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MEDIA RELEASE

ALTNAGELVIN'S CHEMOTHERAPY UNIT OPENS THE DOORS TO 'THE SEAGATE ROOM'

A donation of almost £9000 by Seagate Technology to Altnagelvin Area Hospital, has resulted in the opening of a completely refurbished waiting area in the hospital's chemotherapy unit. The unit, known as 'The Sperrin Room' treats cancer patients from right across the Western Trust area

Two thirds of the total sum was a corporate donation from Seagate. Seagate's Limavady employees donated the balance, in memory of their late colleague and friend, Jean McCallion, who died of cancer in 2006.

The funds have paid for a fresh coat of paint for the area, new blinds, flooring, a suite of comfortable and colour-coordinated furniture, a stylish plasma TV, a water fountain, and some minor improvements in other parts of the cancer unit.

Fergus O'Donnell, senior engineering director at Seagate's Limavady facility, said he was very proud that Seagate had helped bring about this particular refurbishment.

"Most people know someone who has had cancer in some form or another and that makes it a very emotive cause", said Mr O'Donnell. "Whether just popping in for a prescription or waiting to commence a treatment, I hope patients and their families will find some comfort in the brighter surroundings."

A delighted Liz England, Macmillan Lead Nurse for Cancer Services at Altnagelvin, said that the transformed area will help make for a more comfortable and welcoming environment for patients and their families and friends.

“Thanks to the generosity of Seagate and their staff, the unit’s old waiting area – often a first point of contact with our services - has been totally transformed. Rather than the basic and bland environment we used to have, patients and their loved ones will now be welcomed in a much more comfortable environment, said Mrs. England. “We have named the waiting area ‘*The Seagate Room*’ as a tribute to the generosity of Seagate and its employees,” she added.

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Notes to editors:

About Seagate

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Seagate has two facilities in Northern Ireland, employing over 2,200 people between them. At the Springtown wafer fabrication facility, the Company develops and manufactures recording heads, which write information onto and read information from the recording disc inside a hard drive product. The Company’s Limavady facility produces nickel-plated aluminium substrates, the core material on which computer hard disc drives read, write and store digital information.

