1st September 2016

**Castlepollard Seats Rio**

A little known fact about the Rio Olympics is that Mergon International in Castlepollard, Co. Westmeath was responsible for seating those attending the events.

130,000 seats were manufactured by Castlepollard based company – Mergon – and transported in good time for the Olympics. The company, started in Castlepollard, is a multinational with manufacturing plants in the US and the Czech Republic. Their world headquarters is in Castlepollord where an expert workforce manufacture a range of automotive products which are sold to leading car manufacturers. The company is also active in the healthcare and industrial packaging sectors.

On a recent visit to the Mergon Castlepollard plant Independent MEP Marian Harkin was briefed on the company’s progress and discussed possible outcomes from Brexit and the regulatory role of the European Union relating to the company’s activities.

Expressing admiration for the progress of Mergon, which was founded in Ireland and expanded overseas, Marian Harkin said that the company was a heartening example of how a company in a rural area, with vision and a focussed workforce, could service customers across the world and in the process become a multinational organisation with its world headquarters in Ireland’s midlands.

“The management and staff of Mergon, through good training, dedication and outstanding performance, deserve a gold medal for their Rio performance and for their ongoing success in competing at the highest level against intensive international competition”, Independent MEP Marian Harkin said.

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