

WPA MOBILE ANNOUNCES NEW JOBS FOR ATHLONE

ATHLONE-BASED TECHNOLOGY START-UP, WPA MOBILE PLANS TO CREATE 20 HIGH-VALUE POSITIONS AS PART OF A €2 MILLION INVESTMENT AT THEIR HEADQUARTERS IN THE MIDLANDS INNOVATION AND RESEARCH CENTRE (MIRC)

WPA started operations in Athlone and Dublin a year ago with an initial staff of three people which has now grown to 11 full-time employees.

WPA has also just opened a fully serviced office with two employees in the UK.

WPA provides mobility solutions which enable field workers in service companies to access desktop-like functionality while on the move using a handheld device. Technicians can enter orders online, register working hours or report on quality issues through a laptop or pocket PC.

INTEGRATION

According to the Technical Director, Kevin Rice, "the key to our success

in the Irish market has been our ability to tailor the product for individual client needs together with the flexibility to integrate with any back office." The development of WPA's technology is being supported by the Software Research Centre at the Athlone Institute of Technology under Enterprise Ireland's Innovation Partnership Programme.

"WPA Mobile is a good example of the type of regionally based start up business that Enterprise Ireland is encouraging. The business is export-focused and is based on technological innovation. In addition, it is led by an experienced management team with strong sales and marketing skills. This capability is essential in developing a successful business in international

markets," commented Pat Byrne, Regional Director, Enterprise Ireland.

According to Dr Pat Mulhern, Head of Development at AIT, "WPA is exactly the type of knowledge-intensive start-up that the MIRC aims to support while AIT provides a ready-made research capability for the development of WPA's technology".



↑ Dr Pat Mulhern, Head of Development at AIT, Oliver Heaney, WPA Mobile, and Pat Byrne, Regional Director, Enterprise Ireland