

Headline News

- The Building Office has permitted the construction of another hall for gearbox production in the **Hyundai** plant in Nošovice, North Moravia. According to Hyundai Motor Manufacturing, the production in the new hall will start next year. ČIA has previously informed that the company wants to invest a total of EUR 130 mln (CZK 3.13 bln). A total of 1,350 employees will be recruited before the end of the year and the production capacity will be boosted to 300,000 cars per year.

Source: **ČIA**, Feb 25

Business&Investment

Automobile component manufacturer **Takenaka Europe** has applied for environmental impact assessment for its project for the construction of a hall in Liberec. The project should be carried out on plots owned by the firm Denso Air Systems Czech. The aim of the building project is to raise the production capacity due to higher demand from customers. The plan will be carried out on a total of 10,456 square meters. The project is currently being reviewed by the Liberec Region Office.

Source: **ČIA**, Feb 15

- The Ústí nad Labem Region Office has approved in the environmental impact assessment process the plan for the construction of **Gestamp**

Czech's production hall in the Triangle – Žatec industrial hall. The plan was announced by the firm Mediolope, involved in the rental of properties, apartments and non-residential premises. The production hall will be used for the pressing of metal parts of car components. The pressing capacity will reach 51,000 tons per year. There will be space for 250 employees.

Source: **ČIA**, Jan 28

- CTP Invest has applied for an environmental impact assessment for its plan to situate the production of **Grupo Antolin-Irausa** in hall 4 as part of the completion of building O13 in industrial zone CTPark in Ostrava-Hrabová. The facility will house the production and completion of roof upholstery filling for VW, Porsche and possibly other brand name automobile bodies. The facility should create 22 jobs in three shifts.

Source: **ČIA**, Feb 15

- On Wednesday February 3, **Industry Servis ZK** began construction of the **Progress technology park** in the Strategic Industrial Zone in Holešov. The project includes several buildings to be used by start-up businesses or innovative companies. The cost of the project will be CZK 150 mln with over CZK 112 mln provided by EU subsidies. According to the company's executive director Jakub

Černoch, the technology park could offer up to 140 jobs.

Source: **ČIA**, Feb 4

- Group **Siemens** intends to acquire other firms in the Czech Republic. According to Eduard Palíšek, the CEO of Siemens CR, the company intends to focus mainly on fields of intelligent and communication networks, the infrastructure for electric cars and technology of savings of energy in cities. Siemens also predicts a growth in the number of its employees in the Czech Republic by hundreds, according to information provided by Hospodářské noviny.

Source: **ČIA**, Feb 8

R&D

- Thanks to the **SoMoPro Regional Grant Programme** foreign researchers can come to the Czech Republic to work and undertake research training in a research institution in the South Moravian Region for the period of 1 to 3 years. The programme is administered by the South Moravian Centre for International Mobility. The budget for the period 2009-2013 is EUR 887,158.

- CzechInvest** in cooperation with the Embassy of Israel in the Czech Republic and the Czech-Israeli Mutual Chamber of Commerce are planning Hi-tech mission of Czech companies to Israel on April 27th. The discussed topics and areas of potential cooperation will be

Energy - Smart Grids, ICT and Space Technologies. Linked to this is the support for innovation and investment potentials in the Geshar/Most program aimed at providing support for projects and bilateral promotion of international cooperation between enterprises of both parties in industrial research and development.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 28

- The Faculty of Civil Engineering of Brno University of Technology (BUT) is constructing a modern **AdMaS** research centre in Brno worth CZK 818 mln. The centre focuses on research, development and application of advanced construction materials, structures and technologies not only in the field of civil engineering, but also in transport systems and town, village and landscape infrastructures. According to the BUT, the centre will create 71 new jobs in its implementation stage.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 14

- Czech transport research centre **Centrum dopravního výzkumu** (CDV) will build a new research centre, the Dopravní VaV centrum, which is presented under the brand CDV Plus, in Brno. According to information provided by CDV, the realisation will be financed from EU funds and the state budget of the Czech Republic. The total investment will reach CZK 463.1 mln. According to CDV, the project will contribute in the complex development of the transportation sector and mainly the application of results of science and research in the commercial environment.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 11

- On Tuesday 1 February Education Minister Josef Dobeš signed a decision to provide subsidies for another bundle of projects from **Operating Program Research and Development for Innovation** (VaVpl) totaling almost CZK 3 bln. The approved bundle of projects to receive funding will

according to the Education Ministry include the Regional Technical Institute attached to the University of West Bohemia in Plzeň and Centra CEBIA - Tech at the Tomáš Bata University in Zlín.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 3

- **Kertak Nanotechnology** is the only Czech firm to participate in the nano tech 2011 trade fair, which took place from 16 to 18 February 2011 in Tokyo. Kertak Nanotechnology was established in 2009 and specialises in commercial and marketing representation of Czech firms operating in the area of nanotechnology. Kertak Nanotechnology was invited to Tokyo by JETRO, the Japanese government's investment and business development agency, which turned to CzechInvest to assist it with selecting potential partners for Japanese firms in the Czech Republic.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 1

Economy

- **The Ministry of Industry and Trade** of the Czech Republic (MPO) has agreed on the coordination of its **economic diplomacy** with the business committee of the lower house of the Parliament. The memorandum signed by Czech Minister of Industry and Trade Martin Kocourek and Business Committee Chairman Milan Urban on Thursday will likely improve the support of Czech firms on foreign markets. It will likely make it easier for companies to enter new markets.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 24

Culture

- The **Český Krumlov International Music Festival** will celebrate a major anniversary - 20 years of its existence - in 2011. This occasion will be celebrated with special programme, featuring many leading artists from both the Czech and domestic

international music scene, led by three tenors.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 15

CzechInvest

- The operational programme 'Business and Innovations' (OPPI) will distribute a total of EUR 3.6 bln (CZK 85 bln) to companies active in the processing industry, centres of shared services and technology centres in the period 2007 - 2013, said **CzechInvest**, adding that subsidies may be requested by companies implementing their projects outside the territory of the City of Prague.

Source: **CIA**, Jan 31

- Last year agency **CzechInvest** attracted 209 large investments to the Czech Republic in the total value of CZK bln 16,248, announced the agency's general manager, Miroslav Křížek. Every 2nd project was in the area of services, almost 40 % companies decided to invest in the area of IT and software development. The projects are expected to create roughly 10 000 new jobs.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 15

- Ernst&Young granted the **Entrepreneur of the Year 2010** in the Czech Republic award to brothers Adam, Mariusz and Valdemar Walach of Walmark. The technology Entrepreneur of Year award came to Václav Muchna of Y Soft Corporation. The seventh award Socially Beneficial Entrepreneur of the year 2010 in the Czech Republic came to Pavel Křížek of Ochrana fauny České republiky.

Source: **CIA**, Feb 17

Exchange Rates
Averages for February 2011
EUR 1 = CZK 24.276
GBP 1 = CZK 28.683
USD 1 = CZK 17.786

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