



## THE ADECCO GROUP ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION OF CMAST

### XPE Pharma & Science and CMAST join forces in the Life Sciences industry

**Groot-Bijgaarden/Temse, 6 December 2017 – The Adecco Group today announces the acquisition of CMAST, a fast-growing consultancy and project management company in the Life Sciences sector. In the new structure, each company will retain its autonomy as the two work together to expand a full range of services in the areas of staffing, outsourcing, managed services and consultancy in support of projects and businesses in the Life Sciences sector.**

#### **XPE Pharma & Science, part of The Adecco Group, joins forces with CMAST**

Extensive expertise and complete, functional service models are more important than ever for service companies. The Adecco Group has taken note of this trend. In designing its activities, it focuses increasingly on sharing and marketing the expertise of its specialists. The CMAST acquisition is right in line with this strategy.

The pharmaceutical and biotech industries have experienced a period of rapid development. More than ever before, businesses in these sectors are entering into strategic partnerships with innovative companies and startups from various sectors, resulting in a growing demand for advice, project management and talent. In Belgium, XPE Pharma & Science and CMAST have joined forces in an effort that will see the two companies working together intensively on the basis of each other's specific knowledge and expertise. *"The new cooperative model will bolster the already strong position of XPE Pharma & Science and add an even more complete range of options in the areas of staffing, outsourcing, managed services and consultancy in the Life Sciences sector,"* says Nico Reeskens, Country Manager for The Adecco Group Belgium.

The CMAST professionals' passion to have an impact on the health care environment proves to be an essential binding force between both partners. *"As a business, we genuinely care about our employees. For us to join forces with a larger organization, it was essential that a potential partner should share our ideas about motivating and engaging personnel. We have found that partner in The Adecco Group and, locally, XPE Pharma & Science,"* says Glenn Van Dael, CMAST's managing director.

Moreover, this unique collaboration means that both life sciences experts and fresh talent can benefit from an even broader range of opportunities, and can therefore hone their expertise and map out interesting career prospects. Offering such a comprehensive range of possibilities enables us to attract new talent from among the best people available.

#### **Nothing but advantages for the client**

For the past nine years, the focus at CMAST has been on making a positive impact on health care for future generations, which translates into a unique, customer-focused approach. With the health care sector facing major challenges, CMAST employs its consultancy and project management expertise to create added value in the product portfolios of its Life Sciences clients.

XPE Pharma & Science is renowned for its expertise covering every phase in the development of medicines and other products. By bringing in CMAST's project management expertise in the areas of clinical trials, scientific writing, publication management, patient support solutions and medical sales force, this collaboration will result in a full range of services from 'discovery' to 'go to market'.

#### **International growth with respect for our people**

For CMAST, this venture provides opportunities for rapid international expansion. CMAST had long been ambitious to explore foreign markets, and with this in mind it had rolled out a scalable business model in recent years. Its integration into a major corporate organization such as The Adecco group was therefore a logical next step.

*"This development is also a great opportunity for The Adecco Group. It gives us a chance to expand our activities in Switzerland, Germany, the Netherlands, Scandinavia and the US. Moreover, both of us can give our international expansion a boost now that we are able to offer a full range of services to our existing and potential customers,"* says Tom Van de Woestijne, Global Practice Leader Healthcare and Life Sciences at The Adecco Group.

\*\*\*END OF PRESS RELEASE\*\*\*



### About CMAST

CMAST, with headquarters in Temse, is a consultancy and project management company for the Healthcare and Life Sciences sectors. Our aim is to contribute to better health for everyone through the development and acceleration of innovative solutions for health care. To this end, we cooperate with major pharmaceutical organizations, innovative biotech companies, scientists and consortiums. Based on a 'best practices' approach to projects and the bundling of services to create added value, we deliver concrete, meaningful results for customers.

CMAST was founded in 2008 and has branches in Belgium, Switzerland, Germany, Poland and the US, employing nearly 100 people. CMAST is the 2016-2017 UNIZO KMO Laureate in East Flanders, and was recently nominated as 'Trends Gazelle' for the third consecutive year. [www.c-mast.com](http://www.c-mast.com)

### About XPE Pharma & Science

XPE Pharma & Science is an established name in the Life Sciences sector, providing a full range of solutions for every phase in the development of medicines and medical products. We employ over 300 highly qualified experts and technical specialists in the areas of science, medicine and commercial activity for staffing, consultancy and outsourcing projects. They help our clients in the pharmaceutical, biotech, medical devices and agri-food industries by applying their expertise to the development of medicines and other products and services that their own customers and patients rely on.

[www.xpepharmascience.com](http://www.xpepharmascience.com)

### About The Adecco Group

The Adecco Group is the world's leading workforce solutions partner. We provide more than 700,000 people with permanent and flexible employment every day. With more than 33,000 employees in 60 countries, we transform the world of work one job at a time. Our colleagues serve more than 100,000 organizations with the talent, HR services and cutting-edge technology they need to succeed in an ever-changing global economy. As a Fortune Global 500 company, we lead by example, creating shared value that meets social needs while driving business innovation. Our culture of inclusivity, fairness and teamwork empowers individuals and organizations, fuels economies, and builds better societies. These values resonate with our employees, who voted us number 2 on the Great Place to Work® - World's Best Workplaces 2017 list. We make the future work for everyone. The Adecco Group is based in Zurich, Switzerland. Adecco Group AG is registered in Switzerland (ISIN: CH0012138605) and listed on the SIX Swiss Exchange (ADEN). The group is powered by eight lead brands: Adecco, Modis, Badenoch & Clark, Spring Professional, Lee Hecht Harrison, Pontoon, Adia and YOSS.

### About The Adecco Group Belgium

With 800 employees and 130 offices, The Adecco Group offers a variety of services in Belgium. The Adecco Group offers solutions for temporary employment, recruitment and selection and HR services, with a range of brands and companies offering specialized HR services for the Belgian market. The Adecco Group provides an extensive selection of solutions for Professional Staffing via its Spring Professional and XPE Pharma & Science specializations. euro engineering focuses on engineers, while Badenoch & Clark provides profiles for Finance & Accounting, Sales & Marketing, HR & Legal, and Modis for ICT professionals. The Adecco Group's services in Belgium also encompass 3W, which provides interim management solutions, Lee Hecht Harrison/DBM, a specialist in career transition and outplacement, and Pontoon, providing MSP, RPO and SOW services.

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