

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

December 2011

Headline News

- The firm **Edwards** was named the 2010 Investor of the Year in the category Top Innovation Potential, for its Teal R&D Edwards research and development centre in the production facility in Lutín, Olomouc Region. **Brembo Czech** was the winner in the Processing Industry category with its new factory for the casting, processing and assembly of brake plates and other aluminium components in Ostrava-Hrabova. The results were announced by the CzechInvest agency in cooperation with the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Association for Foreign Investments – AFI. **NetSuite Czech Republic** won the Investor of the Year 2010 award in the category of IT and Strategic Services for its project in Brno, where one of the most important NetSuite Centres in the world is planned. The centre should offer work to up to 130 professionals, primarily software developers and quality assurance specialists.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 2

Business

- A representative of plastic auto parts manufacturer **Johnson Controls**, Miloslav Šponer, and Usti Region Hetwoman Jana Vanhova, signed on Thursday 27 October a contract for the rental and

subsequent purchase of lots in Strategic Industrial Zone Triangle. This plan will provide the company with jobs for 480 people by the end of 2014 in addition to the original 150 that were guaranteed prior to the expansion.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 1

The firm **Branaldi** put into operation a production, warehouse and distribution centre in Chrastava in November. The company's director, Eva Drozenova, has stated that the firm has over 100 employees now. Branaldi has already invested over EUR 9 mln (almost CZK 230 mln) into its production premises and technologies this year, with contribution from the EU fund for business development.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 30

- Czech carmaker **Skoda Auto** has completed the first phase of the expansion of the logistic centre for original parts and accessories in Mlada Boleslav. The centre is a part of a CZK 800 mln project by Skoda Auto. The carmaker has informed that a new dispatch line has been put into test operation in the new Skoda Parts Centre hall. An automated vertical warehouse will be built in the second phase in 2012.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 2

- The Moravia-Silesia Region has approved the environmental

impact assessment of the plans of **Hanwha L&C Czech**, which manufactures plastic parts for the automobile industry, to increase its production at industrial zone Chlebovice near Frydek-Mistek.

Existing production will be increased by 3,450 tons/year thanks to the installation of two reactors; 6 GMT presses will also be installed. Construction should commence on 1 January 2012 and be completed on 1 December 2012. The employee base totals 120.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 8

- On Monday November 14, the municipal council of the town of Kolin approved the sale of 6.6 hectares of land (66,000 sq m) to **Panattoni Czech Republic Development**, a company building logistics and technology parks. Jirina Holubova, a spokeswoman for the Kolin Municipal Authority, told CIA that one of the options includes commencement of automotive industry production. The company has several bidders, but declined to publish any details.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 16

- The Central Bohemia regional authority has approved the environmental impact assessment of **CTP Invest's** plan to build an administrative and logistics park with light production in the Mlada Boleslav district. The project includes the construction of six halls. The

buildings will be used to store finished products prior to their shipping to final customers and also partially for light production. Roughly 500 new jobs should be created on site.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 3

- The intention of Continental **HT Tyres** to build a superstructure to its current hall in Otrokovice and extend the production has passed the environmental impact assessment by the Environment Ministry of the Czech Republic. The production will grow from current 3.4 million units a year by 864,000 units thanks to the project. The construction will likely be commenced in November and completed in June 2012.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 24

R&D

- The business incubator of the **Palacky University's Science and Technology Park in Olomouc** was named the business property of the year in the category High-tech Property of the Year. There are 27 companies in the fully occupied incubator now. South Moravian Innovation Centre's Innovation Park ranked second and PFM-Group's Forum Business Centre placed third. The results were announced by the CzechInvest agency in cooperation with the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the Association for Foreign Investments - AFI.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 2

- On Thursday November 10, a **Scientific and Technical Park** opened in Roztoky u Prahy, established to research and develop combustion engines and alternatively fuelled engines for carmakers. Over CZK 140 mln from the Prosperity programme went to the construction of the energy-saving building and its equipment. This information has been provided by CzechInvest, adding that some 150 skilled employees will find work in the park with a utility area of 4,200 sq m.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 10

- The Karlovy Vary Region is getting ready to build a **science-technology park in Karlovy Vary**. Costs are expected to reach CZK 300 mln. The Ministry of Industry and Trade approved a subsidy application this year. According to Deputy Hetman Petr Navratil, construction should commence this year and be completed at the start of 2014. The park will consist of four interconnected two-storey buildings with an area of roughly 5,200 sq m.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 8

- The Prague Magistrate has approved the plan for the construction of the **Horni Lada Technology Park** in Prague-Kyje within the environmental impact assessment (EIA). The facility consists of two zones on almost 20 ha of land – the exhibition zone and the technology zone. As CIA has previously informed, the costs are estimated at ca. CZK 2 bln. The project will consist of 20 buildings. The city will apply for a subsidy from the EU.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 30

Economy

- The outflow of **foreign direct investments** (FDI) totalled CZK 14.4 bln in H1 2011, down 16.3% y/y. The largest portion of financial resources went abroad through reinvested profits (CZK 10.1 bln) and other capital (CZK 4 bln). Domestic entities invested CZK 300 mln into basic capital abroad. This stems from the analysis of the economy's development by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 16

CzechInvest

- **Czech-Taiwanese Technology Days** about the connection between information technologies and biotechnologies and the potential and safety of nuclear energy took place in Tainan and Taipei in Taiwan on 8 through 11 November. In the first half of the year every second project brokered by agency **CzechInvest**, worth a total of CZK 16.3 bln, involved ICT.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 15

- **Czech-Chinese Technology Days** which was held in cities Guangzhou and Shenzhen in province Guangdong from November 21-23, 2011 was mainly focusing on R&D, innovation and biotechnology. The Czech delegation visited Guangzhou Science and Technology Parks, South China Center for Innovative Pharmaceuticals, Guangzhou Institute of Biomedicine and Health - Chinese Academy of Science, Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology etc.

Source: **CzechInvest**, Nov 30

- **CzechInvest** agency adheres to the ISO 9001 and ISO 27001 and protects entrepreneurs' and investors' sensitive data, according to an audit carried out by Quality Austria. The agency's general director, Miroslav Krizek, has stated that if a company's investment intention was revealed, it might decide to invest elsewhere in the end. The Czech Republic might thus lose a valuable source of income and new jobs, Krizek argues.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 3

- Agency **CzechInvest** plans to introduce principles of special economic zones (SPZ) also to some current industrial zones in the framework of a new strategy to support Strategic Industrial Areas, CzechInvest CEO Miroslav Krizek said. This will likely cause a faster occupation of such areas. Mr. Krizek said in an interview for ČIA that a support of an inflow of complementary investments, i.e. investments with a higher value added, was another key activity in the area occupation.

Source: **ČIA**, Nov 4

Exchange Rates
Averages for November 2011
EUR 1 = CZK 25.453
GBP 1 = CZK 29.680
USD 1 = CZK 18.775



Source: Česká informační agentura, s.r.o.
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