

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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DECARE INTERNATIONAL ROAD RACE TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY
Event will raise funds for Mayo-Roscommon Hospice as part of company's effort to raise awareness on breast cancer prevention across Ireland

Claremorris, Ireland. (Aug. 8, 2003) — DeCare International will be holding a press conference at 9 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 11 at its Claremorris facility to kick-off the DeCare International Five-Mile Road Race and Walk, which will take place on September 20. Funds raised from the event will go towards the Mayo-Roscommon Hospice Foundation as part of DeCare's nationwide effort to support breast cancer awareness, prevention and treatment.

The DeCare Road Race and Walk is part of a Summer Road League organized by the Mayo Athletic Club and sponsored by DeCare, which includes races in Carramore, Balla and Westport. Organizers from DeCare, the Mayo Athletic Club and the Mayo-Roscommon Hospice Foundation will be present at Monday evening's press conference.

"We are delighted to sponsor the Summer League and invite the public to join us for the Claremorris race on September 20th," said Maureen Walsh, general manager of DeCare Operations Ireland, Ltd, (DOI) the company's Claremorris facility. "It is a wonderful community event and also raises awareness about breast cancer prevention. There are hundreds of Irish women affected by breast cancer and DeCare International and DOI hope to take the lead in Ireland in raising awareness through this and other efforts,"

The road race and walk is open to the general public and is expected to draw more than 750 entries, according to local organizers. The race kicks off on September 20 at 6 p.m. sharp. Early registration for the race is encouraged and can be done at the Claremorris Town Hall or by calling 09472250. Upon registration, applicants will receive a sponsorship packet, which includes an individual sponsorship card. Registrations also will be accepted the day of the event. Funds raised through individual sponsorships will go toward the Mayo-Roscommon Hospice Foundation. Following the race, participants are invited to gather in the Town Hall for refreshments and distribution of prizes.

(more)

DeCare Road Race...Pg/2

The Mayo-Roscommon Hospice Foundation offers palliative care to both Mayo and Roscommon Counties in the West of Ireland, serving a population of more than 167,000 people. Primarily, the Foundation assists with the provision of home-care services and assisted more than 500 families last year.

“We are committed to an ongoing campaign to raise awareness about breast cancer,” said Michael Walsh, president and CEO of DeCare International and a native of Claremorris. “It is extremely important that we raise the volume on this issue not just during this event, but throughout the year.”

Close to 2,000 Irish women are diagnosed with breast cancer every year. The disease takes the lives of 640 women annually, according to the March 5, 2001, issue of The Irish Times. One in 12 women in Ireland will develop breast cancer during their lifetime. Ireland, along with Britain, Holland and Denmark, has the highest occurrence of breast cancer in the world.

For more information on DeCare International, you can visit our Web site at www.decare.com.

THE MEDIA IS INVITED TO ATTEND THE KICK-OFF EVENT TO BE HELD ON MONDAY, AUGUST 11, 2003 AT 9PM AT DECARE OPERATIONS IRELAND IN CLAREMORRIS, COUNTY MAYO. FOR DIRECTIONS, PLEASE CALL 09472250.

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