

CzechInvest Newsletter

December 2013



Headline News

- The Czech Republic has won third place in a competition focused on investment destinations of the future in Shanghai. The results of the competition organised by the magazine **Site Selection** and the **FDI Association** were announced by an international jury during the World Forum for Foreign Direct Investment 2013. The awards ceremony was held on 13 November 2013 at the Le Royal Meridien hotel in Shanghai.

Source: CzechInvest, Nov 15

Business & Investment

- The food company **Mondelez International** has announced its intention to expand production at its plant in Opava. The company is investing more than CZK 2 billion in tripling the plant's capacity and plans to hire at least 200 new employees. The company will produce Oreo and belVita biscuits here. Mondelez International will launch new production lines at the highest technological level in the second half of 2015. The products that will be produced here are intended primarily for the European market. Ingredients for production will be acquired from Czech suppliers.

Source: CzechInvest, Nov 19

- TTC** and **IBM** are readying the implementation documentation for the building of the data centre in Prague-Malesice. The information was provided to CIA by TTC Telekomunikace's executive director Radek Majer. The company will pick the provider in early 2014 and start the building work in March 2014. According to R. Majer, the budget for the centre's building totals CZK 800 mln. TTC plans to hand the facility over to first customers on September 1, 2014.

Source: CIA, Nov 14

- Engineering group **ZKL** plans to introduce the production of roller bearings in its plant in Klasterec nad Ohri in the first half of 2015. The investment will total almost CZK 150 mln and will create up to 16 new jobs. The project will be funded from the company's own sources and from subsidies from the Innovation and Real Property programmes managed by the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

Source: CIA, Nov 26

- Development of the automotive industry was recently the topic of discussion at conferences in Brno and Rožtoky u Prahy. The tenth annual conference titled Anticipated Development of the Automotive Industry in the Czech Republic and Central Europe was held in Brno on 23 October 2013. The conference was focused on issues pertaining to the current situation in the automotive sector and the anticipated development thereof. During the last two days of October, the **Czech Automotive Society**, in cooperation with the **Faculty of Engineering of the Czech Technical University in Prague** and the **NGV Association**, organised the AutoSympo conference in Rožtoky u Prahy, which was focused on the development of the automotive industry in the area of green mobility.

Source: CzechInvest, Nov 7

- Centrum ICT sluzeb** has asked for the environmental impact assessment for its intention to build a data centre in the industrial area of the city of Pardubice. The new data centre will likely be divided into two sections – a section with a silent administrative operation and the technology section. The construction will likely begin in the spring 2014 and end in the spring 2015.

Source: CIA, Oct 28

- In November 2013 **Halla Visteon Climate Control Corp.** (HVCC) ceremoniously opened a new production facility in its **manufacturing plant** in Hluk, thus increasing the plant's capacity for manufacturing exhaust-gas recirculation coolers and radiators for European carmakers by roughly 20%, thereby further strengthening HVCC's position in Europe. With approximately 430 employees, the plant in Hluk manufactures radiators, EGR coolers, condensers and intercoolers for global vehicle manufacturers. According to expectations, the number of employees should rise with the addition of roughly 140 workers over the course of next year, when the plant will begin full operation.

Source: CzechInvest, Nov 7

- Olomouc Magistrate has issued a zoning verdict. The firm **Moravinvest CZ** has applied for a zoning verdict for the Pavlovická Brownfields Revitalisation project.

Source: CIA, Nov 13

- Rychnov nad Kneznou Municipal Office has opened a zoning proceeding. The firm **Accolade** has applied for a zoning verdict for the planned Lipuvka industrial complex.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 19

- The regional authority of Kralovehradecky Region has permitted the intention of **Skoda Auto** to extend the production of transmissions in its Vrchlabi-based factory. The intention represents a construction of a new hall for the engineering production. The daily capacity of the production will reach 4,000 units. The company will also raise the storage capacity by 110 tonnes.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 21

R&D

- The firm **4MEDI – Centrum Bunecne Terapie a Diagnostiky** (Cell Therapy and Diagnostics Centre) has invested CZK 250 mln into the Ostrava Centre for Development, Testing and Assessment of Risk of New Materials. According to the company's board of directors member, Jakub Schurek, some of the most modern biotechnology laboratories in the world for the research and development of human cells, tissues, genes and new therapeutic materials will thus be built.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 19

- **MANN+HUMMEL** has opened a new development centre with a testing laboratory in Nova Ves in the Vysocina region. The new facility is the first and only development-testing laboratory for air and fluid filters in the Czech Republic. During the grand opening, Markus Kolczyk, a representative of MANN+HUMMEL, emphasise that the investment in the development centre with a testing laboratory in Nova Ves can be explained as an expression of trust of the company's owners and management in the abilities of their Czech colleague staff.

Source: *CzechInvest*, Nov 25

- **Microsoft** has in cooperation with **WBI** opened the third Microsoft innovation center in Prague. WBI's aim is to connect existing incubation activities and sources and to use special acceleration programs to help the competitiveness of Czech startups. Together with other partners, namely the University of Economics in Prague, the University of Western Bohemia in Pizen, accelerator StartupYard, technical support provider TechSquare and educational institution iCollege, the new Microsoft innovation center will offer startups and students technical support, space, consultations and training.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 5

- The firms **Dorylea** and **Podzimek a Synove** will complete the building work on Jihlava Technology Park for the CGMC cooperative. The contract is worth CZK 172.7 mln.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 12

- The firm **Tescan** has developed a new nanotechnology device within the **FiblyS** and **UnivSEM** projects. The innovation involves the utilisation of a single device for a wide range of processes that have previously required the usage of separate devices. The device may be used e.g. for microscopic display of readied materials, using

atom and electron microscopes, material analyses, material manipulation and modification and formation of new structures.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 1

Economy

- The **Ministry for Regional Development** paid out CZK 8.3 bln from European funds to applicants in the past month; the volume of certified expenditures increased by CZK 14.5 bln.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 12

CzechInvest

- CzechInvest's regional offices in Brno and Olomouc recently took part in the **British Days** event, whose objective is to bring Czech businesses together with partners from the United Kingdom. The first meeting took place on 20 November in Olomouc, followed by a related seminar in Brno on 21 November. Each segment of the event was attended by fifty interested parties. The British Chamber of Commerce is gradually planning to visit all regions of the Czech Republic.

Source: *CzechInvest*, Nov 22

- There are currently 44 **CzechInvest** and **CzechTrade** offices in various countries of the world, instead of 32. There will be totally 56 offices by the end of the year, with further branches under preparation. This was stated by Zdenek Valis, the director of the Ministry of Industry and Trade's foreign trade section, appointed to lead CzechTrade, within the accompanying events of the Exporter of the Year competition, held by Middle Entrepreneurial Association. The goal of the government's new export strategy is to provide quality and faster services on international markets. This should benefit from the integration of CzechInvest's and CzechTrade's foreign offices.

Source: **CIA**, Nov 21

- Representatives of the **Czech Export Bank**, the **Export Guarantee and Insurance Corporation** and **CzechInvest** recently travelled to Brazil to meet with the heads of the Central Bank (BANESTES) and Development Bank (BANDES) of the Brazilian state of Espirito Santo. According to representatives of the Brazilian banks, Czech firms could find opportunities in agriculture, manufacturing, mining and granite quarrying, mechanical engineering, the foundry industry, port equipment and the paper industry in Brazil. Because the Czech Republic and Brazil have a similar approach in terms of the sectors on which the two countries focus, there are possibilities for cooperation in the area of joint ventures.

Source: *CzechInvest*, Nov 25

Exchange Rates

Averages for November 2013

EUR 1 = CZK 26,925

GBP 1 = CZK 32,140

USD 1 = CZK 19,955



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

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