Avanade Launches in Ireland With Plans to Create 100 New Jobs

Graham Healy to head up the Irish office of this Accenture and Microsoft Joint Venture, which specializes in digital transformation

Dublin; 18 June, 2018 – Leading digital innovator Avanade today announced the launch of its business in Ireland. <u>Graham Healy</u>, former managing director in the Accenture Health and Public Service operating group, has been appointed to lead the team.

Established by Accenture and Microsoft in 2000, Avanade today has 30,000+ professionals who provide digital, IT and advisory services to clients all over the world across a range of industries including retail, banking and healthcare. Avanade's presence in Dublin's Grand Canal Square represents the 24th location in the company's expanding global footprint.

"The digital world is changing the way organizations engage with their customers and their employees," said Darren Hardman, President, Europe, and UK & I General Manager. "With demand across Europe for Microsoft growing fast, I'm delighted that we're able to help clients in Ireland tap into the benefits of cloud and digital technologies."

Newly appointed country manager Graham Healy said: "I'm truly excited about taking the helm at Avanade Ireland. We have a tremendous opportunity to bring the most innovative thinking and capabilities to our clients. Longer term, my goal is to position Avanade as the leading digital innovator in Ireland."

Alastair Blair, Country Managing Director for Accenture Ireland, said: "We're delighted to welcome Avanade to Ireland. Our clients are constantly looking for new ways to understand and serve their customers and to create new markets and products. Together Avanade, Accenture and Microsoft can help companies to harness the power of the cloud and artificial intelligence to drive their digital strategies forward."

Aisling Curtis, Commercial Director, Microsoft Ireland added: "Microsoft's partnership with Accenture through Avanade has been a huge success story worldwide. Establishing Avanade in Ireland will help to empower and digitally transform our customers, the way they work, and the experiences they provide for their customers."

Avanade is interested in recruiting people who have a passion for Microsoft technologies and whose skills reflect market trends. Right now, for Avanade, areas like CRM, Digital, Cloud and AI are of particular interest. IT specialists with these skills are encouraged to visit www.avanade.ie to check for open roles.

Avanade Ireland will initially share an office with Accenture at Grand Canal Square, Dublin.

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Graham Healy, Country Manager, Avanade Ireland

Graham joined Avanade as Country Manager of Avanade Ireland from 1 June 2018. Prior to this Graham has spent a number of years as a Managing Director in Sales with Accenture in its Health & Public Service practice working across Europe, Middle East and Africa. In that role, he was responsible for sales management, sales capability improvement, and sales capture especially in complex sales across the region. He also has experience as a Chief Operating Officer at scaling a start-up as well as experience with Accenture in business development, alliance management, and technology consulting.

He holds a BSc Business Information Systems and an MSc Management Information Systems, both from University College Cork (UCC). Graham is a board member of the Insight Centre for Data Analytics, the BIS Advisory Board in UCC and the Hope Foundation charity.

About Accenture

Accenture is a leading global professional services company, providing a broad range of services and solutions in strategy, consulting, digital, technology and operations. Combining unmatched experience and specialized skills across more than 40 industries and all business functions — underpinned by the world's largest delivery network — Accenture works at the intersection of business and technology to help clients improve their performance and create sustainable value for their stakeholders. With approximately 442,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries, Accenture drives innovation to improve the way the world works and lives. Visit us at www.accenture.com.

About Microsoft Ireland

Microsoft Ireland employs 2,000 people representing 72 different nationalities operating out of One Microsoft Place, the company's campus in Leopardstown, Dublin and our Data Centre in Dublin. At Microsoft, the company has a mission to empower every person and organisation to do and achieve more, not just here in Ireland, but right across the world. From software development, Microsoft International Operations, Finance, HR and Digital Sales for Europe, Middle East and Africa, and Ireland Sales and Marketing, we have an ambition to help everyone, through the power of technology, to achieve more.

About Avanade

Avanade is the leading provider of innovative digital and cloud services, business solutions and design-led experiences delivered through the power of people and the Microsoft ecosystem. Our professionals bring bold, fresh thinking combined with technology, business and industry expertise to help fuel transformation and growth for our clients and their customers. Avanade has 30,000 digitally connected people across 23 countries, bringing clients the best thinking through a collaborative culture that honours diversity and reflects the communities in which we operate. Majority owned by Accenture, Avanade was founded in 2000 by Accenture LLP and Microsoft Corporation. Learn more at www.avanade.com.