

Research and development on an international scale



Cooperation on national and international research projects in classical and nuclear energy, transport engineering, materials engineering and more than four hundred clients in the Czech Republic and abroad – all this is offered by Pilsen company Škoda Výzkum s.r.o. Founded in 1992, the company benefits from a century-long tradition of independent research activity, launched in 1907 when the Škoda research institute was founded.

Škoda Výzkum s.r.o. is involved in research, development and accredited testing. The company's most important activities include:

- Research and testing aimed at improving the service reliability and service life of power engineering devices – vibration diagnostics, noise reduction, material testing, residual service life assessment etc.
- Computing solutions to problems related to operational loading, reliability and service life of road and rail vehicles – computer simulations, laboratory tests, operational measurements

- Accredited testing and measurement for a wide range of customers
- Computation relating to strength, dynamics, fatigue damage, crashworthiness, aerodynamics and thermodynamics
- Research and development of thermal sprays for primary production and renovation, including industrial applications

Škoda Výzkum has worked with industrial companies, technical universities and academic research facilities. It has taken part in projects supported by the Grant Agency of the Czech Republic, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the Education Ministry, the Transport Ministry, the Czech Academy of Sciences and, on an international level, COST (European Cooperation in the Field of Scientific and Technical Research), EUREKA and EU framework programmes. In this way it has helped to improve the competitiveness of Czech research, development and innovation.

Strategic Services

Reasons to Invest in Pilsen

Transport

- good transport links
- a road and rail transport hub

Location

- strategic position on the D5 motorway linking Prague with Germany and Western Europe
- close to Prague international airport

Education

- a wide range of secondary schools specializing in electrical, mechanical, construction and transport engineering
- universities, colleges and secondary schools offering tuition in English
- University of West Bohemia in Pilsen – seven faculties (Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Applied Sciences, Economics, Philosophy and Arts, Law, Education)
- Charles University in Prague, Faculty of Medicine in Pilsen – degree programmes in General Medicine and Dentistry and a well developed research programme

Conditions for Investors

- experience with foreign investment
- investor support
- a high-quality industrial base

Conditions for Life

- excellent living conditions
- excellent health and social care
- all the cultural and sporting facilities you would expect of a major regional centre

CTPark Pilsen

Industrials Zones in the Pilsen Region



In 2005 work started on CTPark Pilsen on a 36-hectare area to the west of the Pilsen City Industrial Park at Borská Pole. The impulse behind its creation was the fact that other industrial zones were already full. The industrial and office park, easily accessible from both the D5 motorway and the city centre, now contains a logistics centre and space for lease for light manufacturing services and trade operations. During 2009 to 2010 the site will also gain the Axis Office Park over an area of 1.5 hectares. The site is being developed by CTP Invest.

CTPark is currently home to 12 companies, which employ over 700 people. They are: A3 SPORT (sporting goods warehouse), Bodycote (product testing), DHL (international and national express document and parcel delivery services), FLEXTRONICS (electronics distribution and service centre for Europe), Loguran (logistics), Maurice Ward (logistics), MOL Logistic (logistics, warehouse for Panasonic televisions), P.A. Business systems (PC assembly), Sumitrans (logistics), Tatung (production of LCD and plasma televisions and PCs) and Wacker (light manufacturing), Wawin Ekoplastik (production and selling of plastic pipeline).

The planned Axis Office Park will provide 10 000 m² of office space in two- and four-storey administrative buildings, designed for various user groups from smaller companies to international corporations. Those interested in leasing space should contact Dušan Kastl on dusan.kastl@ctpinvest.eu.



Reasons to Invest in the Pilsen Region

Location

- attractive geographical position on the East/West axis

Human Resources

- qualified labour force in technical fields
- education, university with technical faculties

Conditions for Investors

- development areas in the urban centres
- real estate and spaces to let
- investment incentives
- advanced telecommunications infrastructure

Experience

- investments already implemented

Other Conditions

- healthy environment
- culture, activities

The Škoda Pilsen Industrial Zone – the largest brownfield project to be created in the Czech Republic



The project for the regeneration of the Škoda Pilsen Industrial Zone was included by the Ministry of Industry and Trade in its 2004 programme for the development of industrial zones in the Czech Republic. It was the largest brownfield project to be created in the Czech Republic, and won the Association for Foreign Investment and CzechInvest's Brownfield of the Year award in 2004.

The 158-hectare site lies in the south western part of Pilsen, bordered by Tylova, Korandová, Borská and Domažlická roads. The project for the regeneration of the Škoda site included the freeing up of 50 hectares of land by demolishing the original buildings, repairing the old and insufficient road network, and rebuilding the industrial rail link, which was on its last legs. The result was a new 5km-long road, with the industrial rail network optimised to 32 km from the original 52. The other technical goals of the projects included the supply of the complex with drinking, utility and industrial water, the creation of a sewage system, the supply of natural gas and five technical gases, electricity and heat.

A traditional industrial area in the West Bohemian capital was thus transformed into a modern, environmentally-sound industrial zone, housing a further 48 companies instead of one. June 2008 will see the ceremonial opening of three new production halls and an administrative building for Škoda Transportation, s.r.o. which makes trams and locomotives.

In 2005 work started on a total of 60 000 square metres of industrial halls for lease, as part of the regeneration of the complex. Of those completed, eight belong to Škoda Holding, a.s., while three halls for lease belong to the investor Adelardis, a.s., a member of the CIAS group. Another three buildings belonging to Adelardis will be completed in the near future. Part of the space has already been leased to companies in the manufacturing sector.

If you are interested in leasing space please contact Roman Kalous (roman.kalous@skoda.cz) from Škoda Holding, a.s. or Miloš Kulda (milos.kulda@cias.cz) from the CIAS group.



Brownfields in the Pilsen Region

Reasons to Develop Brownfields in the Pilsen Region

Location

- locations in attractive parts of cities
- unique identity of locations

Conditions for Investors

- existing infrastructure
- easier planning process

Public Support

- public support for revitalisation, for covering additional expenses related to regeneration of brownfields (environmental damage, demolitions)

MBtech Academy – an opportunity for students and employees of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen

In 2008 the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen signed a partnership contract with MBtech Bohemia s.r.o., which is part of the Daimler AG concern and its MBtech Group. The new MBtech Academy project provides students and employees of the university with the opportunity to take part in the development activities of one of the world's largest automotive concerns.

MBtech Bohemia s. r. o. has been working with the university since May 2007, but it was not until March 2008 that this partnership became official in character. Its long-term goal is to support students in technical fields and encourage them to work with the company. Students from both technical and non-technical faculties at the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen will be able to gain work experience on the company's research projects and use them as the basis for their thesis work. The partnership will also allow them to improve their language, communication and presentation skills. Opportunities will be available

to students from BA, MA and PhD programmes. The MBtech Academy will be housed in the Pilsen Science and Technology Park, close to the university.

MBtech Bohemia s. r. o. is the most significant foreign subsidiary of the German group MBtech in Europe. It provides chiefly construction and development services in the field of car body and undercarriage modules, interior and exterior modules and also engines and gearboxes. MBtech employs 150 specialists in Prague and 60 in Pilsen, making it one of the largest companies in the automotive engineering and consulting field in the Czech Republic.

Human Resources and Economics

Macro-economic Statistics

Rate of unemployment
in the Pilsen Region: 3.9 % (April 2008)

Average wages
in the Pilsen Region: 20,002 CZK (2007)

GDP per head in current prices
in the Czech Republic: 344,644 CZK (2007)



Vice Dean of the Engineering Faculty of the University of West Bohemia in Pilsen Jaromír Horák and MB-technology Executive Director Hartmut Tresp sign the partnership agreement.



News

Invitation to the new trade fair FINPEX and the traditional EXPO REAL

At the start of October the West Bohemian capital welcomes the first year of a new trade fair for real estate, construction and investment opportunities, FINPEX. The event, organised by the Pilsen District Chamber of Commerce, is taking place in the Invest House of Culture in Pilsen. Thursday 2 October will be reserved for meetings between potential business partners, while on Friday 3 October the event will be open to the general public. More information for exhibitors is available on info@finpex.cz. From 6 to 8 October you will also be able to visit the specialist international trade fair for business real estate, EXPO REAL 2008. This will be the eleventh year of the fair, held in its traditional home of Munich.

**Spaces for lease in the Pilsen Science and Technology Park**

The Pilsen Science and Technology Park, winner of the prestigious award Business Project of the Year 2006, received building inspection approval in the first half of 2008 and is offering space for lease. The goal of the project is to create an environment for the creative use of knowledge, to provide services that will help innovators to focus on creative work, to help companies in the region towards business success founded on innovation and the use of research and development results. It provides offices, laboratory space, conference and meeting rooms, a business incubator and a technology transfer centre. The Pilsen Science and Technology Park - Stage 1 is co-financed by the European Fund for Regional Development and the Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade.

**Apology**

We would like to apologise to the Hotel Primavera for mistakes in the data in the table accompanying our article "Holding a conference? What about Pilsen?" in the 1/2008 newsletter. The correct information is as follows: the maximum capacity of the conference rooms is 280, and there is parking for 100 cars and 3 buses.

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