

EXECUTIVE PERSPECTIVES

Clarendon Launches Innovative Ex-Pat Christmas Campaign



EXPATRIATES URGED TO CONSIDER NORTHERN IRELAND 'NOT JUST FOR CHRISTMAS'



Welcome back: Colin Elliott, Vice-President of Engineering and Business Development of Bombardier Aerospace, with Ciaran Sheehan, Managing Partner of Clarendon Executive, and Brian Ambrose of CBI to launch the 'Back to your future campaign'.

As thousands of expatriates return to home over the Christmas period a private sector campaign, led by leading executive search consultancy Clarendon Executive, is urging ex-pats to consider the 'range of significant employment opportunities' in a bid to attract highly skilled professionals back to Northern Ireland.

The campaign known as 'Back to your future campaign' which is running for the third consecutive year at local airports between the Christmas to New Year period is aiming to entice ex-pats with high value skills to consider a move back to Northern Ireland.

Ciaran Sheehan Managing Partner of Clarendon Executive said that the 'significant economic and political progress' made locally, combined with global downturn in ICT and financial services sectors, means that many ex-pats will be looking at Northern Ireland as a very attractive consideration. He said:

"We have a tremendous network of local companies wanting to recruit expatriates due to high demand for skills in certain sectors. We are urging them to get in touch with Clarendon Executive in order to explore a range of opportunities, from middle to senior management, for people considering a move back.

"Despite the global downturn and rising local unemployment there are still significant job opportunities, particularly within high value sectors such as aerospace, technology, life sciences and business services based companies. We've got one of the best standards of living in Europe and people see that, now Government is working, there is a brighter future for all."

Bombardier Aerospace, who is backing the campaign, is making significant employment opportunities available for ex-pat engineers wishing to return home. Bombardier is currently recruiting engineers following the launch in July of its new 110-130-seat C-Series aircraft. The Belfast operation will be designing and manufacturing the wings for the new aircraft family.

Brian Ambrose, Chair of CBI, Northern Ireland who is also supporting the campaign said:

"Expatriates have a significant role to play in enhancing the competitiveness of local companies by inputting the skills and talents that they have developed globally. This campaign will help continue to build a network of ex-pats who may consider a move back with a range of exciting employment opportunities throughout Northern Ireland." At Belfast City and Belfast International airports, stalls will display what is on offer for those willing to return to the Northern Ireland workforce and advisers will be made available to provide support and advice to those considering a move back. A number of events have also been organised over the Christmas period for ex-pats which will conclude with 'Tech Exiles' on the 29th December at the Northern Ireland Science Park.

Steve Orr Director, NISP CONNECT who is organising the event explains how the event will connect ex-pats with local start-ups:

"Key to the success of any successful start-up business is access to networks of trusted, experienced and connected individuals who can provide access to talent, capital or markets. The majority of local start-ups do not have such networks or the resources to develop them and this event aims to connect experienced ex-pats with those companies to help them explore such opportunities."