one of the most modern in Ireland.

Pierse Contracting, a private Irish company established in 1978 as building, civil engineering and marine contractors. In recent years Pierse has been involved in substantial PPP projects. In addition to the Motorway Service Areas PPP, Pierse built the National Maritime College of Ireland, and are currently working on the Irish Schools Bundle 1 and Bundle 2 PPP projects. The company is a leading force in the Irish construction industry and is amongst the largest and most successful contracting companies in Ireland.