

DPD to create 700 new jobs in €2.5m investment

Parcel delivery company [DPD Ireland](#) to open two additional sortation facilities and invests €2.5m.

DPD Ireland is to expand its nationwide operations, creating 700 new jobs before the end of the year.

Up to 150 positions will be based in their headquarters in Athlone and the remaining 550 drivers and operational personnel will be required to service deliveries to and from all of its 36 regional depots nationwide.

DPD Ireland, which is the country's largest parcel delivery company, is also investing €1m in its automation and routing systems in its central hub and sortation facility in Athlone.

The company will invest a further €1m in additional driver scanner technology to support the anticipated parcel volume increase due to flow through the business this Christmas period and has already spent €500,000 this year doubling the size of its depots in Cork, Kildare and Meath, with two more facilities opening in Dublin this month.

Covid-19 online shopping boom

[DPD Ireland chief executive Des Travers](#) said the company is actively recruiting at the moment and confirmed that the company has experienced a phenomenal increase in demand due to Covid-19.

“Our services have played an important role in these unprecedented times, with consumers ordering more online due to Coronavirus concerns. The new jobs will increase our workforce to almost 2000, enabling us to continue to meet customer demand,” he said.

“The additional roles provide a glimmer of light against the bleak backdrop of the Coronavirus crisis, and we hope the expansion of our business will help boost the economy as a whole.”

The new jobs are in addition to 100 new driver roles announced in April of this year amid a surge in demand due to the pandemic. The company reported increases in deliveries of electrical goods of 800pc, with pet food up 300pc, and sports equipment up 225pc at the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.

DPD Ireland is part of DPDgroup - the largest international parcel delivery network in Europe. With more than 77,000 delivery experts and a network of more than 47,000 local Pickup points, DPDgroup delivers 5.3m parcels worldwide each day through the brands DPD, Chronopost, SEUR

and BRT.

DPDgroup is the parcel delivery network of GeoPost, which posted revenues of €7.8 billion in 2019. GeoPost is a holding company owned by Le Groupe La Poste.

Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise Trade and Employment Leo Varadkar, TD, welcomed the investment. “This investment from DPD Ireland, which will create 700 jobs nationwide is a fantastic boost to the country. Depots in Cork, Kildare and Meath have already doubled in size this year, attesting to the massive increase in online shopping we’ve seen during the pandemic.

“Athlone is the ideal location for the expansion to DPD Ireland’s facility due to its skilled workforce and high connectivity to the whole country. I wish DPD Ireland the very best of luck with this latest development.”

Minister of State with responsibility for Trade Promotion, Digital and Company Regulation, Robert Troy, TD, added: “Today’s announcement of 700 new jobs by DPD Ireland is a really positive development for the Midlands. The expansion of their operation represents a strong endorsement of Athlone and the Midlands as an excellent place to succeed in business.”

“The Midlands has had to face a difficult transition with the decline of peat production and like every other region is now experiencing the challenges brought about by the Covid-19 pandemic. The announcement by DPD Ireland today however demonstrates that economic renewal and growth is possible despite these challenges. I want to congratulate DPD Ireland management and all of its employees for creating this success story in Athlone,” Troy added.

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