

SPAIN'S PRIME MINISTER ATTENDS THE OPENING OF THE NEW FACILITIES OF THE REIG JOFRE PHARMACEUTICAL COMPANY EXTENSION

- Pedro Sánchez was accompanied by the regional president, Emiliano García-Page and the mayor of Toledo, Milagros Tolón.
- The ceremony was also attended by government representative, Manuel González, the head of the provincial council, Álvaro Gutiérrez, the Health Councillor, Jesús Fernández and the AEMPS general secretary, Francisco Javier Muñoz.
- This extension, in which around 10 million euros has been invested, will enable the plant which manufactures Penicillin derived antibiotics, to meet the current demand of the domestic and international market, and to prepare for its launch on the US market in 2019.

Toledo, 23 October 2018 Spain's Prime Minister, **Pedro Sánchez**, was present at the opening event of the new facilities of the Reig Jofre pharmaceutical company's plant extension. He was accompanied by the regional president, **Emiliano García-Page** and the mayor of Toledo, **Milagros Tolón**.

The ceremony was also attended by government representative Manuel González, the head of the provincial council, Álvaro Gutiérrez, the Health Councillor Jesús Fernández and the AEMPS general secretary, Francisco Javier Muñoz.

During the ceremony, the Prime Minister unveiled the plaque "that will mark the inauguration of the Reig Jofre antibiotic plant extension in Toledo."

The inauguration presentation was delivered by **Ignasi Biosca**, CEO of the pharmaceutical firm, who thanked everyone for their presence at the christening "with godparents of whom we can feel very proud." He explained that Reig Jofre, founded in 1929 in Barcelona, "has invested around **ten million euros in its Toledo plant** to create a new specialised production line dedicated to penicillin-derived antibiotics. Parallel to this project, the company is working on a second extension at its Barcelona plant in Sant Joan Despi."

The Reig Jofre facilities in Toledo, at number 111 on Calle Jarama, has a built area of over 15,200 square metres and two floors for the specialised manufacture of beta-lactam antibiotics.



“With nearly 90 years of history, the Reig Jofre family firm is the **fifth largest Spanish pharmaceutical company** in terms of turnover listed on the Spanish continuous market. It focuses on the research, development, manufacture and sale of pharmaceutical products and nutritional supplements,” Ignasi Biosca explained.

The extension to the Toledo industrial plant has enabled the installation of a new production line equipped with **state-of-the-art technology** for the production of sterile injectable medicines for hospital use. With this investment, the company will have the capacity to meet the current domestic and international market demand, and will prepare for its launch on the US market in 2019.

Ignasi Biosca said that “We feel **extremely proud** of both contributing to **job creation** in Castilla La Mancha and of providing a **service to society**, by offering essential penicillin derived medicines that help to save millions of lives across the world.”

Milagros Tolón thanked the pharmaceutical company for its firm decision to extend the plant, “which not only secures current jobs, but we hope will create new ones in the near future.”

The mayor of Toledo stressed “the importance of these types of projects that generate wealth for the city as well as raising its international profile by being home to internationally important companies such as this one.”

Emiliano García-Page reminded everyone that “Spain, together with Japan, is the country with the longest life-expectancy, to which improvements in medicines has undeniably contributed, as has our well-functioning health system that is reasonably inexpensive.”

Pedro Sánchez wished to remind people of the giant steps taken by Reig Jofre, which “after three generations at the helm, the company is now present in nearly 70 countries, and the figures speak for themselves; a turnover of 170 million euros at the close of 2017, of which 60% are generated from international sales.”

The Prime Minister believes it is important to “continue growing, generating jobs and investing in job creation and in innovation,” and that companies such as Reig Jofre continue to contribute to the growth in research.

Today, the pharmaceutical company produces 14% of the antibiotic doses consumed in Spain. With this new production line we are opening today, the production capacity of sterile penicillin antibiotics will increase by more than 33%, to achieve an output of **25 million vials per year**, compared with the 19 million currently produced, accompanied by a significant improvement in productivity. The new building was designed with future additional capacity requirements in mind, as it can house an additional fifth production line meeting the same quality standards and equipped with latest generation technology.



About Reig Jofre

The structure of the company is split into **3 broad divisions**:

- **Pharmaceutical technologies** specialising in the development and production of penicillin-derived antibiotics and sterile injectable and lyophilised pharmaceutical products. This division has driven the company's international expansion and has resulted in Reig Jofre products being distributed or licensed to more than 65 countries across five continents.
- **Speciality products** focused on the research, development, manufacture and sale of specialised dermatological, respiratory and gynaecological products.
- **Health Care**, particularly nutritional supplements that are marketed under the Forté Pharma brand, principally in France, Belgium, Spain and Portugal.

Reig Jofre employs around **1000 people** (more than 820 in Spain), it operates four development and production centres in Europe (2 in Toledo, 1 in Barcelona and 1 in Sweden) and operates an international logistics centre, also in Toledo.

"The two **plants in Toledo** specialise in the development and manufacture of beta-lactam antibiotics (penicillins and cephalosporins) at two separate manufacturing units to prevent cross contamination, where a third of the company's staff are employed. The antibiotics line accounts for 31% of the company's sales, the company's CEO stated.

Since it purchased this plant from GSK in 2000, **Reig Jofre** has invested 21.5 million euros over the last 10 years, 15.4 million of which it has invested in the last 3 years. **We have tripled the number of employees at the Toledo plant**, with the figure rising from 117 previously to the current 330 jobs. An R&D centre has been added to the plant for the development of new specialist products, and we have strengthened our international expansion.

Ignasi Biosca also pointed out that the **Barcelona plant** "specialising in the development and manufacture of sterile injectables and lyophilised medicines, has launched a 30 million euro investment project to increase its aseptic production capacity with state-of-the-art technology. This will allow it to begin the development and manufacture of innovative and bio-similar products, thus consolidating Reig Jofre's presence in its current international markets in Europe and Japan and preparing it for its entry into large volume markets such as the US and Indonesia, among others."

The **Swedish plant** concentrates on the development and manufacture of the company's topical dermatological products.

For further information: Inma Santa-Pau - Head of Communications and Institutional Relations - Phone: 34 934 806 710 (ext. 1242)
Inma.santapau@reigjofre.com