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**DeCare Operations Ireland will be among first to receive new
Vhi DeCare Dental Plans**

CEO says Claremorris will be used as hub for European business expansion

CLAREMORRIS, IRE (May 26, 2004) – President and Chief Executive Officer of DeCare International, Michael F. Walsh, announced during his visit today that employees of DeCare Operations Ireland, the locally based dental claims processing subsidiary, will be among the first in the country to receive the new Vhi DeCare Dental private dental insurance plan. The new plans were launched yesterday by DeCare in partnership with Vhi Healthcare, Ireland’s largest health insurance provider.

“We could not think of a better way to stand behind the new dental products than by offering these plans to our own employees,” said Walsh. “Maintaining a healthy and productive workforce is a top priority for DeCare. Access to affordable, routine dental care can help maintain good oral health, significantly reducing major oral disease and long-term dental costs for the individual.”

DeCare will purchase and offer Claremorris employees the top-of-the line Vhi DeCare Dental Platinum plan, which offers 100 percent coverage for check-ups and professional cleanings, 75 percent coverage for basic restorative (fillings, sealants), 50 percent coverage for major restorative treatment (crowns, extractions, root canals, etc) and a 1,500 euro benefit for Orthodontics. Enrolees in the plan can visit any registered Irish dentist, including dentists in Northern Ireland, and access emergency dental cover if travelling abroad.

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The key objective of the new dental plans is to make access to dental care more affordable and encourage preventive care. The plans are offered on an individual basis or can be sponsored by a company.

In addition, Walsh said the launch of a new Irish company, DeCare Dental Ireland Limited – the third DeCare subsidiary in Ireland, to manage the new Irish dental plans, will position the organization to compete in the broader European market. “The new company, along with our base in Claremorris will serve as the gateway to the entire European market. We will use Claremorris as our base as we continue to explore new opportunities and expand our business.”

A global leader in oral healthcare management, DeCare and its subsidiaries manage more than \$810 million in dental insurance premiums, covering more than 3.9 million individuals at more than 13,700 groups across the United States. DeCare DeCare International is headquartered in Minnesota, with offices in New York, Iowa, Nebraska, Cork and Claremorris.

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