



# TakeAction

BUSINESS COMPETITION  
2013 - 2014



Organised by Action Tuam and Beechtree Enterprise Centre in association with:





# TakeAction

## BUSINESS COMPETITION



The aim of the Take Action Business Competition is to encourage local indigenous enterprise potential in the micro-enterprise sector in particular to nurture new business start-ups, assist existing manufacturing businesses in expansion and support the creation of jobs in the West of Ireland.

This competition offers small businesses the opportunity of gaining public recognition for their business ideas as well as a prize fund of financial supports which will assist them to advance to the next level.

### Entry Categories

- A. BUSINESS START-UP** Must be in business plan phase or recently set up
- B. TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE** Existing business - must demonstrate a new product, service or process
- C. 3<sup>rd</sup> LEVEL STUDENTS PRIZE** Based on production of a Marketing Plan may be individual or Group entry

### How to Enter

- Submit Expression of Interest form **by Monday 16 December 2013**
- Produce a business plan on agreed templates **by 28th Feb 2014**
- Download competition entry package from [www.beechtreepark.com](http://www.beechtreepark.com) or apply online
- Final Deadline for Entry is **28th February 2014**

### Who can Enter?

- This competition is open to people living, studying or in business in Mayo, Galway or Roscommon.
- Enter as a company, individual or team
- Students must be full-time attending a third level Institution
- Entries limited to manufacturing, services and technology



<b>CASH PRIZE FUND</b> <b>€11,000</b>	Business Start-up	€5,000
	Technology Upgrade	€5,000
	3rd Level Student	€1,000

+ 12 months free rental of Beechtree Enterprise Unit & Business Mentoring supports provided by GCCEB



## Adjudication Process

An independent panel of judges made up of business leaders and enterprise support agencies will assess and mark all applicants' business plans.

The judges will be looking for the following aspects in the competition entries:

- Entrant shows ability to spot a gap in the market for a new product or service
- Leadership and vision of an entrepreneur
- Presentation and marketing of the new or improved product or service
- The reality of the business plan for the first three years
- Providing financial and cash flow forecasts
- The unique/innovative/ degree of originality of the product or service
- Possible sources of funds to launch new business or undertake expansion

## Dates and Deadlines

- **Wednesday 6th November 2013**  
Official Launch and Networking event
- **Monday 16th December 2013**  
Submit Expression of Interest form
- **Friday 28th February 2014**  
Deadline for completed competition entry submissions
- **March 2014**  
Adjudication process
- **Thursday 27th March 2014**  
Winners Announced Lunchtime awards event.

## Terms and Conditions

- a) Competition is not open to employees, relatives of Action Tuam board members.
- b) Entrants should include their full name, postal address, daytime telephone number and complete the application form in full. Application forms can be completed online via the website [www.beechtreepark.com](http://www.beechtreepark.com)
- c) Entries not submitted in accordance with the terms and conditions of the competition, late, incomplete or illegible applications will be disqualified. A confirmation email will be sent to all entries submitted online.
- d) Closing date for receipt of Expression of Interest forms is midnight Monday 16th December. Competition entry date 28th February 2014. The organisers will accept no responsibility for any entries lost or delayed.
- e) The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- f) Entrants shortlisted must be available to attend for interview in Beechtree Enterprise Centre, Tuam at dates chosen by the organisers.
- g) Entries will be shortlisted and those shortlisted will be called for interview.
- h) In making their decision the judges reserve the right to ask for additional information.
- i) Canvassing will disqualify.
- j) Winners will be announced at the Take Action Business Competition Lunch event on Thursday 27th March 2014.
- k) The winners and runners up agree to take part in publicity in connection with this competition.
- l) The organisers, Action Tuam Ltd. reserves the right to alter, amend or foreclose the promotion without prior notice.
- m) Competition is open to following sectors manufacturing, craft, food processing, engineering, biotechnology, software, new technology, energy, telecommunications, internationally traded services, green energy.
- n) All competition entry material and ideas will be treated as confidential and remain the property of the entrant. Competition entries are submitted to the judging panel in confidentiality. No sensitive market information will be shared or discussed outside of the judging panel.

## COMPETITION CONTACT DETAILS

Full competition details, brochure and entry forms will be downloadable from [www.beechtreepark.com/takeaction](http://www.beechtreepark.com/takeaction).

**DEADLINE** for submission of **expression of interest forms** to enter the competition is **16th December, 2013**.

**FINAL ENTRY DATE IS 28th FEBRUARY 2014**

Contact: Ray O'Connor, Manager, Beechtree Enterprise Centre, Weir Road, Tuam, Co. Galway.

Tel: 087 9691652; or (093) 28181 or email: [takeaction@beechtreepark.com](mailto:takeaction@beechtreepark.com) [www.beechtreepark.com](http://www.beechtreepark.com)

## Action Tuam Ltd.

Action Tuam Supporting Industry, Innovation and Employment Creation

This competition has been initiated and organised by Action Tuam Ltd., in association with Galway City and County Enterprise Board, Enterprise Ireland and Western Development Commission. Action Tuam Ltd. is a not for profit community enterprise support organisation. It was originally established in 1990 following the closure of the Tuam Sugar Factory. Since then, the group has supported the creation of 650 sustainable jobs in the region. Having successfully developed Tuam Business Park which is now home to JFC Ltd as well as several other successful employers and international exporters, the decision was made in 2009 to build a new modern enterprise facility on a green field site.

## Beechtree Enterprise Centre

The development and completion of Beechtree Enterprise Centre in 2012 was part funded by Enterprise Ireland under the community enterprise scheme.

- Based on 7 acres on the Weir Road, Tuam
- Almost 20,000 square feet of enterprise space
- Light Industrial Units at special low rental cost for new tenants
- Front & Rear entrances
- Flexible office space
- Training and meeting rooms
- Hot desk area
- 8 MB broadband capacity
- Wi-fi
- 3 phase electricity
- Free parking

## Contact details:

**Ray O'Connor, Manager,**  
**Beechtree Enterprise Centre,**  
**Weir Road, Tuam, Co. Galway**

**Tel: 087 9691652; or (093) 28181**  
**email: [takeaction@beechtreepark.com](mailto:takeaction@beechtreepark.com)**  
**[www.beechtreepark.com](http://www.beechtreepark.com)**

## Tuam - A great place to do business

Tuam has significant industry and plays a major role on the global business map. It has proven itself as an entrepreneurial hub for local indigenous enterprise and multi-national companies in the Western Region, adjacent to Galway City's Medical Device cluster and world class leaders in manufacturing, service providers and professional services. Multi-national employers include Valeo, Transitions Optical and Logstrup. Nearby Galway City offers a wealth of highly qualified industry ready third level graduate from National University Ireland – Galway and Galway Mayo Institute of Technology.



## Information Portals:

**Enterprise Ireland**  
[www.enterprise-ireland.com](http://www.enterprise-ireland.com)

**Western Development Commission**  
[www.wdc.ie](http://www.wdc.ie)

**Galway City and County Enterprise Board**  
[www.galwayenterprise.com](http://www.galwayenterprise.com)

**Dept of Jobs, Enterprise & Innovation**  
[www.enterprise.gov.ie](http://www.enterprise.gov.ie)

**Teagasc**  
[www.teagasc.ie](http://www.teagasc.ie)

**Irish National Organisation of Unemployed**  
[www.inou.ie](http://www.inou.ie)

**Galway Rural Development Company Ltd**  
[www.grd.ie](http://www.grd.ie)

**Galway Co Co, Community & Enterprise**  
[www.galwaycoco.ie](http://www.galwaycoco.ie)

**Look West**  
[www.lookwest.ie](http://www.lookwest.ie)