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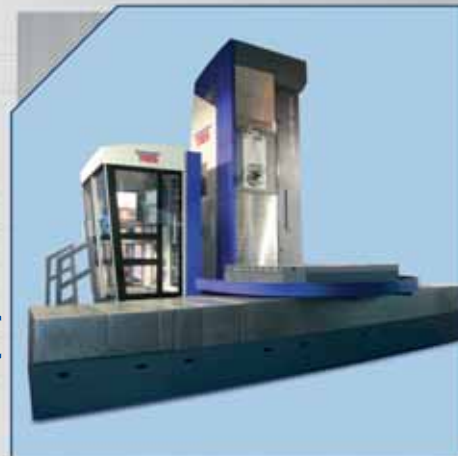
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WRD 130/150 (Q)



WHN(Q) 13/15 CNC



WHtec 130





## Czech Republic – Your Trade Partner

Compiled by the PP Agency s.r.o. in cooperation with



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Czech Republic

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic



MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE  
OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic



MINISTRY  
OF REGIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT CZ

Ministry of Regional Development of the Czech Republic



Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic



Czech Chamber of Commerce



International Chamber of Commerce in the Czech Republic



Confederation of Employers' and Entrepreneurs' Associations  
of the Czech Republic



CzechTrade – Czech Trade Promotion Agency



CzechInvest, Investment and Business Development Agency



CzechTourism – Czech Tourist Authority



Czech Centres



Centre for Regional Development of the Czech Republic

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## Crystalite Bohemia s.r.o.

The history of the glassworks at Světlá nad Sázavou goes back to 1967, when the cornerstone for the works was laid and the construction started of a new modern glassworks compound. The first mentions of glassmaking in the region date back to the end of the 16th century. This tradition, with small glassworks in the region, has been the source of highly skilled labour in the region.

Actual production in the glassworks started in 1970, relying mainly on the glassmakers' manual skills and tools. A revolutionary change occurred, when automatic machine production of blown stemware commenced there in 1975. Another important step ahead was the launching of two new smelting aggregates in 1998-2000, which put the glassworks on a level with world glass manufacturers. This innovation made it possible for the glassworks to make products sized up to 43 cm and weighing up to 6 kg.

In 2008, Sklo Bohemia a.s. closed down and reopened one year later, on 1 October 2009, as Crystalite Bohemia, s.r.o., when the Czech businessman Lubor Cerva became its new owner.

Currently the glassworks operates five smelting aggregates with a daily smelting capacity of 96 tons of molten glass made into products. This amounts to approximately 17 million pieces of machine-blown stemware and about 5.5 million pieces of giftware of exquisite design and top quality a year, all made by environmentally friendly processing.

The glassworks exports its products to clients in 52 destinations all over the world.

## Květná Glassworks

The glassworks was founded by Duke Aloysius of Lichtenstein in 1794 and its two furnaces started production in 1795. Květná works became part of Crystalite Bohemia s.r.o. in 2011. The glassworks specialises in handmade items, which also include stained glass pieces. The Květná glassworks also decorates both hand-made pieces and items made on automatic production lines at Světlá.





Prague – Wenceslas Square – Statue of St Wenceslas



Prague – Lesser Quarter Bridge Tower

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Anecdotal evidence shows that there has been a lot of Czech-Indonesian interaction in the past: every Indonesian knows Bata shoes and most consider it a local brand. Bohemia crystal and chandeliers, Petrof pianos and Škoda turbines are not unknown to the Indonesians either, although their customer base has been, logically, a bit more exclusive than that of the footwear.

There have been truly remarkable chapters in the history of the relations between our two nations: the “Bata” chapter started in 1930 with the arrival of a Czech manager entrusted to rent premises for shoe shops. A year later, local production commenced. Tomáš Baťa, founder of the company, visited Indonesia the following year, confirming the overall strategy, and by the end of the decade a community of some 40 Czechs were living and working for Bata in Indonesia. Another outstanding story is that of about 250 Indonesian students who graduated at Czech universities in the 1960s. Some of them later made it to prominent posts in business or government service, many brought their Czech wives to Indonesia, some adopted Czechoslovakia as their new home.

Nowadays, it is encouraging to register a steady growth of Czech nationals arriving in Indonesia to do business in financial services, hospitality, engineering, power plant design and construction, or as experts with multinational companies. The flow goes in the opposite direction as well, thanks, for example, to the ever-growing co-operation between universities.

Our current relations are those of two friendly countries that share values of democracy and rule of law as well as the concerns of the globalised world. We are two stable economies that can complement each other very well and exploit the untapped potential of trade exchange, investment, and tourism.

The Czech Republic’s proven industrial capacity together with a strong innovation potential make the country an ideal partner for the dynamically growing Indonesia and its needs in the field of energy, transport, the environment and medical equipment, to name just a few. The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the European Union and Indonesia provides a sound framework for mutual trade; the proposed Comprehensive Partnership Agreement would raise the economic ties to a whole new level.

The Czech Republic is keen to work with the administration of President Joko Widodo and Vice-President Jusuf Kalla, as well as the Indonesian private sector, towards a robust and reliable partnership, nurtured and appreciated by both sides.

**Tomáš Smetánka**

*Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the Republic of Indonesia*



Czech-Malaysian relations are primarily based on the commercial and economic interests of the two countries, both in their immediate markets and the adjacent regions of the European Union and Asean. This is not surprising, as for the Czech Republic, Malaysia is the second largest market in Southeast Asia, after Singapore, oriented on re-export. The mutual trade turnover of these two countries amounts to USD 1 billion, with Czech exports to Malaysia showing a massive growth. In 2013 Czech exports to Malaysia grew by 35% and in 2014 their growth is estimated at more than 20%.

The mutual trade of the Czech Republic and Malaysia is dominated by technological components supplied in the framework of foreign direct investment projects in both countries. The range of their trade exchange, however, is much wider, comprising items such as transport equipment, food, commodities, chemicals and other products. The growth of mutual trade and its variegated structure reflects, on the one hand, Malaysia's massive economic growth and, on the other hand, the traditionally diversified economy of the Czech Republic, an industrialised and technically advanced country.

In 2014, for example, several missions to and from the two countries were organised: a mission of power and heavy industry enterprises from Sarawak visited the Czech Republic, a sizeable trade mission of Czech defence companies attended the DSA 2014 exhibition in Malaysia, a delegation of Czech institutions, companies and universities concerned with information and communication technologies visited Kuala Lumpur and a mission of biotechnological and biomedical research institutes and firms from the Czech Republic paid a visit to Kuala Lumpur and Johor Bahru.

The Czech Republic offers its Malaysian partners opportunities not only for a trade exchange, but also for a closer cooperation in areas such as power engineering and the use of renewable energy sources, the building of the transport infrastructure, water management projects, the production of medical equipment, supplies of food processing technologies, as well as in sophisticated areas, such as biotechnology and biomedicine, nanotechnology, the manufacture of new materials, information and communication technologies and the aircraft industry. The last mentioned area is of special interest, as in 2014 Malaysia made an important investment entry into the development and construction of aircraft in the Czech Republic, an unprecedented occurrence in the two countries' mutual economic relations. In the past few decades, Malaysia has achieved impressive results in its efforts to transform its economy, especially as regards the shift towards manufacturing and the technologically-oriented industries. The Government of Malaysia has plans ready to bring the country among economically advanced countries in the foreseeable future. The Czech Republic, which has been a member of the European Union since 2004 and has become fully economically integrated in it, is more than an interesting partner for Malaysian businessmen and entrepreneurs. It can be said without exaggeration that there are only very few manufacturing sectors not represented in the Czech Republic. We make cars, aircraft, machine tools, transport equipment, power engineering wholes, including equipment for nuclear power plants, medical equipment, food processing lines, firearms and sophisticated radar systems. We also provide engineering services and supply public transport control systems, water management projects, including research and development in the above-mentioned technology intensive areas.

All this is a tremendous opportunity waiting to be used. The Embassy of the Czech Republic in Kuala Lumpur is prepared to help you taking advantage of it.

**Rudolf Hykl**

*Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Malaysia*



It is my pleasure to address the readers of this publication that will – I believe – increase an interest in the Czech Republic. I hope it will serve as a source of useful information for the Thai business community with the potential of generating new ideas for cooperation between the Czech Republic and Thailand in the area of trade and investment. In 2014, we are celebrating the 40th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between our two countries. However, the first Czech-Thai contacts go quite far back in time to the 17th century, when the first information about Siam was brought to the people of the then Czech Lands by Czech Jesuit missionaries. After establishment of the independent Czechoslovak Republic in 1918, economic relations started to flourish and Czech companies like Baťa, Škoda, and Zbrojovka Brno became strong in the region of Southeast Asia. The highlight of this period was the State visit of His Majesty King Prajadhipok, Rama VII, to Czechoslovakia in 1934. Since 1989, the year of the end of the communist regime and the return to democracy in Czechoslovakia, a new era of Czech-Thai relations has begun. Thailand soon became a favourite destination for Czech tourists and businessmen. The Czech and Thai governments launched numerous joint activities and a new base for political relations was established. The visit of Czech President Václav Havel to Thailand and his meeting with His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej, Rama IX, in 1994 has to date been the most important event and the highlight of our mutual political relations.

2013 was a significant year for our bilateral ties. In January of that year, the Czech Minister of Industry and Trade visited Thailand and on that occasion signed an Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Czech and Thai governments. In June 2013, the Minister of Defence of Thailand visited the Czech Republic, where a Memorandum of Understanding was signed that enables closer collaboration in the area of defence and security. In September 2013, the Thai Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Foreign Affairs paid a visit to the Czech Republic and, among other events, presided over the first session of the Joint Commission on Economic Cooperation.

The core of Czech-Thai bilateral cooperation lies in economic and trade exchange. Thailand continues to be the largest trading partner of the Czech Republic among ASEAN member states. Nevertheless, there is still great potential for the companies of both countries to explore new areas of cooperation, especially in the field of modern technologies, e.g. waste management, water treatment, and environmental technologies. I hope the Free Trade Agreement between Thailand and the European Union that is currently being negotiated will result in an even stronger growth of bilateral trade between Thailand and the Czech Republic. I am fully convinced that the Agreement will bring benefits to both parties and all countries involved.

Tourism plays another important part in our mutual relations. At present, tens of thousands of Czechs come to visit Thailand every year and even a greater number of Thais visit the Czech Republic. It is a real pleasure to speak to so many Thais who have visited the Czech Republic and to hear how much they admire the beauties of my country.

It is my wish that not only more Thai tourists, but also more Thai businessmen would visit the Czech Republic to discover the attractive business opportunities offered by the Czech Republic. In addition, I hope that Czech businessmen will explore more trade and investment opportunities in Thailand.

The gateway to doing business in both countries is wide open, so why not step into this promising profitable area.

**Vítězslav Grepl**

*Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the Kingdom of Thailand*





Looking at the statistics of the trade exchange between the Czech Republic and Vietnam might give us some satisfaction: the total volume is growing steadily and relatively rapidly, with Czech exports showing a sharp increase in the past few years. A more detailed analysis, however, is not so optimistic: Czech exports stand or fall with just a few key items, lacking diversity, and, despite undeniably positive results, lag significantly behind imports from Vietnam. Vietnamese investments in the Czech Republic are negligible and tourism scarcely merits a mention. The number of successful Czech investment projects in Vietnam can be counted on the fingers of one hand and not even the relatively busy traffic of fairly frequent mutual political visits and economic missions in recent times has resulted in any major joint project. For several years now, Vietnam has figured on the lists of priority countries suitable for economic cooperation, as published by various Czech State institutions and business associations. The Czech Embassy in Hanoi pays systematic attention to the promotion of Czech economic sectors whose chances of success in the face of keen competition are becoming increasingly remote. It is surprising how, even in the current communications era, old prejudices, stereotypes and lack of information prevail in both countries. It is not at all simple to erase the ideas that the Czech Republic is still a member (albeit a slightly more developed one) of the strange Eastern bloc, or that Vietnam is a poor developing country, where the most valuable item people own is the moped and to which practically anything can be sold. The truth is that the potential of mutual economic cooperation is tremendous. Vietnam is undergoing a period of industrial boom, a tumultuous development of the infrastructure, agriculture, education and society, and there is perhaps not a single sector in which Czech products, technologies, and experience could not be put to good use. Czech firms can offer anything, from traditional heavy engineering goods, production lines, power generating and mining equipment, to water and waste management facilities, not only in the form of finished products, but also in the form of collaboration in the development and production with Vietnamese partners. Geographic distance between the two countries is certainly a limiting factor, goods transport is more expensive and personal communication more complicated. On the other hand, we have a tremendous advantage, which hardly any other country can boast of: long-lasting close relationships between the two countries, which greatly assist in the understanding between the two sides at both the personal and institutional levels. My wish is that we take better advantage and make better use of this potential to the benefit of both countries and their people.

**Martin Klepetko**

*Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the Socialist Republic of Vietnam*

# Czech Exporters

*Czech enterprises that present their products and services in this publication intend to expand their exports and seek trade partners in Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand, and Vietnam. The firms are listed according to the branch codes - NACE.*



Modern Czech Architecture

<b>09.10</b>	Support activities for petroleum and natural gas extraction	
	SIGMA DIZ spol. s r.o.	35
<b>10.40</b>	Manufacture of vegetable and animal oils and fats	
	IREL, spol. s r.o.	57
<b>10.89</b>	Manufacture of other food products n.e.c.	
	WALMARK, a.s.	11
<b>10.90</b>	Manufacture of prepared animal feeds	
	IREL, spol. s r.o.	57
<b>13.20</b>	Weaving of textiles	
	VEBA, textilní závody a.s.	50
<b>13.30</b>	Finishing of textiles	
	VEBA, textilní závody a.s.	50
<b>13.92</b>	Manufacture of made-up textile articles, except apparel	
	VEBA, textilní závody a.s.	50
<b>20.40</b>	Manufacture of soap and detergents, cleaning and polishing preparations, perfumes, and toilet preparations	
	Český národní podnik s.r.o.	54
<b>21.20</b>	Manufacture of pharmaceutical preparations	
	IREL, spol. s r.o.	57
	WALMARK, a.s.	11
<b>22.29</b>	Manufacture of other plastic products	
	ESKO, spol. s r.o.	13
<b>23.10</b>	Manufacture of glass and glass products	
	Teplotechna - Prima, s.r.o.	19
<b>23.13</b>	Manufacture of hollow glass	
	CRYSTALITE BOHEMIA s.r.o.	4
<b>23.20</b>	Manufacture of refractory products	
	Teplotechna - Prima, s.r.o.	19

<b>25.10</b>	Manufacture of structural metal products	
	Teplotechna - Prima, s.r.o.	19
<b>25.20</b>	Manufacture of tanks, reservoirs, and containers of metal	
	DESTILA, s.r.o.	21
<b>25.73</b>	Manufacture of tools	
	NAREX Ždánice, spol. s r.o.	36
<b>26.50</b>	Manufacture of instruments and appliances for measuring, testing, and navigation; watches and clocks	
	NEWTE spol. s r.o.	29
<b>26.51</b>	Manufacture of instruments and appliances for measuring, testing, and navigation	
	T - CZ, a.s.	46
	ZAM - SERVIS s.r.o.	53
<b>27.12</b>	Manufacture of electricity distribution and control apparatus	
	ZAM - SERVIS s.r.o.	53
<b>27.90</b>	Manufacture of other electrical equipment	
	ESKO, spol. s r.o.	13
	T Machinery a.s.	27
<b>28.11</b>	Manufacture of engines and turbines, except aircraft, vehicle, and cycle engines	
	Siemens, s.r.o.	61
<b>28.13</b>	Manufacture of other pumps and compressors	
	SIGMA DIZ spol. s r.o.	35
<b>28.40</b>	Manufacture of metal forming machinery and machine tools	
	TOS VARNSDORF a.s.	2
<b>28.92</b>	Manufacture of machinery for mining, quarrying, and construction	
	INCO engineering s.r.o.	23
	T Machinery a.s.	27
<b>28.93</b>	Manufacture of machinery for food, beverage, and tobacco processing	
	DESTILA, s.r.o.	21
	J4 s.r.o.	15
<b>28.99</b>	Manufacture of other special-purpose machinery n.e.c.	
	INCO engineering s.r.o.	23
	J4 s.r.o.	15
<b>33.00</b>	Repair and installation of machinery and equipment	
	Siemens, s.r.o.	61
<b>33.20</b>	Installation of industrial machinery and equipment	
	ZAM - SERVIS s.r.o.	53
<b>35.11</b>	Production of electricity	
	Siemens, s.r.o.	61
<b>37.00</b>	Sewerage	
	SIGMA DIZ spol. s r.o.	35
<b>46.10</b>	Wholesale on a fee or contract basis	
	CRYSTALITE BOHEMIA s.r.o.	4
<b>46.45</b>	Wholesale of perfume and cosmetics	
	Český národní podnik s.r.o.	54

<b>46.90</b>	<b>Non-specialised wholesale trade</b>	
	ESKO, spol. s r.o.	13
<b>47.10</b>	<b>Retail sale in non-specialised stores</b>	
	CRYSTALITE BOHEMIA s.r.o.	4
<b>47.75</b>	<b>Retail sale of cosmetic and toilet articles in specialised stores</b>	
	Český národní podnik s.r.o.	54
<b>51.00</b>	<b>Air transport</b>	
	Letiště Praha, a. s.	49
<b>52.20</b>	<b>Support activities for transportation</b>	
	Letiště Praha, a. s.	49
<b>64.11</b>	<b>Central banking</b>	
	Česká exportní banka, a.s.	45
<b>64.99</b>	<b>Other financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding n.e.c.</b>	
	Česká exportní banka, a.s.	45
<b>70.20</b>	<b>Management consultancy activities</b>	
	ENVIROS, s.r.o.	32
<b>71.12</b>	<b>Engineering activities and related technical consultancy</b>	
	ENVIROS, s.r.o.	32
	INCO engineering s.r.o.	23
<b>85.59</b>	<b>Other education n.e.c.</b>	
	ENVIROS, s.r.o.	32
<b>94.99</b>	<b>Activities of other membership organisations n.e.c.</b>	
	CREA Hydro&Energy, o.s.	41



Prague – the Petřín Observation Tower

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## [Useful Information]

**State Symbols of the Czech Republic**

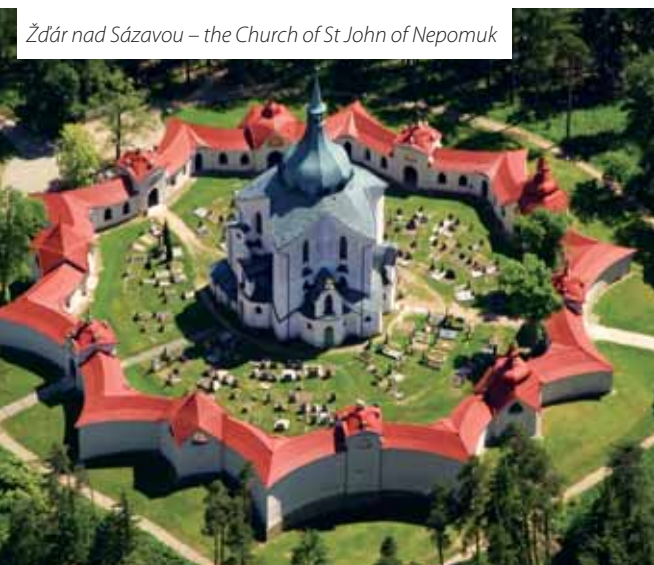
Large State Coat of Arms



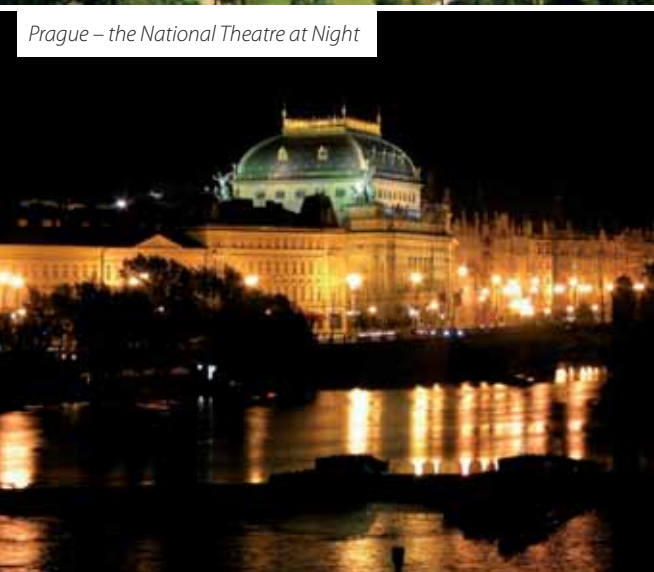
State Flag



Žďár nad Sázavou – the Church of St John of Nepomuk



Prague – the National Theatre at Night



Mariánské Lázně – the Singing Fountain



The Czech Republic is a land-locked state situated in Central Europe, neighbouring on Germany, Austria, Slovakia, and Poland.

**BASIC DATA**

<b>Population</b>	10 513 834 (September 2013)
<b>Area</b>	78 864 sq. km
<b>Capital city</b>	Praha (Prague)
<b>System of government</b>	Parliamentary Republic
<b>Language</b>	Czech
<b>Highest peak</b>	Sněžka (Snow Mountain) (1603 metres above sea level)
<b>Time zone</b>	Central European Time GMT + 1, summer time GMT + 2
<b>Currency</b>	1 koruna česká/Czech crown (Kč/CZK) = 100 halers
<b>Internet domain</b>	.cz

The President of the Czech Republic is Miloš Zeman

**MEMBERSHIP**

The Czech Republic is a member of the European Union, the United Nations, NATO, WTO, the International Monetary Fund, the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the OECD, and many other organisations.

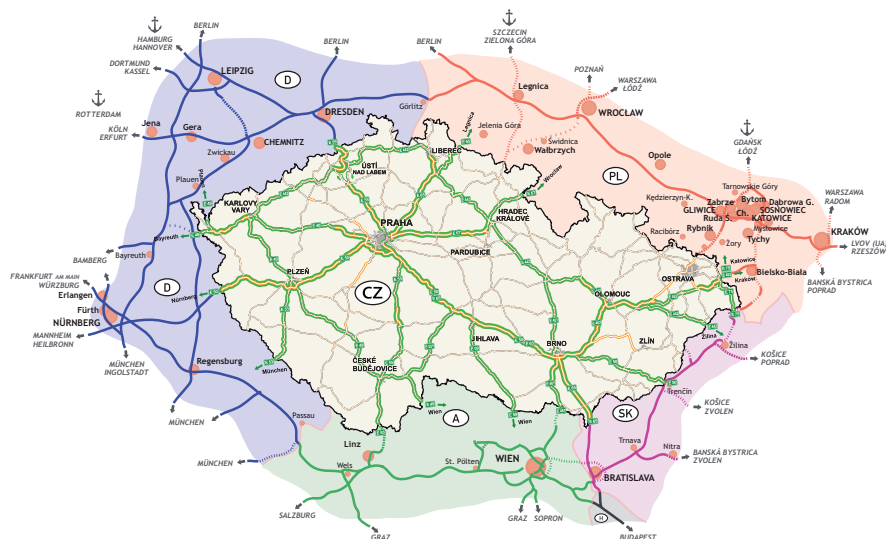
**UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE**

The UNESCO World Heritage List includes the following cities and sites: Prague, Český Krumlov, Kutná Hora, the Litomyšl Chateau, Telč, the Lednice-Valtice area, Zelená Hora – the Church of St John of Nepomuk, Holašovice, Kroměříž (chateau and gardens), the Holy Trinity Column in Olomouc, the Tugendhat Villa in Brno (architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe), the Basilica of St Procopius and the Jewish Quarter in Třebíč. Newly inscribed in the list of intangible cultural heritage were: in 2005 Verbunk, a folk dance associated with historical army recruitments; in 2010 Shrovetide processions, and falconry; and in 2011 the Ride of the Kings procession from the Slovácko area. More information is available at [www.unesco-czech.cz](http://www.unesco-czech.cz).

**NOTABLE PERSONS**

The Czechs are described as a very cultured nation which has contributed a large number of prominent figures to the world. The most significant rulers and Heads of State have included Emperor Charles IV, Presidents T.G. Masaryk and Václav Havel. Figures of world renown include scientists, Jaroslav Heyrovský (Nobel Prize laureate in Chemistry), Otto Wichterle, a Czech chemist who invented contact lenses, and Antonín Holý, who discovered a drug treatment for AIDS. World renown was also achieved by the entrepreneur, Tomáš Baťa, as well as by Madeleine Albright, former US Secretary of State. The list of famous people in the cultural sphere includes composers Bedřich Smetana, Leoš Janáček, Antonín Dvořák, and Bohuslav Martinů, and writers Franz Kafka, Karel Čapek, Jaroslav Seifert (Nobel Prize laureate), Jaroslav Hašek, Bohumil Hrabal, and Milan Kundera. Winners of the American Academy Award are Czech film directors Miloš Forman (born in the Czech Republic), Jiří Menzel, and Jan Svěrák. Others worthy of mention are the artists František Kupka, Alfons Mucha, and the unique-style photographer Jan Saudek. Athletes of world renown

For additional practical information on the conditions of transport to the CR and stay in the CR see [www.czech.cz](http://www.czech.cz).



include Emil Zátopek, Věra Čáslavská, Martina Navrátilová, Jaromír Jágr, Petr Čech, Barbora Špotáková, Petra Kvitová, Martina Sáblíková, and Eva Samková.

### PRACTICAL INFORMATION

**Country dialling code:** +(420). Details of telephone numbers are available on the web pages [www.zlatestranky.cz](http://www.zlatestranky.cz).

Licences for **mobile networks** in the territory of the Czech Republic have been granted to the following companies: O2 Czech Republic, a.s., T-Mobile Czech Republic a.s., Vodafone Czech Republic a.s., and Air Telecom, a.s.



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**References:** Czech Republic | Slovak Republic | Estonia | Latvia | France | Germany | Poland | Switzerland | USA | Venezuela



# [Czech Economy in 2013]

*In 2013, the Czech economy was influenced by the lingering recession of 2012. Except for the 4th quarter, both gross domestic product and gross value added fell year-on-year. The growth of both indicators in the last quarter of the year was not sufficient to compensate for the previous declines.*

## GROSS DOMESTIC PRODUCT

According to preliminary estimates, 2013 GDP was 0.9% lower compared with 2012. The year-on-year GDP fall was the result of a drop in investment in fixed capital and the stagnation of household spending on final consumption, as well as of the foreign trade surplus. In the 4th quarter alone, GDP was 1.1% higher year-on-year, when its growth at the end of the year was due to an increase in the volume of investment, exports, and partly also to a higher household consumption. However, the growth of reserves had the greatest effect. Gross value added (GVA) declined by 0.9% year-on-year on an annual basis. The largest positive contribution to its creation was made by the financial and insurance sectors. The majority of the other sectors did not reach the level of the previous year, particularly that of services, which account for over three-fifths of value added in the Czech economy.

## INDUSTRY

In 2013, industrial production remained on the level of the previous year (99.9 index). A year-on-year increase was recorded in the manufac-

ture of computers, electronic and optical instruments and equipment (16.1% increase), manufacture of other transport equipment (10.1% rise) and the manufacture of pharmaceutical products and preparations (6.5% rise). In total, the manufacturing industry was 0.8% higher year-on-year. Sectors which performed below the 2012 level were mining and quarrying (88.7%) and generation, distribution, and supply of electric power, heat, and air conditioning (98.5%).

## FOREIGN TRADE \*)

In foreign trade, the favourable trend of the previous years – of exports exceeding imports – continued in 2013. In comparison with 2012, exports rose by 3%, imports were 1.8% higher. The trade balance ended in a surplus of CZK 350.6 billion (USD 18 billion), and was CZK 45 billion (USD 2.3 billion) higher compared with 2012. The balance improved in machinery and transport equipment and miscellaneous manufactured articles, while the deficit in trade in mineral fuels increased. More favourable results than the previous year were achieved last year in trade with both EU states and other countries.

## Macroeconomic Indicators of the Czech Republic

		2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Gross Domestic Product (current prices) <sup>1)</sup>	CZK, billion	3 662.6	3 848.4	3 759.0	3 790.9	3 823.4	3 845.9	3 883.8
Gross Domestic Product <sup>1)</sup>	%, real, y/y	5.7	3.1	-4.5	2.5	1.8	-1.0	-0.9
Industrial Production	%, y/y	10.6	-1.8	-13.6	8.6	5.9	-0.8	-0.1
Registered unemployment <sup>2)</sup>	%	6.0	6.0	9.2	9.6	8.6	8.4	8.2
General unemployment rate according to selective labour force examination <sup>3)</sup>	%	5.3	4.4	6.7	7.3	6.7	7.0	6.9
Inflation Rate	%, y/y	2.8	6.3	1.0	1.5	1.9	3.3	1.4
Inflation (HICP) <sup>4)</sup>	%, average	3.0	6.3	0.6	1.2	2.1	3.5	2.7
Exports <sup>5)</sup>	USD, mil.	122 760.0	146 406.0	113 176.0	133 020.0	162 897.0	157 166.6	162 302.4
Exports <sup>5)</sup>	%, y/y	29.0	19.3	-22.7	16.9	22.5	-3.5	3.0
Imports <sup>5)</sup>	USD, mil.	118 467.0	142 172.0	105 256.0	126 600.0	152 122.0	141 514.8	144 319.9
Imports <sup>5)</sup>	%, y/y	26.8	20.0	-26.0	19.4	20.2	-7.0	1.8
Balance of Trade <sup>5)</sup>	USD, mil.	4 293.0	4 234.0	7 920.0	6 420.0	10 775.0	15 652.0	17 953.0
CZK/EUR <sup>6)</sup>	average	27.762	24.942	26.445	25.290	24.586	25.143	25.974
CZK/USD <sup>6)</sup>	average	20.308	17.035	19.057	19.111	17.688	19.583	19.565

Source: Czech Statistical Office, Czech National Bank (ČNB); General note: y/y shows year-on-year change in the indicator; 1) Figures after revision, year 2013, estimates; 2) Registered unemployment rate according to the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (to 31.12); 3) LFSS = Labour Force Sample Survey; 4) HICP = Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices, inflation rate by EU method; 5) Foreign trade data expressed in USD are the sum of the different monthly values in CZK calculated by the average monthly exchange rate announced by the Czech National Bank; 6) Czech National Bank



## PRICES

The rate of inflation measured by consumer price index was 1.4% in 2013, the lowest since 2009.

The year-on-year increase in the overall consumer price level was mostly due to prices in the sections of housing, water, electricity, and fuels.

The second highest effect was from prices in the section of food and non-alcoholic beverages.

Regarding food, the prices of all the types increased, the prices of fuel increased significantly.

Year-on-year price falls were recorded in textiles, recreational services and household furnishings.

## WAGE DEVELOPMENT

The average gross monthly nominal wage of employees (full-time equivalent) amounted to CZK 25 078 (approx. USD 1282), nominally it remained on the 2012 level, but in real terms it was 1.4% lower. In the business sphere, wages dropped by 1.6% in real terms, in the non-business sphere they fell by 0.4%. Due to the weakening of the Czech koruna, the average wage declined in conversion to both EUR and USD.

Jana Bondyová

Czech Statistical Office

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*\* for conversion to USD, the average monthly exchange rate based on data published by the Czech National Bank has been used*



J4 s.r.o. was founded in 1994 by three co-owners. Today, these three men have more than 40 years of experience to their credit, not only in the field of development, construction, manufacture, supply, maintenance and servicing of bakery and confectionery tunnel ovens, but also in the delivery of complete lines or their parts, especially for medium-sized and large industrial bakeries.

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# Trade Relations between the Czech Republic and Indonesia

Mutual relations between the former Czechoslovakia and Indonesia have a long tradition. Their cooperation in the economic sphere dates back to the pre-war era and the activities of the Baťa firm in Indonesia. This tradition was renewed in the 1960s with investment projects in power engineering and the sugar industry. Since 1993, when the Czech Republic was established as an independent state, the volume of mutual trade has been steadily growing. In 2012, Czech exports to Indonesia reached a record volume worth USD 158.6 million, which until then was the best result in the history of the independent Czech Republic. The years 2008 and 2009 witnessed a decline in consequence of the world economic crisis. Since 2010, however, Czech exports to Indonesia have picked up and are growing again. This favourable trend also continued in 2013, when Czech exports showed only a slight decline, to USD 152.9 million.

However, despite growing Czech exports to Indonesia, the Czech Republic has been showing an unfavourable balance of trade on a long-term basis, although the deficit is being gradually reduced. The main reason is the massive import of hardware components for information and communication technologies from Indonesia (see Table 1).

Traditionally, Czech products enjoy a good reputation in Indonesia. Over the past ten years, **the commodity structure of Czech exports** to Indonesia has changed significantly in favour of wood pulp and

**Table 1:**  
**Czech-Indonesian balance of trade in 2009–2013 (USD thous.)**

Year	Trade turnover	Exports	Imports	Balance
2009	312.8	51.8	261	-209.2
2010	382.5	60.3	322.2	-261.9
2011	472.6	89.1	383.5	-294.4
2012	465.1	158.6	306.4	-147.8
2013	422.1	152.9	269.2	-116.3

*Source: Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic*

organic chemicals (especially amino compounds), telecommunication equipment and industrial fittings, which have replaced traditional exports of power generating equipment, textiles and textile machines (see Table 2). These changes are the result of the fact that, under the new conditions, Czech exports to Indonesia rely mainly on smaller and medium-sized firms which have proved their ability to penetrate the demanding Indonesian market and to stay there. In many cases, they are more flexible in their business activities than the former big manufacturers and suppliers established there. The long-term **commodity change in Czech imports** is even more apparent, where the main import items are computer equipment and electronic products. Other main import items are rubber, footwear, clothing, toys, sports requisites and wood (see Table 3).

**Table 2: Most important Czech export items in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
47	Pulp of wood or of other fibrous cellulosic material	48.46	74 088
84	Reactors, boilers, mechanical instruments	15.37	23 524
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers	7.70	11 767
29	Organic chemicals	7.54	11 535
39	Plastics and articles thereof	5.31	8 130
95	Toys, games, sports requisites	3.04	4 649
82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal	2.53	3 869
	Other	10.05	16 058
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>152 910</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

**Table 3: Most important Czech import items in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
85	Electrical machinery and equipment and parts thereof; sound recorders and reproducers, television image and sound recorders and reproducers	26.30	70 766
40	Rubber and articles thereof	20.66	55 577
64	Footwear, gaiters and similar; parts of such articles	11.72	31 571
84	Reactors, boilers, mechanical instruments	6.59	17 717
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, not knitted or crocheted	5.20	14 001
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	3.99	10 753
95	Toys, games, sports requisites	3.77	10 154
	Other	21.77	58 592
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>269 131</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

Investment goods are currently absent from Czech exports, which would help to reduce the negative balance of mutual trade. Even more apparent is the long-term commodity change in Czech imports, where three in every five main import items are either computer equipment or electronic products. The remaining main import items are rubber, clothing, and wood.

The most important sector for cooperation with Czech manufacturers and exporters is **power engineering**. In 2012, Indonesia had an estimated 44 gigawatts (GW) of installed capacity and created 200 billion kilowatt hours (kWh). In 2011, approximately 88% of electricity was generated by fossil fuel sources and the rest by hydroelectric power stations (7%) and geothermal sources (5%). Coal accounted for a little more than 50% of the energy produced from fossil fuels. Oil production capacity declined, together with Indonesia's crude production.

The Indonesian government has set itself the aim of ensuring that, by the year 2020, 90% of households will be connected to the electricity network. Its other aim to be attained by the year 2025 is to increase the proportion of power from renewable sources to 23%. All efforts

are now focused on the meeting of this target. The government is spending a part of its budget on the financing of development, but it strongly recommends the private sector to participate in this development. This is opening up great opportunities for Czech firms in the Indonesian energy sector. **Historically, Czech, and the former Czechoslovak exporters of investment goods** have a very good name in that country, supported by references from neighbouring Asian states, specifically India, Pakistan, China, Thailand, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, and Vietnam. Considering the current economic boom, demand for electricity in the next few years is expected to grow by 11% per annum on an average.

In the energy sectors, in which Czech firms have very good references and are competitive as regards both price and technology, i.e. in the supply of conventional thermal and hydroelectric power stations, dozens of both types of power stations are being completed in Indonesia.

Other sectors with good prospects for cooperation are the **sugar industry, the infrastructure, environmental technologies, including waste processing technologies, medical instruments and equipment, the construction of airfields and collaboration in the defence industry**.

Oil and natural gas extraction and processing are traditionally among Indonesia's most important sectors. Here, Czech suppliers can offer their services in areas covering industrial fittings and pumps, revitalisation of equipment for the petrochemical industry, the building of gas distribution systems, and the construction of new facilities.

The Czech Republic is also known in Indonesia for its products in the area of rotating electrical machines, machinery equipment, telecommunication equipment, equipment and products for the paper and pulp industry, food processing equipment and technologies, agricultural machines, specialised medical equipment, and car components.

Under the Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of Indonesia, a Czech-Indonesian Mixed Economic Committee has been set up. Its main aim is to identify specific projects in the area of economic and industrial cooperation between the two countries and to support the promotion of mutual trade. Its latest session took place in Jakarta in December 2011, at which a number of new collaborative projects were discussed. The next session of the Mixed Economic Committee will be held in Prague at the turn of the years 2014/2015.

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# [Trade Relations between the Czech Republic and Malaysia]



**Table 1: CR-Malaysia trade balance  
in 2009–13 period (thous. USD)**

Year	Turnover	Exports	Imports	Balance
2009	799 414	57 121	742 293	-685 172
2010	1 032 830	95 004	937 826	-842 822
2011	1 380 479	107 383	1 273 096	-1 165 713
2012	1 035 037	142 375	892 662	-750 287
2013	1 018 359	192 785	825 574	-632 789

Source: Czech Statistical Office

Malaysia is the 2nd largest trading partner of the Czech Republic in Southeast Asia, after Singapore. Similarly, from the viewpoint of Malaysia, the Czech Republic is an important trading partner in the region of Central Europe, where Malaysian statistics rank it second after Poland by trade turnover.

Trade between the Czech Republic and Malaysia has grown at a considerable rate since 1993. This is evident, for example, from the fact that in 1993 Malaysia was ranked 56th among the Czech Republic's trading partners. In 2013, it already held 29th position, and, given the continuously rising trade turnover, a favourable trend can be expected in the coming years as well (see Table 1).

In 2013, Czech exports to Malaysia increased by 35.4%, from USD 142.4 million (2012) to USD 192.8 million (2013). Foreign trade turnover between the Czech Republic and Malaysia decreased slightly, by -1.7%. This drop was due to the declining import from Malaysia to the Czech Republic, after reaching its peak in 2011 (USD 1.3 billion) and since then showing a declining trend,

falling by -7.6% to the level of USD 825.6 million in 2013 alone. In terms of share in the Czech Republic's overall foreign trade volume, trade with Malaysia was ranked 33rd in turnover in 2013, 51st in Czech exports and 28th in Czech imports.

The principal items of current **Czech exports** to Malaysia include telecommunications equipment, chemical products, tyres, furniture, electrical instruments, plastic products, measuring and optical instruments, steel products, and transport equipment (see Table 2). As regards **Czech imports** from Malaysia, the main items are electrical and electronic equipment and instruments (processors and control units), office machines and automatic data processing equipment (especially memory units), telecommunications equipment, raw rubber, measuring instruments, footwear and clothing, furniture, chemicals, and products of plastics and rubber (see Table 3).

**The defence sector** occupies an important place in bilateral trade. Malaysia has been supplied with sophisticated telecommunications systems and steps have been taken to export advanced passive location systems. A very good position in the Malaysian market is held by Tatra vehicles and Barum tyres, and to a lesser degree, for the time being, by Škoda cars. Czech companies have participated in several specialised exhibitions and fairs in Malaysia. In 2013, Czech companies presented themselves in the Green Technologies area at the IGEN fair and at the Southeast Asian Healthcare fair. Official Czech participation in the Defence Services Asia (DSA) exhibition took place in 2014. In February 2014, a trade mission headed by the Deputy Chief Minister of the Malaysian state of Sarawak, and including other government ministers and leading Sarawak business companies, visited the Czech Republic. The chief purpose of their mission was to establish contacts in the areas of the energy industry, heavy industry development, and technical education.

It is a challenge for the further development of economic and trade relations to **make use of the synergy** which offers itself for Czech-Malaysian collaboration with regard to the unique geographic and economic position of Malaysia in the region of Southeast Asia and the similar position of the Czech Republic in the region of Central and

**Table 2: The most important items of Czech exports in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	28.2	54 043
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	15.5	29 751
38	Miscellaneous chemical products	15.5	29 660
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	8.9	17 129
4	Dairy produce, honey, products of animal origin	7.6	14 574
40	Rubber and articles thereof	4.4	8 466
39	Rubber and articles thereof	4.1	7 946
	Other	15.7	31 216
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>192 785</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

**Table 3: The most important items of Czech imports in 2013**

*Harmonised System Nomenclature 2*

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	39.9	329 419
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	39.4	325 093
40	Rubber and articles thereof	8.3	68 603
39	Plastics and articles thereof	3.3	26 887
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical, surgical instruments, etc.	2.5	20 360
94	Furniture, bedding, lamps, prefabricated buildings	1.0	8 208
87	Vehicles other than rolling stock, tractors, bicycles, etc.	0.7	6 783
	Other	21.77	41 221
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>825 574</b>

*Source: Czech Statistical Office*

Eastern Europe. A number of Czech companies already successfully operate in Malaysia with their own foreign representations, and others are currently considering Malaysia as an ideal distribution hub for the development of their business activities in the whole of Southeast Asia. The areas are mainly security technology, ICT, healthcare technology, environmental technology, etc. New openings exist here for bilateral cooperation of Czech companies with their Malaysian partners. Besides the traditional sectors and commodities in the bilateral

economic collaboration, such as electrical apparatus, energy industry equipment, automotive industry, furniture and machinery and equipment, opportunities for Czech exports can be sought in the priorities of the Malaysian government which supports sectors with a high growth potential and a higher added value, such as e.g. **biotechnology, nanotechnology, healthcare technology and pharmaceuticals, modern agriculture, food industry, green technologies and renewable energy, aviation technology and components.** Within its policy of the improvement of living standards, the government has earmarked large sums for investment in infrastructure projects such as motorways, bridges, water management and ecology projects and railway development. In future projects of this kind, Czech products such as construction machinery (cranes, road rollers, trucks), steel structures, water treatment plants, incinerator plants, etc. could find a role to play. **A great opportunity also exists for Czech companies in the areas of mining, and not only in mining technology and equipment, but also in the revitalisation technology for landscapes damaged by mining.**

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# [Trade Relations between the CR and the Philippines]

Trade cooperation between the Czech Republic and the Philippines has a long-standing tradition, especially in the area of supplies of machinery and equipment (textile machines, equipment for sugar refineries, and mechanical appliances), and chemicals and food products. Czech companies are ready to continue to be involved in the advance of the Philippine economy with supplies in a number of other sectors, such as the energy industry, infrastructure, environmental technologies, defence industry, and others. Interest in collaboration with Philippine partners is being expressed by an increasing number of entrepreneurs from the Czech Republic.

The present economic relations are characterised by the growing trend of bilateral trade, with the exception of the 2006 and 2009 years of economic crisis, and in recent years also by development cooperation provided by the Czech Republic. Nevertheless, bilateral trade remains below its potential. The trade balance is characterised by a permanent surplus in favour of the Philippines. The figures below show that there is great potential for the increase and diversification of Czech exports. In 2013, the trade exchange increased by

approx. 29% over the previous year and was thus the highest in the history of the Czech Republic. In this period, Czech exports increased by 41.8% year-on-year (see Table1)

The potential for collaboration with the country which will become part of the ASEAN single market in 2015 (ASEAN Economic Community) is great, offering numerous new opportunities. Bilateral trade with the Philippines is dominated by the export and import of computer

**Table 1: CR-Philippines trade balance in 2009–13 period (USD mil.)**

Year	Turnover	Exports	Imports	Balance
2009	181.9	51.6	130.3	-78.7
2010	252.5	79.6	172.9	-93.3
2011	311.1	89.1	222.0	-132.9
2012	314.9	74.2	240.7	-166.5
2013	404.6	105.1	299.5	-194.4

Source: Ministry of Industry and Trade CR

**Table 2: The most important items of Czech exports in 2013**

*Harmonised System Nomenclature 2*

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	69.1	72 652
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	11.8	12 360
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical, surgical instruments, etc.	3.7	3 901
39	Plastics and articles thereof	3.2	3 351
95	Toys, games and sports requisites	2.1	2 295
48	Paper, paperboard, paper pulp, articles thereof	1.1	1 125
04	Dairy produce, honey, products of animal origin	1.0	1 062
	Other	8.0	8 399
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>105 145</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

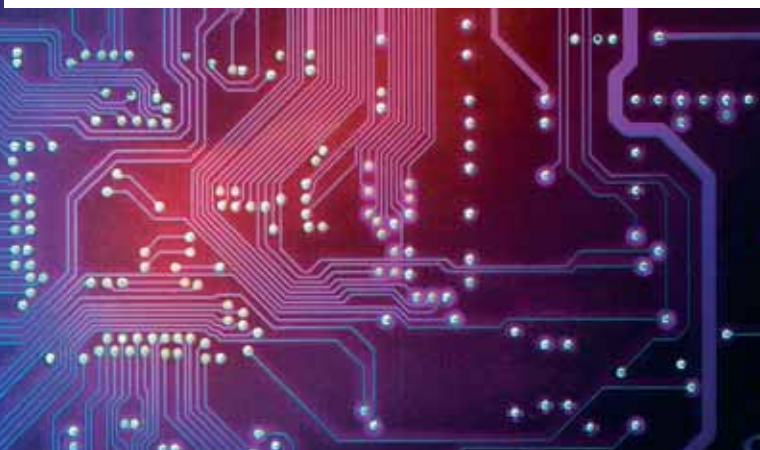


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**Table 3: The most important items of Czech imports in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	Percentage	USD thous.
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	54.0	161 826
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	28.6	85 734
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical, surgical instruments, etc.	10.2	30 440
87	Vehicles other than rolling stock, tractors, bicycles, etc.	1.6	4 906
76	Aluminium and articles thereof	1.3	3 920
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	1.0	3 143
13	Lac; gums, resins and other vegetable saps and extracts	0.7	2 205
	Other	2.6	7 780
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>299 514</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

components, but diversification to other commodities is continuing. The chief commodities in **Czech exports** to the Philippines include electronic integrated circuits, artificial sausage casings, electrical resistors, whey and products from whey, ammonia salts and hydroxides, plastic toys and models, handguns, aerials and reflectors, sockets and plugs, white sugar, installed piezoelectric crystals and electric condensers (see Table 2).

The main commodities in **Czech imports** are disk units of data processing equipment, electronic integrated circuits, printed circuits, components for electric ignition, generators, electrical resistors, installed piezoelectric crystals, electronic sets with transistors, electronic integrated circuits, fittings and armatures, spectacle lenses, processed tuna fish. Areas with good prospects of cooperation for trade (see Table 3):

Extensive possibilities for collaboration exist in the area of mutual direct investment, the amount of which is minimal at present.

**A number of Czech firms can offer for cooperation with Philippine partners their experience in the areas of renewable energy sources, water management and protection of the environment. In recent years, Czech firms have built e.g. small hydroelectric power plants in the Philippines.** Besides traditional products, the Czech Republic can also offer experience in the construction of small airports, including the supply of air traffic control systems, and provide Czech-made light and ultra-light transport aircraft which can be used for air connections between tourist destinations of the Philippine Islands.

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# [Trade Relations between the CR and the Kingdom of Thailand]

Thailand is one of the Czech Republic's most important trading partners in Southeast Asia, as is documented by the volume of trade exchange, ranking Thailand 27th among the Czech Republic's trading partners. Thailand is the second largest Czech export destination among the ASEAN countries. Since 1997, when the Thai economy was hit by the Asian crisis and the Thai currency was considerably devalued, the Czech Republic has recorded a significant balance of trade deficit with Thailand. This trend ended in 2011, when Thailand was affected by extensive floods, which considerably reduced Thai exports, including exports to the Czech Republic. As a result, the deficit in Czech trade with Thailand dropped markedly from USD 1.47 billion in 2010 to USD 0.97 billion in 2013.

According to Czech statistics, Czech-Thai trade exchanges amounted to USD 1.29 billion in 2013, an 8.2% decline year-on-year. At the same time, Czech exports to Thailand decreased by 2.6% and totalled USD 156.2 million. Thai exports to the Czech Republic decreased by 8.9% and amounted to USD 1.13 billion (see Table 1). Over the long term, successful **Czech commodities in the Thai market** include pumps, powdered milk, arms and ammunition, pipes, hoses and articles of plastics, and power industry equipment. In addition, a traditional position in the Thai market is held by tyres, shafts, microscopes, glass and glassware, laboratory and regulation instruments, and children's construction kits (see Table 2).

**Table 1: CR-Thailand trade exchanges in 2009–13 period (in mil. USD)**

Year	Turnover	Exports	Imports	Balance
2009	1 236.1	76.5	1 159.7	-1 083.2
2010	1 693.1	107.7	1 585.4	-1 477.7
2011	1 507.1	135.5	1 371.7	-1 236.2
2012	1 399.9	160.4	1 239.5	-1 079.1
2013	1 285.7	156.2	1 129.5	-973.3

Source: Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

**Table 2: The most important items of Czech exports in 2013**  
*Harmonised System Nomenclature 2*

Code	Heading	Share %	USD thous.
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	23.1	36 142
39	Plastics and articles thereof	14.1	22 073
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	12.5	19 463
04	Dairy produce, honey, products of animal origin	10.9	17 019
71	Pearls, precious stones, precious metals and articles thereof, imitation jewellery	5.5	8 578
93	Arms and ammunition; parts and accessories thereof	5.0	7 802
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical, surgical instruments, etc.	3.4	5 336
	Other	25.5	39 826
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>156 182</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

The commodity structure of **Czech imports** is much wider. The most successful commodities are especially electrical parts and products – equipment for automatic data processing, electronic parts for transmission, reception appliances, television and radio units, memory units, integrated circuits, cooling equipment, etc. Traditional commodities among raw materials are natural rubber and products of it. The volume of Thai exports of agricultural and food commodities – tinned tuna fish, rice, and dried and tinned fruit – is also increasing (see Table 3).

**Areas of interest for bilateral cooperation** include the energy industry, automobile parts and accessories, laboratory and scientific



instruments, environmental technology, healthcare technology, supplies of water management systems, machine tools and forming machines, textile and food industry machines, equipment for infrastructure, including supplies of control equipment and rolling stock for railway transport, equipment for airports and supplies of Czech-made aircraft, equipment for the petrochemical industry, rubber industry machines, mini-breweries, technology for the glassmaking industry, printing machines, lamps and lighting

**Table 3: The most important items of Czech imports in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	Share %	USD thous.
84	Reactors, boilers, machinery and mechanical appliances	48.3	546 522
85	Electrical equipment for sound and TV image recording and reproduction	24.9	281 154
40	Rubber and articles thereof	4.3	48 569
90	Optical, photographic, cinematographic, medical, surgical instruments, etc.	3.6	41 012
87	Vehicles other than rolling stock, tractors, bicycles, etc.	3.1	34 960
54	Man-made filaments	1.5	17 438
39	Plastics and articles thereof	1.4	16 567
	Other	12.9	145 759
<b>Total</b>		<b>100.00</b>	<b>1 129 481</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

equipment, musical instruments, fertilisers, chemicals and pharmaceutical products, malt, and goods for the paper industry.

**Closer forms of commercial collaboration**, such as joint production and exports to third countries, also offer many openings for Czech and Thai firms to work together. This cooperation could be important, particularly owing to Thailand's easy access to the markets of the ASEAN countries, also in connection with the ASEAN Economic Community coming into existence in 2015. Other forms of collaboration between the Czech Republic and Thailand with good prospects undoubtedly include **the area of tourism**. In recent years, the number of tourists has been constantly increasing on both sides, visiting both Thailand and the Czech Republic. The framework for the further development of bilateral trade relations is the inter-governmental Agreement on Economic Cooperation between the two countries, which was signed in Bangkok in January 2013. The 1st session of the bilateral Mixed Commission for Economic Cooperation took place in September 2013. These events impact favourably on the expansion of economic collaboration and bilateral trade.

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# [Trade Relations between the CR and Vietnam]

Bilateral relations between the Czech Republic and Vietnam have a long tradition. In February 2015, the two countries will recall the 65th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the former Czechoslovakia and Vietnam. The Czech Republic enjoys a good name in Vietnam and its products are in demand on the local market. A large number of Vietnamese citizens have obtained technical and university education in the Czech Republic. The large community of Vietnamese citizens permanently resident in the Czech Republic actively help to promote mutual

**Table 1: Mutual trade between 2009 and 2014 (USD millions):**

Year	Turnover	Exports	Imports	Balance
2009	288.1	40.7	247.4	-206.7
2010	338.2	64.7	273.5	-208.8
2011	420.2	45.4	374.8	-329.4
2012	439.8	92.7	347.1	-254.4
2013	545.7	128.4	417.3	-288.9
2014/I-VIII	428.3	61.9	366.4	-304.5

Source: Czech Statistical Office

relations, with an effect on the growth of mutual trade. At the same time, the Czech Republic has participated in the development of Vietnam through its involvement in development aid projects. In the past decade, the Czech Republic contributed CZK 350 million (USD 17 million) to more than 50 development projects, especially in education, environmental protection, agriculture, and power engineering. In June 2014, the longest-living project, the Hospital of Vietnamese-Czechoslovak Friendship in Haiphong, marked the 55th anniversary of its existence.

The expansion of Czech exports to the Vietnamese market is continuing. In 2013, Czech exports rose to the historically highest level of USD 128.4 million, which is 39% more than in 2012. Imports amounted to USD 417.3 million, total turnover to USD 545.7 million and deficit to USD 288.9 million (see Table 1). The historical sequence of bilateral trade exchange since the establishment of the Czech Republic shows that, from 1993 to 2013, Czech exports to Vietnam increased 21-fold, imports as much as 82-fold and the trade turnover 47-fold. The unfavourable balance is influenced by the

import of cheaper goods (footwear and clothing) and food (fish and crustaceans), and, in recent years, electronic equipment and components, including telephones and road vehicle accessories. Czech firms are increasingly successful on the Vietnamese market in the export of special goods, mining equipment and other engineering goods. Promising talks are currently taking place on the export of power engineering goods and healthcare equipment and devices. Figures for the first eight months of this year indicate that the historically record-high exports of the year 2013 will not be surmounted, as large contracts concluded in the previous period, particularly as regards special goods, have already been filled. From the point of view of the commodity structure of Czech exports to Vietnam in 2013, the dominant group is electronic recording instruments, sound- and image-reproduction devices and radars, which accounted for 58% of Czech exports, followed by arms and ammunition (9%) and reactors and boilers (also 9%) (see Table 2). Traditional items dominating imports from Vietnam to the Czech Republic are footwear, followed by mobile phones, components for motor vehicles, automatic data processing equipment, and clothing (see Table 3).

Czech sectors with good prospects for export to Vietnam include mining equipment and minerals processing (glassworks), engineering lines and machine tools, power engineering equipment, environmental technologies (water treatment plants, waste incinerators), medical equipment, agricultural and food processing technologies, transport equipment and systems and special (defence) equipment and technology. Sectors with high added value,

**Table 2: Most important Czech export items in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	USD thous.
05	Products of animal origin, not elsewhere specified or included	1 414
18	Seeds, fruits, herbs, industrial straw	1 197
39	Chemicals	1 970
40	Plastics and products thereof	2 099
71	Glass and glass products	2 496
82	Metals, cermet and products thereof	1 169
83	Miscellaneous articles of base metal	1 145
85	Reactors, boilers, mechanical instruments	11 316
86	Electrical recording devices, sound and image reproduction	74 046
88	Motor vehicles, tractors, bicycles and other vehicles	1 048
91	Optical instruments, photo-cine, surgical instruments	4 816
94	Arms, ammunition, accessories, parts thereof	11 352
96	Toys, games and sports requisites	3 529
	Other	11 277
	<b>Total</b>	<b>128 874</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

**Table 3: Most important Czech import items in 2013**  
Harmonised System Nomenclature 2

Code	Heading	USD thous.
03	Fish, crustaceans, molluscs and aquatic invertebrates	11 850
08	Fruits, pine nuts, citrus fruit and melon rind	2 655
09	Coffee, tea, mate spices	13 178
19	Preparations of cereals, flour, starch or milk; pastry chef products	3 960
21	Miscellaneous edible preparations	3 949
28	Chemicals, compounds of metals, soils and elements	15 807
39	Plastics and products thereof	11 448
40	Caoutchouc	7 217
42	Articles of leather; saddlery and harness	10 571
46	Manufactures of straw, of esparto or of other plaiting materials	1 147
61	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories, knitted or crocheted	11 329
62	Articles of apparel and clothing accessories other than knitted or crocheted	22 447
63	Made-up textile articles; sets; worn clothing and worn textile articles; rags	3 015
64	Footwear, gaiters and similar; parts of such articles	87 269
73	Iron and steel products	4 521
82	Tools, implements, cutlery, spoons and forks, of base metal; parts thereof	1 041
84	Reactors, boilers, mechanical instruments	46 799
85	Electrical recording instruments, sound and TV image reproducers	100 967
87	Motor vehicles, tractors, bicycles and other vehicles	31 573
90	Optical instruments, photo-cine, surgical instruments	4 268
94	Furniture, bedding, lighting fittings, prefabricated buildings	6 782
95	Toys, games, sports requisites	3 962
96	Miscellaneous products	2 359
	Other	10 125
<b>Total</b>		<b>418 239</b>

Source: Czech Statistical Office

such as ICT, biotechnologies and nanotechnologies, also have good prospects. Czech firms have also scored success in investing. Their investments in Vietnam amount to USD 65 million. Their most important projects include a kaolin processing plant, and a factory for the manufacture of electrical components opened in 2013. A Czech financial group operating in household credit is also successful. Another stimulus for the promotion of mutual economic cooperation was the 4th session of the Mixed Czech-Vietnamese Economic Commission in Hanoi in May 2014. The Czech sector was led by Jan Mládek, Minister of Industry and Trade.

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# [Examples of Successful Projects in Southeast Asia]

*For years, Czech companies have been enjoying a good name on the South-east Asian market, as can be seen from a number of projects they have realised there and from new projects currently in hand.*



of steam turbines for Amata SPP projects. Currently, four steam turbines with an aggregate power output of 146 MW are in operation in Amata plants. Two more turbines, with a power output of 28 MW each, have been delivered to the Amata Bangkadi plant. Further six turbines with an aggregate power output of 252 MW will be delivered to Amata in 2015 and 2016 under an agreement between Amata and Siemens. The success of Siemens s.r.o. in the Asia Pacific market is largely due to its meeting specific requirements regarding national standards and codes applicable to different countries for the operation of power plants and power grids. Another important reason for the company's success in the region is its massive presence in most of the countries and its customer proximity.

One of these companies is Siemens, a leading firm engaged in the power generation machinery business and world leader in the supply of small and medium-sized steam turbines.

**Siemens, s.r.o., Industrial Turbomachinery subsidiary plant (Siemens, s.r.o.)** is a Siemens company based in Brno, Czech Republic, which is continuing the more than 110-year tradition in steam turbine manufacturing in the city of Brno. The core programme of this company is the manufacture of steam turbines and the supply of complete steam turbo sets of different designs. Its services include erection supervision, commissioning and testing of the equipment supplied, training of personnel, and long-term servicing (including repairs, modernisation, and upgrading). The supply of spare parts is also part of the company programme. Siemens, s.r.o. has vast experience with regard to steam turbine supplies to the Asia Pacific region. Over the past 10 years alone, Siemens s.r.o. has supplied more than 110 steam turbo sets with an aggregate capacity of more than 3 500 MW to customers in Asia Pacific. Its success in this region rests on the high quality of its steam turbine supplies, based on the most up-to-date technologies and design, as well as its long experience in doing business in the Asia Pacific market. In Thailand, for example, Siemens cooperates closely with the Amata Group in the supply

**Walmark**, leading manufacturer of food supplements in Central and East Europe, is another company with a presence of over 20 years in the market. Walmark is known for its massive investment in technologies, control systems, and worker skills. Its pharmaceutical plant in the Czech Republic is one of the most modern on a world scale, complying with GMP standards.

Walmark has been systematically developing its business activities on the Czech market and its subsidiary markets in Slovakia, Poland, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, and in more than 30 other countries in Europe, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa. Walmark has been present in Southeast Asia for years, and has built up a satisfied clientele in Vietnam and Myanmar, who now have the opportunity of sharing the benefits of the high quality of Walmark products.

Vietnam is the country where Walmark started its business activities in the region 10 years ago. Its most popular product there is Martians children's multivitamin in syrup form. Vietnamese children love it as much as children in other countries do. In addition to Martians, other Walmark products popular in Vietnam are Dialevel, Urinal, Permen, and Prostenal.

The success of Walmark products in Vietnam was at the root of the company's decision to promote its business activities in the whole of the Southeast Asia region. Myanmar was the next country after Vietnam where Walmark launched its products in 2011. Its medication, ArthroStop, immediately became popular with doctors and patients there.

Walmark products are used by patients in Hong Kong, Macao, Mongolia, and Pakistan. The positive experience and the response from the markets of Southeast Asia are an indication of the potential interest in Walmark products in other countries in the region.





### CZECH CLUSTERS PARTICIPATE IN PROMOTING TRADE BETWEEN EU AND ASEAN

The **CREA Hydro&Energy** cluster of Czech firms, universities and research institutions operating in the area of water management, renewable energy sources and ecosystem services, was the first to have established a foreign representation. One of the aims the cluster has set itself was to penetrate the Southeast Asian markets. Now other Czech clusters associated in the National Cluster Association (NCA) are following suit. Their activities are focused on the emerging markets

of ASEAN, especially the Philippines, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and Thailand. One of its new instruments is the SEBSEAM project, created by the European Commission to support mutual trade between the EU and ASEAN. This project has several sub-projects focusing on the different ASEAN countries in which most Czech firms want to participate. In this context, NCA has become the leader of the Clusters' V4-ASEAN initiative, set up within the framework of the joint project of the Visegrad Four (Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Poland, Hungary) as V4 Clusters. Its main aim is to support the development of clusters in ASEAN countries and their collaboration with clusters in the V4 states. The first activities within the framework of the new initiative of Czech clusters took place in the Philippines and Vietnam in June 2014. A meeting of the SEBSEAM-P project led by ECCP was held in Manila. It was attended by Břetislav Skácel, Manager of the CREA Hydro&Energy cluster and NCA Vice-President. The subjects discussed included the participation of Czech entities and the inclusion of the Clusters' V4-ASEAN initiative in the activities of the project. In Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, a conference was held of the Czech-Vietnamese Cluster & Business Forum and was attended by NCA President, Pavla Brusková.



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# [Support for Investment in the CR in 1<sup>st</sup> Half of 2014]

*In the first half-year of 2014, the CzechInvest Agency listed 116 investment projects worth CZK 78 billion. This volume will create over 14 000 new jobs. Almost half of them, namely 5 745 jobs, will be created in the Moravia-Silesia and Ústí Regions. The figures for the first six months of 2014 exceed the number of projects mediated in all of 2013, and at the same time are the highest in the history of the half-year statistics to date.*

Statistics document a continuing trend of expansions and reinvestments. Out of the total of 116 projects, only 14 are new investment projects. 85% of the projects are supported by investment incentives. At the same time, the figures show that an unusually high number of Czech firms is expanding, which is proof that incentives are not only an impulse for foreign

investors but that they also motivate domestic firms to develop. Traditionally, a dominant role among the sectors is played by vehicle manufacturing. 35 investment projects worth a total of CZK 19.9 billion should create over 6 000 new jobs in future. It is followed by the metallurgy and metalworking industry and mechanical engineering industry. As usual, the largest number of investors who headed to

Period	Number of projects	Investment amount (mil. CZK)	Jobs
1 <sup>st</sup> half 2012	31	1 764.63	2 274
2012	81	20 372.55	8 271
1 <sup>st</sup> half 2013	44	19 478.86	5 098
2013	108	47 949.38	10 519
1 <sup>st</sup> half 2014	116	78 312.16	14 094

In the period under review, the investment appetite of companies was enhanced primarily by the approaching change of legislation. In July, the system of investment incentives was influenced by changes resulting from the European Commission regulation which will reduce the size of public support. Thus a number of investors wanted to act while the existing terms were still in effect, as CzechInvest guaranteed them for intentions submitted by the middle of March. The growth in investment is also favourably influenced by activities of the Czech government, which reinstated investment support among its priorities. It endeavours to steer investors mainly to areas with a high unemployment rate. The strategic industrial zones in Žatec and Ostrava-Mošnov are currently of great importance.

Sector	Number	Investment (mil. CZK)	Jobs
Manufacture of vehicles	35	19 921.53	6 105
Metallurgy and metalworking	16	8 550.87	816
Mechanical engineering	13	4 045.32	969
Food industry	10	3 814.12	344
Chemical, and pharmaceuticals	9	6 043.39	164
Rubber and plastics	6	24 555.74	1 660
Woodworking and paper	5	3 725.93	282
Electronic and electrotechnical	5	512.20	375
IT and software development	4	1 009.39	502
Textile	3	2 781.42	594
Biotechnology and healthcare equipment	2	1 777.01	392
Strategic services centre	2	18.34	327
Other	2	310.05	29
Glassmaking	2	1 030.90	5
Logistics	1	100.00	1 500
Renewable energy sources and clean technologies	1	115.95	30



Region	Number	Investment amount (CZK mil.)	Jobs
Moravia-Silesia Region	19	12 839.86	2 721
Ústí nad Labem Region	18	31 018.69	3 024
Central Bohemia Region	13	5 234.81	2 071
South Moravia Region	12	3 129.34	758
Plzeň Region	11	2 680.38	1 212
Zlín Region	8	4 492.66	407
Olomouc Region	7	2 354.24	335
Karlovy Vary Region	6	3 359.85	531
Hradec Králové Region	6	7 250.02	1 683
Pardubice Region	6	1 473.77	502
Capital City of Prague	4	1 029.62	438
Liberec Region	4	2 559.96	370
South Bohemia Region	2	888.96	42

the Czech Republic in the first half of 2014 came from Germany. The exact number was 25, they will invest over CZK 12.5 billion in the country and could create up to 3 947 jobs. Frequent investors are also the Dutch (9 investment projects, CZK 5.5 billion, 399 jobs), Americans (8 investment projects, CZK 2.9 billion, 2 548 jobs) and Japanese (5 investment projects, CZK 1.3 billion, 314 jobs).

By regions, the highest sum in investment was obtained by the Ústí nad Labem Region. 18 companies headed there with an overall investment of CZK 31 billion which can create 3 024 new jobs in future. The north of Moravia was chosen by 19 companies, which will invest CZK

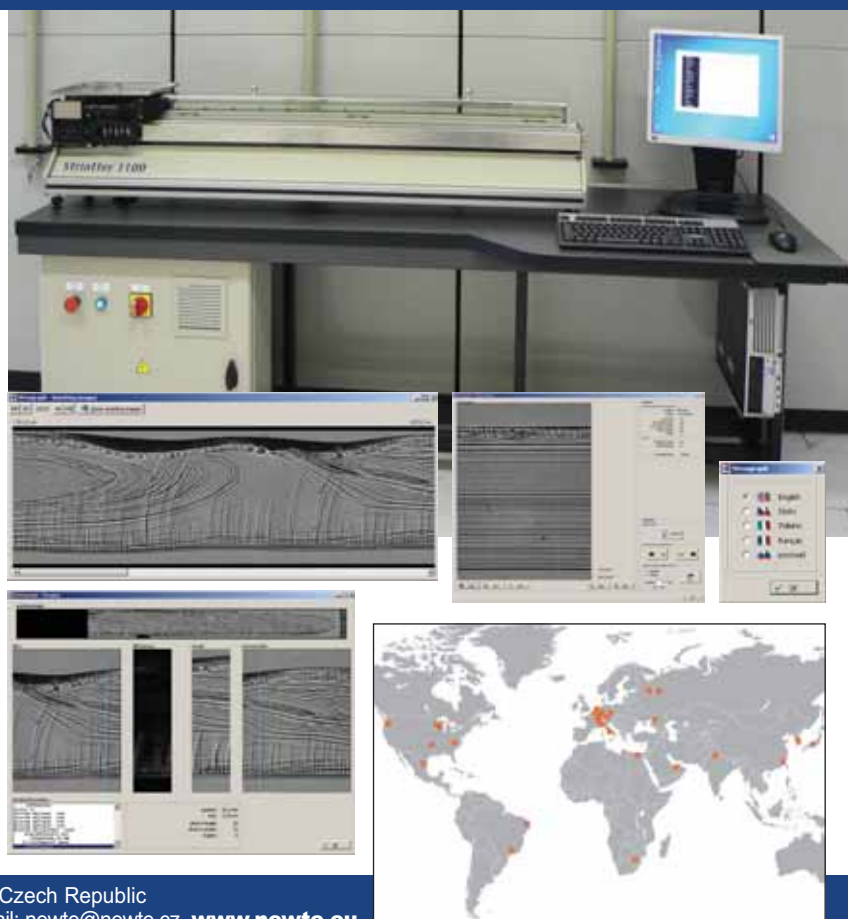
12.8 billion there, thus creating 2 721 new jobs. The largest investment announced in the 1st half of 2014 is the project of the Nexen Tire Company, amounting to CZK 22.8 billion. Next year the company will start the construction of a factory for tyre manufacture in the Triangle Industrial Zone near Žatec in the Ústí nad Labem Region. The second position in the rankings of firms making the highest investment is taken by Brose CZ spol. s r.o., which will expand its manufacture of lock systems and adjustable seats. The third highest investment is the expansion of Continental Automotive Czech Republic s.r.o. in the Hradec Králové Region, worth CZK 2.63 billion. Generally, investors' interest in the Czech Republic is not subsiding. The second half of 2014 will probably not be as record-breaking, but 2014 will certainly remain a very successful year. Similarly to the investment of the Nexen Tire Company in the first half-year, a significant impact on the second half will be made by an investment of the Hyundai Mobis firm. Growth is also expected in automobile production and this will have a favourable effect on the network of suppliers to the car-makers operating in this country.

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# [Companies in the Czech Republic]

*The topic of the article is the basic characteristic of the legal forms of companies in the Czech legal system in the context of the legal forms in Thailand, Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaysia, and the Philippines. We will mention individual types of companies in the Czech Republic, their definitions and basic characteristics. At the same time, we will focus on the process of the formation and establishment of these companies. Finally, we will also point out some differences in the national legislations.*

## FORMATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF COMPANIES

Companies in the Czech Republic are established on the basis of a Memorandum of Association (one or more founders). In the

With effect from 1 January 2014, there was a comprehensive reorganization of the private law system, i.e. including company law, in the Czech legal system. Companies' legislation is newly governed mainly by the Business Corporations Act, the Civil Code, and the Act on Public Registers of Legal Entities and Natural Persons.

## INDIVIDUAL TYPES OF COMPANY

The Czech legal system distinguishes between so-called partnerships, which **include private unlimited companies and limited partnerships, and so-called capital companies**, which include limited liability companies and joint stock companies. The same forms of company are also regulated **by Thai law. Vietnamese law** distinguishes between limited liability companies, joint stock companies, partnership companies, and private companies. In Malaysia, it is possible to establish a so-called company limited by shares (similar to a limited liability company), company limited by guarantee, unlimited company, and company limited both by shares and guarantee (similar to limited partnerships). The main pillar of the **Indonesian legal regulation** of companies is the Limited Liability Companies Act. It regulates the basic model of the limited liability company. Furthermore, so-called open and public companies are distinguished within the limited liability companies. The legal regulation of companies **in the Philippines** is mainly based on the legal status of a company (The Corporation Code of the Philippines), which distinguishes companies as stock corporations (joint stock companies) and non-stock corporations (companies that are not established for profit). The most common form of a company in the Czech Republic is a limited liability company and a joint stock company. A public unlimited company is defined by law as a company established by at least two persons who are involved in its business activities or the management of its assets and are liable for its debts jointly and severally. A limited partnership is a company where at least one partner has limited liability for its debts (limited partner) and at least one partner has unlimited liability (general partner).

case of a joint stock company, the company is established upon adoption of the Articles of Association. If the company has a sole founder (if permitted by law), the Memorandum of Association must be drawn up in the form of a public document, i.e. notarial deed. The Memorandum of Association must have the same format in the case of establishment of a limited liability company and Articles of Association of a joint stock company. Memoranda of Association are also drawn up in Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, the Philippines, and Indonesia. However, for example, Thailand does not have a "notarial system", thus the Memorandum of Association is not controlled until the application for incorporation in the register. Companies in the Czech Republic are established upon entry into the Commercial Register (so-called constitutive entry) which is decided by the locally competent regional court according to the company's registered office. Registration of a company in Malaysia, Vietnam, Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines is decided by other institutions. For example in Indonesia, establishment of a company is decided by the Ministry of Justice. Czech laws allow a notary to make a direct entry into the Commercial Register in certain situations, namely when registered companies are based on a notarial deed and when all documents which are required for entry into the Register or for filing in the collection of documents have been submitted to the notary and the person authorised to file an application for entry requests it. However, only the notary who drew up the underlying notarial deed (i.e. the notarial deed for entry in the public register or on the decision of a body of a legal entity), or all existing underlying notarial deeds and certifying notarial deeds (certifies legal actions taken after the meeting, about which the underlying notarial deed informs) is entitled to make the entry into the Commercial Register. The Commercial Register is publicly accessible, contains the most important information about companies (company name, registered office, names of the members of the statutory bodies of the company, amount of contributions, registered capital, etc.) and it is maintained by the competent regional court according to the registered office. Information about companies is currently available also at <http://portal.justice.cz/Justice2/Uvod/uvod.aspx> (even the documents which are filed by the companies in the Commercial Register are stored here electronically) or [www.obchodnirejstrik.cz](http://www.obchodnirejstrik.cz). For example in Thailand, the Commercial Register is maintained by the Office of Business Development. Applications for entry of a Czech company in the Commercial Register are submitted on a standard form, which is publicly accessible at <http://portal.justice.cz/Justice2/Uvod/uvod.aspx>. The application for entry must be accompanied by documents of the facts that are to be entered in the Commercial Register and documents that are filed in the collection of documents in connection with this entry (i.e. mainly documents on the establishment - Memorandum of Association, Articles of Association, documents proving the scope of business activities, documents on the payment of the contribution - e.g. statement of the administrator of the contributions on the payment of the contribution, proof of registered office of the company, etc.). The application for en-



try of a Czech company in the Commercial Register must be submitted within 6 months from the establishment of the company. A necessary condition for registration of a company in the Commercial Register is the payment of a court fee of CZK 12 000 (about USD 551) for a joint stock company and CZK 6 000 (about USD 275) for other companies.

### LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY

The Business Corporations Act defines it as a company for whose debts the partners are liable jointly and severally up to the amount in which they did not meet the contribution obligations according to the situation reported in the Commercial Register at the time when they were asked by a creditor to fulfil their obligations. It may be established even by a single founder. Similarly in Vietnam, it is possible for a limited liability company to be established by one founder, while Thai law requires at least three founders and Indonesian law two founders. Vietnamese law considers the liability of shareholders for the debts of the company always up to the amount of their contributions regardless of the status of repayment of individual contributions. The share of a partner in a Czech limited liability company is determined by the proportion of the partner's contribution attributable to the share to the registered capital unless the Memorandum of Association provides otherwise. The minimum contribution is CZK 1.00 (about USD 0.05) unless the Memorandum of Association determines that the amount of the contribution is higher. Therefore, the registered capital of a Czech limited liability company can be as little as CZK 1.00 (about USD 0.05). Czech law requires at least partial repayment of the contributions before entry of a company in the Commercial Register, i.e. the entire share premium must be paid up and at least 30% of each cash contribution must be paid. A partner must meet the contribution obligation within the time limit specified in the Memorandum of Association, but not later than 5 years from the date of the establishment of the company or acceptance of the contribution obligation during the existence of the company. The obligatory bodies of a Czech limited liability company are the General Meeting and executives. A limited liability company is required to establish a supervisory board only if so provided by the Memorandum of Association or special law. For example, Vietnamese law provides for the obligation to establish a supervisory board in the case of a limited liability company with more than 11 partners. In Thailand, the institute of a supervisory board for a limited liability company is not regulated.

### JOINT STOCK COMPANY

A Czech joint stock company is defined as a company whose capital is divided into a certain number of shares. A joint stock company can be also established by a sole founder, unlike regulated by law in Thailand, Vietnam, and the Philippines, where this option is not allowed by the legal system. In the Czech Republic, a joint stock company is established without a public offer of shares, i.e. it is established only based on contributions of the founders who subscribe all shares. These founders then approve the adoption of the Articles of Association, and thereby establish the company. In contrast, in Thailand, for example, it is possible to establish a joint stock company only with a public offer of shares. The registered capital of a Czech joint stock company is expressed in Czech koruna. If the joint stock company keeps its books in euro according to a special legal regulation, it can express its registered capital in euro. The minimum capital must be at least CZK 2 000 000 (about USD 91 840). A shareholder must pay the issue price of shares subscribed within the period determined by the Articles of Association, but not later than 1 year from the date of establishment of the company. The Business Corporations Act allows the founders of a Czech joint stock company to choose whether their company has a dualistic or monistic structure of managing bodies. In the case of a dualistic structure, the Board of Directors and the Supervisory Board must be established in addition to the General Meeting. In a monistic structure, the Managing Board with the statutory director is established instead of these two bodies, while the Managing Board may also have only one member. It may therefore happen that the only member of the Managing Board is simultaneously the statutory director. The bodies of a joint stock company in Vietnam are the General Meeting, Board of Directors, Supervisory Board, and the Director or Managing Director. The bodies of a Philippine joint stock company then include the Board of Directors and the General Meeting. Philippine law also regulates other institutes such as the President of the company, Economist of the company and Secretary of the company.



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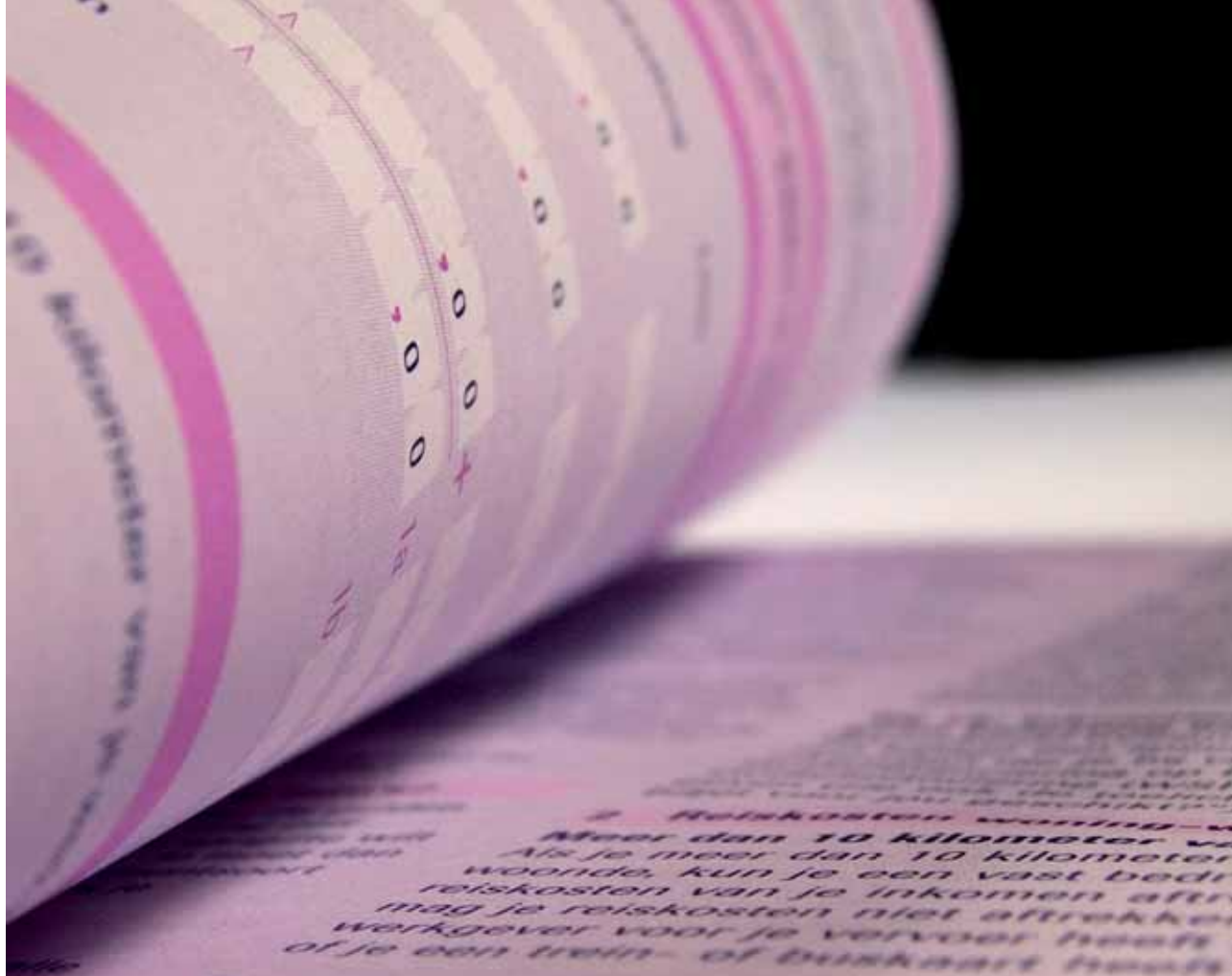
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# [Tax System of the Czech Republic]

*The main characteristics of the Czech Republic's tax system are similar to those of other EU and OECD countries.*

## 1. DIRECT TAXES

Payers of **Personal Income Tax** are all natural persons having their residence in the territory of the Czech Republic or persons living there. The tax period is the calendar year. The tax base is the sum of all incomes, which the law divides into income from employment, income from business, rental income, capital income, and other income. The rate is 15%. For the 2013 to 2015 tax periods, a Solidarity Increase of Personal Income Tax has been in effect, amounting to 7% of that part of the income of natural persons which exceeds approximately CZK 100 000 / USD 4 674 per month (4 times the average monthly wage).

Payers of **Corporate Income Tax** are all types of juristic persons, depending on the address of their registered office or the place from where their activities are directed. The tax period is the calendar year or another 12-month period. The tax base is the profit, i.e. the difference between income and expenses relating to the tax period concerned. The income and expenses are ascertained from account-

ing documents according to Czech national bookkeeping standards. Only tax-allowable expenses, i.e. those incurred so as to generate, secure, and maintain the income, may be deducted from the income. The depreciation of assets is assessed individually. The rate is 19%. Further, there are the **Road Tax** and **Tax on Acquisition of Immovable Property**.

## 2. INDIRECT TAXES

**Value Added Tax** is harmonised with EU legislation. Currently, VAT registration liability applies to persons with a turnover exceeding CZK 1 000 000/USD 46 744 per year. Persons with a lower turnover may register voluntarily. The rates are 15% and 21%.

**Excise Duties** are harmonised with the respective Directives as well. Excise Duties apply to mineral oils, alcohol, beer, wine, tobacco products, electricity, solid fuels (coal and coke), and natural gas.

### USEFUL LINKS

Ministry of Finance [www.mfcr.cz](http://www.mfcr.cz)

Czech Tax Administration [www.financnisprava.cz](http://www.financnisprava.cz)

OECD Tax Database [www.oecd.org/ctp/taxdatabase](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/taxdatabase)

OECD Taxing Wages [www.oecd.org/ctp/tax-policy/taxing-wages.htm](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/tax-policy/taxing-wages.htm)

Zdeněk Hrdlička

Ministry of Finance

[www.mfcr.cz](http://www.mfcr.cz)

Note: USD 1 = CZK 21.393 (average exchange rate set by the Czech National Bank in September 2014)

# [Czech Engineering – Tradition and Future]

*In the Czech Republic, engineering is crucial for the development of GDP and the foreign trade balance as well as employment. Competitive engineering is of interest to foreign investors and support for research and development is therefore crucial to maintaining and improving its level.*

In the Czech Republic, the sector includes the production of a wide range of machines, including parts and accessories, usable in most sectors of the manufacturing industry and other sectors such as agriculture, transport, forestry, metal production, metallurgy, mining, textile, paper, the food industry, and the building industry.

In 2013, exports of machinery and transport equipment (SITC 7) reached USD 87 billion, which represents nearly 54% of the total exports of the Czech Republic.

## TRADITION

Engineering in the Czech Republic builds on a long tradition, when the former Czechoslovakia was one of the top-ten engineering countries in the world in the period between the world wars. During more than 150 years, a number of radical changes took place in this area of business, both at the level of the technological equipment structure of production and in the business base. A major change occurred in 1989, when engineering companies were forced to deal with the unfavourable situation resulting from the loss of traditional markets, the entry of new foreign competitors (with adequate capital resources and know-how) on the Czech market, and changes in the ownership structure.

## PRESENT

Within the manufacturing industry, or the entire Czech economy, the sector has grown in the last decade with the exception of 2009, when there was an almost one-fifth decline in exports in the segment due to the global economic crisis. However, already in 2010 the market recovered and the exports of machinery and transport equipment reached USD 72.6 billion, representing a 119.7% year-on-year index. The trend continued similarly in 2011, when exports reached USD 89.2 billion (122.8% year-on-year). The year 2012 brought again an increase in performance, however, due to the strengthening of the USD to the Czech koruna and the euro respectively, the conversion to USD showed a slight increase of USD 85 billion, or a 95.4% year-on-year index respectively. In 2013, exports grew by 2.2% year-on-year and reached USD 87 billion.



The engineering sector, which is export-oriented like most of the manufacturing industry of the Czech Republic, has been long (over 10 years) showing an active trade balance (USD 28.5 billion in 2013). In terms of the territorial structure of foreign trade, the traditional and by far the largest trading partner of the country is Germany, followed by France, the UK, Russia, Slovakia, the Netherlands, and Poland.

## FUTURE

Mechanical engineering is characterised by a relatively high degree of sensitivity to the economic cycle. The situation of the Czech economy, as well as the economy of our largest foreign trade partners thus directly affects demand. Although Czech engineering has relatively quickly broken free from the consequences of the global crisis, it is still trying to intensively focus its production range on machinery and equipment with higher added value based on new knowledge in engineering research and new patents, also thanks to the influence of foreign investment in the establishment of branches of research and development institutions in the Czech Republic.

### Export of Machinery and Transport Equipment (SITC 7)

Period	USD (thousand)	year-on-year (%)
2005	39 595 078	115.8
2006	50 656 985	127.9
2007	66 588 521	131.4
2008	78 723 730	118.2
2009	60 635 649	77.0
2010	72 606 952	119.7
2011	89 163 034	122.8
2012	85 099 298	95.4
2013	86 965 929	102.2

Source: Czech Statistical Office



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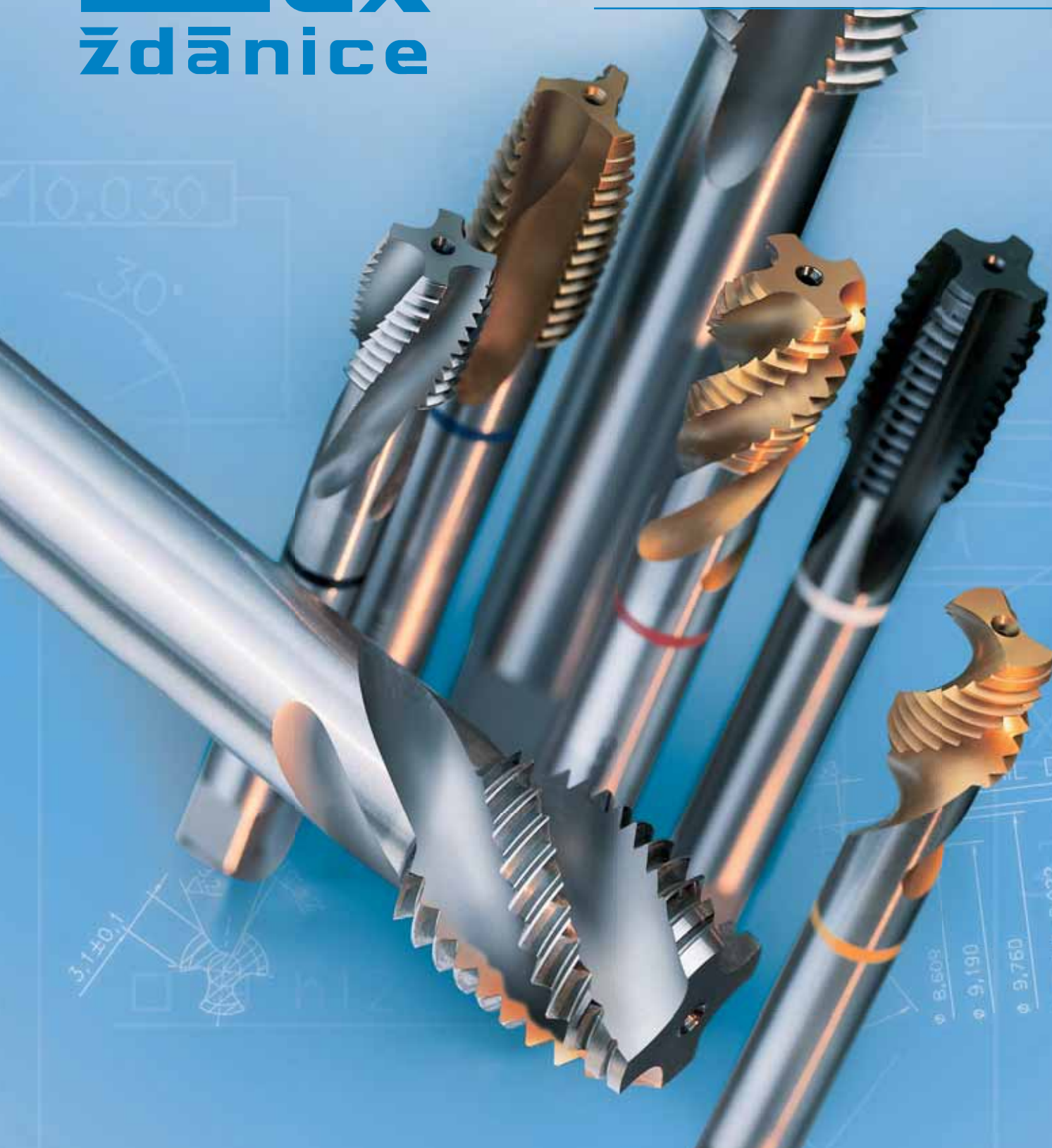
- Producer of pumps for thermal and nuclear energetics (feedwater systems, condensate systems, cooling systems, circulation systems, firefighting water systems)
- Producer of pumps for irrigation and dewatering pumping stations
- Preparation of pumping station design including operation optimalization
- A complex provision of consecutive services (installation and commissioning, maintenance)
- **References within territory:**  
Pakistan (thermal energetics)  
India (thermal and nuclear energetics)  
India (irrigation)



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# [Czech Automotive Industry]

*The automotive industry is the engine of economic recovery in the Czech Republic with a major positive impact on the foreign trade balance and the development of the gross domestic product.*

The Czech Republic with its 10 million residents occupies a remarkable position even on a global scale. In 2013, it was the 12th largest producer of passenger cars in the world. 107 cars per 1 000 inhabitants were produced in the Czech Republic and that makes us 2nd in the world, right after Slovakia. From this perspective, we were even number one in the world in the production of buses.

## PRODUCTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC (UNITS/YEAR)

The year 2013 saw the third highest production of road vehicles in the history of the Czech lands, reaching nearly 1.2 million units. The production of cars (1 126 386 units) and buses (3 691 units) was the deciding factor to this.

According to AIA (Automotive Industry Association), in 2013 the total sales of its member companies were the highest in the history of the Czech automotive industry. The values reached CZK 741.9 billion (USD 37.1 billion). In comparison with 2012, there was an increase of 2.9%. At the same time, AIA strengthened its position in the economy of the Czech Republic because its share of the revenues from the Czech industrial production rose from 19.8% in 2012 to 20.1% in 2013.

Including other “non- AIA -member” companies, the total production of the Czech automotive industry in 2013 was nearly CZK 865 billion (USD 43.3 billion). Therefore, the share of the automotive industry in revenues from industrial activities was 23% and its share in the GDP of the Czech Republic was approximately 7%.

## 85% OF PRODUCTION IS EXPORTED

Export is absolutely vital for the Czech automotive industry. The country exports 85% of its production. Its exports followed the development of sales and in 2013 they also reached a historical high of CZK 630 billion (USD 31.5 billion). In comparison with the previous year, it increased by 5.9%. The share of AutoSAP companies in the aggregate exports of the Czech Republic in 2013 rose to 19.9%.



An important element of the Czech automotive industry are manufacturers of parts and accessories of vehicles. In 2013, the share of suppliers in the total sales of the automotive industry was 46.3%. Sales of the supply sector grew by nearly 4% to CZK 343.5 billion (USD 17.2 billion). Its export also increased by 11.3% to CZK 267.8 billion (USD 13.4 billion). The sales and exports of suppliers increased for the fifth consecutive year. Gradually, they approached the values of 2007, the most successful year before the economic recession.

The number of employees in AutoSAP companies stabilised at 110 000 persons and approached the levels in the period before the economic recession. The automotive industry directly employs about 150 000 persons including non-member companies. It can be estimated that in 2013 its share in the number of employees in industrial activities was 11% but it accounted for 23.5% of the industrial production of the Czech Republic. The Automotive Industry Association currently has 145 member companies and organisations. Of these, the majority (105 companies) are manufacturers of parts and accessories. There are 11 final producers and 29 companies and organisations conduct research and development or provide services or education in the automotive industry. The largest member company is Škoda Auto; however, two-thirds of AutoSAP companies are small and medium-sized companies with no more than 500 employees.

More information is available at:  
Automotive Industry Association  
[www.autosap.cz](http://www.autosap.cz)

Photo: PhotoCombo

## Production of motor vehicles in the Czech Republic (units/year)

Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Vehicle Category					
Passenger cars M1	976 435	1 069 518	1 191 968	1 171 774	1 126 386
Light commercial vehicles N1	2 650	2 745	3 013	2 493	2 087
Lorries N2 and N3	1 091	1 410	1 302	1 499	763
Buses M2 and M3	3 067	2 711	3 562	3 229	3 691
Motorcycles and mopeds L	1 561	749	782	2 319	1 354
Trailers O3 and O4	761	772	1 080	1 505	1 251



# [Czech Manufacturers of Agricultural Machinery Are Doing Well]

*Agricultural machines used to be important Czech export items.*

*Later, Czech manufacturers were pushed out of many markets by international competition. In spite of this, the sophisticated production has not disappeared from Czech factories, and today it is returning with new impetus. Firms are responding to demand more readily, coming up with new models and, thanks to the processing quality and competitive prices, are standing their ground even in international trade.*



2008 foreign machinery imports grew at the same rate as Czech manufacturers managed to place their goods on foreign markets. In 2009 and 2010, foreign trade fell by approximately 30% in comparison with the previous period, the same as domestic sales. The year 2011 saw a revival of foreign trade, and in the following years this trend continued. According to the latest A.ZeT data, exports and imports remain balanced (amounting to CZK 15 billion, approx. EUR 577 million in 2013). In exports, an important role is played by Zetor tractors. The manufacturing firm exports about 86% of its output, and sells the rest in the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Other important exporters are Farmet at Česká Skalice near Náchod, which manufactures soil cultivation machines; these machines (cultivators, compactors, harrows) are the most frequently exported items. Other large manufacturers and exporters are Bednar FMT Praha, followed by OPaLL Agri Dolní Životice, and SMS CZ Rokycany. AGRIO Křemže is known for its sprayers, ZDT Nové Veselí exports trailers and semi-trailers. Other export items are mowing machines, front loaders, manure spreaders, and the full range of small agricultural machines and tools. Also doing well is the manufacture of special equip-

In the Czech Republic, there are approximately 100 agricultural and forestry machinery manufacturers. The A.ZeT Agricultural and Forestry Machinery Association estimates that agricultural machinery manufacturers employ some 10 000 people in the Czech Republic, about one-third of the number of workers the sector employed 20 years ago.

According to a survey of the Agricultural Machinery Importers Association and the Agricultural and Forestry Machinery Association, 2 304 tractors were sold in 2013 in comparison with 2 096 tractors two years ago, a growth of 9.9%; in the same period, 175 combine harvesters were sold in comparison with 196 two years ago, a 10.7% decline year-on-year. The fact, however, is that in 2009 and 2010 overall sales dropped significantly, so that the 2013 figures are roughly at the 2006 level.

## FOREIGN TRADE

Czech firms are becoming increasingly involved in international trade; in practice, until

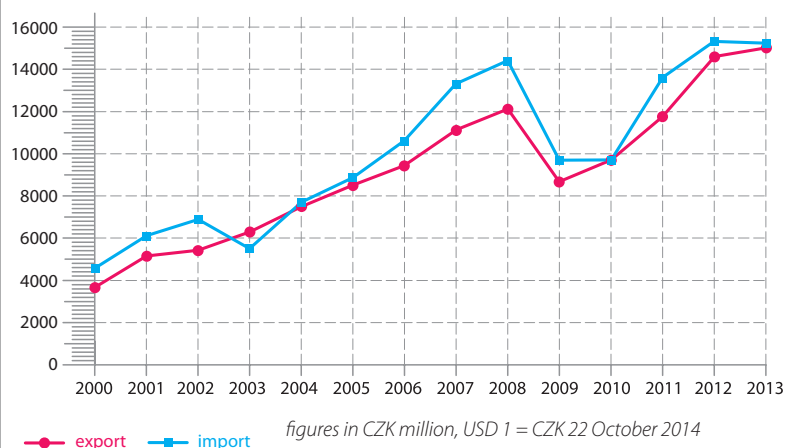
ment, such as tree stump cutters and oil seed processing refineries. Czech stable mechanisation manufacturers, such as FARMTEC Jistebnice, Bauer Technics Tábor, and AGE České Meziříčí, are well known. An important factor in domestic and foreign trade is the presentation of Czech manufacturers at important European trade fairs. In the last two decades, a prominent place has been assumed by the TECH-AGRO / SILVA REGINA / ANIMAL VETEX / BIOMASS international fair, which has gained favourable international renown and, in the European context, ranks immediately after the two most prestigious exhibition events in this sector, the fairs of SIMA Paris and AGRI-TECHNICA Hannover. Over the past few years, TECHAGRO has been the most successful project of all the fairs organised in the Czech Republic; for example, in 2014, the 743 exhibitors occupied an area of more than 83 000 sq. m and the attendance at the fair was almost 120 000 visitors.

## STRENGTHS, TRENDS, AND EXPECTATIONS OF THE SECTOR

A relative advantage of the Czech agro-engineering industry is the structure of the manufacturing firms: most of them are small and medium-sized enterprises, which are more apt to react to demand and prepare their machines to meet the requirements and wishes of customers promptly.



### Foreign Trade – Manufacture of Forestry and Agricultural Machines (in CZK million)



Source: Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic

Making a reliable prediction for the period to come is extremely complicated. The crisis meant not only fewer orders and production cuts, but also a crisis of economic predictions. Of course, a revival is possible, but a downfall cannot be excluded either. The Czech economy is small and open and is practically dependent on exports. Of course, we would be glad if the trend of the past years continued, and if the information from the banking sector was confirmed that the interest of farmers to invest is growing, and if the positive trend with regard to machinery purchases continued and was of a more permanent character.

However, agriculture is a sector strongly dependent on political decisions, at both national and EU levels. With regard to domestic decisions, these concern, for example, cheaper fuel for farmers, and imposing taxes on still wines. Regular competition is being distorted by the policy of chain stores, on which farmers have become unduly dependent as a result of current legislation. A controversial issue dividing EU member states is common agricultural policy financing which, due to unbalanced and unjust interventions and subsidies, upsets free competition and demotivates hundreds of Czech farmers, even the meat, grain, milk, fruit and vegetable producers who stand up well to competition. In view of the different approaches, the question is to what extent it will be possible to push through changes that would cut down spending on the common agricultural policy, give more support to rural development and the improvement of the quality of country life, while reducing production subsidies and regulation within the sector, without allowing for asymmetric solutions which put certain states (including the Czech Republic) at a disadvantage.

Dušan Benža

General Secretary, Association of Agricultural  
and Forestry Machinery A.ZeT  
[www.zetis.cz](http://www.zetis.cz)

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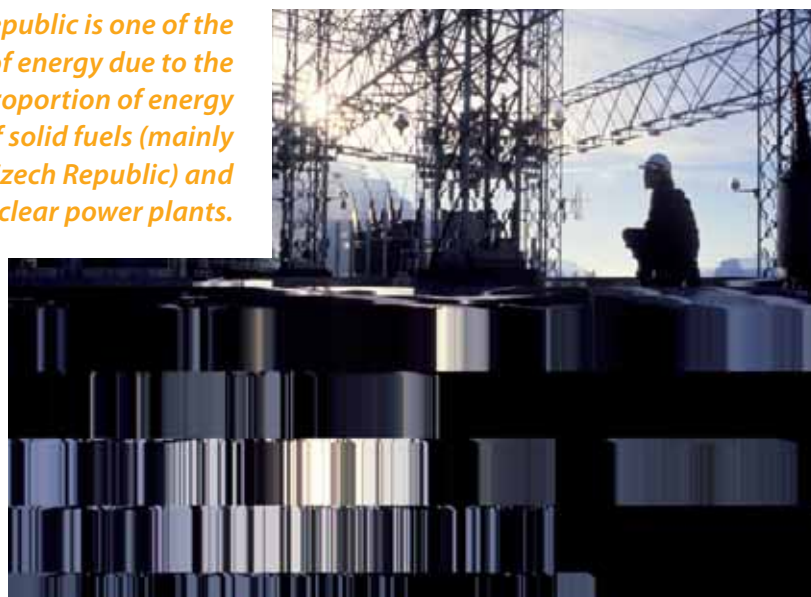
# [The Czech Republic, a Major Player in the European Energy Industry]

*Among the EU Member States, the Czech Republic is one of the countries least dependent on imports of energy due to the structure of its energy mix. A large proportion of energy production comes from its own supply of solid fuels (mainly coal, part of which is also exported by the Czech Republic) and the production of nuclear power plants.*

Thanks to the country's own supply of solid fuels, the Czech Republic imports only oil and natural gas, on the supply of which it is, however, highly dependent. The bases of the electricity resource base are therefore nuclear power plants, coal-fired power plants, heating plants, large hydraulic power plants, and industrial power stations. This mix is complemented by renewable sources, especially wind and photovoltaic power plants, as well as biomass and biogas burning sources. The largest increase in recent years has been in the area of photovoltaic sources. Thanks to the established support system and the cost of technology, nearly 2 GW were installed in these sources in 2009 and 2010. Current figures confirm the position which the Czech Republic has earned in recent years as one of Europe's and the world's largest exporters of electricity, although the year 2013 did not reach the record level of 2012, when net exports - i.e. the difference between exports and imports - was 17.12 terawatt-hours. In terms of financial volume, the energy export performance in 2013 fell to less than 80%. For a long time, the largest consumers of Czech electricity have been Austria, Germany, and Slovakia. From the macroeconomic perspective, it is an advantage that, in addition to cars, electronics and machinery products, the Czech Republic has further significant export potential. In terms of energy security, it is important that the Czech Republic does not only import raw materials such as gas and oil but also exports a strategic commodity (which also brings added value compared to raw materials).

## MARKET REGULATION

In the Czech Republic, the electricity market operates based on regulated access to the transfer system, distribution systems, the possibility of construction of power plants and direct lines. Prices for electricity transfer and distribution, system services, the price of electricity for captive customers and the price of electricity of a supplier are regulated by an independent regulator of the energy market - the Energy Regulatory Office. Its competences include promoting competition and protecting the interests



of consumers in those areas of the energy industry where competition is not possible, with the aim of satisfying all reasonable demands for energy supply. The Office decides on the granting, amendment, or revocation of licences or price regulation under special legislation.

## LARGEST PLAYERS IN THE MARKET

In the Czech Republic, electricity is produced mainly by ČEZ (about 75%) and more than 100 other independent producers. In addition to thermal power plants using fossil fuels, the Temelín and Dukovany nuclear power plants, hydroelectric, solar, wind power stations as well as biomass power plants also operate in the Czech Republic. The completion of the Temelín power plant is currently being discussed, which should be the largest contract in Czech history and for which the world's largest suppliers of nuclear technology are competing.

## NATIONAL ENERGY POLICY

The updated national energy strategy sets the long-term vision for the Czech power industry and strategic objectives of the Czech power industry such as safety, competitiveness, and sustainability. It describes the basic assumptions and expected trends in the Czech power industry in the context of development in the EU and the region, including an analysis of risks and opportunities. Based on that, it specifies priority areas and measurable objectives for individual areas, including strategies for achieving them; it establishes the future balanced resource mix ensuring power safety and competitiveness. The priorities are transformation of the heating industry, recovery and strengthening of infrastructure (including the development of smart grids and international integration), it discusses the construction of new blocks of the Temelín nuclear power plant (possibly the Dukovany power plant) and the creation of conditions for further development of renewable energy sources. The area of energy efficiency and savings as well as enhancing energy stability and crisis mechanisms are significantly accentuated. The Raw Material Policy of the Czech Republic then builds on the national energy policy and talks about reasonable and careful mining and use of strategic and energy raw materials.

# Profile of the Association CREA Hydro&Energy

**CREA Hydro&Energy** is a cluster of companies, research institutes and universities operating in the branch of technologies for hydraulic structures, water and waste management and renewable energy resources.

**CREA Hydro&Energy** provides Research, Consulting, Surveys, Design, Engineering, Manufacturing, Supply, Installation, Testing, Training, Special Services, etc. in the branch of:

- **Water Structures** (Dams, Pumping stations, Water Resources, Hydropower Plants, Water Treatment Plants, Water Supply, etc.)
- **Waste Management** (Landfills, Waste Water Treatment, Waste to Energy, etc.)
- **Renewable Energy** (Small Hydro, Wind, Solar, Biogas)



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## [The Defence Industry of the Czech Republic]

*The history of the Czech defence industry dates back to the 1930s. It had good foundations to build on, as, already at that time, Czechoslovak engineering ranked among the world's most technically advanced industries.*

Its manufacture of small arms, ammunition, artillery, armoured vehicles, tracked and wheeled vehicles, and, in particular, aircraft, fully met the needs of the army of the newly established Czechoslovakian State, and a significant part of the production could be exported. Perfect products based on the latest technical findings and the advanced technologies of companies such as Škoda Plzeň (field and fortress cannons and howitzers), Českomoravská strojírna (tanks and caterpillar towing vehicles), Tatra, Praga (wheeled field towing vehicles and armoured automobiles), Česká zbrojovka (artillery) and Sellier & Bellot (with a tradition of ammunition production since 1825) were used by the armies of the world's largest countries.

After the Second World War, the Czechoslovak defence industry continued to develop, based on extensive research, development and production facilities. However, after 1989 this sector was greatly transformed in connection with the privatisation of the economy and the split of the country into the Czech and the Slovak Republics, which signified a decline and brought about vast restructuring of production. The problems, however, were soon overcome

and today the industry is fully stabilised, comprising large enterprises, such as the Česká Zbrojovka firearms manufacturing company, AERO Vodochody, AEROSPACE

a.s., Sellier & Bellot a.s., LOM PRAHA s.p. and a number of state research institutes, plus more than one hundred smaller enterprises taking advantage of the tradition and skills of the sector. The production of most of them is mixed, serving both the military and civilian sectors. The products of the defence industry boast the highest technical and technological standards and, as in the past, are supplied to the armed forces of dozens of countries all over the world.

The defence industry continuously modernises its production, whether this concerns armoured vehicles, artillery, radar, communication or aviation equipment and technology. Regularly the manufacturers introduce new products of international technical standards, including wheeled armoured vehicles, passive tracking systems, radars and handguns, and develop new ammunition and explosives, jamming systems, unmanned devices, aircraft and parts thereof, and safety software and simulators. Cooperation with Czech manufacturers and material equipment supplied by the Czech manufacturers have added world fame to the Czech army units in defence actions to eliminate the effects of nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. The Czech defence and security industry, represented by the Defence and Security Industry Association, promotes its skills and abilities using the latest research findings and offers its products to the armed forces of other countries. The industry also participates in joint projects with domestic and foreign firms at the highest technical and technological level.

Defence and Security Industry Association of the Czech Republic  
[www.aobp.cz](http://www.aobp.cz)

# [Reuse of Wastes in the CR]

*The situation concerning waste management is relatively stable in the Czech Republic. In general, the country manages to meet the binding targets set by the European Union, and in certain respects it even occupies positions on the upper rungs of the ladder in the EU. A full 78% of the total production of an estimated 30 million tons of waste is reused.*

As regards communal waste, the Czech Republic is showing the sixth lowest volume of output, which is a great success. The volume of waste deposited in rubbish dumps is being reduced and more waste is being recycled. Over the past five years, one million tons less of waste has been deposited in dumps, bringing the communal waste recycling rate to approximately 30%. We have achieved very good results in the collection and recycling of packaging waste and are at the top of the entire EU in this respect. Certain reserves still exist as regards biologically degradable wastes, but the currently imposed obligation to separate this category of wastes is expected to improve the situation considerably.

## FREE MARKET ECONOMY CONDITIONS ARE ESSENTIAL

Waste management in the Czech Republic is based on the economic situation resulting from the existence of the market economy system in the country and on competition between the services providers. This ensures low waste management costs for waste producers in comparison with other EU states.

## WHAT IS OUR AIM?

We are confident that in future we will be able to stand our ground in this competition and focus on the development of local low-cost waste processing equipment. Waste should continue to be classified, treated and prepared for further use (material, energy). A great potential, in our opinion, rests in turning wastes into fuel and their use in facilities, such as cement plants, heating plants and power stations, while strictly observing EU air protection standards.

## INCINERATION PLANTS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

There are three communal waste incineration plants in the Czech Republic, with an overall capacity of approximately 650 000 tons, while another incineration plant, with a capacity of some 100 000 tons of waste is under construction. The incineration plants are located in large cities – the capital Prague, Brno, Liberec, and the one currently under construction in Chotkov in the Plzeň Region. They are technologically very advanced and environmentally friendly facilities, having a minimum impact on the environment. In spite of the very advanced technology, however, about one-third of the processed volume must be deposited in rubbish dumps as non-combustible residue. This amounts to approximately 30 000 tons per every 100 000 tons of waste. Another disadvantage is that this is, in fact, the most expensive method of waste disposal. In European states, the average cost of burning one ton of waste is estimated at USD 129, while total costs incurred in practising the current waste management system in the Czech Republic amount to USD 40-42 per head per year. Therefore, it does not appear economically rational to build more incineration plants in the CR under existing conditions without tangibly raising the fees for waste producers. Currently, there is no real elbow room for any price increase, as this would have undesirable social impacts. Nor does the European Union consider it reasonable to sub-

sidise the construction of incineration plants and recommends focusing on other modes of waste disposal and on recycling.

## WHAT ARE WE GOOD AT AND WHAT CAN WE OFFER?

As mentioned above, 78% of the overall waste production in the CR is reused. A high percentage of construction waste is efficiently reused and turned into products that can be further used in the building industry. We also have equipment for the re-use of plastic wastes, which can be made into fibres or granulated plastics and used for making final plastic products, such as plastic boards, garden furniture, grass tiles, noise protection walls, etc. Waste paper is used for recycling by paper mills. Biologically degradable wastes are processed into compost and are also used by biogas plants to generate heat and power. We also process suitable wastes with an energy potential into fuel, which is homogenous in quality and composition, has defined calorific value and can be used in certain energy sources. By combining different forms of reusing wastes, we want to build a rational system that will be financially friendly for waste producers and will at the same time meet EU waste management targets.

## THE CZECH WASTE MANAGEMENT ASSOCIATION IN BRIEF

The Czech Waste Management Association (ČAOH) is the largest association of firms engaged in waste management in the Czech Republic. It has more than 80 members, which accounts for approximately 65% of the market. The annual turnover of the member firms ranges between USD 40 and 42 billion. ČAOH members serve over 80 000 waste producing firms and millions of people in the CR under contracts with the communities. The principal aim of ČAOH is to ensure good and sustainable waste management under conditions of the free market economy system and to develop and provide technologies and services that will ensure good services for waste producers at acceptable prices. All this with respect to meeting EU waste management targets.

Petr Havelka, Executive Director  
Czech Waste Management Association  
[www.caoh.cz](http://www.caoh.cz)

*Note: USD 1 = CZK 21.393 (average exchange rate fixed by the Czech National Bank in September 2014)*

# [Brief Outline of the History of Waste Water Treatment Plants in the CR]

*This sector has a long tradition in the Czech Republic, with Waste water treatment plants on its territory going back to the 1890s. The Czech Republic is a country with a highly developed Waste water treatment plant system.*



Waste water treatment plant in Telč.

Currently, all larger agglomerations (over 2 000 inhabitants) and most of the smaller ones have their wastewater collected and treated. Altogether 83% of the population are connected to communal sewage water systems, and this percentage is continuously increasing.

The development of sewage water treatment in urban areas is based on the idea of a general access to the system. This means that the treatment covers not only wastewater, but also all other waters occurring in the particular agglomeration, which also includes sustainable stormwater management.

All types of sewage systems, including pressure and sub-pressure systems, are used to carry sewage water away from the agglomerations for treatment. There are about 44 000 kilometres of sewage piping in the Czech Republic. The waste water treatment plant facility industry quickly responds to market needs and to new discoveries and inventions in this area. In the Czech Republic, a number of research laboratories and universities are concerned with waste water treatment plants. Many of them collaborate with important suppliers of

technological equipment, so that new research and development findings are very quickly applied in practice. Their close cooperation has enabled a rapid development in the area of both sewage water and industrial effluent disposal. Biochemical and combined physicochemical methods of treatment have been used in the country for decades.

In connection with the development of activated sludge process, which, in addition to removing organic impurities and nutrients (nitrogen and phosphorus), the laboratories monitor the population dynamics of microorganisms in activated sludge, with gene probes being used to identify the microorganisms. These methods are used not only to control technological processes, but also to suppress the occurrence of biological foams, which are a frequent problem of modern treatment plants. The CR is among the pioneers in introducing the biochemical elimination of phosphorus and a large number of big treatment plants have been using this technology for a long time. More than 98% of degradable organic impurities are removed in the treatment plants, which accounts for 74% of the total nitrogen and 83% of the total phosphorus.

There are many technological firms in the CR which can ensure the installation of the entire sewage system and its operation in any urbanised area, either in stages, or in the form of whole deliveries of equipment ready to operate. They supply both common flow-through treatment technologies with nitrification, de-nitrification and de-phosphorylation, including cascade and circulatory activated sludge



process, and the more sophisticated SBR systems. These technologies use selective pressure processes to support or suppress different kinds of microorganisms, which are suitable in the treatment of industrial wastewater, or regeneration systems to renew the accumulation capacity of microorganisms in activated sludge. This type of technology makes it possible to reduce the required volumes of water treatment plant reservoirs.

Recently, different types of membrane technologies are being used in sewage water treatment, which are capable of capturing microorganisms or certain types of pollutants harmful to the environment, thus significantly increasing the efficiency of the treatment systems and allowing the water to be reused. In the area of membrane technologies, the CR is among the pioneers in the use of nanotechnologies for special types of membranes. Nanotechnologies are also used for different 'nano' compounds in wastewater treatment, as well as in related areas, such as eliminating impurities contained in the air.

In case of need, technologies based on microorganism growth cultures are used, including systems using biosorption. Some technology firms use "natural methods" of treatment with possibilities of decentralised waste water disposal, which means separating less polluted wastewaters, such as bathroom and washing machine effluent, from strongly polluted lavatory effluent; this latter wastewater, however, can be further separated, treated, and used. Hygienic protection of the treated effluent water is increasingly becoming a matter of course.

All this shows that wastewaters are no longer considered something harmful for society, but are rather looked upon as a source of raw materials, for example for biogas or fertiliser production, and even as a future source of making special substances, such as enzymes. Besides technologies using pollutants in wastewaters as raw materials, further development is targeted at using the entire energy potential of those waters. This trend means that the idea of wastewater recycling, common in waste management, is being remodelled into wastewater reuse. Wastewaters thus cease to be 'waste' and become increasingly 'used' waters. Experts concerned with this issue, either in firms or at universities and research institutes, have formed an association of experts, called Czech Water Association (CzWA). CzWA, with its 450 members, associates experts, companies and institutions whose aim it is to ensure effective and sustainable development in the entire area of water management and water protection.

CzWA is an open association of specialists at all levels concerned with the treatment of water. The Association has a structure with a well functioning system of groups of experts, including those concerned with new branches of research. CzWA has a unique position in representing the Czech Republic abroad and participates actively in the work of the European Water Association and the International Water Association. CzWA collaborates closely with professional organisations in Slovakia, Austria, Germany and Hungary and is prepared to cooperate with more organisations having the same or similar aims.

**Břetislav Krňávek**  
Czech Water Association  
[www.czwa.cz](http://www.czwa.cz)



## CZECH EXPORT BANK

Czech Export Bank is Export Credit Agency of the Czech Republic providing a wide range of products and services to assist and support Czech export internationally.

Czech Export Bank provides credits and other financial products to Czech and foreign companies, financial institutions and governments to finance exports of goods and services from the Czech Republic.

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[www.tcz.cz](http://www.tcz.cz)



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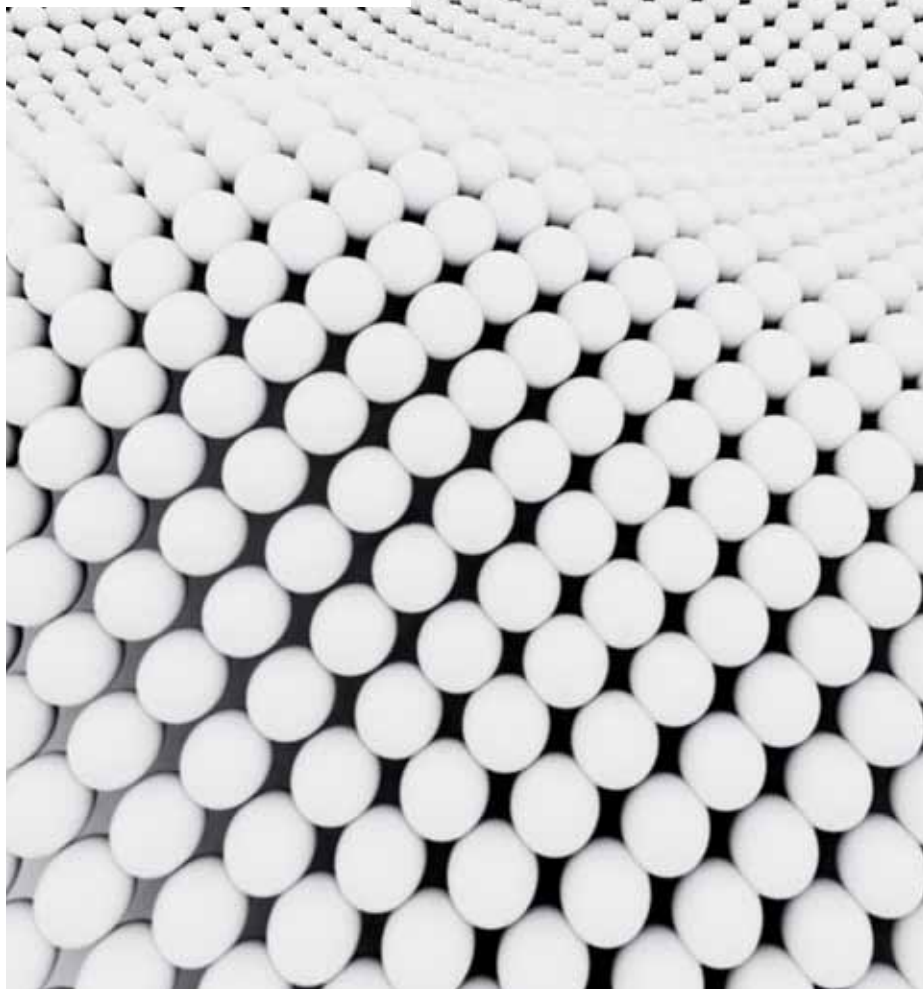
# [Extraordinary Success of Scientists in Liberec]

*Scientists of the Technical University in Liberec have scored another success in the area of nanomaterials research. They have developed a special layer which has the potential to destroy a wide range of pathogenic bacteria, viruses, and moulds with a long-lasting effect.*

For example, the layer destroys the HIV virus and its use might therefore be suitable for application on the surface of materials with which the blood of infected patients comes into contact.

Nanolayers are applied in the form of a solution. Its synthesis is protected by Czech and world patents. The layer is designed for use wherever there is the need for a sterile environment. It can be applied to different materials (floor coverings, walls, glass, plastics, metals, textiles). It is especially suitable for use in hospitals in intensive care units and operating theatres and in neonatology departments, i.e. in wards to which patients with reduced immunity are confined after surgery. "Antibacterial nanolayers of average thickness of 100–300 nanometres can be applied to different types of surfaces by means of covalent bond formation. The bond remains firm and stable unless it is mechanically removed. The applied layer stands washing and other customary treatments. For example, when applied to textiles it will stand up to 50 washes without losing its properties," states Irena Lovětinská-Šambořová, head of the team.

Nanolayers are formed by organic-inorganic polymer hybrids whose two parts are tied by covalent bonds (inorganic part – siliceous oxide, and organic part – polymethylmethacrylate). In the inorganic part, silver, copper and zinc cations are fixed by ion bonding. The active component is silver cations, which penetrate through the cell wall into the body of the bacterium or virus, immediately react with DNA and kill the cell. The zinc and copper cations and the silver cations support each other, thus maintaining the nanolayer's high antibacterial and antimycotic abilities for a long time. A great advantage of the layer in comparison with conventional disinfectants is its long-last-



ing effect. If applied, the effect of the disinfectant solution lasts for hours, while the effect of the layer lasts for months. The Liberec scientists thus take credit for helping to reduce the danger of infection spreading in hospitals and other healthcare facilities.

Immediately after the publication of the Czech patent, several firms showed interest in using the layer. Collaboration is taking place with many firms which are considering using the nanolayer on their products. Talks on collaboration are taking place with several hospitals, where the efficacy of the nanolayer and its long-term effect are being tested under real conditions. Interest in using the solution has been shown by firms in the USA, Germany, and China.

Jaroslava Kočárková  
Technical University in Liberec  
[www.tul.cz](http://www.tul.cz)



## [Institutions Present Themselves]



## CONFEDERATION OF INDUSTRY OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

**Representing those who create values**

The largest alliance of employers in the Czech Republic, which represents the predominant part of industry and transport, groups together 28 sector federations and a total of 1550 member companies having more than 800 000 employees. Its mission is to defend the shared interests of its members and influence the economic and social policy of the government, with the aim of creating optimum conditions for business which, while respecting the ethical principles of enterprise, will help to increase the competitiveness of members and lead to the sustainable prosperity of Czech society.

Its priorities include balanced public finances, efficient and cost-effective public administration, motivating and simple taxes, research, development and innovation at a top level, modern technical education, flexible labour market, development of transport and infrastructure, efficient support for export, a safe, reliable and accessible power supply, and sustainable care of the environment.

It expresses and promotes its comments on legislative issues. It defends and coordinates the interests of its members especially in the Council for Economic and Social Agreement, which is a platform for negotiations between the government, employers and trade unions on basic political, economic, and social themes. It organises activities for the establishment of trade and economic relations between Czech and foreign entities, in the form of business missions, conferences, bilateral and multilateral negotiations, and participation of its members in trade fairs, exhibitions and expert seminars.

The Confederation formulates and promotes the interests of employers and entrepreneurs of the Czech Republic in European and international organisations, especially as a member of the Confederation of European Business (BUSINESSEUROPE) and within the framework of the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC). On the basis of agreements, it actively cooperates with partner industrial federations, chambers of commerce, and other economic institutions abroad.

### *Svaz průmyslu a dopravy České republiky*

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E-mail: [spcr@spcr.cz](mailto:spcr@spcr.cz)

**More information about the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic and sector federations is available on the website: [www.spcr.cz](http://www.spcr.cz)**



## CZECH CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

### Who We Are

- | Independent public institution of entrepreneurial self-governance
- | Largest and most representative business association in the Czech Republic including small, medium and large companies, self-employed entrepreneurs, associations, unions, and craftsmen organisations
- | Network – regional (regional and district chambers) and professional (unions, associations, etc.)
- | Platform for 14 thousand members representing 60% of GDP of the country and 66% of employable population in the Czech Republic in non-compulsory membership scheme
- | Member of European and international organisations

### What We Do

- | Support of International Trade
- | Organisation of business missions targeting particular territory or sector
- | Organisation of business missions accompanying state and government officials on their visits abroad
- | Organisation of business forums, seminars, round tables etc. targeting particular country or territory
- | Organisation of bilateral meetings between Czech entrepreneurs and foreign business delegations
- | Involvement in various European Commission's programmes
- | Support to foreign companies in finding suitable business partners in the Czech Republic
- | Publishing foreign demands, offers or tenders on chamber website
- | Czech Business Representation in Brussels (CEBRE)
- | Participation in trade fairs and exhibitions
- | Consultancy & advisory services (subsidies, projects, export & foreign trade, legal issues, etc.)
- | CZECHPoints (registers, documents, certificates, services, etc.) over 50 one-stop-shops throughout the country
- | Professional Education – national certification programmes (recognised occupation), skill competitions,
- | Thematic courses & seminars, etc.
- | Obligatory commenting point for new business legislation
- | Lobbying at local, national, European & international level
- | Issuing own monthly magazine KOMORA.cz and weekly electronic news distributed directly to members

### *Hospodářská komora České republiky*

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## THE INTERNATIONAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE/ICC

ICC is – and has been throughout its long existence – a steadfast rallying point for those who believe, like our founders, that strengthening commercial ties among nations is not only good for business but good for global living standards and good for peace. ICC was founded in 1919 in Paris. Today, ICC represents thousands of companies and associations in more than 120 countries and transmits their interests to high official representatives including the UN, EU, WTO, OECD and G20, where ICC has been granted the highest level consultative status.

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Being an ICC member is a question of prestige.

### **principles**

ICC creates rules and principles that are fully respected and used in everyday business and have become one of the most important pillars of international trade.

### **partnership**

ICC provides a large portfolio of services fundamental for foreign trade, such as educational and advisory services, as well as creating opportunities for establishing partnership with foreign business partners.

### **territorial workshops**

Main aim of these workshops is to support the efficiency of Czech economic diplomacy under the presence of newly appointed Czech ambassadors to introduce trade and investment opportunities to Czech exporters, to help diversify Czech exports to prospective markets and to help establish useful business contacts – Panama, Ukraine, Belarus, Nigeria, Yemen, Russia, Jordan, Kuwait, Malaysia, Portugal...

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### **Národní výbor Mezinárodní obchodní komory v České republice**

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More information at: [www.icc-cr.cz](http://www.icc-cr.cz)

## CONFEDERATION OF EMPLOYERS' AND ENTREPRENEURS' ASSOCIATIONS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The Confederation of Employers' and Entrepreneurs' Associations of the Czech Republic (Konfederace zaměstnavatelských a podnikatelských svazů – KZPS) is an open, independent, special-interest association established according to Act No. 83/90 Coll., on association of citizens:

- It unites seven representatives of employer unions in the fields of construction industry, textile industry, small and medium-sized businesses, cooperatives, agriculture, mining and oil industry, wood processing industry, education, healthcare, culture, and social services;
- It represents 22 000 bodies with over 1 300 000 employees;
- It supports the promotion of specific interests of its members in the legislative field and in other areas;
- It formulates common business and employer interests of its members and promotes them in cooperation with relevant state authorities, other employers' organisations and trade unions and especially in various forms by consulting the government;
- It is one of the social partners representing the side of entrepreneurs in the Council of Economic and Social Agreement (Tripartite).

KZPS's members:

- Association of Textile, Leather, and Clothing Industry
- Union of Czech and Moravian Producer Cooperatives
- Syndicate of Businesspeople and Tradespeople of the Czech Republic
- Association of Entrepreneurs in Building Industries in the Czech Republic
- Union of Employers' Associations of the Czech Republic
- Employers' Association of Mining and Oil Industry
- Agricultural Association of the Czech Republic

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More information at [www.kzps.cz](http://www.kzps.cz) (in Czech)



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##### BusinessInfo.cz – Official Portal for Business and Export – [www.businessinfo.cz](http://www.businessinfo.cz)

The government business portal provides a comprehensive source of information for companies that are looking for guidance, assistance, and business opportunities in the Czech Republic.

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## MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC

The foreign offices network of CzechTrade offers:

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- | Organisation of business meetings with Czech firms
- | Presentation of Czech firms at international trade fairs
- | Information on doing business in the Czech Republic

Services provided by foreign representations are considered effective assistance in establishing trade partnerships.

**More information at [www.czechtrade.cz](http://www.czechtrade.cz)**



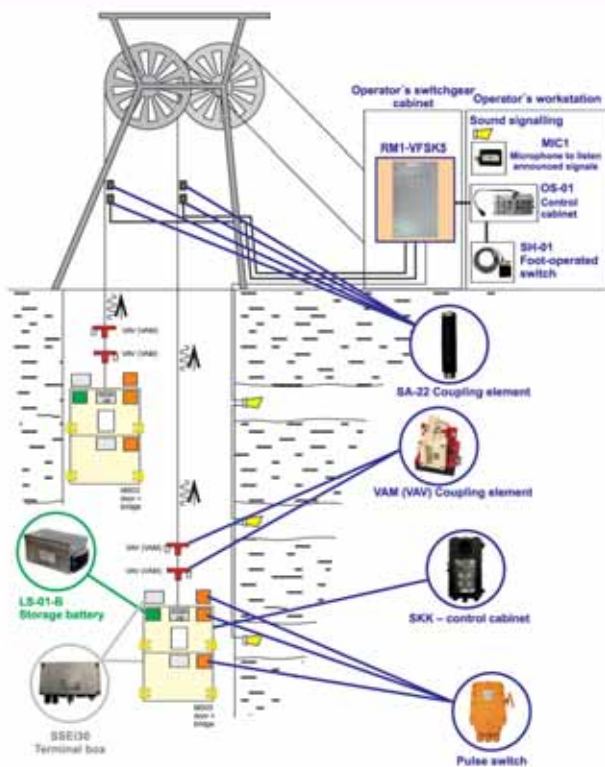
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CzechInvest is a state contributory organisation subordinated to the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic. Its main objective is to raise the competitiveness of the Czech economy by supporting small and medium-sized enterprises, the domestic business infrastructure, and innovation. It attracts to the Czech Republic foreign investors operating in the manufacturing industry, business support services and technology centres, and supports Czech enterprises in their expansion efforts.

To simplify communication between the state, business, and the European Union, CzechInvest acts as an umbrella business-promotion organisation for companies engaged in manufacturing, ICT and Business Support Services, using both EU and national funding.

CzechInvest presents the Czech Republic to other countries as an attractive location for investors and it is the exclusive organisation authorised to submit applications for investment incentives. It also supports Czech companies interested in joining the supply chains of multinational companies. With its services and development programmes, CzechInvest supports the promotion of domestic companies and Czech and foreign investors, as well as the development of the business environment in general.

**All of CzechInvest's services are provided free of charge.**

### *CzechInvest*

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More information at [www.czechinvest.org](http://www.czechinvest.org)

## CZECH TOURIST AUTHORITY - CZECHTOURISM

The Czech Tourist Authority – CzechTourism promotes the Czech Republic both at home and abroad as an attractive tourist destination. The agency works with a number of partners, including representatives of regional institutions, tourist regions, destination management organisations, cities, municipalities and the business community. All of its activities aim to stimulate interest in the Czech Republic's uniqueness while inspiring foreigners to visit. CzechTourism objectives are to continuously increase number of incoming tourists and systematically encourage and develop domestic tourism.

This year, all its marketing activities accentuate the communication strategy, which presents the Czech Republic as a country of events, a country where events can not only be recalled, but also lived and shared with one's nearest and dearest. To achieve successful results, CzechTourism uses a network of foreign representative offices, actively cooperates with the media, and appeals to partners from the travel trade sector at trade fairs. The agency organises study tours to the Czech Republic for media representatives and tour operators. It systematically channels news, trends and analyses from the tourism sector to the domestic tourism trade and media. In order to draw attention to and promote the Central European region on distant markets, CzechTourism is an active member of the V4 countries tourism group (the Visegrád Four: Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, Hungary).

CzechTourism is a state-funded organisation of the Ministry of Regional Development.

### *Czech Tourist Authority – CzechTourism*

### *Česká centrála cestovního ruchu – CzechTourism*

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More information at [www.czechtourism.com](http://www.czechtourism.com)





## CZECH CENTRES

The Czech Centres is an agency managed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic and established for the promotion of the Czech Republic throughout the world. The Centres operate as a network in 22 foreign cities on 3 continents and are active members of the European Union National Institutes for Culture, EUNIC.

The Centres promote Czech culture on the international level and in all fields. They present the Czech Republic as a modern country with a rich cultural tradition and the ability to develop this wealth. The Centres foster and develop cooperation of foreign cultural institutions, experts and individual artists with Czech entities. In the area of education, science, research and innovation, the Centres collaborate with universities and professional institutions, support their mutual cooperation and promote the success of Czech science abroad. The Centres support teaching and using the Czech language in the world.

In the area of supporting foreign economic relations, the Centres contribute to develop the Czech Republic's business interests abroad, both at the corporate and municipal levels. The Centres support creative Czech industries.

In the area of promoting the Czech Republic as an attractive tourist destination, the Centres, in cooperation with their partners, focus on regional presentations abroad.

The Centres provide common information about the Czech Republic for foreign public, media, and international entities.

### Česká centra – ústředí (Centre)

Václavské nám. 816/49, 110 00 Praha 1

Phone: +420 234 668 211

E-mail: [info@czech.cz](mailto:info@czech.cz)

More information at [www.czechcentres.cz](http://www.czechcentres.cz).



## CENTRE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC – ENTERPRISE EUROPE NETWORK

**The Centre for Regional Development of the Czech Republic (CRR CR)** is an **implementation agency** for EU programmes. Its main task is the administration and control of the drawing of financial resources from EU funds. The Centre also administers the Regional Information Service, where information can be found about the regions and municipalities of the Czech Republic. The system is focused specifically on the economic, social and living environment, administrative division, public administration and self government, grants, etc.

**CRR CR hosts one of the centres of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN).** The network in support of business was established by the European Commission in 2008. Since then it has spread its activities throughout the world, so that today it has some 600 workplaces with more than 4 000 experts in 54 countries. The Czech Republic plays host to a consortium composed of 11 partners based in 7 cities: Prague, Brno, Plzeň, Ostrava, Most, Liberec, and Pardubice. In all the centres there are experts with long experience in the area of consulting and business promotion.

EEN workers offer Czech and foreign businessmen assistance in looking out for trade partners, partners for cooperation in production and technical assistance, provide research services based on company databases, supply information about the business environment and give advice on how to start a firm, about Czech and EU legislation, the Czech tax system and EU or national sources of financing. Very popular with businessmen are the international trade talks organised by the EEN network during important trade fairs, such as in the Czech Republic during the International Engineering Fair in Brno and the CZECHBUS Fair in Prague.

### Centrum pro regionální rozvoj ČR – Enterprise Europe Network

Vinohradská 46, 120 00 Praha 2

Phone: +420 234 006 232

E-mail: [een@crr.cz](mailto:een@crr.cz)

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Phone: +420 257 214 388, 390

E-mail: embassy@indonesia.cz

www.indonesia.cz

**Embassy of Malaysia***Velvyslanectví Malajsie*

Na Zátorce 675/30, 160 00 Praha 6 - Bubeneč

Phone: +420 234 706 611

E-mail: mwprague@mwprague.cz,

mwprague@kln.gov.my

www.kln.gov.my/perwakilan/prague

**Embassy of the Republic of the Philippines***Velvyslanectví Filipínské republiky*

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E-mail: praguepe@gmail.com

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E-mail: philcongen.brno@gmail.com

**Embassy of the Kingdom of Thailand***Velvyslanectví Thajského království*

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www.thaiembassy.cz

**Commercial Section / Obchodní oddělení**

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**Embassy of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam***Velvyslanectví Vietnamské socialistické republiky*

Plzeňská 214/2578, 150 00 Praha 5

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E-mail: dsqvietnamcz@yahoo.com

www.vietnamembassy-czech.org

**Commercial Section/Obchodní oddělení**

Rašínovo nábř. 38, 128 00 Praha 2

Phone: + 420 224 942 235

## MINISTRIES

**Ministry of Foreign Affairs***Ministerstvo zahraničních věcí*

www.mzv.cz

**Ministry of Industry and Trade***Ministerstvo průmyslu a obchodu*

www.mpo.cz

**Ministry of Agriculture / Ministerstvo zemědělství**

www.mze.cz

**Ministry of Transport / Ministerstvo dopravy**

www.mdcr.cz

**Ministry of Finance / Ministerstvo financí**

www.mfcr.cz

**Ministry of Regional Development***Ministerstvo pro místní rozvoj*

www.mmr.cz

**Ministry of the Environment / Ministerstvo životního prostředí**

www.mzp.cz

**Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs***Ministerstvo práce a sociálních věcí*

www.mpsv.cz

**Ministry of Health / Ministerstvo zdravotnictví**

www.mzcr.cz

**Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sport***Ministerstvo školství, mládeže**a tělovýchovy*

www.msmt.cz

**Ministry of Culture / Ministerstvo kultury**

www.mkcr.cz

**Ministry of Justice / Ministerstvo spravedlnosti**

www.portal.justice.cz

**Ministry of Defence / Ministerstvo obrany**

www.army.cz

**Ministry of the Interior / Ministerstvo vnitra**

www.mvcr.cz

## OTHER INSTITUTIONS

**Czech National Bank***Česká národní banka*

www.cnb.cz

**Czech Statistical Office***Český statistický úřad*

www.czso.cz

**Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic***Akademie věd ČR*

www.cas.cz



## USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

### *Embassy of the Czech Republic*

Jalan Gereja Theresia No. 20, Menteng, Jakarta  
Phone: +62 21 239 61 12 or +62 21 239 61 13  
E-mail: jakarta@embassy.mzv.cz  
Commercial Section: commerce\_jakarta@mzv.cz  
www.mzv.cz/jakarta

### *Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic in Surabaya*

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E-mail: Bali@honorary.mzv.cz

### *CzechTrade Jakarta*

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E-mail: pavel.kalina@czechtrade.cz  
www.czechtrade-indonesia.com

## USEFUL CONTACTS IN MALAYSIA

### *Embassy of the Czech Republic*

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www.mzv.cz/kualalumpur

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Phone: +6382 2348 888, 2268 888  
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### *Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic in Cebu City*

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### *Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic in Chiang Rai*

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E-mail: bangkok@czechtrade.cz

## USEFUL CONTACTS IN THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

### *Embassy of the Czech Republic*

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E-mail: hanoi@embassy.mzv.cz  
Commerce Section: Commerce\_Hanoi@mzv.cz  
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### *Honorary Consulate of the Czech Republic in Ho Chi Minh City*

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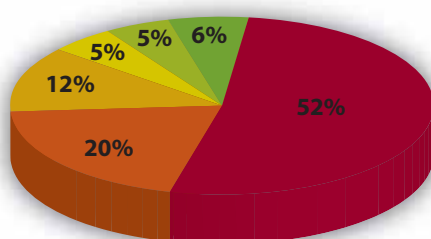
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BusinessInfo	<a href="http://www.businessinfo.cz">www.businessinfo.cz</a>	Official site for business and exports
Doing Business in the Czech Republic	<a href="http://www.doingbusiness.cz">www.doingbusiness.cz</a>	General information about business climate, structure, and development of the Czech economy
Portal of the Public Administration	<a href="http://www.vlada.cz">www.vlada.cz</a>	The electronic gateway for the public to administration and government services

## Company Contact Information

ARES	<a href="http://www.info.mfcr.cz/ares/ares.html">www.info.mfcr.cz/ares/ares.html</a>	Access to Registers of Economic Subjects/Entities
Business Register	<a href="http://or.justice.cz/ias/ui/rejstrik">or.justice.cz/ias/ui/rejstrik</a>	Public directory of companies
Hoppenstedt Bonnier	<a href="http://www.hbi.cz">www.hbi.cz</a>	The most important companies in the CR and the SR
Inform.cz	<a href="http://www.inform.cz">www.inform.cz</a>	Czech Company Catalogue
Kompass	<a href="http://www.kompass.cz">www.kompass.cz</a>	Czech Company Catalogue
European Databank	<a href="http://www.edb.cz">www.edb.cz</a>	Information operator
Czech exporting companies	<a href="http://exporteure.czechtrade-germany.de">http://exporteure.czechtrade-germany.de</a>	Company-Catalogue Czech Exporters Directory
Zlaté stránky	<a href="http://www.zlatestranky.cz">www.zlatestranky.cz</a>	Telephone and companies directory

## Legislation

Iuridika	<a href="http://iuridica.eunet.cz">http://iuridica.eunet.cz</a>	Directory of legal services and official bodies
Portal of Czech judiciary	<a href="http://www.justice.cz">www.justice.cz</a>	Course of legal proceedings

## Finance

Czech National Bank	<a href="http://www.cnb.cz">www.cnb.cz</a>	Monetary, financial, and macroeconomic data
Prague Stock Exchange	<a href="http://www.pse.cz">www.pse.cz</a>	Prague Stock Exchange data
RM-Systém	<a href="http://www.rmsystem.cz">www.rmsystem.cz</a>	Czech Stock Exchange
Czech Insurance Association	<a href="http://www.cap.cz">www.cap.cz</a>	Directory of insurance companies operating in the CR
Patria Finance, a.s.	<a href="http://www.patria.cz">www.patria.cz</a>	Investment portal
Chamber of Tax Advisers of the CR	<a href="http://www.kdpcr.cz">www.kdpcr.cz</a>	Database of tax advisers

## Statistics

Czech Statistical Office	<a href="http://www.czso.cz">www.czso.cz</a>	Official statistical data and information covering different subjects
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## Fairs and Exhibitions

BVV – Brněnské veletrhy a výstavy/Trade Fairs Brno	<a href="http://www.bvv.cz">www.bvv.cz</a>	List of exhibitions and fairs in the CR and relevant information
Association of Fair and Exhibition Organisers of the CR /SOVA ČR/	<a href="http://www.euroexpo.cz">www.euroexpo.cz</a>	Exhibition centres and companies organising trade fairs in the CR and abroad

## Miscellaneous

The Industrial Property Office	<a href="http://www.upv.cz">www.upv.cz</a>	Patents, trade marks, utility models, and industrial designs
The Czech Science Foundation	<a href="http://www.gacr.cz">www.gacr.cz</a>	Awards grants to the best projects of basic research in all branches of science
The Register of Advertising Agencies	<a href="http://www.registra.cz/rra">www.registra.cz/rra</a>	Expert assistance in choosing and working with advertising and communication agencies in the CR
Česká pošta (the Czech Post)	<a href="http://www.ceskaposta.cz">www.ceskaposta.cz</a>	Incl. postcodes of municipalities and its districts (PSC), philately etc.
Residence of Foreigners in the CR	<a href="http://www.domavcr.cz">www.domavcr.cz</a>	Advice for living in the CR
Association for Foreign Investment	<a href="http://www.afi.cz">www.afi.cz</a>	Support for entry of foreign investors
Cadastre of Real Estate	<a href="http://www.cuzk.cz">www.cuzk.cz</a>	Information system, contains data on real estate in the CR
Road toll in the CR	<a href="http://www.mytoczeu">www.mytoczeu</a>	Information on toll and charges
National Register of Vocational Qualifications	<a href="http://www.narodni-kvalifikace.cz">www.narodni-kvalifikace.cz</a>	Survey of professional qualifications recognised in the Czech Republic
Portal of the Regional Information Service	<a href="http://www.risy.cz">www.risy.cz</a>	Information website on the regions
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