

Headline News

- On Thursday 21 October **Cisco** opened its Center of Excellence in Prague. It thus added Prague to its list of five countries around the world that host a similar communications IT center. The center will offer 40 jobs; this number will increase to 80 in one year. Cisco stated that its employees will offer support to customers in 27 countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 21

Business

- On Thursday 14 October **DuPont** opened a new plant for the production of Butacite G (polyvinyl butyral (PVB) foil) in Holesov. Investment costs reached USD 14 mln (CZK 242.2 mln). According to the director of the production facility in Holesov, Jiri Malota, the plant will create 70 jobs.

- Butacite G is used to manufacture layered security glass laminates for the automobile, construction and photovoltaic industries. It is made by completely recycling PVB and represents an environmentally friendly alternative to original PVB products.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 14

- The Environment Ministry has approved from the environmental point of view the plan of the firm **Gerresheimer**

Horsovsky Tyn for the construction of a production hall in Horsovsky Tyn. The hall is designed for the production of plastic pressings, subsequent assembly of products and completing works for medicine technology. Some 140 job positions in four-shift operation will be created. The capacity of the facility foresees the processing of 2,318 tons of raw materials per year.

- The implementation of the project is scheduled to start in December 2010, completion is foreseen for November 2011. The total built-up size of the hall will reach 5,214 square meters. 61 parking places will be built.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 8

- The firm **Kermi**, which is a part of Swiss company AFG Arbonia-Forster-Holding, plans to expand the production of heating units in Stribro by 20%. A new production and dispatch hall will therefore be built. According to the company's executive, Milan Stoll, the costs of the implementation of the infrastructure will total CZK 136 mln. A total of 140 new job positions will be created within the plan.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 13

- Lego** wants to expand production at its complex in Kladno. The plan includes the construction of a functional monoblock. The production halls will create roughly 600 jobs and roughly 490 will be employed in

the administrative section. Construction should commence in the second quarter of last year; completion is scheduled for the first quarter of 2013.

- The built-up area will total 46,230 square meters. The main parts of the project will consist of four production halls, storage hall II, a warehouse and manipulation hall, and administrative buildings. A total of 320 parking spaces for cars will also be built. The Central Bohemian regional authority is currently assessing the environmental impact of the project.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 19

- The Regional Authority of the Hradec Kralove Region has given an EIA go-ahead to **KSK Bono** for the construction of a new production hall in the municipality of Hermanice. The purpose is to boost the existing canning production capacity from 10,000 to 40,000 tonnes a year. The investor estimates the costs at about CZK 108 mln.

- The implementation is expected to be launched in September and completed in December 2011.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 1

- Semmelrock Colorbeton** will invest more than EUR 8 mln (CZK 196.8 mln) into the construction of a new plant in Ledcice near Prague. It will specialize in the production of concrete tiles and other accessories to stabilize surfaces.

Production will commence next spring. The planned capacity of the plant will total 1 mln square meters.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 26

- On Tuesday 26 October **Aero Vodochody** opened its composites development and production workplace. The company is now preparing the second phase of the project, into which it wants to invest CZK 105 mln. It should be completed in April 2012. It will result in the opening of a workplace for large-scale mass production of composites on an area of 5,400 square meters.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 26

Infrastructure

- The European Investment Bank will give the **Zlín Region** a loan worth CZK 800 mln for the modernization of regional infrastructure. The EIB funds will be used in combination with EU grants primarily to finance smaller investment projects. Their aim will be to improve the quality and safety of the local road network and to modernize infrastructure in the education, social and healthcare, culture and tourism sectors.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 14

R&D

- The Energy Cluster and its subsidiary research organization **VTP AT Milovice** have completed the preparatory work on the Science and Technology Park Milovice project. The park will focus on the development, research and testing in the area of energetics and automotive industry. The investment costs total over CZK 800 mln. Construction launch is foreseen for the next year.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 15

- Based on a request filed by **VGP CZ I**, the Municipal Authority for Prague 20 has issued planning permission for the completion of stage 1 of the Industrie Park Sever project in Prague 20 - Horní Pocerňice. The project comprises four rental and logistics halls offering storage premises of the

maximum of 9,284 square meters, commercial premises of 1,070 square meters and office premises of 710 square meters. It also comprises three industrial sites with the total built-up area of 28,428 square meters. There will be 310 parking places.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 1

Culture

- Violinist Pavel Šporcl's "Tribute to Masters" tour will take place in November and December. The popular violin player will be accompanied by various ensembles and other guests.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 1

CzechInvest

- The **Investor of the Year 2009** in the Greatest Innovation Potential category was **Honeywell** for the expansion of its research and development center in Brno. Job Air Painting was the winner in the Processing Industry group for its plan to build an aircraft paint shop on the grounds of Leos Janacek Airport in Ostrava. The winners of the 10th annual competition were announced on Tuesday 26 October by agency CzechInvest, the Ministry of Industry and Trade and association AFI.

- The Investor of the Year 2009 title in the IT and Strategic Services category went to Atento Ceska Republika for opening a modern customer care center in Brno. Agrostroj Pelhrimov was the winner in the Subcontractor of the Year category for its contract with a Japanese manufacturer of professional mowers.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 26

- The most successful business property, which was created thanks to the redevelopment of an unused property in 2009, is the Frantisek Industrial Zone. Second and third place in the Brownfield category in the Business Property of the Year 2009 contest went to Ceske Budejovice's Hotel Budweis and DinoPark Ostrava. The winners of the 10th annual competition were announced on Tuesday 26 October by agency CzechInvest,

the Ministry of Industry and Trade and association AFI.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 26

On Tuesday October 19 the **CzechInvest** agency launched the **CzechLink** project officially. The aim of the project is to facilitate Czech companies' access to foreign capital. Within the project, the agency will process for free a prospectus with the analysis of the financial results of the firms that sent their applications, and will offer the prospects actively abroad and in the Czech Republic.

According to the head of CzechInvest's development department, Vit Svajcar, the agency expects demand for acquisitions and/or mergers primarily from companies from Germany, France, Japan, China, the US, UK or India. CzechInvest will aim to connect entities active in priority sectors, e.g. the aviation industry, electrotechnics and electronics, shared services, IT technologies and software development, automotive industry and engineering.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 19

- CzechInvest**, the agency for the support of business and investments, supported 200 projects successfully last year. According to director Miroslav Krizek, CzechInvest helped to create 200,000 jobs over its entire existence.

- According to Mr. Krizek, projects from the area of research and development or technologically intensive production tend to force out simple production plans and technologically undemanding projects. He says that this confirms the Czech Republic's position as a country with low administrative burden and high education rate.

Source: **CIA**, Oct 27

Exchange Rates

Averages for October 2010

EUR 1 = CZK 24.526

GBP 1 = CZK 27.973

USD 1 = CZK 17.642

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

