

MEDIA RELEASE



Launch of world-first 'Health Passport Ireland' digital platform to support increased COVID-19 testing

- World-first technology developed by ROQU Group to protect society, economy, and jobs
- National trial commences with participants including GPs, Tallaght University Hospital, Oaklodge Nursing Home, Keogh's Farms, Emerald Freight, Home Music Festival, County Meath Crèche and others
- Irish-engineered digital platform, in partnership with advanced diagnostics, can deliver rapid test results within 15 minutes, helping businesses to continue operating in a safely controlled environment.

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Dublin

The Irish-based ROQU Group has announced the pilot launch of [Health Passport Ireland](#), a world-first digital platform designed to facilitate increased COVID-19 testing for businesses and the public.

Engineered in Ireland, the platform combines the latest digital technologies with accurate and validated COVID-19 testing solutions, which can deliver results in as little as 15 minutes. The digital platform is a big step towards helping businesses and individuals to quickly minimise risks related to COVID-19 and ensure they can continue daily activities. The system has been designed to work with all official COVID-19 test types.

Health Passport Ireland is launching with a trial involving a select range of national participants including Tallaght University Hospital, Oaklodge Nursing Home, Emerald Freight, Keogh's Farm, Home Music Festival, a county Meath based crèche and more.

Supporting businesses, protecting communities.

The platform has been developed to help the Irish economy by helping businesses to remain open through continuous proactive testing, identifying positive results at the earliest stage whilst simultaneously protecting communities by offering increased testing.

"In the past week alone, unfortunately we've seen continued frustration and disappointment as restrictions have again been tightened due to continued spread of COVID-19," said Robert Quirke, President and CEO of ROQU Group, at today's launch.

"Health Passport Ireland is designed to put a safety net in place where none currently exists, allowing our economy to recover and thrive in a more safely controlled environment," said Mr Quirke. "It is a world-first innovation, proudly engineered in Ireland to the highest standards,

that will enable business and society to finally move forward. The game changer has finally arrived."

Health Passport Ireland has been developed specifically to work in harmony with all official COVID-19 tests, including HSE tests, laboratory swab and blood tests, and the very latest rapid testing solutions soon to be launched.

"Using our global visibility, we are helping local companies by making the best COVID-19 testing solutions readily available to all," said ROQU's Robert Quirke. "We are not favouring one type of test over another, however as testing and research continues to improve, we want to ensure that Irish society and economy can easily access testing solutions that offer the highest levels of clinical validation, whilst utilising the latest mobile technologies."

Trial launch across a variety of business scenarios.

"The purpose of the pilot trial is to demonstrate how Health Passport Ireland works across a variety of real-life business and social scenarios," he added.

One of the trial participants is Oaklodge Nursing Home in Cork, whose Proprietor, Diarmuid O'Dailligh has welcomed the trial launch of Health Passport Ireland: "We have rigorously followed the guidelines and implemented all possible safety measures to protect our residents and staff, but normal life as we knew it came to an end months ago. Until there is a vaccine, the only solution is to test and keep testing everyone, so we can immediately isolate any positive cases while others are able to carry on their daily activities.

"As soon as we heard about Health Passport Ireland, we immediately asked to be involved. It will allow us to take control and proactively monitor our staff, residents', and visitors' health status, and we are looking forward to taking part in the pilot launch."

Shane Russell, Chief Operations Officer at Tallaght University Hospital, also a trial partner, says: "Innovation is central to delivering improved and safer care for patients, Tallaght University Hospital is delighted to be afforded the opportunity to participate in the Health Passport Ireland platform pilot trial. It enables the Hospital to explore the potential of new technology, and how it can integrate with COVID-19 testing for our elective surgical patients."

"By combining increased testing with the latest technologies, this will enable us all to keep a step ahead of the continued spread of the virus. Our Microbiology and Operations teams in Tallaght University Hospital will participate in the controlled pilot program over the coming weeks".

Amid calls for increased testing for the public, ROQU says that newly engineered rapid tests could provide a solution needed to stop the spread of the virus. Where no testing solution is already in place, Health Passport Ireland can provide the very latest rapid antigen swab tests and antibody blood tests, which deliver results in less than 15 minutes. The testing solutions are engineered, manufactured, and clinically validated in Europe.

Current situation not sustainable.

"We are all aware that the current situation regarding viral outbreaks in businesses and communities is simply not sustainable," said Robert Quirke. "There are too many gaps in the current system that are hindering our ability to get the economy and normal life back on track. It is time to immediately close those gaps."

"This platform provides the breakthrough we have been waiting for and can become the standard solution for business, travel, education, healthcare, events and all aspects of daily life," said Mr Quirke. "Every person on the Health Passport Ireland platform can now represent one life and one job protected."

ROQU Group has announced that, in addition to Ireland, the Health Passport platform will be launched in the US, UK, Italy, Kenya and Germany, with other locations to follow. Health Passport Ireland has been developed as part of ROQU's international altruistic mission.

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Notes to editor:

Additional details are available on [Health Passport Ireland](#) as well as [Instagram](#); [Facebook](#); [YouTube](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

Health Passport Ireland - trial partner quotes:

Keogh's Farms

"Like everyone in the food business, it is our priority to ensure our staff can work safely, primarily from a health perspective, but also from a community perspective here in North Dublin. In the current times, healthy functioning staff mean a healthy functioning business, so that we can keep food shelves stocked. From day one, we introduced very strict measures at the farm, however, we are constantly on our guard, there is no room for complacency. The Health Passport platform trial is already enabling us to manage and streamline our systems even more efficiently, to safeguard our staff and business."

Ross Keogh

The Home Music Festival

"We are happy to be working closely with Health Passport Ireland as a case study for the safe roll-out of future live events. The platform is a beacon of hope for friends and family in the events and entertainment sectors who have lost their jobs or are adapting to survive. We firmly believe this collaboration will answer the prayers of a devastated events sector and could be the future of safe events not only in Ireland but across the globe.

"With Health Passport Ireland, we will offer all guests, staff and performers a rapid COVID antibodies test on arrival at the event, making HOME the first festival in Ireland to use COVID testing as part of its health and safety plan. All social distancing rules will also be adhered to, ensuring attendees enjoy the highest level of safety possible for the duration of their stay on site.

"This beautiful collaboration between HOME and Health Passport Ireland will bring lasting solutions and hope to the public and the arts, culture, and entertainment sectors in Ireland."

Sinead Baily Kelly, organiser, The HOME Music Festival

Emerald Freight

"We were proud to assist the ROQU Group and the HSE with deliveries of vital PPE during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic, and we're delighted to continue our partnership with ROQU by participating in the trial launch of Health Passport Ireland. For us, this new platform is a game-changer that will allow us to continuously test, monitor and control the health of our staff. This in turn will enable us to keep the supply chain flowing, which is the main challenge for all logistics companies worldwide today. This technology is further proof of how Irish innovation is leading the fight against COVID-19 and we look forward to getting set up on the passport system."

Glen Warnock, CEO, Emerald Freight

SureScreen Diagnostics - testing solution

"We are very excited to be involved in the trial launch of Health Passport Ireland as it's clear that regular, rapid testing is the best way to keep businesses and society open and functioning while a vaccine is being developed. SureScreen tests are used in over 60 countries, with one of our tests being carried out every two seconds somewhere in the world. Our COVID-19 tests have been fully validated through extensive studies by hospitals, pharmaceutical manufacturers and Government bodies, and the tests are being used in hospitals and laboratories across Europe including Ireland. We believe more testing is the way forward and that is exactly what Health Passport Ireland is designed to facilitate."

David Campbell, Director of SureScreen Diagnostics

Total Digital - digital platform developers

"This project immediately stood out to us because it has a great sense of purpose. It is not often you get to work on something that can touch the lives of so many people. We love working with clients who share our passion for innovation and firmly believe in using technology to improve people's lives. We are thrilled to have developed a world first digital platform that has the potential to make a real difference in our local and global community and look forward to delivering impact in partnership with ROQU Group."

Paul Doherty, CEO at Total Digital

ABOUT ROQU GROUP

Founded and headquartered in Dublin, ROQU Group works with international Governments to fulfil projects of national importance, including economic development and strategic problem-solving.