



News Release

Sci-Tech Laboratories acquired by Cawood Scientific

Sci-Tech Laboratories is the latest company to become part of the Cawood Scientific Group, joining the well-known analytical businesses, NRM Laboratories and Sciantec Analytical Services. The announcement that Cawood has purchased Sci-Tech Laboratories for an undisclosed sum was made this morning (9 December). Sci-Tech is particularly well-known for its fast, efficient and accurate testing service for the UK poultry sector

“The move further strengthens the Cawood Group’s position as the UK’s largest truly independent provider of accredited analytical laboratory testing services for the land-based sector,” explained Group Managing Director Nigel Patrick. “It is in line with our strategy to grow the business by searching out like-minded operations where the emphasis is on both quality of customer service and accuracy of testing results. Sci-Tech is very highly regarded within its specialist field of operation making it an excellent fit with the other Cawood Scientific businesses,” he added.

Commenting on the decision Sci-Tech Director Rob Harrison said: “The ethos of Sci-Tech is very similar to Cawood’s. Both are very quality driven and very customer focused. Good service in the analytical sector is as much about accuracy as it is about speed of delivery.”

Mr Harrison who will continue to be involved in the management of the Sci-Tech business, added: “I must emphasise that as far as the day-to-day operations are concerned there will be no change. The laboratory in Craven Arms will continue to operate as normal with the same people and the same degree of customer service. Going forward being part of a bigger group will allow us to offer customers a wider range of services.”

Sci-Tech operates from a dedicated laboratory based in Craven Arms, Shropshire. It employs 22 people and provides an independent, fully accredited and fast scientific and technical service and take pride in its close and confidential customer relationships.

Note to Editors:

1. NRM was set up in 1990 following the decision by ICI to dispose of its agricultural testing facilities in Berkshire. The business expanded and in 2003 established a new laboratory at Cawood in North Yorkshire.

In April 2006 under a new holding company of Cawood Scientific, NRM was joined by Sciantec Analytical Services. This company had been established in 1991 in Dalton, North Yorkshire to offer specialised analytical services to the animal nutrition and health sectors. The Sciantec business

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relocated to Cawood where it merged with the NRM business that was operating at this facility. In February 2008 Sciantec expanded with the purchase of the analytical business of the Banbury-based Central Laboratories from AB Agri.

The Group now employs 155 staff including a high proportion of skilled graduates with more than 10% of its staff holding masters or PhD qualifications.

2. The origins of the laboratory at Craven Arms go back to the 1960s and to the Shropshire-based JP Wood (Poultry), the company credited with turning chicken from a luxury into an everyday affordable item through the giant poultry production company Chukie Chicken. In 1992 following the relocation of JP Poultry from the Craven Arms site the Sci-Tech Laboratories company was established as an independent business.

Today the business focuses on the provision of high quality microbiological and serological analytical testing services encompassing all aspects of poultry production (bird production, routine hatchery and factory and hygiene monitors along with both foodstuff and environmental testing. Based in Craven Arms, Shropshire the company employs 22 staff servicing customers throughout the UK poultry sector.