



## **SHARP PACKAGING SOLUTIONS INVESTS \$45 million To INCREASE CONTRACT PACKAGING CAPABILITIES by 30%**

### ***New 112,000 Square Foot Building Is Devoted to Specialty/Biologic/Cold Chain Packaging; 4 New Bottling Lines Added to Current Facility***

(ALLENTOWN, PA, June 27, 2016) – Sharp Packaging Solutions has increased its packaging capacity by 30% for its life science customers with a \$45 million investment in a new Center of Excellence for specialty/biologic/cold chain packaging on Penn Am Drive, Allentown and in the addition of four new bottling lines within its adjacent 270,000 square foot contract packaging facilities at 7451 and 7529 Keebler Way. The Center of Excellence marks Sharp's third expansion within the Allentown campus since 2014. The contract packaging building at 7529 Keebler Way opened in 2014 and houses six packaging suites, and a technical warehouse and office suite facility opened in 2014 at 7350 William Avenue.

Sharp seized the opportunity to purchase the 112,000 square foot Penn Am Drive building in 2014, and began interior demolition and construction to offer a state-of-the-art biologic and specialty product packaging operation, complete with comprehensive cold chain and serialization capabilities. After internal construction was completed earlier this year, Sharp moved the company's existing specialty and biologic packaging lines from its Keebler Way plant to the new Center. It then installed 2 to 8° Celsius cold storage to house 600 pallets, doubling its total refrigeration capacity, and invested in additional packaging and serialization equipment. The investment in this new facility substantially increases Sharp's ability to handle specialty packaging requirements, with room to increase capacity for these products an additional 30%. Qualification and commissioning of the Center of Excellence was completed in April, 2016, and Sharp commenced commercial packaging activities in June.

By consolidating all its specialty and biologic equipment in the new Center of Excellence, Sharp will open up additional packaging capacity for bottling at its Keebler Way facility by September 2016. All bottling lines will be serialization ready, as well as all lines in the Center of Excellence, well in advance of industry requirements for meeting track and trace regulations by 2017. An industry pioneer in serialization, Sharp has been providing serialization services to clients since 2008, with over two billion units serialized in six different formats for 35 client programs, from bottle and individual blister to pallets in support of seven international programs. With the addition of the new capabilities at the Center of Excellence, Sharp will be offering serialization at five of its packaging sites, with the intention of adding 4-5 lines per quarter through 2017.

Sharp's decision to make this investment in its Allentown campus was fueled by the increasing industry demand for contract packaging services of bottled and blister-packed pharmaceutical products business, coupled with the explosive growth of specialty product and biologic package outsourcing. According to Doug Hill, Senior Vice President and General Manager of Sharp Packaging Solutions. "Customers with specialty drugs and biologics require complex equipment," Hill notes. "We have customers with vials that need labeling and serialization, syringes with a label pack-out, oral thin film strips and then those with automatic, self-injected devices requiring special assembly. With our new facility, we have the dedicated space to meet the most demanding

requirements.”

Due to the proximity of the new building to Sharp’s current packaging facility with the use of the same management team, processes and procedures, the FDA is considering a campus approach in their evaluation of Sharp. A new registration with the FDA will not be required for the Penn Drive Center of Excellence. “We are working very closely with the FDA,” states Hill. “Their only request so far has been to be advised on when we anticipate the first production for the building. That information will be provided and the Agency will then determine if they will review the building at that time or as part of our next GMP Inspection anticipated in late 2016 or early 2017.”

– Ends –

For further information about the Sharp organization, please visit [www.sharpservices.com](http://www.sharpservices.com)

A video of the new facility and Sharp capabilities can be seen at: <https://youtu.be/L4HmdH1LT3c>

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High resolutions photos of the facility as shown in the attached comp sheet are available upon request of [smarshall@mkt-sol.com](mailto:smarshall@mkt-sol.com)

**ABOUT SHARP PACKAGING SOLUTIONS**

Sharp Packaging Solutions, a division of Sharp Packaging Services, has been providing contract packaging solutions to the life sciences industry for over 60 years. A global market leader, it offers locations in Allentown, PA, Conshohocken, PA, Belgium and the Netherlands. Sharp is known throughout the industry for its ability to design and engineer customer packaging solutions while maintaining the highest quality and service. Sharp is also a world leader in ‘Track and Trace’ serialization services, which will require all prescription drugs to have a unique serial code for authentication and traceability. Sharp Packaging Services is a UDG Healthcare company.

**ABOUT UDG HEALTHCARE plc:**

UDG Healthcare plc (LON: UDG) is a leading international provider of services to the healthcare industry, employing over 7,000 employees at operations across 19 countries including the US, UK, Ireland and Germany.

UDG Healthcare plc operates across three divisions: Ashfield Commercial & Medical Services, a global leader in the provision of sales, marketing and healthcare communications services to the pharmaceutical industry; Sharp Packaging Services, a global leader in contract packaging and clinical trial packaging services for the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries; and Supply Chain Services consisting of Aquilant, a leading provider of outsourced sales, marketing, distribution and engineering services to the medical and scientific sectors in the UK, Ireland and the Netherlands..

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High resolution photos available to the press. Contact  
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IMG\_0969.JPG  
Support staff workstations (IT, Project Managers, Customer Service,  
Quality Tech. Transfer, Production Scheduler)



IMG\_0990.JPG  
Production floor hallway



Outside building view

IMG\_7535.JPG



Visitor's lounge and rooms

IMG\_7620.JPG



IMG\_7734.JPG

Ambient warehouse storage racks



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Employee entrance view