



High Containment Isolator at Organon Ireland

Organon is a global leader in the creation of innovative prescription medicines for gynaecology, mental health, anaesthesia, and cardio-vascular disease. The company employs over 600 people in Ireland, the majority working in one of Organon's global sites for manufacturing at Swords Village, Co. Dublin.

The site employs the latest manufacturing technology and processes to make a range of family planning products and a treatment for infertility. The final products are packaged for over 50 countries worldwide.

As one of the most respected oral solid dosage form hormonal medication providers in Ireland, the Organon team has always recognized the hazards involved in the manufacture of such sensitive and potentially harmful compounds. As such, the selection of effective containment equipment is always high up the priority list.



Extract Technology had already supplied Organon from its Huddersfield, UK, site with Downflow Booths, Powder Control Benches and High Containment Isolators over a number of years, and recently they were awarded with a contract for another Isolator that has just been installed.

Organon project engineer, Donnchadh Murphy, commented, "*the negative pressure Dispensing Isolator was ordered by Organon to handle the dispensing of active products and solvents into a solution vessel. This would ensure that the operators could carry out the preparation of active material in a safe and ergonomically correct manner; that a safe containment level of <math><10\text{ng}/\text{m}^3\text{ TWA}</math> over 8 hours would be achieved, and that the requirement for operators to wear full 'moon suits' would be removed.*"

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To ensure that all operational tasks involved in this mix were possible, a full-scale wooden mock-up was constructed for the client's review. This critical design stage allowed any anomalies between theoretical reach and comfortable reach to be resolved and a final design layout to be agreed.

The Dispensing Isolator was assembled in the new modular cleanroom facility at Extract's Huddersfield factory. Here, the client oversaw a variety of Factory Acceptance Tests including containment, pressure decay and solvent transfer using positive nitrogen displacement, thus ensuring that all were completed to the requirements of the User Requirement Specification (URS).

Donnchadh added, "*We were happy to work again with Extract who demonstrated with their technical knowledge and attention to detail that they have an excellent understanding of Isolator technology and what was required to meet our project needs.*"

Ends...

Extract Technology of Huddersfield, UK, manufactures Downflow Booths, Isolators and Pack-Off Systems for the pharmaceutical industry. Extract Technology is part of the US-based private investment firm, Insight Equity, which acquired the Walker Group (parent group of CPS, former owners of Extract) on 6th October 2006.

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