

SPCC e-magazine

No. 02/2016



fol. Ewa Rzepa

Ladies and Gentleman,

The first half of the year is already behind us and we are pleased that we could see so many of you at our events during this time. We are also proud to announce that there are now exactly 400 Members in our Chamber! The Scandinavian investors are the sixth largest group of foreign investors in Poland and the mutual economic relations between Poland and Scandinavia are developing very well.

In this issue of the SPCC e-magazine we are continuing to present you with the theme of the innovativeness of Scandinavian companies and we will focus on the areas of environment and energy. We hope that the materials and articles presented will serve you as a source of information and inspiration.

We wish you a great holiday time and we are looking forward to welcome you back in September at our events!



Carsten Nilsen – Chairman of SPCC

SPCC Activities

SPCC Community

News from Scandinavia

SPCC Patrons

ARPI Group
Outsourcing Solutions

Atlas Copco

DNB

Danske Bank

ELTEL
networks

ERICSSON

GREENCARRIER

Handelsbanken

Kinnarps

onninen

Bank Polski

Radisson
CENTRUM HOTEL WARSAW

SEB

VOLVO

The Scandinavian-Polish Chamber of Commerce is an association created by and for business people and entrepreneurs associated with Scandinavia. Currently, SPCC brings together **400 Members** and is one of the largest bilateral chambers in Poland. Membership in the Chamber gives plenty of networking opportunities with an elite group of high-performing managers of Nordic companies and is also a good way of finding inspiration for everyone who would like to expand their business.

EVENTS

We are looking forward to see you at:

- SBC Kräftskiva – crayfish party organized by the Swedish Section of SPCC, **2nd of September**
- SPCC Family Sports Picnic, **4th of September**
- SPCC After Summer Drink & crayfish tasting, Wrocław, **13th of September**
- SPCC After Summer Drink & crayfish tasting, Szczecin, **15th of September**
- Welcome Back to Work Business Mixer, **22nd of September**
- FTG Crayfish Party, **24th of September**
- Speed Business Meeting in Kraków, **27th of September**

More events in the **SPCC Calendar!**

EVENTS HELD

„Sales 2.0” – meeting organized in cooperation with Impactive, Daymaker, H&M, Jula, Netto, Strong Signal and Piasecka & Żylewicz



SPCC FAMILY SPORTS PICNIC



SPCC Family Sports Picnic will take place on 4th of September. Join us for the day full of sports activities & attraction! Traditionally, as every summer we encourage you to practice and start preparing your teams for the 10th SPCC Volleyball Tournament! We know your passion about this sport & winning – so save the date & join us! We kindly encourage our members to support this event- there are several promotion opportunities for the SPCC member companies - for more information please contact SPCC Office: spcc@spcc.pl, tel. 22 849 74 14.

DANISH PRIME MINISTER VISITS POLAND



The official State visit of the Danish Prime Minister, Lars Løkke Rasmussen, took place in April. Members of the Board of the Danish section of SPCC as well as representatives of the Danish business in Poland took part in the official dinner with the Prime Minister which was organized by the Danish Embassy.

MEMBER COMPANIES

SPCC brings together **400 Members**

375 corporate Members, **23** honorary Members and **2** individual Members

 145 companies	 68 companies
 98 companies	 64 companies

The Chamber represents **8** countries:

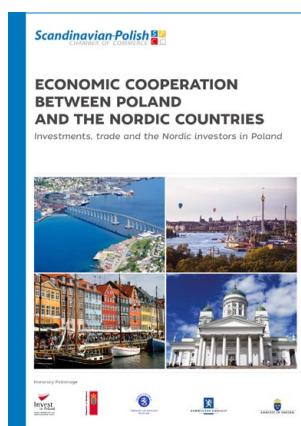
- **5** Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden
- **3** Baltic states: Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania.

Meet new SPCC Members
CLICK HERE!

POLISH STATE VISITS TO NORWAY AND DENMARK

The reasoned visits by the Polish president and his wife at the end of May and early June to Norway and Denmark confirm the close relationship between Poland and the Scandinavian countries. Several of our Members were invited to attend official functions arranged respectively in Norway and Denmark in relations to these visits.

„SPCC Economic Outlook” conference and new report on economic relations between Poland and the Nordic countries



On the 15th of June in Warsaw during the SPCC Economic Outlook conference we had a pleasure to present the report: **“Economic cooperation between Poland and the Nordic countries – investments, trade and the Nordic investors in Poland”**.

Nordic companies are the sixth largest group of foreign investors in Poland with the share of 6% in the total FDI stock at the end of 2014. It is worth noting that the highest share of reinvested earnings in 2014 was achieved by the Swedish investors (72%). There are 2167 companies with the participation of Nordic capital registered in Poland and they are the 5th biggest group of companies with foreign capital in Poland representing 8,3% of foreign capital in Poland. During the past 10 years the amount of companies with Nordic capital participation has increased by 37%. The Nordic countries remain

one of the most important trade partners for Poland – they are the second export destination (behind Germany) and the fifth in terms of Polish import.



The announcement of the report was supplemented by the presentations regarding the economic situation of Poland and Scandinavia which were delivered by experts on the topic: Carsten Brøchner Thing, General Manager, Danske Bank Poland; Kjell Arne Nielsen, Director - Innovation Norway, Per Hammarlund, Chief Emerging Markets Strategist, SEB; Marcin Czaplicki, Economist PKO Bank Polska and Soren Rodian Olsen – Partner, Cushman & Wakefield.

The report can be downloaded [HERE](#)

EUR 10.2 billion
is the amount of **Nordic**
capital invested as FDI
until the end of 2014

Scandinavian innovativeness in the area of energy and environment

The biggest source of CO₂ emissions, which damage the environment, is the traditional energy sector based on fossil fuels. The Nordic countries, where environment protection is treated as a priority, are in the forefront when it comes to the amount of funds earmarked for research and development in that area, as well as implementation of innovative solutions which help use energy from renewable sources.



Fot. Sofia Sabel-Fitting,
imagebank.sweden.se

According to an Eurostat report, the share of renewable energy in the EU energy consumption increased, on average, to 16% in 2014, but the objective is the level of 20% by 2020. The Nordic countries have significantly exceeded that level, breaking EU records. The country which can boast the highest level of using renewable energy is Sweden with the gross share of 52.6%, as well as Finland (38.7%) and Denmark (29.2%). 96% of the electricity in Norway comes from Norwegian hydropower, which makes Norway the sixth largest hydropower producer in the world.

Sweden: Innovative energy sector in the service of the natural environment

The energy used in Sweden comes mainly from renewable

sources. Thanks to the newest technologies and wealth of natural resources, Sweden is at the forefront of the transition to more sustainable energy systems which we can observe throughout the world. Since the crude oil crisis at the beginning of the 1970s the country has invested huge funds in looking for alternative sources of energy. Thanks to advanced research and implementation work, crude oil provides less than 20% of the Swedish energy, whereas in 1970 it accounted for over 75% of the total consumption.

Sweden keeps making an effort to develop renewable, alternative fuels, which is why it's one of the global leaders in the area of ethanol research. Swedish researchers are currently working on obtaining ethanol from cellulose, which is called a second-generation fuel, because it's more effective than ethanol produced from grains, and doesn't have negative influence on crops. In the years 2011-2015, the Swedish government earmarked SEK 130 million for research and development work on ethanol.

Danish „2050 Energy Strategy”

The fact that carbon dioxide emissions have recently reached a record high level all over the world has led to a situation in which the Danish government's ambition is to make the country independent of fossil fuels by 2050. The government „2050 Energy Strategy”, which sets out that transformation, stipulates that energy efficiency will play the crucial role here. After

all, energy saving is a much less costly alternative than, for instance, construction of new wind turbines.

Currently, approx. 40-50% of energy consumed in Denmark is lost, which is why its effective use is a key solution which can be introduced in all areas: from farming, through business, transport, construction industry and, finally, households. It's estimated that the demand for energy in 2050 will be much bigger than today, but thanks to wide-ranging measures aimed at increasing energy effectiveness, it will be possible to satisfy it with a smaller amount of energy.

Innovative solutions serve the natural environment

Danes assume that by 2020 the gross energy consumption will decrease by approx. 6%. It will be possible mainly thanks to innovative solutions in those industries and sectors of the economy which have influence on effectiveness of electricity and heat production. Thanks to innovative solutions in the production system, fossil fuels lose their existing importance, and energy conversion losses will be very small.



What is also necessary is to introduce innovative improvements at the end user, i.e. at households and companies, by using more cost-effective electricity devices and more efficient sources of

heating. One of the areas in which the biggest amount of energy is consumed is buildings: heating, ventilation and lighting account for approx. 30-40% of the total consumption. Waste of energy can be prevented by diagnosing and monitoring such elements as windows, heating system or building's insulation. Denmark earmarks 2% of the gross domestic product for development of the R+D sector, whose task is to prepare and develop innovative solutions which are crucial for energy effectiveness – it puts the country above the EU average of 1.3%.

Finland: Modern forms of cooperation on development of clean technologies

In southern Finland, development of a cluster in the clean technologies sector (recycling, energy effectiveness, water management, soil decontamination) has helped transform the region into a flagship centre of the country's environmental technology. Companies which cooperate with each other improve products and processes, thanks to which they succeeded in creating an exceptional innovative environment. What accelerated that undertaking was an EUR 1.5 million investment from EU funds which helped convince 20 companies from the clean technologies sector to move their headquarters to the city of Lahti, which resulted in 170 new jobs and ensured another EUR 30 million in investment. The centres promote growth in business activity of related fields, and jointly they account for 60% of the Finnish activity in the clean technologies sector and 80% in the research sector.

Norway: future Europe's green battery

Hydropower plant construction and research in Norway came to a near standstill after the major expansion of the 1960s and 70s. The country had developed what it needed, and today 96 per cent of the electricity in Norway comes from Norwegian hydropower, from the country's 937 hydropower stations. Indeed, Norway is the sixth largest hydropower producer in the world — which is all the more amazing when you consider the entire country has just 5 million people.



Fot. Wojciech Koziejowski

However, Norway has the capacity to produce much more energy from hydropower and the potential to become Europe's "green battery". The idea behind a "green battery" is that excess power from Europe's growing network of solar arrays and wind farms could be sent to Norway to pump water up from lower reservoirs to higher reservoirs. Then, when Europe needs this power again, Norway just opens the tap and lets the water spin through its hydropower turbines.

Norwegian hydropower could make Norway the "green battery" of Europe — not by building new power plants, but by further developing those we have. The first step is to solve the challenges associated with increasing the capacity and flexibility of existing plants. Thus, improving existing power plants, rather than developing new ones, is the focus of ongoing research conducted by NTNU's Hydraulic Laboratory. Engineers work on the world's first physical model of a waterway with an air-cushioned surge chamber — a design that could be key to transforming Norway's hydropower network into an international resource, a green battery that could soak up Europe's excess wind and solar power and release it on demand.

Research, innovation, development – future-oriented actions

What proves the big involvement of the Nordic countries in research and development of the sectors connected with renewable energy is the place of these countries in the recently published global rankings.

According to Global Energy Architecture Performance Index 2016 (EAPI) prepared by the World Economic Forum, three Scandinavian countries (Norway, Sweden and Denmark) are in the top five, whereas Finland ranks the 12th among 126 countries in the world when it comes to operation of the national energy systems.

The innovative potential of Scandinavia
learn more

REPORT: Entrepreneurs opt for responsible waste management



More than 75 percent of companies are inclined to adjust their products or services in order to increase their recycling level – this is the result of the research conducted by PBS at the request of Stena Recycling. The entrepreneurs are attaching increasing importance to conducting their activity in a sustainable manner and more than a half of them treat the raising of the effectiveness of waste management as their priority.



The sustainable waste management is gaining importance in the European Union. The environmental requirements are

increasing, steps are taken in order to introduce the circular economy, the ecological awareness is growing. All that has a direct impact on the activity of the companies in Poland.

“Entrepreneurs have started to combine the effectiveness of waste management with responsibility and they are attaching increasing importance to both aspects,” says Piotr Bruździak, Sales and Marketing Director at Stena Recycling. “As results from the conducted research, the medium-sized and large enterprises, both from the industrial, production and services sectors, observe notable benefits of that approach. They are benefits which define the sustainable activity.”

Optimization for environmental reasons

In the PBS research the respondents – persons responsible for the waste management in their companies – were asked about the factors influencing the decision of their enterprises to optimize the waste management process. In the medium-sized enterprises those factors appeared to be, primarily, the legislative requirements and the environmental considerations, which categories received 1/3 of the responses each. In the case of the large enterprises the environmental considerations prevailed (54 percent of the responses), whereas the legislative requirements were indicated by 14 percent of the respondents. The positive financial balance of the waste management and the internal policy of the company play a minor part both in the case of the medium-sized enterprises and of the large enterprises. The visible difference in the approach of the large enterprises to the significance of the legislative requirements results from the fact that the environmental reporting in such entities is commissioned to external companies more often than it is the case of the medium-sized enterprises.

The enterprises pointed out that responsible waste management brings mainly ecological benefits (2/3 of the respondents). The medium-sized enterprises, however, more often stressed the importance of financial benefits, whereas the large enterprises indicated the positive impact on the local community.

“Yes” for increasing the recycling level

The increasing of the effectiveness of the waste management is high on the agenda in 59 percent of the companies. As it turns out, the majority of the enterprises are inclined to adjust the materials they use for production or the services they provide in order to increase their recycling level. That regards 74 percent of the middle-sized enterprises and as much as 90 percent of the large enterprises. Which is more, the readiness to consider incurring additional investment costs exclusively in order to maximize the recycling ratio is declared by 45 percent of the middle-sized enterprises and by as much as 68 percent of the large enterprises.

Meeting new legal regulations

The surveyed companies were also asked about the greatest challenge which they predicted would materialize in the area of the waste management in their sector in the forthcoming years. The most frequent answer given by the medium-sized and by the large enterprises alike was that of having to meet the requirements of the new legal regulations and the waste reporting (42 percent of the responses). That response was closely followed by indicating other challenges, such as the adjusting of the production to the quantity limits on the generated waste (32 percent) and the applying of new technologies in order to enhance the waste management (28 percent). The medium-sized enterprises indicated the most frequently the following aspects as their objectives and priorities for the forthcoming years in connection with the waste management: the optimizing of costs (50 percent of the responses), the improving of the logistics of the waste management (31 percent) and the increasing of the recycling level (30 percent). On the other hand, the large enterprises indicated in the first place the improving of the logistics of the waste management and the increasing of the recycling level (42 percent of the responses in each category), then, the further optimization of the costs (32 percent).



“The majority of the enterprises, although not fearing the toughening of the regulations on waste management, are aware of the challenges it involves,” comments the expert of Stena Recycling. “Through the application of the appropriate solutions it is possible not only to meet the increasing requirements, but also to optimize the waste management process, which translates itself into notable business benefits.”

The survey was conducted by PBS at the request of Stena Recycling with the use of the CATI and CAWI methods in January 2016. It was conducted on the sample of 330 companies: 280 medium-sized enterprises and 50 large enterprises. The complete report in polish, containing more results, is available for download at www.stenarecycling.pl

Danish business in Poland – innovative and with values

- interview with Jacek Siwiński, the CEO of VELUX Polska



Jacek Siwiński

VELUX has been present in Poland for over 25 years. What were its beginnings? What is its future?

During the last 25 years, we have come a long way – from a small office to four factories and to the position of the largest window producer and exporter in Poland. In the beginning of our activity, Poles didn't know such products as roof windows existed, therefore, we started building the market for roof windows, we established cooperation with distributors and contractors. We reinforce our position with each passing year. Poland is an important country for the VELUX Group, which invested close to PLN 500 million in the modernization and development of our plants during the last four years and which employs over 3500 people here. The windows produced in Gniezno, Namysłów and Wędkowy are mainly exported to Western European markets. Our future lies in increasing the production capabilities and in developing export, as well as in the active participation of the company in the evolution of the local communities in which we are the largest employer.



What is the role of innovation in the company's development?

Our company can come into being in that the inventiveness and knowledge of our founder Dane Villum Kann Rasumussen, who invented the modern roof window and he has been developing it by next decades. Kann Rasumussen's innovations always has been driven by social aspect e.g. finding the solution lack of living space, improvement of energy performance, better safety of habitants, lower impact of the environment ect. This is typical of companies with Danish roots and results from strong values culture, contemporaneously forms very good foundation to build a strong company. Now, VELUX is the world leader in window joinery, as evident not only from the scale of production and the sales of windows, but most of all from its innovativeness. VELUX has been setting trends in the development of the industry, worldwide as well as in Poland, for 75 years. The company can boast many inventions which changed the shape of modern houses and the quality of life of their inhabitants. For example, the pivot hinge made it possible to popularize roof windows, enabling millions of houses to adapt attics for residential purposes. During the recent years, flat roof windows, which we introduced to the Polish market as the first ones, over 11 years ago, have been gaining popularity. In 2013, the New Generation roof windows made their debut in the Polish market. Owing to the use of new technologies, the windows have become more energy-efficient, while the surface of glazing was extended, which resulted in an increased amount of light and a better energy balance. Their innovativeness is evidenced by 18 patents filed for during the works on the New Generation.

Acting for environmental protection and limitation in energy use are the key aspects of the local CSR 2016 report. What is their significance for the company's strategy?



Velux factory in Namysłów

Our concern for the environment results directly from values rooted in company is reflected in our approach to products and to management in our company. VELUX products are not only innovative, but also environmentally friendly throughout their life cycle. We elaborate our products using life cycle assessment (LCA), which takes into account the impact of our products on the climate and on the environment, from the purchase of raw materials, through production and use, to their recycling. The result of such analysis forms the basis for improvement. For example, the New Generation roof windows limit energy consumption, allow to better illuminate the interiors and guarantee exceptional comfort of use.

Our concern for natural environment is also reflected in our global climatic strategy, published in 2009, which aims to reduce own emission of CO₂ by half until the year 2020. Attaining this objective requires efficient energy management in production plants. In 2015, Polish VELUX factories joined the small group of enterprises with ISO 50001 compliant energy management systems, thus meeting the requirements of the EU directive on energy efficiency of companies.

VELUX has been involved in various research and education programs aimed at shaping ecological attitudes. Could you tell us more about this field of the company's activity?

VELUX has been actively promoting modern and energy efficient construction for years. One of the global initiatives is the co-creation of the concept of Active Houses, retaining the balance between low energy consumption, healthy indoor climate and limiting the negative impact on the environment. We educate both investors and, broadly speaking, the industry in this respect. We have built 24 reference objects. The houses are subject to regular measurements of energy consumption and other parameters in natural conditions. The results are used to make improvements in the products and to elaborate guidelines for designing entire buildings.

Are you celebrating your 75th anniversary in any special manner?

The celebrations are held internationally and comprise many activities, including both internal events and social actions. One of such initiatives is the Natural Light project. Together with the social organization Little Sun, we commissioned the elaboration of a solar lamp which was to be distributed in areas where electricity is still an unaffordable luxury. A design elaborated by students from Argentina was selected in a competition, 14,500 lamps were produced and delivered to communities in Senegal, Zambia and Zimbabwe. After darkness falls, the lamps provide consistent and reliable light.

JULA IN POLAND

Swedish Jula won the hearts of Poles, because of its uniqueness. And while many associate it primarily with a wide range of assortment for home, garden, renovation and relaxation. However, this unusual concept for the Polish market has to offer a lot more than we think.



Tomasz Wienke - Country Manager Jula Poland

We already know that Jula is a completely different format store with a wide assortment. Is there something more that should encourage consumers to visit the Jula multimarket?

We associate Jula primarily with quality. Quality is of paramount importance in every area and at every stage of Jula, from the production process and selection of suppliers to customer service.

Control of production level is extremely crucial as a large part of the offer is made exclusively for Jula.

Already at the stage of selecting components for the production of products we are focused on high quality standards. Furthermore, Jula quality can be well observed when it comes to the utility of the products. The essence of our offer are our own brand products which are value for money products. In other words, customers buying from us good quality products will not overpay for them. Our Polish offer has exactly the same high and strict quality standards as for the Swedish market.

The ratio of quality to price is our indication of the effectiveness of our activities. What's more, if there is a need to exchange or return goods, we have a liberal return policy and provide efficient service guarantee.

The format of our stores is another aspect of the quality in Jula.

Its aim is to create a customer-friendly atmosphere where you easily can find everything under one roof. We know that time is precious, so we help to spare it. There is no need to visit several shops, standing in several different queues. You really can find most of the products you need at Jula, thus saving a lot of time.

You have mentioned that the quality requirements start from the production stage. What do you mean by that, how does such process look like?

At Jula we have a special laboratory where we test our products, and in particular all prototypes of the products. For example, in the process of quality control of the products we use an innovative X-ray scanner XRF. This device is a simple and fast way to analyze the composition of the product at the level of micro-elements.

A test of one of the products carried out some time ago whose purchase was to be finalized, showed the presence of a forbidden element. As a result, we managed to react in time and avoid the use of a forbidden ingredient in this product. This scanner is an investment that gives us additional control and knowledge. In addition, suppliers are aware of the fact that we have the ability to quickly and easily perform the tests.

Quality is also customer service, how does Jula manage this issue?

This issue is also a priority for us at the store level. Customers are the heart of our business, so it is essential that we take care of them. In every store there is friendly staff who is eager to help not only in finding products but also in giving advice. We constantly monitor the quality of customer service by asking for their opinion and carrying special surveys. For example, in the mystery shopper study which was held in Jula in Poland, we have obtained a high score - 92.1% - which confirms that our efforts are effective, noticed and appreciated by customers. In addition, once again we have received the prize „Star of Quality Service”, which is also proof of the excellent opinion about our staff expressed by the clients themselves. Come and visit Jula, we would be happy to help you!

Art. nr: 958-035

Art. nr: 956-178

Buy picnic basket and get blanket for 1 PLN!

Offer valid from 06.27.2016 to 31.07.2016 r, or while stocks last. Terms available at jula.pl.

SPONSORED ARTICLE

GoodMan – where GOOD people count



Martina Ruddy – Managing Director

For over 16 years I have been working in the recruitment industry in Poland, supporting international and local Polish companies with recruitment of competent Professionals for specialist, middle and senior level roles in niche industry sectors. As the owner of GoodMan Recruitment Company, I ensure that we professionally represent our clients by contacting the best Candidates directly.

The best reference of our high quality recruitment service is our strong list of satisfied Clients. A large number of our key customers are Scandinavian companies. Professional business acumen, business culture and partnership approach is what we appreciate, especially when working with companies from Denmark, Sweden, Finland and Norway.

I welcome you to partner with GoodMan. Not only are we recruitment specialists but also market experts, reliable consultants and a strong, stable business partner! We can support your business by saving you time and money so you can concentrate on your core business activities. We have supported many Scandinavian clients during start-up phase of building their business structure in Poland.

Over the last 12 months there has been a significant change in labor market trends in Poland. Continued development and foreign investment in Poland has resulted in employers needing to hire additional employees, competing for the same specialists and skills. In my opinion, the biggest challenge facing employers over the coming months is not only sourcing talent but also retaining qualified, experienced personnel.

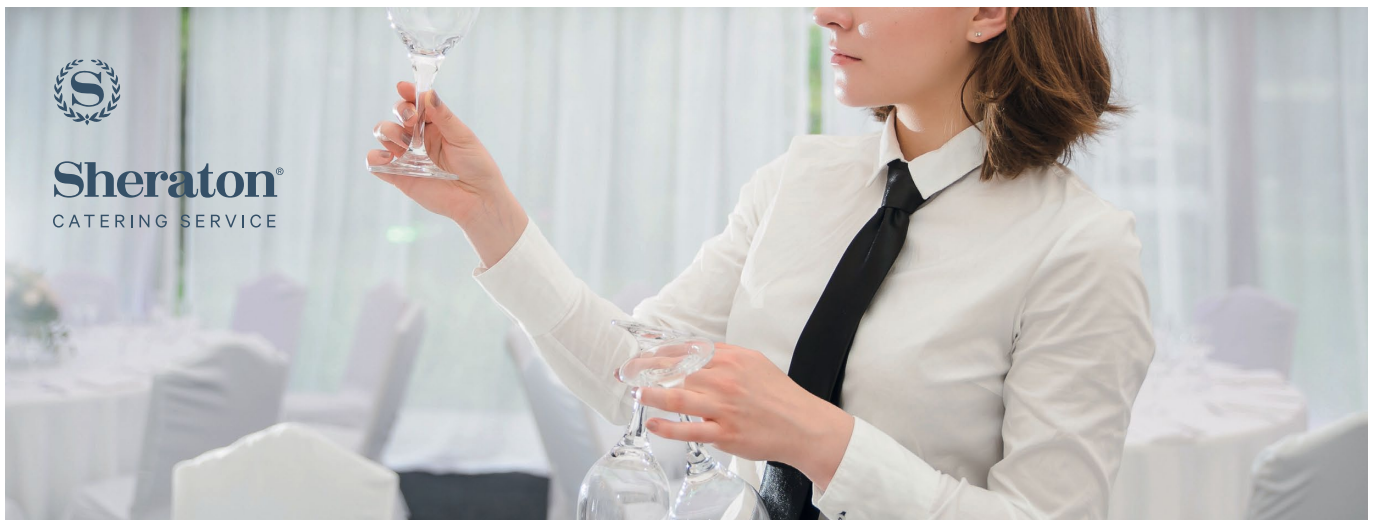
Please contact me for more details and I am happy to answer your questions regarding the current Poland labor market and listen to any current needs or challenges you have. Together we will find the right solution. GoodMan – where GOOD people count!

Combining deep market knowledge and use of successful and proven recruitment methods, the GoodMan Team, under my guidance, takes on the most difficult challenges. Our aim is always to find the right Candidate based on the competency needs of our Client.

Best Regards
Martina Ruddy-Zaluska
Managing Director
 Tel: + 48 516062001
 Email: m.ruddy@goodmanpolska.com
www.goodmanpolska.com

SPONSORED ARTICLE

ADVERTISEMENT



Sheraton Catering – Passion. Perfection. Experience.

Cooking is our passion. We believe that every single detail matters. Executive Chef of The Sheraton Warsaw Hotel, passionate team and professional catering equipment guarantee a perfect menu and service for each type of event.

Find out more at: sheratoncatering.pl



©2016 Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. All Rights Reserved. Preferred Guest, SPG, Sheraton and their logos are the trademarks of Starwood Hotels & Resorts Worldwide, Inc. or its affiliates. For full terms and conditions, visit sheraton.pl

■ EXPERT'S VIEW

New act on investment in wind farms signed by the President



MAGNUSSON



Tomasz Rysiak, Magnusson

Preferences of the Government in investment in energy are reflected in a new act on investment in wind farms that limits possibility and profitability of investments in wind power.

The two main changes introduced by this new act are new requirements regarding planning investments in the wind farms

and possible increase of tax burdens imposed on investors.

The new requirements regarding planning investments in the wind farms comprise, among others, possibility to invest in construction of wind farms solely in locations for which a local zoning plan provides for this type of investments, more stringent requirements with regard to distance of a tower from residential properties or entering a head of a region (*województwo*) as an entity participating in a procedure regarding issue of a building permit.

The possible increase of the tax burdens imposed on investors may be affected by change of a definition of a "structure" (*bu-*

dowla) within the meaning of the construction law, which is used to directly determine an entity that is subject to the real property tax. This change concerns striking off the term "wind farm" from a sample list of technical equipment, of which the construction elements constitute the structure within the meaning of the construction law. Pursuant to the hitherto binding provisions of law, only constructional elements of the wind farms (e.g. foundations, tower) were subject to the real property tax. Concurrently, the technical equipment (e.g. windmill, alternator, etc.) that usually constitute a larger part of the value of the wind farm were not considered as structures, therefore, they were not subject to the real property tax. Theoretically, striking off the wind farms from the sample list of the technical equipment itself does not determine whether the entire wind farm will be subject to the real property tax, (since this is just a sample list). Nonetheless, the new act provides for transitional provisions with regard to the real property tax, what is an evidence that the increase of the tax burden was an aim of the legislator.

Tomasz Rysiak, Legal Counsel / Partner
Magnusson, Warsaw
tomasz.rysiak@magnussonlaw.com

News from Scandinavia

The Norwegian Government's strategy for cooperation with Poland



Fot. Robert Bryndza

The Norwegian government has prepared a separate strategy for cooperation and further development of mutual relations between our countries. The strategy covers 15 priority areas for enhancing cooperation.

The Norwegian EEA Funds of which Poland is the biggest beneficiary play a special role in relations between Poland and Norway. *Poland has become an increasingly important partner for Norway. Following its peaceful, negotiated transition to democracy, Poland's political stability and high level of economic growth have in recent years been striking* - states the strategy.

EEA and Norway Grants: Working together for a green, competitive and inclusive Europe

In May 2016 Norway and the EU signed the agreement on the European Economic Area (EEA) and Norway Grants for the period 2014-2021. Norway will contribute with 3,3 million NOK yearly (around 391,4 EUR million). Poland will remain the biggest beneficiary with the share of 809,3 EUR million. The new agreement gives priority to supporting efforts in the areas of innovation, research and education. Energy security, climate change and greater cooperation between Norway and the beneficiary countries in the area of justice and home affairs will also be key focus areas.

Nordic countries have one of the world's best energy systems

According to the latest Global Energy Architecture Performance Index Report 2016 (EAPI), three Nordic countries rank in the top 5 in the world when it comes to national energy systems. The Global Energy Architecture Performance Index Report 2016 is published by the World Economic Forum and ranks 126 countries on their ability to deliver secure, affordable and sustainable energy. Switzerland took the top spot, followed by Norway, Sweden, France and Denmark. Finland was ranked on the 12th position, while Poland took 41 spot



Fot. Piotr Hajda

Stockholm identified as tech talent magnet

New report from LinkedIn and City of Stockholm shows the capital is a net beneficiary of international and national talent, especially of front-end IT skills. The report is the result of an in-depth analysis LinkedIn has done of the labour market in Stockholm. In order to show the dynamics of this market, LinkedIn has analyzed around 1,5 billion profiles of employees registered in the Stockholm area. The findings show Stockholm as an economic hub for tech talents.

Danish university spin-out opens Europe's most advanced air lab

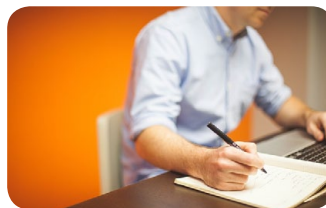


Fot. Marta Muszyńska-Jorczyk

The Danish company, Infuser, is now opening what promises to be Europe's, and possibly the world's, most advanced laboratories for the analysis of air quality at the University of Copenhagen.

The Danish air quality company, Infuser, produces advanced air pollution control solutions based on a University of Copenhagen patent. The company is now opening a 400 square metres, highly advanced laboratory for the analysis of air quality.

Finland's startups receive most venture capital in Europe



Fot. absfreepic.com

The amount of venture capital obtained by startups and growth companies in Finland, in relation to the GDP, is the highest in Europe, according to the statistics of the Finnish Venture Capital Association (FVCA).

According to the performance index of the Nordic Venture Network (NVN), investments made in Nordic early-stage companies have performed well. Based on NVN's statistics, investments made in startups and growth companies actually yielded higher returns than the stock market's comparable indices.

Espoo ranks as the most sustainable city in Europe – other Nordic countries in the top of the ranking

The city of Espoo in Finland received the highest scores in a sustainability assessment of over 140 European cities with a population of more than 100 000 inhabitants. The study of sustainability challenges was prepared for the Dutch Presidency of the EU in the first half of 2016, and it was carried out by Telos, an academic centre for local and regional sustainability studies at the Tilburg University, in Netherlands. Overall, Northern European cities scored highest on sustainability. Espoo, Stockholm and Munich form the top three. The next spots belong to Copenhagen and Luxembourg. In the top of the ranking there are also other Nordic cities: Linköping (5th), Helsinki (7th), Tampere (8th), Umeå (9th) and Oulu (12th).

SPCC e-magazine: Scandinavian-Polish business community online!

The SPCC e-magazine is distributed to a wide group of readers interested in information about Scandinavian-Polish market: more than 370 companies being SPCC Members, other Scandinavian companies operating in Poland, business institutions and media. Therefore the magazine offers a unique opportunity for companies wishing to promote their business among the key stakeholders representing Scandinavian-Polish business community.

The next issue of SPCC e-magazine will be published in September, the deadline for submitting the materials is 9th of September.

We offer a possibility to publish articles, interviews and advertisements.

If you are interested in cooperation please contact Sylwia Wojtaszczyk-Ciąćka:

swojtaszczyk@spcc.pl, tel. 22 849 74 14.

Price list for SPCC Members