



Association of
British Healthcare Industries

ABHI welcomes George Freeman's support for UK medtech industry

17 November 2015, UK – ABHI (the UK's medical technology industry association) welcomes the supportive comments from George Freeman MP as regards the UK medtech industry's work to ensure a sensible and proportionate outcome from the on-going revision of the Medical Device Directives.

Speaking in Brussels on Monday 9 November on the revision of the Medical Device Directives, Mr Freeman signalled his support for key UK industry positions including: the scope of medical products that require premarket scrutiny; and ensuring that healthcare institutions and reprocessing contractors are subject to the same controls as manufacturers.

The UK's first Minister for Life Sciences also warned that, though Europe is "the new global scientific superpower for the 21st century", over-regulation of industries such as the life sciences sector, would lead to companies leaving the EU and taking their research with them. Mr Freeman agreed that a regulatory framework combining public trust and consumer safety, must also balance regulating against innovation.

ABHI strongly agrees that inappropriate inclusions in the EU Medical Device Regulations will lead to a stifling of innovation. On behalf of the UK medtech industry, ABHI remains keenly interested in the current stage where European Council (Member States), European Parliament and EU Commission representatives are negotiating a final version of the new legislation.

ABHI Director, Regulatory, Mike Kreuzer said: *"ABHI will continue to work with UK industry partners and European Union colleagues to develop regulations which provide a tangible increase in patient safety, while encouraging and facilitating innovation. All this, while at the same time, avoiding unnecessary complexity for industry and regulators."*

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About ABHI

The Association of British Healthcare Industries (ABHI) is the industry association for the medical technology sector in the UK. ABHI's mission is to champion the benefits and use of safe and effective medical technologies to deliver high quality patient outcomes. With over 250 members, ABHI leads the advocacy of the industry in order to advance access to medical technology. Our membership includes some of the leading multinational businesses in the sector in the UK right the way through to small and medium sized enterprises. For further information, visit the ABHI website (www.abhi.org.uk).

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