



**Press Release**  
**November 17 2020**

## **Thornton & Ross brings back emollient production to Yorkshire**

**£2 million invested to transfer production from the GSK Sligo Plant in Ireland**

**Huddersfield, October 2020:**

Thornton & Ross (T&R), part of the STADA group, has brought production of its emollient cream Oilatum<sup>®</sup> from Ireland to Yorkshire, and has successfully produced the first batch at its Huddersfield site.

The manufacturer acquired the Oilatum<sup>®</sup> brand in June 2019 from GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) and has invested circa £2 million in the project to transfer production from the GSK Sligo Plant in Ireland.

The intensive 18-month project began in April 2019 and has been T&R's largest coordinated transfer onto site, supported by the transfer team at parent company STADA in Bad Vilbel, Germany.

The project scope included ensuring the continued supply of 10 bulk products across 60 product stock-keeping units (SKUs) into 11 countries. A total of 62 new raw materials and components were qualified on-site, and approximately 20 analytical methods transferred.

The project delivery was made all the more critical as the GSK Sligo manufacturing site, where Oilatum<sup>®</sup> has been made until now, was planned to close by June 2020.

Annual global sales of Oilatum<sup>®</sup> are expected to reach around £30 million in 2020.

Mark Kirkup, vice-president of UK operations at Thornton & Ross, said: "When T&R acquired the Oilatum<sup>®</sup> brand, it was our intention to move production to Yorkshire as quickly as possible and I am delighted that we have successfully completed the project on schedule.

"The project is testament to everyone on-site at T&R who embodies our STADA values of Agility, Entrepreneurship, Integrity and One STADA and cements our position as a leading manufacturer and employer in the region.

"At a time when other companies may look to rein in expenditure, investment from our parent company, STADA, is allowing us to bring in high-speed, automated production lines so that, as our volumes grow, we can leverage our fixed costs and be ever more efficient. At the same time, we're relentlessly focused on driving a continuous improvements culture, striving for operational excellence to make everything we do more efficient."

T&R, founded in Huddersfield in 1922, develops, manufactures and supplies a wide range of branded over-the-counter medicines, dermatological solutions and other healthcare and hygiene products including KY



Jelly<sup>®</sup>, Hedrin<sup>®</sup> and Setlers<sup>®</sup> at its Linthwaite factory. In 2013 it became part of the German-based STADA group.

T&R has achieved recent success through household disinfectant Zoflora<sup>®</sup>, which recorded significant growth in 2019, achieving 54% market share by value and 51% by volume, with growth continuing to soar in the first quarter of 2020.

As a result, the factory opened a second multi-million-pound, high-speed production line at the start of the year, which will allow increased output by 100% to Zoflora<sup>®</sup> 18,000 bottles an hour.

Thornton & Ross currently exports to more than 80 countries around the world.

**-ENDS-**

***Issued on behalf of Thornton & Ross by Faith PR. For further information please email [thorntonandross@faith-pr.co.uk](mailto:thorntonandross@faith-pr.co.uk) or call 01484 599886.***

#### **About Thornton & Ross Ltd**

Part of the STADA group, Thornton & Ross employs more than 500 people at its headquarters in Huddersfield, West Yorkshire. With a strong track record of supplying the NHS with emollients and bone health products, the company offers a wide and diverse portfolio of generic pharmaceuticals and over the counter healthcare solutions including Covonia<sup>®</sup>, Savlon<sup>®</sup> and Zoflora<sup>®</sup>. For more information go to [www.thorntonross.co.uk](http://www.thorntonross.co.uk)

#### **About STADA Arzneimittel AG**

STADA Arzneimittel AG is headquartered in Bad Vilbel, Germany. The company focuses on a two-pillar strategy consisting of generics, including specialty pharmaceuticals and non-prescription consumer health products. Worldwide, STADA Arzneimittel AG sells its products in approximately 120 countries. In financial year 2019, STADA achieved adjusted group sales of EUR 2,608.6 million and adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) of EUR 625.5 million. As of December 31, 2019, STADA employed 11,100 people worldwide.

**[www.stada.com/investor-relations](http://www.stada.com/investor-relations)**