The Smithern Star

Business & Jobs

Ballydehob's Ceramicx recognised for its cross-border initiatives

BALLYDEHOB company Ceramicx has been lauded for taking part in a crossborder trade initiative.

Ceramicx specialises in industrial infrared heating elements and heating systems; one of only six companies of its kind in the world. Their products are used by companies in a wide range of industries including luxury car company, Aston Martin, and US multinational, Corning Glass, which produces the curved glass screen for Samsung mobile phones.

The West Cork firm has been recognised as a 'Fusion Project Exemplar' as part of InterTradelreland's Fusion program. InterTradelreland is a cross-border trade and business

development body funded by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation in Ireland and the Department for the Economy in Northern Ireland. It supports businesses through innovation and trade initiatives to take advantage of co-operative opportunities, improving capability, driving competitiveness, accelerating economic growth and creating jobs. The initiative supports business development and innovation by partnering companies north and south with third level institutions. and high calibre graduates in science, engineering or technology for up to 18 months. The graduate works directly with the business to deliver new products or improved processes. Through the Fusion programme, Ceramicx benefited



Director of programmes and business services at InterTradelreland, Margaret Hearty, with Findhan Strain, Dr Peter Marshall and

Frank Wilson from Ceramicx. (Photo: Conor McCabe Photography)

from the expertise of Queens University Belfast graduate, Dr Peter Marshall, enabling the development of a unique drape-forming machine for use in the composites industry. The machine was exhibited at the largest composites showin the world, JEC World in Paris. After taking part in the project, Dr Marshall secured a permanent position in Ceramicx's research and development department.