

CzechInvest Newsletter

July 2014



Headline News

• **CzechInvest** recently organised the first annual **Investment Week** event, which took place from 16 to 20 June 2014 and was focused on supporting the investment environment in the Czech Republic. The purpose of the event was to strengthen cooperation between the state and particular investors, and to actively resolve their problems. The week's activities included meetings of businesspeople and excursions of secondary-school students to the factories of major firms operating in the Czech Republic, by means of which CzechInvest intended to give young people insight into their future on the local labour market. An all-day conference on the topic of investment support in the Czech Republic was held at Zofin Palace in Prague on Wednesday, 18 June, with Prime Minister Bohuslav Sobotka in attendance. That evening, CzechInvest and the Association for Foreign Investment announced the winners of the Investor and Business Property of the Year awards for 2013.

Source: *CzechInvest*, June 20

Business & Investment

• The South Korean firm **Nexen Tire** signed an agreement with the Czech government on an investment in a factory in the Triangle industrial zone near Zatec in the Usti region. With a total volume of CZK 23 bn, the project is the third-biggest greenfield investment undertaken in the modern history of the Czech Republic. About 1000 people should find direct employment at the new factory in the first phase of the project, with supplier firms possibly adding more jobs as well.

Source: *CzechInvest*, June 25

• The company **Bosch** in Czech Republic opened its extended Bosch Service Center – Power Tool in Mikulov on June 4, 2014. The volume of investment related with the project totalled EUR 5 mln (CZK 137.25 mln). According to the company, the service centre employs 100 people and other job positions will follow. According to the company, the centre is exceptional for serving markets in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Austria, and partially Germany.

Source: *CIA*, June 3

• **German Ideal Automotive**, a producer of inner fillings for cars, has opened a new factory covering 16,000 m² in the industrial area Ostrov u Stribra. According to factory manager Vit Cerny, the factory will launch the full operation in 2015. It will likely employ about 400 people working at 13 production lines by then. The factory will manufacture primarily components for car trunks. According to Mr. Cerny, the factory will employ 120 people by August 2014. They will work at three production lines.

Source: *CIA*, June 18

• Malaysian firm **Aspirasi Pertiwi SDN BHD** with invest USD 200 mln in the Czech aircraft manufacturer, **Evektor**. Evektor's Marketing Manager Petr Grebenicek added that the investment aimed to complete certification of the EV-55 Outback aircraft, to build a global sales network and to launch the machine on the market.

Source: *CIA*, June 27

R&D

• The **Vysocina Science and Technology Park** in Jihlava was ceremoniously opened on Wednesday, 4 June 2014. The facility enables research and development in the areas of technology, power generation, reduction of energy intensity, materials engineering and use of biomass. The STP project was co-financed by the Operational Programme Enterprise and Innovation 2007-2013, which is administrated by CzechInvest.

Source: *CzechInvest*, June 6

• A separate research-centre facility focused on new technologies for power plants and development of sensors for use in medical and military applications is being established in the Pilsen region. The **Regional Innovation Centre of Electrical Engineering**, which is part of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen, will take delivery of the new facility in March 2015. A ribbon-cutting ceremony on 11 June 2014 signalled the upcoming completion of the facility, which will employ 160 researchers.

Source: *CzechInvest*, June 13

- Joint projects carried out by entities in the research and application spheres are competing for **Cooperation of the Year** awards and the **Prize of the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic**. The competition is being organised by the Association for Foreign Investment, the American Chamber of Commerce in the Czech Republic and Czech Innovation in cooperation with the Technology Agency of the Czech Republic. CzechInvest is a partner of the event. The competition recognises joint projects that lead to innovations and successful transfers of technologies and knowledge. The grand-prize winner will receive a financial award in the amount of CZK 100,000. Other awards include tangible prizes and subsequent promotion of the best projects.

Source: CzechInvest, June 26

- **Nupharo** began construction of the first phase of its technology and innovation campus on 3 May 2014 in Zdarek, which is near the town of Libouchec in the Usti region. The multipurpose complex, which is focused on new technologies in the field of power generation, will be opened in June 2015 and will offer 16,000 m² of space for commercial use in its first phase. Future users will have access to facilities for development, testing, production and storage of their products, as well as spaces for international conferences and cultural and creative activities. Up to 800 jobs may be created here. The structure combines passive-building technologies according to modern ecological standards with active-building technologies. It is designed to be maximally self-sufficient and sustainable, as it utilises, for example, an island system for water treatment, heat pumps and dual AC/DC power distribution.

Source: CzechInvest, June 4

Events

- **China's ambassador** to the Czech Republic, **Ma Keqing**, visited strategic industrial zones in Nosovice and Ostrava-Mosnov and met with Miroslav Novak, governor of the Moravia-Silesia region, on 3 June 2014. Ambassador Ma was accompanied by representatives of the Ministry of Industry and Trade and Ondrej Votruba, CEO of CzechInvest. Chinese companies have invested CZK 1.5 bn in the Czech Republic since 1993. Though it is the world's most populous country, China does not currently rank among the traditional investors in the Czech Republic. However, the current Czech government is interested in strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries.

Source: CzechInvest, June 3

- Czech start-ups presented themselves to potential American partners during the **Czech Enterprise Demo Day** event held at the Bohemian National Hall in New York on 3 June 2014. Six Czech ICT firms met with representatives of major American corporations including Capital One, CitiBank, Credit Suisse and CzechInvest, which was one of the organisers of the conference, presented the investment potential of the ICT sector in the Czech Republic.

Source: CzechInvest, June 10

- On 6 June 2014 a delegation of Taiwanese businesspeople visited the Vysocina regions, where they discussed possibilities of cooperation in the areas of logistics and IT. The region presented to the delegation its activities in these fields and facilitated business meetings between representatives of regional firms and the Taiwanese guests.

The visit was organised by the **Chinese International Economic Cooperation Association**, which promotes Taiwanese businesses abroad.

Source: CzechInvest, June 13

- **CzechInvest** presented possibilities of investing in the Czech Republic at a seminar held in Brussels on 11 June 2014. Besides investment incentives, which investors in the Czech Republic can obtain not only for manufacturing investments, but also for projects involving business support services and technology centres, CzechInvest also presented the **CzechLink**, a project that helps Czech companies find strategic partners, thus offering foreign investors the possibility of capital entry into Czech firms. The seminar took place on the premises of the CzechTrade agency in Brussels.

Source: CzechInvest, June 13

- Hundreds of representatives of Czech and British firms met during the **British Day** event held in Ostrava on 12 June 2014. The event was organised by the British Chamber of Commerce in cooperation with the Municipal Authority of Ostrava, the Moravia-Silesia region and other partners. The purpose of British Day was to bring together businesspeople from the two countries and to help them find new business opportunities.

Source: CzechInvest, June 17

CzechInvest

- With support from the Ministry of Industry and Trade, CzechInvest recently published **Invest in the Czech Republic**, an English-language publication providing information about the Czech Republic's investment environment. Invest in the Czech Republic is available for download [here](#).

Source: CzechInvest, June 12

- CzechInvest and the embassies of the Visegrad Four countries in the Netherlands are organising the **V4 Start-ups** in the Netherlands conference, which will take place at the Erasmus Centre for Entrepreneurship in Rotterdam on 25 September 2014. The organisers want to present innovative small and medium-sized enterprises from the Visegrad Four countries in the Netherlands. Companies able to present themselves to investors, journalists and the start-up community will be selected for each country. The event is ideal for beginning firms seeking new capital, partners and contacts in the Benelux countries. Participation in the conference will be free of charge. Those interested in attending can register [here](#) to 15 September 2014. Start-ups that want to actively present themselves can register [here](#).

Source: CzechInvest, June 26

Exchange Rates

Averages for June 2014

EUR 1 = CZK 27,451

GBP 1 = CZK 34,141

USD 1 = CZK 20,196



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