

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

September 2010

Headline News

- The firm **Nippon PGM Europe** will be revitalising used catalysers in its reconstructed factory in Liberec. The company would like to start the reconstruction in December 2010 and launch the production in April 2011. The company will start recruiting first employees immediately after the reconstruction of the factory. According to Nippon PGM's president PGM Masaaki Ishiguro, further recruitment will depend on the future development of the firm.
- The newly created firm Nippon PGM will be processing samples of used parts of automobile catalysers in Liberec and gain platinum metal groups from them. The platinum revitalised in Liberec will be used e.g. for the production of jewellery, electronics, in medicine or in the construction of new vehicles.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 30

Business

- The pharmaceutical company **Teva Czech Industries** launched full operation of a new plant for producing medicaments in fixed form in Opava. Construction of the plant cost approximately CZK 1.4bln and

took one year. The plant has a production capacity of four million pills per year and distribution aims exclusively into the US.

- Thanks to extension of production, the company has managed to create 350 new jobs. The company has also announced that it will invest approximately CZK 0.5bln in further enlargement of its production capacity.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 2

- **Banner trade** and **Skoda Investment** plan to build a repair plant in PZ Skoda in Plzen. The construction is to be launched in March 2011 and completed in December 2012. The project will offer 817 jobs and 210 parking places.

- The project will comprise a paint shop, handling hall, administrative building, gateway, background installations and a wash. The total built-up area will be 42,870 sq m. The Regional Authority of the Plzen Region currently assesses the project's environmental impact.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 1

- **3M** will build a new technology center in Prague's Chodov. The center will be used to develop products primarily for the automobile industry and will be able to introduce existing and

potential clients to the 3M production assortment. The investment is roughly CZK 20 mln. This information was confirmed for CIA by 3M spokesman Kamil Kolacek.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 7

- **Progress Medical**, which is part of British investment group Progress Medical UK, plans to finance Czech healthcare projects worth roughly CZK 1 bln in the coming three years. According to Progress Medical general manager and board of directors chairman Zdenek Mojzisek the company has created a consulting team. The management of Progress Medical will consult new investment opportunities on the Czech market with team members.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 30

- Italy's **Brembo** plans to invest EUR 35 mln into a new production centre in the Czech Republic in Ostrava. The new plant will comprise casting, processing and assembly of brake-pad plates and other aluminium components. For this purpose, Brembo established Brembo Czech. The expected turnover of Brembo Czech in 2014 is EUR 55 mln.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 13

- The Korean producer of steel parts for car seat, **Deachang Seat Company**, is interested in a plot in the Baliny industrial zone n Trinec. Some 450-500 new jobs should be formed in the new plant. The investment will require CZK 175-200 mln. Czech company IPVL Group is helping Deachang with the market entry. IPVL's manager Pavel Vnenk has said that the investor would like to launch production in early 2012.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 10

Infrastructure

- The Usti nad Labem Region Office plans the next phase of the **Triangle** strategic industrial zone near Zatec, which should make the so-called Stankovicky Rozptyl location accessible to small and medium-sized investors. The authority also plans to build a new wastewater treatment plant, Triangle, and expand the sewage canalisation. The total costs are foreseen at over CZK 200 mln.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 10

R&D

- The **Tomas Bata University** in Zlín will build a new building on Antoninova Street. The university has been promised a subsidy totaling CZK 754 mln from the EU for the Polymer System Center. The new facility will employ 120 experts from the Czech Republic and abroad. Construction should take 2.5 years.
- According to Tomas Bata University the actual construction costs will total CZK 420 mln, CZK 135 mln will be spent on equipment and the remainder on other items. The building's experts will primarily research medical materials, filters, and nanotechnology.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 7

- **Industry Servis ZK** plans to build a technology park within the Holesov strategic industrial zone. The estimated value of the

contract is CZK 135 mln. The contracting authority requires a security deposit of CZK 2.5 mln.

- The most economically advantageous bid will be given preference. Bidders may send in their bids by October 26. This information was published in the Public Contract Information System.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 15

Economy

- The registered **unemployment** level in August 2010 decreased by 0.1 percentage point m/m to 8.6%. The total number of job contenders decreased by 3,790 m/m to 36,567. The number of job contenders increased by 7,743 y/y. The information was provided by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 8

- **Prague** scored 70.8 points of a maximum 100 and placed second in a list of the best cities for business and life in Central and East Europe put together by Roland Berger Strategy Consultants. The first place belongs to Vienna with 89.9 points and the third place belongs to Budapest, Hungary.

Source: **CIA**, Aug 31

Culture

- Das Filmfest, the festival of German language movies, will be held in Prague and Brno. The Prague portion of the festival will take place from October 6 and 10, while in Brno the movies will be shown from October 11 until October 15.

Source: **CIA**, Sept 30

CzechInvest

- CEO of **CzechInvest** Miroslav Krizek says that 24 Taiwan investors have come to the Czech Republic over the past 20 years, planning to create more

than 17,000 jobs, mostly in production. The agency would like to change this situation in the future, e.g. through cooperation in research and development.

- Taiwan Minister and member of the National Scientific Board Lou-Chuang Lee and CzechInvest representatives, Krizek and authorised deputy CEO Alexandra Rudysarova have thus agreed on cooperation of CzechInvest and Taiwan. They want to cooperate in research and development through Czech-Taiwanese Technology Days or a programme funding cooperation of Czech and Taiwanese scientists and researchers. Research and development investments may be supported in the Czech Republic from EU structural funds.

Source: **CIA**, Sep 6

- According to Minister of Industry and Trade Martin Kocourek, the merger of **CzechInvest** and **CzechTrade** agencies is fundamental for active and efficient support of exports. The merger of the governmental agencies and the rationalisation of all tools including business diplomacy is one of the key priorities at the ministry. This information has been confirmed by Pavel Vlcek from the press department of the Ministry of Industry and Trade (MPO).

Source: **CIA**, Sep 6

Exchange Rates
Averages for September 2010
EUR 1 = CZK 24.807
GBP 1 = CZK 30.119
USD 1 = CZK 19.243

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

