



newsletter

Business in Berlin, Brandenburg & the German-Polish Border Region

EDITION IV/2010



Member of
WORLD TRADE CENTER
FRANKFURT (ODER) - SLUBICE



news

Brandenburg again a guiding star for renewable energies

For the second time in succession, the federal state of Brandenburg has been designated a „leading star“ by the „Agentur für Erneuerbare Energien“ (Agency for Renewable Energies). The agency, which is run by companies and associations from the renewable energies sector with support from the German federal government, praised Brandenburg’s above-average services in the area of renewable energies. The leading renewable energy in Brandenburg is wind power, services in which have more than quadrupled in the state since 2001. In addition, more than 40 percent of solar modules manufactured in Germany are produced in the Berlin-Brandenburg region. Over the past few years, 12,000 jobs have been created in the area of renewable energies in Brandenburg.

[| more info](#)



At the awards ceremony, Brandenburg’s Prime Minister Matthias Platzeck announced that Brandenburg will be raising its target, set out in its renewable energies strategy, of ensuring 20 percent of primary energy consumption comes from renewable energies by 2020 still further. (Photo: Agentur für Erneuerbare Energien/Agency for Renewable Energies)

Frankfurt (Oder) among Germany’s top five most dynamic cities

The latest city rankings by the “Initiative Neue Soziale Marktwirtschaft” (New Social Market Economy Initiative) and “Wirtschaftswoche” magazine showed Frankfurt (Oder) and Brandenburg an der Havel as two of the most rapidly developing cities in Germany. This is further evidence that concentrating economic development on the regional growth area system is the correct strategy. Frankfurt (Oder) was subject to outstanding dynamism during the period from 2004 to 2009, with the city attaining place 5 among 100 German towns and cities. The Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt location on the Polish border is increasingly attractive for business, as is evident from the number of solar companies, solar suppliers and paper manufacturers which have relocated there. [| more info \(german only\)](#)

Platz	Stadt	Punkte
1	Stralsund	61,3
2	Bayreuth	59,0
3	Greifswald	38,6
4	Bamberg	38,6
5	Frankfurt (Oder)	38,5
6	Hof	38,0
7	Worms	37,5
8	Ingolstadt	37,3
9	Bremenhaven	37,0
10	Nordbrandenburg	36,7
11	Ulm	36,6
12	Dessau-Roßlau	35,4
13	Amburg	35,4
14	Aschaffenburg	35,4
15	Rostock	35,2
16	Brandenburg an der Havel	35,1
17	Rosenheim	34,7

Three cities from eastern Germany were ranked among the top five most dynamic cities. These locations scored well an account of the creation of thousands of new jobs, their increased wages and improved quality of life. (Graphic: ISNM)

US ambassador visits regional growth area

During a visit to Frankfurt (Oder) in December this year, US ambassador Philip D. Murphy took the chance to praise collaboration work between Frankfurt (Oder) and neighbouring towns in Poland. Besides the city’s importance as a location for investment and logistics, discussions with Frankfurt’s mayor Martin Wilke also centred on US commitment to the region. Mr Murphy also visited the US company First Solar, which has produced thin solar modules in Frankfurt (Oder) since 2007, and is currently building its second factory in the city. To complete his visit, Mr Murphy held a speech at the European University Viadrina on German/American relations, which was followed with great interest.



A smiling US ambassador Philip D. Murphy is requested to sign the “Golden Book” for guests of honour to the city by Frankfurt’s mayor, Martin Wilke (left) at the start of his visit. (Photo: Kuhnert Medien)



newsletter

Business in Berlin, Brandenburg & the German-Polish Border Region

EDITION IV/2010



Member of
WORLD TRADE CENTER
FRANKFURT (ODER) - SLUBICE



IHK Ostbrandenburg

Green light for new ILA site

Berlin and Brandenburg have cleared the way for the multi-million construction of a new site for the ILA aviation exhibition southwest of Schönefeld. At the start of December, the exhibition corporation announced it would be founding a joint venture with the company „Zukunftsagentur Brandenburg“ for the 27-million-euros investment. The company Messeimmobilien Selchow GmbH will develop the site and thereafter operate it too. The planning is already underway. The new site is needed because the old site at Schönefeld Airport is to make way for Berlin's new airport „Berlin Brandenburg International“, scheduled to open on 3rd June 2012. The next ILA is planned for the period from 19th to 24th June 2012. The Berlin-Brandenburg location won the tender in favour of Leipzig-Halle airport. | [more info](#)



2010 was a record year in the ILA's 100 year history: 1,153 exhibitors from 47 countries exhibited an impressive array of products and services from all areas of the aerospace industry to 235,000 visitors and 125,000 specialist guests. Contracts and business agreements with a total volume of around 14 million euros were signed during the exhibition. (Photo: ILA)

Centre for Energy Technology to be built at BTU Cottbus

At Brandenburg's Technical University in Cottbus, the foundation stone has been laid for a new Energy Technology Centre. In a new building on an area of around 3,800 square metres, offices are to be built as well as teaching and laboratory rooms for energy research, power station engineering and energy commerce. The total cost of 13 million euros is to be borne by the state of Brandenburg and the German federal government. Completion of the energy centre is scheduled for the end of August 2012. BTU president Walther Zimmerli sees the recommendation by the scientific council for the construction of the energy centre as proof of the BTU's competence in the area of energy research and as a good sign for its current application for the location of a research institute for use of resources in Cottbus. | [more info](#)



Laying the foundation stone in Cottbus: (left to right): Volker Bargfrede, Commercial Managing Director of the Brandenburg State Office for Real Estate and Buildings, Dr. Helmuth Markov, Minister of Finance for the State of Brandenburg, Prof. Dr. Walther Ch. Zimmerli, President of the BTU Cottbus, Dr. Martina Münch Minister for Science, Research and Culture of the State of Brandenburg (Photo: BTU Cottbus)

Conergy modules score best marks in the giant hailstone test

The Conergy PowerPlus module, which already possesses highly impressive credentials due to its resistance to chemical substances and high load capacity, recently scored above-average marks in the world's first giant hailstone test, which was conducted by the Cetecom ICT Services institute. Impact force of the hailstones was around 23 times greater than in standard test conditions. In the results, Conergy PowerPlus modules even resisted 55 millimetre giant hailstones the diameter of a billiard ball. These impacted onto the module at a speed of 122 km/h, akin to that of an average small car travelling along the motorway. The Conergy PowerPlus series is currently the only of its kind in the world to be awarded the new giant hailstone certification. This means the premium module, which is manufactured in Frankfurt (Oder), can add yet another reference to its already long list. | [more info](#)



Hailstone impact is considered to be one of the natural phenomena with the greatest damage potential – in Germany, in economic terms, hailstone causes annual damage in the three-figure million region. This year alone, particularly in regions like the Black Forest that are prone to hailstone, 14 hail incidents are known to have occurred during which hailstones with a diameter of more than 25 millimetres were reported. (Photo: Conergy AG)



newsletter

Business in Berlin, Brandenburg &
the German-Polish Border Region

EDITION IV/2010



WORLD TRADE CENTER
FRANKFURT (ODER) - SLUBICE



Newsticker

New mayor for Frankfurt's neighbouring city Slubice

After a new mayor was elected in Frankfurt (Oder) in May 2010 with Dr. Martin Wilke, it is now the turn of Frankfurt (Oder)'s Polish neighbour to change their town hall boss. The new mayor of Slubice is called Tomasz Ciczewicz. The 42-year old engineer won the key vote with 67.37 percent of the votes against the reigning mayor Ryszard Bodziacki who, with the exception of a five year break, has been in office since 1991.

Employment investment prize for GMB glass manufactory

The Brandenburg company GMB Glasmanufaktur Brandenburg GmbH from Tschernitz fought off competition from 4000 applicants to win the "Arbeitsplatzinvestorpreis" (Employment Investment Prize) awarded by the Wirtschaftsclub Rhein-Main e.V. and the Bundesagentur für Arbeit. The prize is in recognition of the company having virtually doubled the number of its employees over the past two years. The company, which has manufactured glass panels for solar systems since 2008, currently employs 240 staff. | [more info](#)

Unitechnik Eisenhüttenstadt wins another award

Having already been awarded the 2010 „Zukunftspreis“ (Future Prize), the Eisenhüttenstädt company Unitechnik Automatisierungs GmbH has now been honoured with the Berlin-Brandenburg's innovation prize for its new, fully-automatic luggage loading cell for airports. The development of robot-controlled luggage loading system has already attracted considerable attention, for example at the ILA 2010. | [more info](#)

Should you have any questions or wish to cancel your subscription to this newsletter, click here to send us an e-mail.

Contact



Christopher Nüßlein
WTC Frankfurt (Oder) - Slubice
Phone +49 335 557-1300
info@wtcbb.de



Andreas Zintzsch
Chamber of Industry & Commerce
(CIC) East Brandenburg
Phone +49 335 5621-1400
zintzsch@ihk-ostbrandenburg.de

Imprint

WORLD TRADE CENTER FRANKFURT (ODER) - SLUBICE
operated by Investor Center Ostbrandenburg GmbH
Im Technologiepark 1, 15236 Frankfurt (Oder), Germany,
Phone: +49 (0) 335 557-1300, Fax: +49 (0) 335 557-1310, E-Mail: info@wtcbb.de

www.wtcbb.de | www.icob.de | www.ihk-ostbrandenburg.de

2011

Season's greetings from the World Trade Center Frankfurt (Oder)/Slubice team to all partners, friends and supporters. We are wishing you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!