

# Annual Report 2016



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# Introduction



**Jiri Havlicek**  
Minister of Industry and Trade

Dear Readers,  
I am very pleased that CzechInvest is carrying out its mission to the full extent. The agency has become an indispensable player in the global field of investment and support for industry and trade. The results of its work are thus reflected in employment growth and the favourable economic development of our country on the European scale. In many respects, we rank among the most successful economies in Europe thanks in part to the good work done by CzechInvest. Our economy is truly succeeding. Unemployment is at a record low level and foreign investors' interest in the Czech Republic is unceasing. Last year CzechInvest mediated 100 investment projects, thanks to which 12,097 jobs will be created, and the total investment amount exceeded CZK 64 billion. These are very significant figures that are substantially pushing our country forward.  
Even though the Czech Republic is now performing at its highest level of recent years, we must not be diverted from our defined path or

take our foot off of the accelerator. Increasing the quality of investments must be a decisive factor for us. At the same time, it is necessary to take into account the rise of Industry 4.0 and the situation on the labour market.  
The factors of success are obvious. If we want to maintain our rate of growth and to keep pace with the most advanced western countries in the future, we must focus more on raising the share of value added in production than on increasing the volume of production. We are therefore shifting our focus to support for investments with high value added. Such investments bring forth wage growth and increase the standard of living among the country's population. This is the path that we want to follow and that we must follow. This will involve an important departure.  
The first step consists in preparing an amendment to the Investment Incentives Act. We are striving to ensure that support for technology centres and business support services centres remains a focal point. Whereas development of such centres is currently supported only in structurally

disadvantaged regions, it should receive tangible aid throughout the Czech Republic in the future. Support will be connected not only with new job creation, but also training, education and retraining of employees. Particularly projects with long-term expenditures on research and development will be greenlighted. If we want to be successful, it is necessary to consider the removal of barriers in the area of employing skilled workers. I am referring, for example, to the possibility of supporting part-time work and adjustment of the time limit for retaining new jobs. However, this does not mean that we will hastily change that which is currently functional. We will continue to allow for preservation of the scope of incentives in the manufacturing industry in regions with high unemployment.  
I firmly believe that CzechInvest will continue to play an indispensable role in the development of both domestic and foreign investments and, above all, in raising the quality of newly created jobs.





**Karel Kucera**  
CEO of CzechInvest

For CzechInvest, 2016 was a year of changes and new projects. At the beginning of the year, GE Aviation announced a very significant high-tech investment in the Czech Republic involving the construction of its global centre for development, testing and production of turboprop engines. This investment will have a similar effect for Czech aviation as Volkswagen's entry into Škoda Auto had for the automotive industry. Mainly, however, it is a signal that we are not only a major manufacturing centre, but also a major centre for high-tech investments and development activities. A more significant aspect is that this involves one of the most distinguished innovative industrial firms in the world. It fundamentally supports our effort to ensure that investments are focused particularly on high-tech projects, which in 2016 accounted for every fourth investment arranged by CzechInvest.

In spring, we opened ESA BIC Prague, the first "space" incubator in Central and Eastern Europe. With the cooperation of Prague City Hall,

the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Ministry of Transport and the European Space Agency (ESA), incubation of the first six Czech firms using space technologies in everyday life began in Prague several months later.

On 1 June 2016, administration of structural funds was separated from CzechInvest and the Enterprise and Innovation Agency was established. This state contributory agency, which like CzechInvest is subordinate to the Ministry of Industry and Trade, took over the administration of support for business and innovation within the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness 2014-2020.

Expansion of our activities on the start-up scene was foreshadowed by the launch of the first of several projects supporting innovative start-up companies. At the end of the year, the CzechDemo project sent the first four Czech start-ups to TechCrunch Disrupt in London.

Year-long negotiations with investors yielded interesting results at the close of 2016. We arranged exactly 100 investment projects in the total

value of more than CZK 64 billion, which will create over twelve thousand jobs in the Czech Republic, the largest number of which in the Ústí and Moravia-Silesia regions.

As is generally known, the automotive industry is the cornerstone of the Czech economy, and firms invest most frequently in this industrial sector here. However, the sector now stands at the threshold of major changes. We have been monitoring global developments in the area of electromobility for several years already and even more intensively recently, as the coming changes in the automotive industry will have an impact on ICT, electronics and electrical engineering and, indirectly, on the energy and nanotechnology sectors. It is our endeavour to identify potential investors in these sectors and to build in the Czech Republic key industrial and development facilities that can respond to rising trends. A strong argument in our effort is, in particular, the quality of Czech suppliers, including in the area of development, which are gaining respect far beyond our borders.



# Key events of 2016

01

**GE Aviation**, the aviation division of General Electric, announced its plan to build a new centre for development, testing and production of turboprop engines in the Czech Republic. Prior to the centre's opening, GE Aviation will develop and test the engines in the Czech Republic. The company plans to create more than 500 new jobs here.

02

The City of Prague officially confirmed provision of financial aid in the amount of CZK 22.3 million for CzechInvest's **ESA BIC Prague** programme. The same amount was also provided by the European Space Agency (ESA). The aid will be used to support 25 start-ups over a five-year period.

03

**A123 Systems**, which is involved in development and sales of advanced lithium-ion batteries and systems, is planning an expansion of its operations in Europe. The company is building a factory in the CTPark industrial complex in Ostrava. Annual production of 600,000 batteries is anticipated in the first phase. The company plans to employ 150 people.

Construction of **Mölnlycke Health Care's** new factory began in March 2016 with the symbolic laying of the cornerstone. The Swedish firm,

which manufactures single use medical sets is the first major investor in the industrial zone on the site of the former Dukla mine in Havířov.

CzechInvest emerged as the winner in the **Site Selectors Guild Excellence in Economic Development Award** competition. CzechInvest received the annual award presented by the Site Selectors Guild for the successes achieved by the agency in the area of economic development.

04

**Yanfeng Automotive Interiors**, a leading global supplier of instrument panels and cockpit systems, announced the opening of its new manufacturing plant in Planá nad Lužnicí. The company plans to start operation at the beginning of 2018 and to create approximately 300 new jobs in the region.

**Röchling Automotive**, a manufacturer of plastic components for automobiles, held the grand opening of its newly expanded factory in Kopřivnice in May 2016, having completed construction of new production and warehousing facilities there. The firm invested EUR 8 million in the expansion.

The Japanese company **TOYODA GOSEI** celebrated fifteen years of operation in Kláštec nad Ohří. With the participation of its Japanese and Czech management, the company commemorated its operations in the Czech Republic to date

and unveiled its plans for the future. Another, third expansion of production and construction or leasing of a fourth production facility are currently under consideration.

The European Space Agency's network of business incubators was expanded with the addition of its sixteenth branch. **ESA BIC Prague**, the first space incubator in Central and Eastern Europe was ceremoniously opened in May by ESA Director General Johann-Dietrich Woerner together with CzechInvest CEO Karel Kučera and Prague Mayor Adriana Krnáčová.

# 05

# 06

**The Enterprise and Innovation Agency** was established on 1 June 2016. This state contributory agency subordinate to the Ministry of Industry and Trade is responsible for implementing support for business and innovation from EU structural funds and administration of the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness. The new agency was established through the separation of the Structural Funds Division from

CzechInvest. More information is available at [www.agentura-api.org](http://www.agentura-api.org).

In June 2016, **Saint-Gobain Sekurit** opened a new production line for manufacturing automotive glass in Hořovice u Berouna. Construction of two new production facilities covering an area of 13,000 m<sup>2</sup> began in autumn 2014. The company thus expanded its staff with the addition of one hundred new employees.

The American company **Cooper Standard Automotive** began construction of a manufacturing plant in Bystřice nad Pernštejnem in July 2016. The company's new assembly facility should create nearly 500 new jobs and thus significantly contribute to reducing the rising unemployment rate in the Bystřicko region.

# 07

# 08

The American company **Johnson & Johnson** plans to expand the range of services provided by its JNJ Global Business Services centre in Prague. Over the past decade, the centre's staff has grown into a team of 450 specialists from 43 countries. In the coming years, the company expects to further add more than 300 employees at the centre, thus bringing the total to 750, and to relocate to new facilities.

# 09

**Panasonic** celebrated its twentieth anniversary in Plzeň. With the company's Japanese and Czech management and representatives of state and local authorities in attendance, the company commemorated its successful operation in the Czech Republic to date. The Japanese ambassador to the Czech Republic, His Excellency Tetsuo Yamakawa, also attended the event.

**Toray Textiles**, a Japanese manufacturer of airbag fabrics and printing plates, plans to invest CZK 455 million in its expansion in Prostějov. In the next five years, the company will expand its existing production with the addition of developers, who will be used for developing printing plates, and will also increase production of polyamide textiles intended for use in airbag manufacturing.

A total of eleven major investors and business properties received awards within the sixteenth edition of **the Investor and Business Property of the Year** competition for 2015. Two special prizes were presented by the competition's professional partner, the Association for Foreign Investment.

# 10

# 11

CzechInvest and the **Consulate General of the Czech Republic in New York** held a series of seminars and meetings with potential partners in late October and early November. The Czech companies CEITEC, Contipro, IQ Structures, Nafigate and NanoSpace and the Nanoprogress cluster were presented at two seminars in Boston and at Bohemian National Hall in New York.

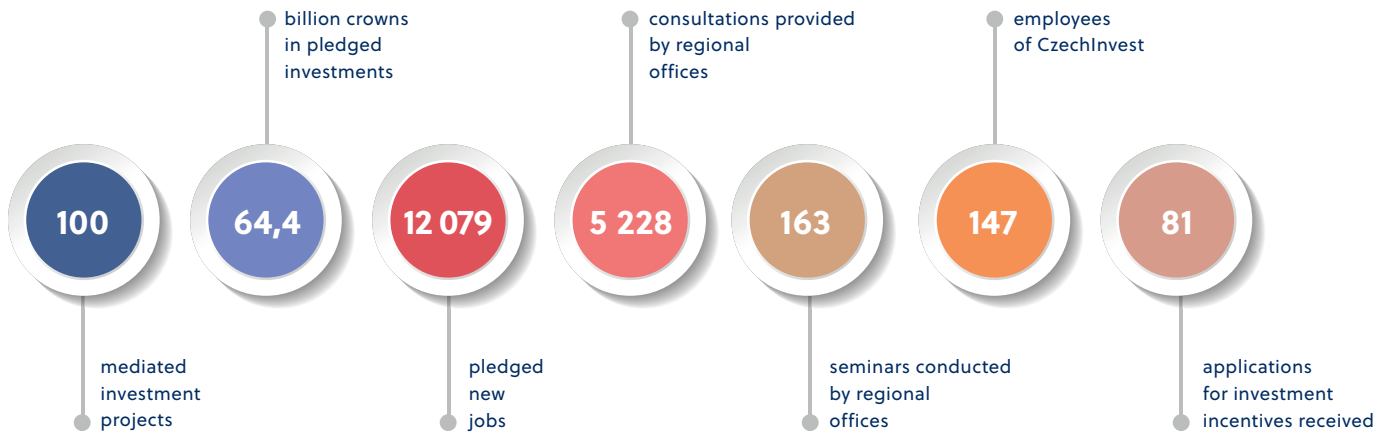
**Yankee Candle** opened its first production plant outside of the United States. The American company chose the Czech city of Most as the location from which it will serve the European market. The new factory will bring more than 300 jobs, primarily in the areas of production and operational support.

The South Korean company **Kiswire** opened its production facility in the Triangle industrial zone. Up to eighty people will find employment in production and administrative positions at the factory in 2017; the number of newly created jobs is expected to increase further in the coming years.

A conference focusing on the first year of operation of the **ESA BIC Prague** space incubator, which opened in May 2016, was held at the ČSOB Inspirace building in Prague on 14 December 2016. Part of the conference programme was the announcement of the six start-ups selected for incubation. These start-ups – Festka, NG Aviation, Triphood, TuddyTuddy, Big Terra and InsightART – thus have the opportunity to obtain support in the value of up to EUR 50,000 to complete their products at ESA BIC Prague and introduce them to the market.

# 12

## Key figures of 2016



## About CzechInvest

The Investment and Business Development Agency CzechInvest is a state contributory organisation subordinate to the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. The agency strengthens the competitiveness of the Czech economy through its support for small and medium-sized enterprises, the country's business infrastructure and innovation, as well as by attracting to the Czech Republic foreign investments

in the areas of manufacturing, business support services and technology centres. Within the context of simplifying communication between the government and companies, CzechInvest covers the entire area of business support in the manufacturing industry. Furthermore, CzechInvest promotes the Czech Republic abroad as a location that is suitable for mobile investments. It is the exclusive organisation that may submit applications

for investment incentives to the governing bodies and it supports Czech firms that are interested in becoming involved in the supply chains of multinational companies. Through its services and development programmes, CzechInvest thus contributes to the development of domestic firms, Czech and foreign investors and the business environment as a whole.

## Fields of support

CzechInvest offers a broad range of services to investors operating in the agency's key sectors:

- + Automotive industry
- + Aerospace industry
- + Mechanical engineering
- + Electrical engineering and electronics
- + Life sciences
- + IT, software development
- + Shared services
- + Nanotechnology
- + Clean technologies

### Provided services:

- + Information on possibilities of support for small and medium-sized enterprises
- + Administration of a business-property database
- + Administration of a database of Czech supplier firms
- + Support during implementation of investment projects
- + Mediation of state investment aid
- + Aftercare services for foreign investors that are already operating in the Czech Republic
- + Support for reinvestments

All services are provided free of charge.



## Organisational structure



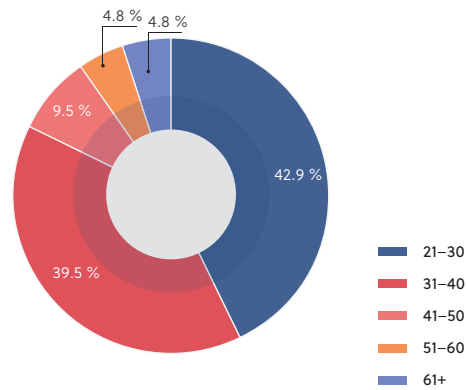
## Staff structure

As at the end of 2016, CzechInvest had a total of 147 employees.

### Breakdown of employees by age and gender

age	women	men	total	%
do 20	0	0	0	0
21–30	37	26	63	42.9
31–40	36	22	58	39.5
41–50	7	5	12	8.2
51–60	4	3	7	4.8
61+	4	3	7	4.8
<b>total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100</b>

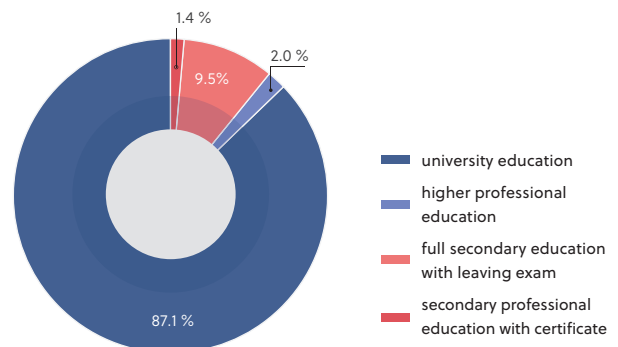
Status as at 31 December 2016



### Breakdown of employees by educational attainment and gender

attained education	women	men	total	%
secondary professional education with certificate	2	0	2	1.4
full secondary education with leaving exam	11	3	14	9.5
higher professional education	3	0	3	2.0
university education	72	56	128	87.1
<b>total</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>147</b>	<b>100</b>

Status as at 31 December 2016



## Economics

CzechInvest's management of financial resources in 2016 ended with an improved economic result in the amount of CZK 3,705,361.57. In absolute terms, costs in 2016 were lower

in comparison with 2015, by CZK 159,348,792. The reasons for this significant reduction of costs are, in particular, the fact that in June 2016 the Structural Funds Division became

the separate Enterprise and Innovation Agency and the CzechEkoSystem project was terminated, as a result of which no de minimis aid was provided in 2016.

### Costs by sources of financing (in CZK)

source of financing	2015	2016	development of costs
contribution to activity	235 916 794.92	216 707 792.17	-19 209 002.75
- of which operations	233 800 748.19	215 312 710.50	-18 488 037.69
- of which the Business Property and Infrastructure Support Programme	2 116 046.73	1 395 081.67	-720 965.06
TP OPEIC (TP OPEI)	97 570 152.64	37 211 913.18	-60 358 239.46
OPEIC Start-Ups Support	0.00	2 526 420.05	2 526 420.05
ESA BIC Prague	0.00	1 913 380.91	1 913 380.91
SA OPEI CzechAccelerator 2011-2014	1 619 127.17	0.00	-1 619 127.17
SA OPEI CzechEkoSystem	78 937 845.32	0.00	-78 937 845.32
OPHRE EDUCA	2 702 535.22	-59 228.79	-2 761 764.01
CLUS3	1 005 721.32	103 107.00	-902 614.32
<b>total</b>	<b>417 752 176.59</b>	<b>258 403 384.52</b>	<b>-159 348 792.07</b>

### Development of total costs, 2011–2016

year	actual costs	development of costs in CZK		development of costs in %	
			to the initial year	year-on-year	to the initial year
2011	382 740 994				
2012	352 484 322	-30 256 673	-30 256 673	-7.9	92.1
2013	319 586 917	-32 897 405	-63 154 078	-9.3	83.5
2014	347 029 360	27 442 443	-35 711 635	8.6	90.7
2015	417 752 177	70 722 817	35 011 182	20.4	109.1
2016	258 403 385	-159 348 792	-124 337 610	-38.1	67.5

## Structure and year-on-year development of costs and revenues

line	item	actual figures in CZK		structure in %		development in %	difference in CZK
			2016	2015	2016	2016-2015	2016-2015
501	materials consumption	4 796 836	3 120 679	1.1	1.21	65.1	-1 676 157
502	energy consumption	2 386 243	2 028 640	0.6	0.79	85.0	-357 603
511	repairs and maintenance	1 659 534	2 688 638	0.4	1.04	162.0	1 029 105
512	travel costs	7 474 923	7 454 248	1.8	2.88	99.7	-20 675
513	representation costs	1 955 888	1 709 582	0.5	0.66	87.4	-246 306
518	other services	89 672 570	98 851 690	21.5	38.25	110.2	9 179 120
521	wage and salary costs	121 123 402	85 496 181	29.0	33.09	70.6	-35 627 221
524	statutory social-security insurance	40 935 441	28 813 237	9.8	11.15	70.4	-12 122 204
527	statutory social-security costs	1 202 383	1 271 949	0.3	0.49	105.8	69 566
538	other taxes and fees	80 179	70 479	0.0	0.03	87.9	-9 700
541	contractual penalties and late fees	100	254	0.0	0.00	254.0	154
542	other fees and penalties	239 823	174 639	0.1	0.07	72.8	-65 184
543	gifts and other free donations	14 035	66 236	0.0	0.03	471.9	52 201
547	shortfall and damages	0	7 061	0.0	0.00	0.0	7 061
548	creation of funds	255 000	98 000	0.1	0.04	38.4	-157 000
549	other operating costs	92 231 028	13 719 541	22.1	5.31	14.9	-78 511 487
551	depreciations of fixed assets	46 821 394	10 983 005	11.2	4.25	23.5	-35 838 388
553	residual price of sold fixed assets	242 900	70 200	0.1	0.03	28.9	-172 700
555	creation and settlement of reserves	1 662 179	-3 199 000	0.4	-1.24	-192.5	-4 861 179
556	creation and settlement of corrective items	1 761 200	0	0.4	0.00	0.0	-1 761 200
558	costs from minor fixed assets	2 502 176	3 756 743	0.6	1.45	150.1	1 254 566
562	Interest	0	0	0.0	0.00	0.0	0
563	exchange rate-losses	734 942	1 200 653	0.2	0.46	163.4	465 711
569	other financial costs	0	20 729	0.0	0.01	0.0	20 729
	<b>total costs</b>	<b>417 752 177</b>	<b>258 403 385</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>61.9</b>	<b>-159 348 792</b>
641	contractual penalties and late fees	100 000	91 001	0.0	0.0	91.0	-8 999
646	revenues from sales of fixed assets	255 000	98 000	0.1	0.0	38.4	-157 000
648	utilisation of funds	10 460 865	11 385 686	2.4	4.3	108.8	924 821
649	other operating revenues	3 371 233	5 564 850	0.8	2.1	165.1	2 193 616
662	interest	114	227	0.0	0.0	198.2	112
663	exchange-rate profits	274 322	414 917	0.1	0.2	151.3	140 595
664	revenues from revaluation by the actual value	242 900	70 200	0.1	0.0	28.9	-172 700
671	revenues of central budgets from transfers	416 864 492	244 483 866	96.6	93.3	58.6	-172 380 626
	<b>total revenues</b>	<b>431 568 926</b>	<b>262 108 746</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>		<b>-169 460 180</b>

## Provision of information pursuant to Act No. 106/1999 Coll.

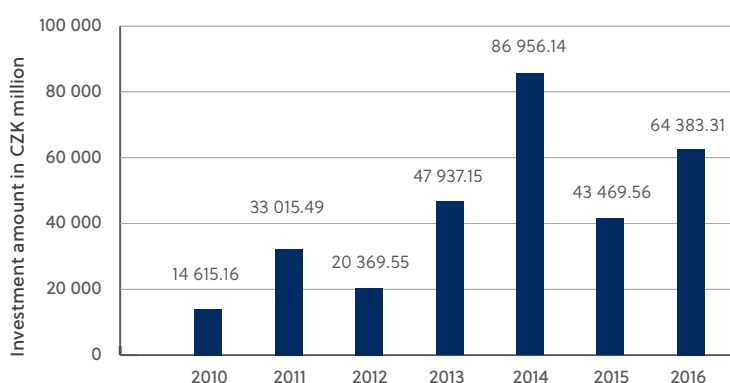
In 2016, CzechInvest received a total of 24 requests for information with reference to Act No. 106/1999 Coll., on Free Access to Information. The Legal Department issued replies to 22 of these requests including two cases in which partial replies were issued and two requests were rejected. The requests were mostly focused on more detailed information pertaining to aid intended for projects provided from OPEI and OPEIC.

# Mediation of investments

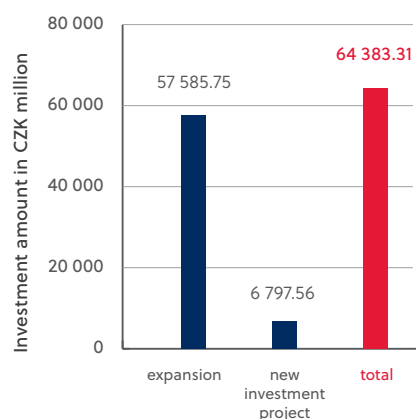
## Investment

In 2016, CzechInvest arranged 100 investment projects with foreign and domestic investors in the total value of CZK 64.4 billion and with the future creation of 12,097 new jobs.

### Year-on-year comparison of investment projects mediated by CzechInvest in the period 2010-2016



### Expansion and New Investments in 2016



### Investments in 2016 by country of origin

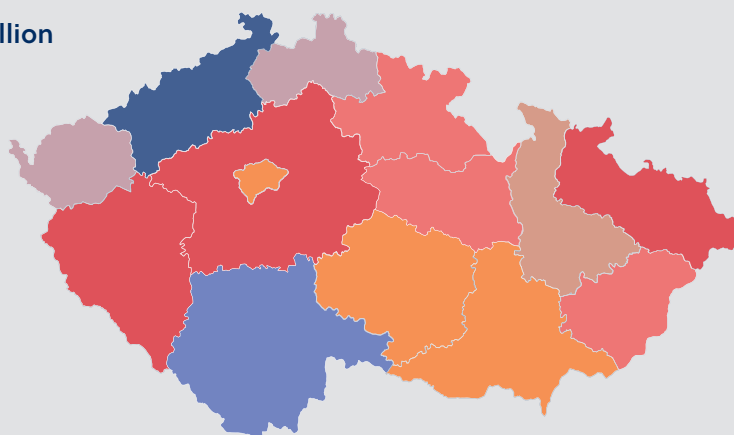
country of origin	number of projects	investment amount in CZK million	number of jobs
Belgium	1	126.20	23
Czech Republic	21	10 054.47	1 686
Czech Republic, Taiwan	1	983.28	5
China	4	3 146.17	940
Finland	1	805.00	45
France	3	1 442.78	360
India	1	225.00	350
Italy	1	191.86	64
Japan	2	906.67	241
South Korea	1	1 424.46	192
Luxembourg	1	592.20	28
Mexico	1	780.41	100
Germany	20	9 330.80	3295
Netherlands	7	16 090.79	463
Poland	1	642.00	20
Austria	10	8 091.72	1361
Russia	1	1.00	35
United States	10	4 351.81	1396
Spain	2	1 639.36	237
Sweden	1	80.20	100
Switzerland	8	2 591.79	459
Taiwan	1	818.18	677
United Kingdom	1	67.15	20
<b>total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>64 383.31</b>	<b>12 097</b>

## Investments in 2016 by region

region	number of projects	number of jobs	investment amount in CZK million
South Bohemia	8	1 611	6 490.00
South Moravia	10	807	2 834.39
Karlovy Vary	1	39	543.00
Hradec Králové	2	250	3 109.29
Liberec	1	20	114.10
Moravia-Silesia	13	1 688	4 616.02
Olomouc	4	254	1 477.33
Pardubice	8	1 386	3 393.51
Plzeň	10	1 117	4 328.69
Prague	8	1 112	2 576.28
Central Bohemia	8	793	4 637.16
Ústí	13	1 949	24 135.29
Vysočina	6	500	2 579.95
Zlín	8	571	3 548.30
<b>total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>12 097</b>	<b>64 383.31</b>



## Regions by investment amount in CZK million



## Investments in 2016 by sector

sector	number of projects	number of jobs	investment amount in CZK million
biotechnology and medical technology	4	502	1 250.49
business support services centre	5	1 517	2 129.07
data centre	1	5	983.28
wood-processing and paper	7	458	18 797.84
electrical devices	2	218	929.32
electronics	2	697	871.96
rubber	2	70	753.10
chemical and petrochemical	1	20	642.00
ICT	4	230	66.79
metallurgy and metal-working	16	870	4 699.55
aerospace	3	565	1 755.00
non-metallic mineral products	2	50	634.65
plastics	9	864	3 358.84
advanced materials and nanotechnology	1	34	465.07
food	7	141	3 277.88
mechanical engineering	6	630	2 040.44
textile	2	49	1 046.71
vehicle manufacturing	22	4772	19 190.14
other	4	405	1 491.18
<b>total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>12 097</b>	<b>64 383.31</b>

## The ten most significant investments of 2016 by investment amount

name	sector	country of origin	investment amount (CZK mil.)	number of jobs	region
Karsit Automotive, s.r.o.	vehicle manufacturing	Czech Republic	2 669.00	230	Hradec Králové
Benteler International Aktiengesellschaft	vehicle manufacturing	Germany	2 488.83	576	Ústí
Kiwi.com	business support services centre	Czech Republic	1 500.00	700	Prague
Wrigley Confections ČR, kom. spol.	food	Netherlands	1 455.59	28	Central Bohemia
Robert Bosch spol. s r.o.	vehicle manufacturing	Germany	1 293.89	505	South Bohemia
Engel strojírenská spol. s r.o.	mechanical engineering	Austria	1 171.24	260	South Bohemia
Robert Bosch spol. s.r.o.	vehicle manufacturing	Germany	903.91	120	South Bohemia
Foxconn Global Services Division s.r.o.	electronics and electrical engineering	Taiwan	818.19	677	Pardubice
A123 Systems, Inc.	electrical devices	United States	815.00	150	Moravia-Silesia
Huhtamaki Česká republika, a.s.	wood-processing and paper	Finland	805.00	45	Vysočina

## Business properties

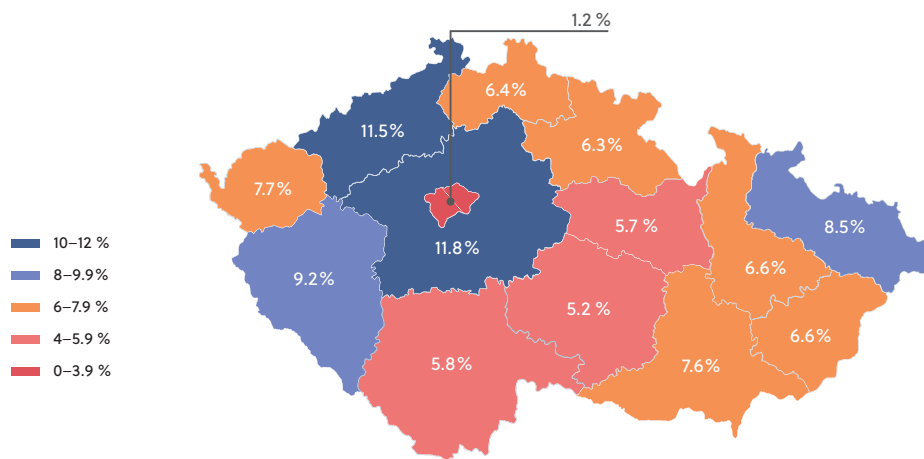
Investors' interest in the areas of manufacturing, business support services and research and development centres was confirmed in 2016. The total number of property offers prepared by CzechInvest was in excess of two hundred for the third consecutive year. The year also confirmed the trend of rising interest in land plots, when

in connection with the demands of projects generated by CzechInvest, we are registering balanced demand for vacant plots on the one hand and already existing facilities and build-to-suit projects on the other hand. The situation was completely different two years ago, when demand for vacant land plots was

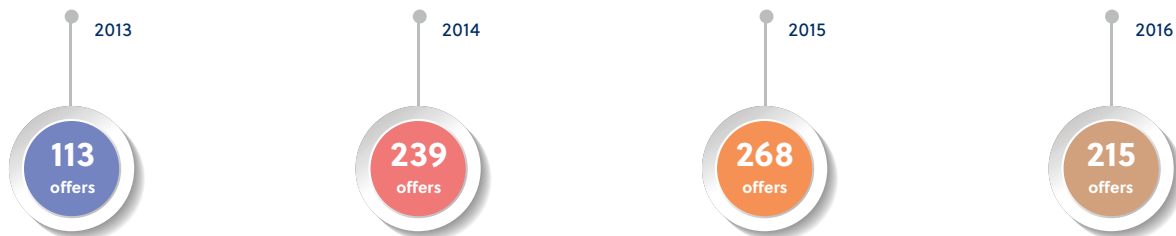
far below the level of demand for industrial facilities. The change leading to the current situation reflects the sufficient available capital and willingness of investors to commit themselves to the Czech Republic by purchasing land instead of leasing existing facilities.

The properties database contained 755 active items as at the end of 2016. Thirty-nine new items were approved for registration in the properties database in 2016.

## The most popular regions in terms of investment in 2016



## Offers prepared for investors



Forty-four sites were published in the National Brownfields Database in 2016. The Department of Business Property Management prepared 19 offers of brownfields, while a total of 30 brownfield locations were offered to investors. In 2016, project managers in the Department of Business Property Management focused on an aid programme from the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation (OPEIC). Call II of the Properties aid programme was issued on 24 October 2016; acceptance of applications commenced on 21 November 2016 and the call was terminated on 5 December 2016 due to the large number of applications received.

In connection with the call, a total of 1,945 records of sites, of which 745 sites were brownfields, were approved in the database for the purposes of aid. Work began in 2016 on the new format of the National Brownfields Database with the purpose of improving the arrangement of the database. The National Brownfield Regeneration Strategy, which comprises the basic framework for formulating particular regeneration programmes and tools and further use of brownfield properties in the Czech Republic, was also updated. The strategy will be approved in spring 2017.

One such tool is the Regeneration and Business Use of Brownfields programme, which in its pilot phase is focused on structurally and economically disadvantaged regions. The government approved this programme on the basis of Decree No. 361/2016. The object of the programme is to support the regeneration of brownfields under public ownership for further business-related utilisation. A total of CZK 2 billion from the state budget will be allocated for this purpose during the programme's period of duration from 2017 to 2023. As the designated organisation, CzechInvest will conduct administration of the programme.

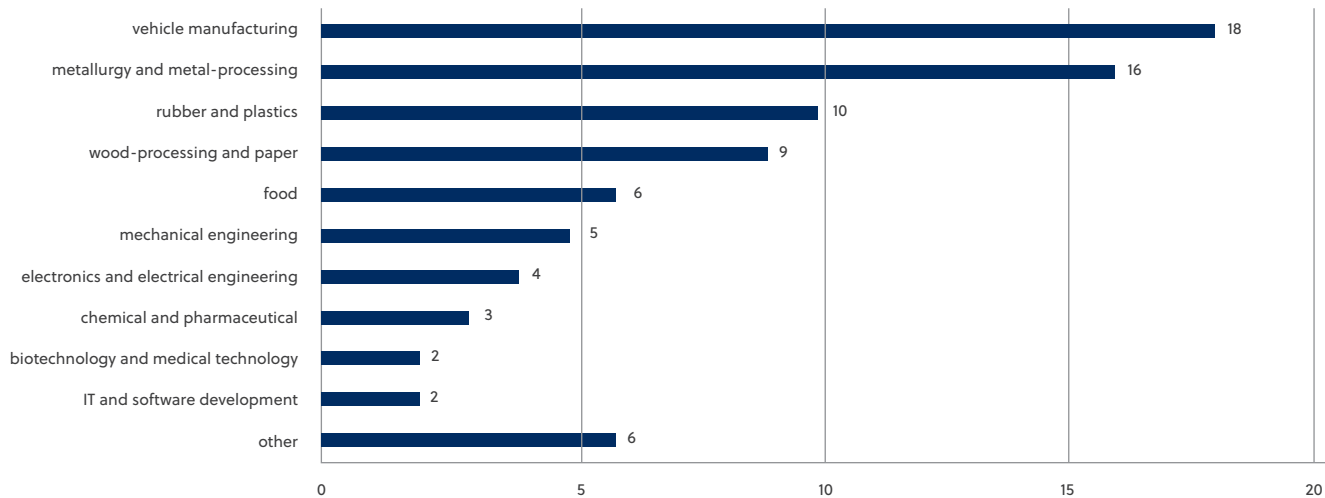


## Investment incentives

CzechInvest received a total of 81 applications for investment incentives in 2016. Investors pledged to invest more than CZK 56.7 billion in assets and to create 9,116 new jobs. A large majority of those applications involved expansions of both domestic and foreign companies that are already operating in the Czech Republic, while nine cases involved completely new investments.

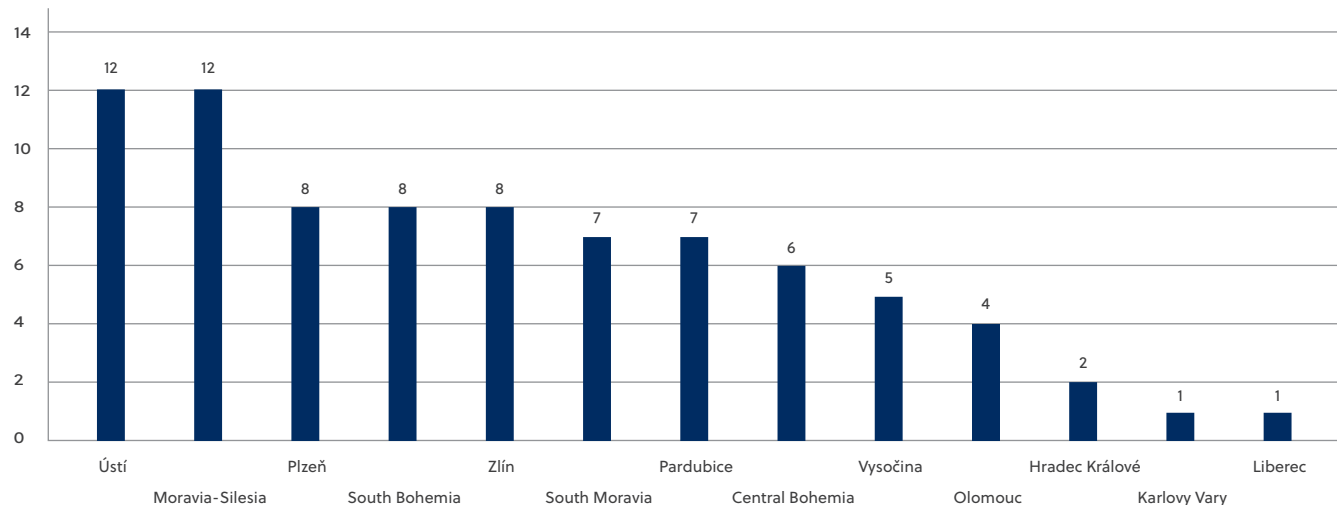
The most frequent applicants were firms operating in traditional sectors, especially vehicle manufacturing, as well as metallurgy and metal-processing, rubber and plastics.

### Investment incentive applications by sector



A significant number of companies, roughly one-third, intend to invest aid from investment incentives in regions afflicted with higher unemployment, particularly the Moravia-Silesia and Ústí regions.

### Investment incentive applications by region



Out of the total of 81 applications, three projects qualified as strategic investments, two in manufacturing and one as a technology centre. In connection with a strategic investment, applications for investment incentives were received from the company Robert Bosch in 2016; the Ministry of Industry and Trade pledged

to provide the incentives at the end of the same year. This involves the first ever combination of a strategic investment in manufacturing and a technology centre with an entitlement to cash grants for acquiring long-term assets in the amount of 12.5% of eligible costs. The total investment in both projects amounts to CZK 2.2

billion and should result in the creation of 625 new jobs in the České Budějovice district. In a total of 20 cases, companies applied for cash grants for job creation and pledged to create 3,896 new jobs in regions with above-average unemployment.



## Suppliers

CzechLink



### CzechLink project

The CzechLink capital-participation project has been in operation since 2010 as a platform connecting firms seeking investors with investors considering capital entry into a Czech enterprise. The project facilitates introductory discussions on capital entry between Czech entities and foreign companies. Within the project, an internationally comprehensible financial analysis is prepared together with a description of the characteristics of the given company's business. Local manufacturing companies and firms engaged in software development are subsequently registered as investment targets for a period of one year. As at the end of 2016, nineteen Czech companies were registered in the CzechLink capital-participation project. Of the companies that were seeking an investor as at 31 December 2016, approximately 70% of them had up to 100 employees. There was a record level of interest in Czech investment targets in 2016. Stronger interest in Czech firms was expressed by 20 investors, with which CzechInvest signed confidentiality agreements. These investors were from South Korea, Japan, Hungary, Russia, Turkey and the Czech Republic

### Sourcing

CzechInvest helps investors to find suitable suppliers in the Czech Republic, thus aiding the development of the Czech supplier network. In 2016, the Supplier Development Department prepared 107 offers of Czech suppliers for 47 clients from 17 countries. A large part of the companies seeking suppliers in the Czech Republic are from Asian countries, especially China, Japan and South Korea. Clients also included GE Aviation, Nexen Tire, Mazda, Jaguar Land Rover, Aston Martin and Samsung SDI. Over the course of 2016, the Sectoral Database of Suppliers was expanded and updated; at the end of the year it contained more than 3,400 profiles of Czech suppliers. The number of unique accessions to the database in 2016 amounted to 4,221; the largest number of visits were recorded by the automotive sector, followed by mechanical engineering and electronics and electrical engineering.

## EU structural funds

### Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation

The basic programme instrument for drawing financial resources from EU structural funds for business support in the Czech Republic in the period 2007-2013 was the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation (OPEI). OPEI was focused on increasing the competitiveness of the Czech Republic especially in the manufacturing industry and related services.

The objectives of the programme were to increase the competitiveness of the country's industrial and services sectors and to develop business, support innovation, stimulate demand for and commercialise R&D results and to support the growth of the knowledge-based economy by using capacities for introducing new technologies and innovated products,

including new information and communication technologies. In the monitored period from 1 January to 31 May 2016, recipients of aid within OPEI received disbursements based on the last remaining payment applications. A total of CZK 1,236,078,608 was disbursed to 306 projects.

### Overview of OPEI aid programmes

- + Development
- + ICT and Business Support Services
- + ICT in Companies
- + Eco-Energy
- + Innovation – Innovation Project
- + Innovation – Project for Protection of Industrial Property Rights
- + Potential
- + Cooperation – Clusters
- + Cooperation – Technology Platforms
- + Prosperity
- + Training Centres
- + Properties
- + Consulting
- + Marketing

OPEI aid programmes provided in the form of financial tools (Start, Progress, Guarantee) were not administered by CzechInvest.

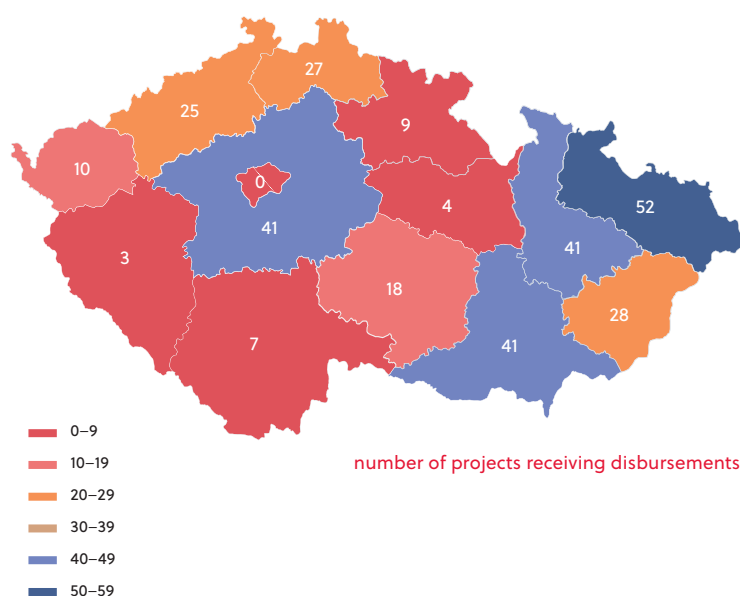
## Number of OPEI projects by programme in the period from 1 January to 31 May 2016

programme	submitted Registration Applications		submitted Full Applications for provision of aid		decisions on provision of aid		disbursements	
	number	amount in CZK	number	amount in CZK	number	amount in CZK	number	amount in CZK
<b>priority axis 2 – Company Development</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>1 055 341 073</b>
area of support 2.2 – Support for new production technologies, ICT and selected business support services	0	0	0	0	0	0	288	1 055 341 073
2.2 ICT in Companies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.2 ICT and Business Support Services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2.2 Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	288	1 055 341 073
<b>priority axis 3 – Efficient Energy</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>30 000 000</b>
area of support 3.1 – Energy savings and renewable sources of energy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	30 000 000
3.1 Eco-Energy	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3.1 Eco-Energy – Subsidy	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	30 000 000
<b>priority axis 4 – Innovation</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>55 760 630</b>
area of support 4.1 – Increasing companies' innovation capability	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	24 543 572
4.1 Innovation – Innovation Project	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	24 543 572
4.1 Innovation – Protection of Industrial Property Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
area of support 4.2 – Capacities for industrial research and development	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	31 217 058
4.2 Potential	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	31 217 058
<b>priority axis 5 – Business and innovation environment</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>94 976 905</b>
area of support 5.1 – Cooperation platforms	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	86 769 592
5.1 Prosperity	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	86 769 592
5.1 SPK – Clusters	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
5.1 SPK – Technology Platforms	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
area of Support 5.2 – Infrastructure for human resources development	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7 245 313
5.2 Training Centres	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	7 245 313
area of support 5.3 – Business infrastructure	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	962 000
5.3 Properties	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	962 000
<b>priority axis 6 – Business-development services</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
area of support 6.1 – Consulting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.1 Consulting	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
area of support 6.2 – Support for marketing services	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6.2 Individual participation in trade fairs and exhibitions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>OPEI total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>306</b>	<b>1 236 078 608</b>

Source: ISOP 7-13

## Number of OPEI projects by region in the period from 1 January to 31 May 2016

region	disbursement in CZK
Prague	0
South Bohemia	68,128,564
South Moravia	143,826,421
Karlovy Vary	40,483,651
Vysočina	110,106,138
Hradec Králové	23,730,935
Liberec	108,301,367
Moravia-Silesia	126,841,739
Olomouc	165,439,267
Pardubice	32,515,157
Plzeň	10,867,743
Central Bohemia	221,585,428
Ústí	104,609,563
Zlín	79,642,635
<b>total</b>	<b>1,236,078,608</b>



## Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness

The Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness (OPEIC) is the successor of the successful Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation. For the 2014-2020 programming period, OPEIC serves as the strategic and implementation framework for business support from European structural and investment funds. The objective of OPEIC is to achieve a competitive and sustainable economy based on knowledge and innovation.

Emphasis is placed on support for the transfer of research and development results into production, effective energy management and information and communication technologies. The main aid recipients are small and medium-sized enterprises. OPEIC is composed of five priority axes which include a total of 24 aid programmes. The Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic is the governing body of OPEIC. CzechInvest fulfilled the role

of mediating entity and conducted specific implementation operations for supported OPEIC activities until 31 May 2016. This function was taken over by the newly established Enterprise and Innovation Agency on 1 June 2016. In the period from 1 January to 31 May 2016, a total of five calls were issued, namely Low-Carbon Technologies, Application Call II, Cooperation – Clusters Call III, Innovation Vouchers and Infrastructure Services Call II.

### Overview of OPEIC aid programmes

- + Innovation – Innovation Project
- + Innovation – Project for Protection of Industrial Property Rights
- + Potential
- + Application
- + Knowledge Transfer Partnership
- + Cooperation
- + Innovation Vouchers
- + Infrastructure Services
- + Proof of Concept
- + Pre-Commercial Public Procurement
- + Technology
- + Consulting
- + Marketing
- + Properties
- + Training Centres
- + Renewable Sources of Energy
- + Energy Savings
- + Smart Grids I (Distribution Grid)
- + Low-Carbon Technologies
- + Energy Savings in Heat Supply Systems
- + Smart Grids II (Transmission Grid)
- + High-Speed Internet
- + ICT and Shared Services

## Number of OPEIC projects by programme in the period from 1 January to 31 May 2016

programme	submitted aid applications	
	number	amount in CZK
OPEIC total	17	48 953 542
priority axis 1 – Advancement of research and development for innovation		
Application, Call II	4	24 242 707
Cooperation – Clusters, Call II	3	11 007 160
Innovation vouchers	aid applications accepted from 1 June 2016	-
Infrastructure services, Call II	aid applications accepted from 15 June 2016	-
priority axis 3 – Effective energy management, development of energy infrastructure and renewable sources of energy, support for introduction of new technologies in the area of energy management and recyclable materials		
Low-Carbon Technologies	10	13 703 675

Data source: MS2014+

## Green Information Line

The toll-free Green Information Line at 800 800 777 is intended for questions pertaining to the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation (OPEI) and the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness (OPEIC). It is available nationwide on business days from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and calls to this number are free of charge from both fixed lines and mobile telephones.

A total of 5,542 enquiries were handled via the Green Information Line between 1 January and 31 May 2016. The largest number of questions posed by applicants pertained to IS KP14+, which is an information system via which aid applications within OPEIC programmes are submitted. Other frequent queries were related to the Technology Programme within OPEIC, in which acceptance of aid applications was conducted in connection with Call III in January. Applicants and recipients frequently sought consultations regarding the methodological area; they were mostly interested in the issue of tenders and the correct procedure for selecting suppliers. A total of 467 queries on general matters pertaining to OPEIC were handled by EU fund analysts; this especially involved consultations of business plans and the most appropriate aid programmes for them within OPEIC. Other frequent queries were focused on the Energy Savings programme, in which acceptance of aid applications was conducted in Call I until 30 April 2016.

## The five most common subjects of enquiries in the period from 1 January to 31 May 2016

subject	number of enquiries
IS KP14+ preliminary aid application and aid application: 1,078   other: 29   monitoring: 4   payment application: 1	1 112
Technology Programme	757
OPEIC methodology supplier selection rules: 326   definition of small and medium-sized enterprises and de minimis: 100   publicity rules: 48   phasing rules: 10   other: 28	512
General information about OPEIC	467
Energy Savings programme	443

In addition to the Green Information Line, applicants could also send their enquiries about OPEI, OPEIC and their particular projects by e-mail to [programy@czechinvest.org](mailto:programy@czechinvest.org). A total of 4,901 written enquiries sent to this collection address were handled in the period from 1 January to 29 May 2016. The largest number of written enquiries pertained to OPEIC methodology.

# Regions

## Activities in the regions

CzechInvest's network of thirteen regional offices supports, in particular, small and medium-sized enterprises through the agency's offer of relevant programmes. Assistance with harmonisation of the business environment also plays an important role. For the regional offices, 2016 was a crucial year.

In June 2016, CzechInvest's Structural Funds Division was detached from the agency and the separate Enterprise and Innovation Agency (EIA) was established. Administration of the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation for Competitiveness came under the purview of the EIA.

The main topics in which the regional offices engage include, for example, brownfield regeneration, support for start-ups and establishment of relations between companies and research organisations and support for building up the skilled workforce.

## Significant events in the regions

### HR point

In cooperation with the AfterCare Department, the regional offices prepared a new concept of meetings of personnel specialists under the name HR Point. Workshops were attended by representatives of 122 major companies operating primarily in the manufacturing, IT and shared-services sectors. HR Point gave the attending personnel specialists a lot to think about. The most discussed topics included employee retention and employment of disadvantaged groups, convicts, mothers on parental leave and persons over the age of fifty. Participants expressed interest in tools for retaining employees, company benefits, branding and the work environment.

### Support for the skilled workforce and technical education

In 2016, the regional offices organised twenty excursions of elementary and secondary school students to local companies. The students visited, for example, RAYMOND JABLONEC, KSM Castings CZ, Magna Exteriors, MSV SYSTEMS CZ, ABB and SAUER ŽANDOV. Excursions on such a scale were made possible thanks to cooperation with the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic.



### Investment Week

CzechInvest held the third annual Investment Week event from 13 to 17 June 2016. The aims of the event were to enhance cooperation between investors, both foreign and domestic, and the state and to identify current and potential weaknesses of the Czech investment environment in areas such as the skilled workforce, investment incentives and the visa system, and discussions on possible ways to resolve those issues. The regional offices conducted 28 events, workshops, seminars and excursions in connection with Investment Week.

### City for Business

The ninth edition of the City for Business competition, which is organised by the company Communa, began in December 2016. Competing towns, cities and associations of towns could register in the new Region Attractive for Investment category announced by CzechInvest. The aspects evaluated within this category include the approach of local authorities to companies and the preparedness of the given location's business environment for new private investments.



## Support for start-ups

CzechInvest has been focused on supporting newly established technology companies and developing the start-up ecosystem in the Czech Republic since 2010, when it launched a pilot programme to support start-ups.

The CzechAccelerator project, which helped Czech start-ups to succeed in developed foreign markets, was initiated in 2011. The CzechEkoSystem project aimed at helping the development of Czech micro-enterprises through donated consulting and mentoring began the following year. In April 2016, the Ministry of Industry and

Trade approved projects to support start-ups by issuing a decision on provision of aid from OPEIC. At the end of the year, the first call was issued within the CzechDemo programme, which supports the participation of Czech firms in international events. Start-ups could thus attend the prestigious TechCrunch Disrupt in London and CES in Las Vegas. In addition to working on internal projects for the support of start-ups, in 2016 CzechInvest worked on expanding the existing CzechLink project, specifically the CzechLink Start platform, which has the

purposes of connecting start-ups seeking investors with investors considering venture-capital investments.

In 2016, CzechInvest also took part in a number of events focusing on support and development of the Czech start-up ecosystem such as CES Unveiled Prague, Startup Summit 2015, Startup Harvest Ostrava 2016, Investment & Business Forum Ostrava, FUN Prague, Prague Entrepreneurship Week Summit and FestUp Ústí nad Labem.



### CzechDemo project

The CzechDemo project is focused on support for the participation of small and medium-sized enterprises in international events, where such firms receive an opportunity to present their products and services and attract the interest of investors. A total of CZK 12 million will be divided among the participating companies. The first call for participation in the CzechDemo project was issued in August 2016. The call offered small and medium-sized companies the possibility to participate in three international events – CES 2017 in Las Vegas, Slush 2016 in Helsinki and TechCrunch Disrupt 2016 in London – under favourable conditions.

With CzechInvest's support, a total of four companies exhibited at TechCrunch Disrupt in London and four at CES in Las Vegas. The companies selected to attend CES in Las Vegas also took part in CES Unveiled, which was held in Prague in October 2016.



### CzechStartups.org

Czechstartups.org is the first official web portal covering the Czech start-up scene, providing important information in one place. The website was launched in autumn 2015 as a partnership project of CzechInvest in cooperation with IBM Česká republika, the Czech ICT Alliance, the Association of Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises and Crafts of the Czech Republic and Rockaway Capital. In autumn 2016, the website took on a new form and became fully responsive for mobile devices. The project was supported by more than 25 partners in 2016 and dozens of events were organised or co-organised.

## Cooperation within the V4

Official cooperation between the countries of the Visegrád Four in the area of support for start-ups commenced in 2015 with the signing of a memorandum. Within this cooperation, working groups under the name V4 Innovation Task Force met in June and October 2016. Representatives of the V4 members dealt with issues including regional cooperation in the area of innovation and start-ups and determination of the common interests of the V4.

Of no less importance, CzechInvest actively cooperated with the Aspen Institute on the formulation of a study titled Czech Start-Ups 2016, which was published in autumn 2016. The study was the first to map the start-up environment in the Czech Republic.

## ESA BIC Prague programme



### business incubation centre

Prague

The ESA BIC Prague programme operates an incubation centre to support start-up companies focused on using space technologies and systems in everyday life. The incubated companies can receive funding in the amount of up to EUR 50,000 over a five-year period. The ESA Business Incubation Centre in Prague contributes to increasing the competitiveness of the Czech Republic, support for the development and growth of start-up companies, increasing employment and support for the development of products with high value added. Incubation in the ESA BIC Prague programme includes support in the form of discounted office rent and discounted consulting services, training, retraining and other services. Another advantage of the incubator is sharing of premises and overall facilities, which improves collaboration and communication between the incubated firms. Incubation and rental agreements are concluded for a maximum of two years, the most critical period for newly established firms.

#### Sources of financing:

- + European Space Agency: EUR 825,000
- + City of Prague: EUR 825,000
- + Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic: CZK 25,881,348

The first six innovative companies were selected for incubation in December 2016.

#### FESTKA

Manufacturer of state-of-the-art bicycles focused on hand-crafted production and technological innovation.

#### TRIPHOOD

A mobile application that tells original stories on trips and excursions. The stories are intended especially to encourage children accustomed to spending their free time in front of the television or computer to rather spend time outdoors.

#### NG AVIATION

This company has the objective of introducing new, state-of-the-art solutions to the field of digitisation of aeronautical data. NG Aviation offers a portfolio of products under the name AIME (Aeronautical Information Management Environment), which contains three solutions in a single package.

#### TUDDYTUDDY

An application for mobile devices that connects well-informed local residents and guides with visitors.

#### BIG TERRA

This company is bringing out the latest advances in managing African agriculture, combining satellite data, meteorological stations and numeric weather models in order to provide farmers with a single space for data supporting their decision-making in the context of managing their agricultural activities.

#### INSIGHTART

This firm offers a globally unique, state-of-the-art spectral x-ray technology in the area of inspecting and verifying artworks. The solution provides information on the composition of pigments in paintings and thus offers unprecedentedly detailed information on scanned images.

# Foreign activities

CzechInvest's Foreign Operations Division is focused on identifying new potential investments in selected territories and sectors. The division is divided into two departments, namely the Foreign Offices Department including seven foreign offices (two in the United States and one each in Great Britain, Germany, China, South Korea and Japan; the region of Scandinavia is covered by the Prague headquarters) and the Project Generation Department, which is tasked with attracting foreign investors in the sectors of life sciences, ICT, clean technologies, the automotive industry,

aerospace, nanotechnology and new materials, mechanical engineering and electronics and electrical engineering. Employees in the Project Generation Department also conduct awareness-raising activities in the area of new research and technological trends, e.g. Industry 4.0 and smart cities, support cooperation between Czech and foreign science and research institutes and prepare informational materials for investors. The key tasks of the Foreign Operations Division include monitoring of new sectoral and territorial trends and, on the basis of acquired data, attracting investment

projects that can bring to the Czech economy high-skilled jobs and international cooperation in the field of science and technology, resulting in the country's increased economic competitiveness. In cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, CzechInvest's sector specialists arranged 45 marketing events abroad in 2016. CzechInvest's foreign representatives also closely cooperated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs within the Project to Support Economic Diplomacy and with the embassies and consulates of the Czech Republic in the given destinations abroad.

## Significant events abroad

### Tokyo

**Key sectors:** automotive industry, mechanical engineering and electronics, nanotechnology, aerospace industry, energy and clean technologies

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** Electric Vehicle and Plug-in Hybrid Vehicle Exhibition 2016 in Tokyo, Japan International Machine Tool Fair 2016, Techno Frontier 2016, NanoTech 2016 in Tokyo, Nanomaterials for Industrial Use, Japan Aerospace 2016, World Smart Energy Week 2016

### London

**Key sectors:** BSS and shared services, mechanical engineering and electronics, aerospace industry

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** SUBCON, Farnborough International Airshow, EUROPE AFTER BREXIT

### Seoul

**Key sectors:** automotive industry, ICT, energy and clean technologies

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** KOAA Show, Korea Electronics Show, Nano Korea Exhibition, G-Star, Seoul International Electric Fair and Energy Korea and roadshow

### Düsseldorf

**Key sectors:** mechanical engineering, life sciences, automotive industry

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** CeBIT, IHK Neuss, HANNOVER MESSE, MipTec

### New York

**Key sectors:** aerospace industry, nanotechnology, ICT

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** SAE, TechCrunch Disrupt NY, IMTS

### San Francisco

**Key sectors:** ICT, energy and clean technologies

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** BIO Convention, TechCrunch Disrupt

### Shanghai

**Key sectors:** automotive industry, mechanical engineering and electronics, energy and clean technologies

**Selection of events attended in 2016:** Czech Republic: Your Gateway to the European Market and Innovation, ChinaJoy Digital Conference and Expo



## Support for research and development

In 2016, the Research, Development and Innovation Support Department conducted six technology missions:



In the course of the Industry 4.0 in Practice conferences held in Brno, Plzeň, Ostrava and Liberec, attendees were familiarised with the main characteristics of the nascent fourth industrial revolution. Conference participants learned how

the principles of Industry 4.0 are being applied in practice today and the direction of research and development in this area. The new [czech-research.com](http://czech-research.com) web portal was launched at the end of 2016. The portal is

a unique guidepost with clear information on Czech research and development for foreign interested parties.



# Marketing and communication

## CzechInvest and the media

CzechInvest issued a total of 19 press releases in 2016. The prevailing topics of the press releases comprised news pertaining to the Czech investment environment, particular investment projects of Czech and foreign firms, and support for start-up companies.

Over the course of 2016, the Communication Department replied to a total of 193 enquiries from the media. Journalists from national and regional television, print, radio and online media were interested primarily in current information on investment incentives, business properties,

brownfields and industrial zones. CzechInvest's projects, especially support for start-ups, comprised another significant topic in the media.

## CzechInvest and the media in 2016



press releases



media enquiries

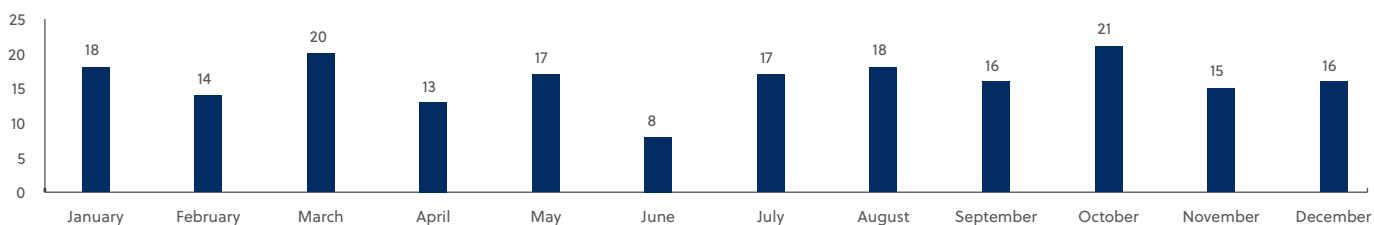


media outputs

## Overview of press releases issued in 2016

date	title
11 Feb. 2016	CzechInvest anticipates billion-crown investments from China
24 Feb. 2016	Fourth industrial revolution is at hand
26 Feb. 2016	CzechInvest arranged investments worth CZK 45 billion in 2015
3 Mar. 2016	CzechInvest's Green Information Line had busiest year in its history in 2015
4 Apr. 2016	CzechInvest takes aim at American automotive giants
14 Apr. 2016	fDi Intelligence magazine ranks Prague in top 25 European regions of the future
9 May 2016	Prague has first space incubator
9 June 2016	CzechInvest welcomes students to manufacturing firms
15 Aug. 2016	Johnson & Johnson expanding its Prague centre
16 Aug. 2016	Prague space incubator opens its doors to Czech firms
23 Aug. 2016	Drawn-out permit process repels investors
30 Aug. 2016	CzechDemo project sends Czech start-ups to prestigious foreign events
26 Sep. 2015	Czech mechanical engineering at the threshold of change
25 Oct. 2016	Investors of the Year 2015 are INA Lanškroun, FNZ and Honeywell
25 Nov. 2016	Investors gladly expanding in the Czech Republic, where they have good conditions
1 Dec. 2016	Czech start-ups attend TechCrunch Disrupt 2016
14 Dec. 2016	Prague's space incubator receives its first six start-ups
15 Dec. 2016	Czech research and development has a unique web gateway
22 Dec. 2016	Four Czech start-ups will seek investors for their projects in Las Vegas

## Media enquiries in 2016 in figures



## Marketing events

The Marketing Department arranged 556 events across all activities of CzechInvest in the Czech Republic and abroad.

### Sixteenth annual Investor and Business Property of the Year competition



CzechInvest announced the winners of the Investor and Business Property of the Year 2015 competition at Slovanský dům on Tuesday, 25 October 2016. Awards were presented to eleven major investors and business properties. Two special prizes were presented by the Association for Foreign Investment, the professional partner of the competition. The competition was held under the auspices of the then-Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic, Jan Mládek, who personally presented the first-place award in the Manufacturing category to representatives of the company INA Lanškroun. FNZ (Czechia) emerged as the winner in the IT and Shared Services category. First place in the Research and Development category was awarded to Honeywell, which had opened new research and development laboratories in Brno. Business Property of the Year awards were presented in two categories. The Svitavy – Paprsek Industrial Zone was named the Industrial Zone of the Year 2015. Penta Investments' Waltrovka project won the award for Property of the Year 2015 for Technology Centres. The AFI Prize for Significant Achievement in the Area of Investments was awarded to Konica Minolta Business Solutions Czech and the AFI Prize for Long-Term Contribution to the Investment Environment of the Czech Republic was presented to Jan Amos Havelka, one of the founders of CzechInvest.

### CzechInvest at the 2016 International Engineering Fair

The 58th edition of the International Engineering Fair took place at the Brno exhibition grounds at the beginning of October 2016. The event was attended by representatives of CzechInvest, including the agency's CEO, Karel Kučera, who appeared at the Czech-Chinese Business Forum organised by the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic and the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic. Mr. Kucera spoke about Chinese investments in the Czech Republic and opportunities that the Czech market offers for Chinese investors. In connection with the trade fair, CzechInvest held three seminars on investment incentives, acquisitions and joint-venture partnerships and European subsidies.



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