

BiznesPolska: WEEK in REVIEW

27 Sept – 1 Oct 2021

Leach & McGuire wins Swedish residential portfolio deal

Leach & McGuire, a specialist in the Polish PRS market, has started official cooperation with Swedish sector heavyweight – Heimstaden Bostad. Under the newly signed contract, Leach & McGuire will be responsible for kickstarting both the rental and the property management of Heimstaden's Polish housing portfolio.

Leach & McGuire and Heimstaden Bostad have signed an agreement to start work on two buildings that Heimstaden purchased in Warsaw earlier in 2021 from Marvipol, specifically 'Unique Tower' on ul. Grzybowska comprising 136 apartments and 'Moko' (Botanika) on ul. Bokserska featuring 477 residential units.

'We are obviously delighted to have been chosen by the Heimstaden team to take on the letting and property management of their upcoming projects and rolling out their 'Friendly Homes' concept in Poland. We look forward to adding our local knowledge and experience of the Polish market to Heimstaden's own vision and vast build-to-rent (BTR) experience from other countries. We and our team have already been working hand-in-hand with the Heimstaden team for some time on these schemes and are very excited to be launching the letting in the near future.'

Leach & McGuire currently manage 3,000 residential premises in 11 different cities across Poland.

Heimstaden's decision to select Leach & McGuire as a local partner in Poland is also an indirect comment on the recent market debate. It concerns the growing willingness of PRS owners in Poland to outsource real estate management to specialist external companies, which in turn results in the progressive development of services in this sector on the Polish market, as well as defining the market standard of this service segment in Poland.

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Heimstaden is one of the three largest private residential property owners in Europe and has so far acquired approximately 4,000 apartments under development in 18 different projects in Warsaw, Krakow, Gdańsk, Poznań and Wrocław.

Esotiq & Henderson retailer plans 11 new stores in Poland, more e-commerce.

Listed on the Warsaw Stock Exchange, shares in Esotiq & Henderson have soared from 7pln in April 2020 to the current 50pln.



It has plans to open a total of 11 new stores in Poland, located both in and outside shopping centers, as well as 7 outlets on eastern markets, announced President Adam Skrzypek.

“In Poland, in the first half of the year, we opened 6 showrooms and we managed to open the first store in Slovakia at that time and it will certainly not be the last one in this country. We also opened one store in Ukraine. We plan to open 11 salons throughout the year in Poland, although we are quite cautious about it, because the pandemic is not over,” said Skrzypek during the videoconference.

He added that the company does not rule out the possibility of opening new stores in shopping malls or “on the street”, if the location is attractive.

The company also intends to focus more on e-commerce sales.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/esotiq-henderson-podtrzymuje-plan-otwarcia-w-polsce-11-nowych-salonow/>

Medicofarma Biotech aims at postcovid rehabilitation

Medicofarma Biotech is working on a postcovid rehabilitation project, the progress of which it would like to announce later this year, informed CEO Cezary Kliczewski. In turn, he hopes to get to know the first results of the oncological therapy project using the molecules developed by the company next year. Meanwhile, the company’s shares will return to continuous trading on NewConnect on October 1.

“Currently, our priority is two projects that we implement together with scientists from the Institute of Bioorganic Chemistry of the Polish Academy of Sciences. The first one concerns oncological therapy with the use of molecules developed by us, the first effects of which we hope to see next year. The second one focuses on postcovid rehabilitation, the progress of which we would like to announce later this year,” said Kliczewski.

“The company has two R&D laboratories – in Lublin and Poznań, where a total of six short- and long-term projects are carried out in the field of developing innovative peri-oncological drugs, dietary sup-

plements for use in the treatment of oral diseases and postcovid rehabilitation. Medicofarma Biotech's business strategy assumes the simultaneous implementation of short-term and long-term projects.

Medicofarma Biotech will return to continuous trading on the NewConnect market on October 1. The company has successfully passed the verification of the WSE, showing the profits from the conducted activity, also stated in the material.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/medicofarma-biotech-chce-oglosic-postep-w-rehabilitacji-postcovidowej-w-2021/>

PGNiG to drill in the UAE field in mid-2022

Polskie Górnictwo Naftowe i Gazownictwo (PGNiG) assumes that it will begin drilling in the field in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the middle of next year, said Robert Perkowski, vice president.

“As part of our concession in the United Arab Emirates, we have moved to the second stage of works. Most likely, in the middle of next year, we will have preliminary drilling and exploration works there. It is worth remembering that each country in which we operate has different local regulations. We will drill and wait for the results. The specificity of upstream is based on the assumption that this business is roulette, but we currently have techniques to recognize the deposit, among others through the analysis of seismic images. We in the UAE expect not only natural gas, but probably also condensate,” said Perkowski on the sidelines of the Energy Congress in Wrocław.

In May this year, PGNiG announced that it is starting the second stage of exploration work in the Emirate of Ras al-Khaimah. At that time, the company was at the stage of design and location arrangements for the first exploration well, which will answer the question about the production potential of the license.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/pgnig-moze-rozpozacz-wiercenie-na-zlozu-w-zea-w-polowie-2022/>

PFR and Bank Pekao want to co-finance the creation of 500 MW in renewable energy

The Polish Development Fund (PFR) and Bank Pekao will jointly finance projects for the construction of solar and wind farms with a total capacity of approximately 500 MW, said Tomasz Tomasik, director of the Energy Transformation Office at PFR.

“PFR is starting work on a program of co-financing market renewable energy projects that will produce electricity at market prices. We are now undertaking a pilot solution with Bank Pekao and I expect that we will sign the first business agreement this year,” said Tomasik in an interview on the sidelines of the Energy Congress in Wrocław.

“The condition for granting financing will be the signing of a contract for the supply of energy produced from photovoltaic panels and wind farms for a minimum period of 3 years. There will be no need to present a won tender for the so-called power auction. Today, the market prices of renewable energy are so stably high that the financial sector is interested in broadly financing such investments,” added the director.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/pfr-i-bank-pekao-chca-wspolfinansowac-powstanie-500-mw-w-oze/>

Aldi sidesteps law with Sunday opening, thanks to cooperation with Pointpack

This will happen thanks to Aldi's collaboration with Pointpack and offering an additional parcel drop-off and collection service, the network said.

“Trade analysis shows that customers start to plan their purchases on Sunday, and they already know that they have the freedom to choose the day when they can go to the store for both shopping and additional services. Aldi, as an everyday shopping store, wants to be available to its consumers, meeting their ex-

pectations. Our clients should also have access to their favorite products 7 days a week,” said Radosław Kozyrski, Director of the Sales Organization Area, quoted in the release.

The chain’s stores will be open on Sundays from 10:00 AM to 5:30 PM, except December 12 and 19 when they will be open from 9:00 AM to 8:00 PM, also stated.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/aldi-otworzy-wybrane-sklepy-w-niedziele-dzieki-wspolpracy-z-pointpack/>

Pesa and Newag bid to supply PKP Intercity with double-decker trains

Pesa and Newag submitted a declaration of joint participation in the procurement procedure for the supply of 38 seven-car push-pull double-decker trains to PKP Intercity along with 45 multi-system locomotives and the provision of multi-system locomotive maintenance services, the companies said. Establishing a consortium and submitting a joint application to participate in the procedure announced by the carrier means that the teams of both companies, as part of the technical dialogue, started joint work on a double-decker vehicle dedicated to PKP Intercity.



“We are convinced that thanks to the experience gathered so far by our teams, we can jointly offer PKP IC a modern double-decker vehicle that can be competitive not only in Poland, but also on European markets” – said Krzysztof Zdziarski, president of Pesa.

“The decision to establish a consortium results from the fact that submitting individual bids would entail a significant risk of failure to perform the contract due to the complexity of the subject of the contract, production capabilities in the context of its completion date and other contractual obligations. We believe that the concluded consortium will have a positive impact on the further dynamic development of railways in Poland,” added Zbigniew Konieczek, President of Newag.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/pesa-i-newag-powolaly-konsorcjum-do-postepowania-pkp-intercity-na-push-pulle/>

FM Logistics sees green hydrogen in its future

FM Logistic’s “Powering 2030” strategy assumes doubling global revenues to around EUR 3 billion by 2030 from the current EUR 1.4 billion and increasing EBIT to 4% compared to 2.8% in the financial year 2020/21. One of the pillars of the strategy is to reduce the carbon footprint of e.g. thanks to the production and use of green hydrogen – also in Polish locations.

Green hydrogen would also be produced in Poland on the currently under construction FM Logistic platform in Wiskitki, 40 km west of Warsaw, by the A2 motorway, where technical and financial analyzes of this solution are still underway, as well as the search for potential institutional subsidies, similar to those managed to acquire an operator in Western Europe.

“FM Logistic wants to be a partner of first choice for customers in designing and consistent implementation of a sustainable supply chain strategy operating within the dynamically developing Omnichannel concept. Together with our clients, we will engage in initiatives and changes in the logistics process aimed at practically supporting more responsible consumption ” - commented Daniel Franke, managing director of FM Logistic Central Europe, quoted in the material.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/strategia-fm-logistic-zaklada-m-in-produkcje-zielonego-wodoru/>

LeadCrest Capital Partners makes EUR45m investment in logistics & light

LeadCrest Capital Partners, the first European fund 100 per cent dedicated to sale-leaseback and build-to-suit investments, has acquired a EUR45 million portfolio of two logistics and two light industrial facilities totalling 51,900 sq m, with each facility single let to high quality tenants on a triple net basis.

The assets are leased to high calibre tenants with strong credit profiles and operating in attractive niches with favourable tailwinds: DSV, the third largest logistics company in the world, listed on the Copenhagen Stock Exchange; Żabka, the largest Polish convenience retailer operating over 7,000 locations throughout Poland; Kitron, a leading Norwegian Electronics Manufacturing Services company listed on the Oslo Stock Exchange; and Hydroline, a family-owned Finnish manufacturer, pioneer in hydraulic cylinders.

The portfolio comprises four assets totalling approximately 51,900 sq m located throughout Poland in primary and growing markets. Two assets are in the South of the country, another in the Northwest with a further asset in Central Poland.

Georges Asmar, Portfolio Manager at LeadCrest Capital Partners, says: “We are excited about the closing of our first transaction in Poland and plan to continue to build on our investments in the region. Panatoni has proven to be a strong partner and our transaction a great case study for LeadCrest to assess the potential of investing in multi-purpose warehouses in Poland.”

<https://www.propertyfundsworld.com/2021/09/30/306973/leadcrest-capital-partners-makes-eur45m-investment-logistics-light>

EKIPA does reverse takeover to put YouTuber “Friz” on NewConnect exchange

EKIPA HOLDING S.A. and NewConnect-listed Beskidzkie Biuro Inwestycyjne S.A. (BBI),, signed a Merger Plan. As a result, Ekipa HOLDING S.A., headed by the most popular Polish YouTuber Karol “Friz” Wiśniewski, will be listed on the NewConnect stock market.



Reverse takeover (pursuant to Article 492 § 1.1) is a process in which the acquiring company, i.e. BBI, will take over all the assets of EKIPA HOLDING in exchange for issuing new issue of BBI shares to the existing shareholders of Ekipa, as a result of which they will become the majority shareholders of the Company listed on NewConnect. Thus, after the change of BBI's name to EKIPA HOLDING S.A., Poland's best known group of influencers, founded by Karol "Friz" Wiśniewski, together with its businesses will become the first publicly listed constellation of new media stars.

In order to agree on the terms of the merger, a valuation of both companies was carried out as of 1 August 2021. For BBI, the company's market value (capitalisation) on that day, i.e. PLN 26.4 million, was assumed, while with regard to EKIPA HOLDING, together with its subsidiaries, the fair value was determined using the adjusted net asset value method, which amounted to PLN 252.25 million. As a result of this valuation and negotiations between the parties, it was agreed that the existing shareholders of BBI will hold 10.05% of the share capital of the Company after the merger, with the remainder going to the existing shareholders of Ekipa Holding S.A.

<https://inwestycje.pl/gielda/ekipa-holding-na-ostatniej-prostej-w-drodze-na-gielde/>

JR Holding buys into Prometheus UAV drone manufacturer

JR Holding ASI (JRH) has concluded an agreement to acquire 393,050 series G shares in the increased share capital of the drone manufacturer Prometheus, JRH reported. In addition, JRH concluded an agreement with a natural person to purchase another 98,263 shares in Prometheus. As a result of the investment, JR Holding will achieve a total of approximately 28.08% of the company's capital.

The seller (natural person) undertook that after the payments made by JRH for the take-up of series G shares, he would sell 98,263 shares to JRH.

Prometheus is a designer and manufacturer of a new class of UAV drones (unmanned aerial vehicle).

"We are glad that, as a significant investor, we will be able to contribute to the commercialization and launch of Prometheus operations on a global scale. A ready-made and comprehensive product, impressive with possibilities, which currently has virtually no competition, is an excellent basis for the expecta-

tion of commercial success of the venture. I am convinced that this company will be another strong point in the portfolio of JR Holding,” said the president of JRH, January Ciszewski, quoted in the press release.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/jr-holding-asi-zainwestowal-w-producenta-dronow-uav-prometheus/>

Tauron and Microsoft in smart city deal in Wrocław

Tauron Polska Energia and Microsoft have entered into a strategic partnership aimed at cooperation in the field of energy and digital transformation. One of the key areas of the agreement is joint action in the area of Smart City in Wrocław, Tauron said.

As part of the Smart City project, Tauron, with the support of Microsoft technology, will provide Wrocław residents with services that will affect energy savings, improve traffic, increase safety and protect the environment. Residents will have access to useful information on air quality, free parking spaces and traffic, underlined.

“In the Smart City area, together with Microsoft, we are building our offer of services for cities. In Wrocław, we will test the implementation of services useful in everyday life, thanks to which, among others, it will be easier and safer to move around the city,” said Krzysztof Surma, vice president of the management board for finances of Tauron.

The infrastructure and data at the disposal of Tauron open access to areas that have a real impact on the environment and the quality of life of residents. Smart City is a complex technological, social and infrastructural mechanism that must cope with the changing reality. The solution is technologies that allow the analysis of a lot of data and, consequently, the implementation of projects that increase the level of functioning of cities, explained.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/tauron-zawarl-partnerstwo-z-microsoftem-ws-inteligentnego-miasta-we-wroclawiu/>

Carrefour – now a post office – to open on Sundays

From October, more than half of Carrefour stores will also open on Sundays despite the trade ban – informs Wiadomościhandlowe.pl. This is one of many networks that has decided to take advantage of the exception in the current act on the conduct of postal activities.

Last weekends, Carrefour tested stores open on Sundays as post offices in seven locations, a decision was made to extend this solution to other stores, according to WH. According to the website, from October 1, the courier collection service will be available in 129 Carrefour own stores (the company has about 250). Workers will receive a bonus for each hour of work on non-trading Sundays.

“In the case of working on non-trading Sundays, our network offered its employees voluntary work, and for working on non-trading Sundays, in addition to remuneration for work, they will receive an allowance for each hour of work on Sundays in the amount equivalent to 30% of the hourly rate. resulting from the minimum remuneration for work, specified in the Act on the minimum remuneration for work “- informed Izabella Rokicka, communication director at Carrefour Polska.

<https://businessinsider.com.pl/finanse/handel/handel-w-niedziele-carrefour-otworzy-polowe-hipermarketow-i-supermarketow/wnb6vr3>

Xiaomi continues rapid Poland expansion with 23rd store.

Last week in Warsaw, the first Xiaomi store outside a shopping mall in Poland was opened. The company is intensively expanding its network of stores: over a thousand outlets have already been established in the world, and there are 23 of them in Poland. By the end of October, we will also have 80 Mi Points, i.e. points of sale in larger stores, e.g. with electronics and household appliances, which complement the

showrooms. Xiaomi in Poland is already responsible for 36 percent. the smartphone market, and in the second quarter of this year. recorded 82 percent. increase in deliveries.



“We are opening our 23rd store in Poland. This time, the location is slightly different from the previous ones, because all previous stores were built in shopping centers” – says Andrzej Gładki, deputy general director for the region of Central and Eastern Europe and the Nordic countries at Xiaomi. “We assume two types of locations in Xiaomi’s strategy and we will pursue both directions in the future.”

The fourth Warsaw Xiaomi Store was opened in Praga, at ul. Grochowska. As Andrzej Gładki emphasizes, the company builds its image through relations with users, hence the decision to locate was made, among others, by based on the votes of Xiaomi Community users.

<https://biznes.newseria.pl/news/polska-regionalnym-liderem.p1337120521>

Polish fishermen to expand with new MSC sustainable certification.

Four fisheries organizations from the Polish Coast have officially received the MSC certificate for catching three species of flat fish in the Baltic Sea: flounder, plaice and turbot. This proves that Polish fishermen catch them in a sustainable manner, allowing the fish stocks to be kept in good condition and without harming the natural environment. This is the world’s first certificate for a turbot and a flock, which will allow Polish fishermen to reach new customers and increase their competitiveness on the market. All the more so as for more and more aware consumers, the MSC mark is an important indication when making purchasing choices.

“Obtaining the certificate with all the preparations took over three years” – says Marcin Radkowski, president of the board of Kołobrzaska Grupa Producentów Ryb. “It is a success for us, but we expected it, because for many years Polish fishermen have been sometimes more ecological than ecologists. Probably no one, like fishermen, is interested in having as many resources as possible in the Baltic Sea. This is their life, their job, very often their families’ future.”

The Kołobrzeg Fish Producers Group is one of four groups that have received the MSC Sustainable Fisheries certificate for flat fish. The Marine Stewardship Council is a non-governmental organization that operates a world-leading, independent fishery certification program. This certificate confirms that the fishing of the Baltic flounder, plaice and turbot is carried out in a responsible manner, using methods that

do not affect the condition of wild fish populations and do not adversely affect the marine ecosystem. It is the only MSC certificate currently awarded to Polish fishermen who fish in the Baltic Sea.

<https://biznes.newseria.pl/news/polscy-rybacy-z,p781952757>

SoftBlue wins PLN 6 million grant for water-savings implementation

SoftBlue, an IT expert listed on NewConnect, will receive a PLN 6.1 million grant from the National Center for Research and Development as part of the Fast Track competition. The company's original project, with a total value of nearly PLN 8 million, has been qualified for co-financing. It concerns the development of a specialized system of expert water partitioning, aimed at rationalizing water consumption. Currently, the company is creating its own Research and Development Center, incl. devoted to rational water management in collective supply systems. Work has already begun.

The National Center for Research and Development has announced that the first partial evaluation of projects submitted in the second round of the Fast Track competition under the Intelligent Development Operational Program 2014-2020 has been completed. Among the selected projects, there was a solution presented by SoftBlue SA.

“Recommendation of the National Center for Research and Development will allow us to launch another project combining modern technology and an ecological approach. Thanks to the expert system of water distribution, leaks will be limited. Consumers will become more aware of the water they use. The advantage of this solution is a distributed analyst using artificial intelligence algorithms” – says Michał Kierul, president of the board of SoftBlue SA.

The project implementation costs nearly PLN 8 million. The co-financing value is PLN 6.1 million.

<https://mambiznes.pl/wlasny-biznes/polska-firma-pomysl-ograniczenie-zuzycia-wody-pozyskala-6-mln-zl-realizacje-105983>

Crowdfunding: Janusz Palikot to raise 4.5 million pln for alcohol business

After a successful fundraising campaign in 2020, Janusz Palikot is not slowing down in using crowdfunding as a form of raising capital for the development of his business ideas. The next issue of shares as part of equity crowdfunding will start on September 30. The funds are to support the development of a chain of restaurants with their own distilleries and the production of high-quality alcoholic beverages.

This is the second issue of Alembik Polska, the president of which is a former politician. This time the originator aims at PLN 4.5 million, which is to provide the company with funds for further investments in existing premises and the opening of new ones. The crowdfunding campaign is carried out on the Crowdway platform.

The company managing the Alkotek chain, i.e. restaurants with their own distilleries, also specializing in the production of high-quality vodkas – has published the details of the second share issue, scheduled for September 30, 2021. As part of equity crowdfunding, it plans to raise PLN 4.5 million for further investments in Czarca Łapa and Young Poland and the opening of a new restaurant in Warsaw. It is worth recalling that the first campaign brought the company PLN 4.2 million in financing.

<https://mambiznes.pl/wlasny-biznes/janusz-palikot-rozkreca-nowy-interes-startuje-zbiorka-na-jego-alkoholowy-biznes-105985>

Indian HR firm iXceed Solutions expands to Poland

HR Tech startup iXceed Solutions (a “Talent and Workforce Solutions” service provider in Europe and India) is expanding its footprint in Poland. With the help of AI&ML, iXceed Solution has been playing a significant role in confronting challenges such as managing global delivery and operations in different geographies.

“Our expansion into the Poland market marks a milestone moment in the growth of iXceed solution as we introduce our world-class services to our new audiences,” says Yogita Tulsiani, Director and Founder of iXceed Solutions. “iXceed wants to be the partner of choice when it comes to international expansion for Indian high growth firms. It is expecting to capture a market share of more than 25% by expanding its client portfolio, the company is exploring competitive global markets to cater to diverse domains – Medical (mainly hospitals and medical institutes), and Banking & Financial Services.” she added.

<http://bwdisrupt.businessworld.in/article/iXceed-Solution-Expands-Their-Footprints-In-Poland-Market/30-09-2021-406614/>

PGE sheds coal assets with 2022 carveout to government

Poland’s biggest utility, PGE Polska Grupa Energetyczna, expects the carveout of its coal assets to be completed in 2022, its chief executive officer said on Wednesday.

Poland relies heavily on energy from coal, but plans to increase the share of renewables in its energy output. The government plans to take over the coal assets owned by its utilities, except from hard coal mines, and then transfer them to a new state-owned company.

“We assume that the process will probably be completed next year,” said PGE CEO Wojciech Dabrowski.

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/polands-pge-expects-coal-assets-carveout-be-completed-2022-2021-09-29/>

PGNiG in 75 million m3 nat-gas deal with ECO Group

PGNiG Obrót Detaliczny from the Polish Oil and Gas Group (PGNiG) has signed a contract with Energetyka Ciepła Opolszczyzny (ECO Group) for the supply of 75m m3 of natural gas in 2023, the company said. It is one of the largest gas fuel sales contracts in the company’s history in terms of annual volume.

“The demand for natural gas in Poland has been growing successively in recent years and this trend will surely continue. We actively work to increase the demand for gas fuel, achieving specific sales successes. The contract for 2023 with the ECO Group will guarantee the customer a double volume of deliveries compared to the contracts in force for 2021-2022,” said Henryk Mucha, president of PGNiG Obrót Detaliczny.

The agreement was signed between PGNiG Obrót Detaliczny and the ECO Group, which deals with the generation, transmission, distribution and sale of heat and electricity. The ECO Group provides its services in ten provinces and consistently focuses on the extensive use of natural gas.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/pgnig-od-ma-umowe-z-eco-na-sprzedaz-75-mln-m3-gazu-w-2023-roku/>

CCC Group combines physical retail with digital e-kiosks in 750 stores

The CCC Group has equipped 750 of its stores in Central Europe with digital e-kiosks, the network said. The implementation of the solution from Nanovo covered Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania.



“At CCC, we focus on omnichannel – we want to be available wherever our client is, where he likes to shop. The online and offline worlds are increasingly intertwining. Consumers appreciate the variety of offers on the Internet. At the same time, they want to be able to see the product and try it on before buying it. E-kiosks in brick-and-mortar stores are exactly this solution that connects the virtual and real world,” said Jakub Grzelak, managing director for retail.

The company explained that the installation of e-kiosks took place after the test implementation in approx. 200 CCC stores.

“The development of e-commerce means entering the market of a huge number of new customers who have learned to use online stores over the last year. However, they do not want to be limited to one purchasing channel. What’s more, as CCC shows, physical formats can still accelerate sales and offer benefits. Solutions such as online and offline e-kiosks activate a new type of consumer experience while supporting logistics, education and in-store sales. We are proud that we can be a technological partner of CCC in the digitization of stationary stores in Central Europe and together, dynamically change the retail market” - said COO at Nanovo Marcin Płatek.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/grupa-ccc-wyposazyla-w-cyfrowe-e-kioski-750-swoich-salonow-w-europie-srodkowej/>

Government changes definition of “courier services”

The Ministry of State Assets, headed by Jacek Sasin, is preparing for changes in the postal law. The information included in the list of government legislative works shows that the amendment is to abolish the obligation for postal operators to finance the cost of subsidies for Poczta Polska, and to recognize the delivery of parcels using automatic machines as courier services.

An important objective of the act being introduced is to remodel the provisions regulating the functioning of postal services in Poland, so that these services constitute a fully-fledged element of e-commerce activities. For participants of the digital economy, not only the sales service itself is important, but also the possibility of digitally ordering and controlling the delivery process. At the current stage of the digital market development, competitive delivery services must be provided with the use of innovative technol-

ogies and solutions. The proposed changes include, among others changing the definition of a courier package to include the handling of such a shipment with the use of automatic parcel machines.

Interestingly, the day before the information about the planned changes was made public, PKN Orlen, supervised by MAP, launched its offer on the market of parcel machines.

<https://businessinsider.com.pl/firmy/orlen-pokazal-swoj-automat-paczkowy-resort-sasina-chce-zmienic-definicje-uslugi/c460r6x>

PFR Ventures adds 500 million pln to its Private Equity program

PFR Ventures is expanding the PFR Private Equity program. More than PLN 500 million is added to the already invested nearly PLN 600 million. In total, PFR Ventures will allocate over PLN 1.1 billion to investments in local and international teams managing private equity funds. The first investment has already been made from the new pool of funds.

PFR Private Equity (PFR PE) is a program aimed at financing local teams managing private equity funds and providing Poland with appropriate exposure in foreign funds as a domestic institutional investor. So far, PFR PE has allocated nearly PLN 600 million in 3 local and 4 foreign PE funds. Due to the continued interest in funds, PFR Ventures increased the capitalization of the program to over PLN 1.1 billion. All funds come from the budget of the Polish Development Fund.

“We see interest among local funds and many investment opportunities on the international market, which is why we decided to increase our involvement in the PFR Private Equity program” – says Paweł Borys, president of the Polish Development Fund.

The recapitalization of the PFR Private Equity program took place before the holiday season. During this time, the PFR Ventures team managed to sign the first contract based on additional funds. PLN 36 million went to Syntaxis New Europe Fund III. The team, present on the market since 2006, invests in fast-growing companies in Central and Eastern Europe, usually through long-term non-amortized debt instruments, the return of which is partly dependent on the appreciation of the companies financed. In its strategy, Syntaxis assumes that 2/3 of the investments will be made in Poland.

<https://mambiznes.pl/wlasny-biznes/pfr-ventures-dorzuci-dodatkowe-500-mln-zl-program-private-equity-105963>

Italian Maire Tecnimont wins €200 million Gdansk Refinery deal with LOTOS

Maire Tecnimont S.p.A. (Milan, Italy) announced that its subsidiary KT – Kinetics Technology S.p.A. has been awarded an EPC Lump Sum-Turn Key (Engineering, Procurement & Construction) contract by LOTOS Oil, concerning the expansion of the Gdansk Refinery aimed at improving its crude processing capability as well as ensuring higher quality and energy-efficient fuels.



LOTOS Oil is part of the LOTOS Group, the second largest refiner in Poland, engaged in the extraction and processing of crude oil, as well as in the wholesale and retail of refined petroleum products.

The contract is worth slightly over €200 million and relates to the execution of a hydrocracking unit (Hydrocracked Base Oil plant) with associated logistic facilities, which will allow the production of Group II base oils. Project completion with fully operational facilities is expected by the first half of 2025. This innovative plant will be the second one in Europe and will be capable of treating better performing base oil groups, with a lower environmental impact.

Pierroberto Folgiero, Maire Tecnimont Group CEO, commented: “We are delighted to continue our long-lasting, mutually beneficial cooperation with such a prestigious client, thanks to this third EPC project awarded to our Group and concerning the Gdansk Refinery. With this award we further strengthen our footprint in Poland as well as our strong commitment to support the LOTOS Group in ensuring the best environmentally performing processes and products”.

<https://www.chemengonline.com/maire-tecnimont-wins-epc-contract-for-lotos-oil-refinery-expansion/>

“Natural branding” comes to organic food sector

Natural branding is being used more and more in the organic sector. Primarily used for ecological reasons, it is now also being used for economic reasons in the conventional sector. Fruits and vegetables are marked with a laser, allowing for distinctiveness as well as traceability. Previously, organic fruits were marked with a natural light label to replace unnecessary plastic packaging and stickers.

Since this year, an EcoMark NB 6003 Professional has been in operation in Poland at the ZELSAD company. The family business of the Zelek family produces apples the conventional way. ZELSAD thus achieved a double first: they are the first growers to use Natural Branding technology on a large scale for conventional apples and to rely on this sustainable method.

The labeling of apples has always been considered one of the most difficult, the supreme discipline. The challenge was to achieve good visibility of the labeling without additives and without reducing the shelf life. After extensive testing, we succeeded in finding a solution for labeling the “Golden” and “Red Jonaprince” apple varieties in Poland for the international market.

“We want to reduce the use of plastic stickers. Especially for ecological reasons, but also for economic reasons, we decided to use Natural Branding,” says Michal Zelek, Managing Director of ZELSAD.

Through Natural Branding, an economical, cost-effective and sustainable marking solution could be achieved with the help of progressive developments and innovations in the laser and automation process.

<https://www.freshplaza.com/article/9358725/natural-branding-in-the-conventional-sector/>

Poland extends state of emergency on Belarus border

The Polish government extended a state of emergency on the Belarus border by 60 days, a spokesman said on Tuesday, due to a surge in migration that Warsaw blames on Belarusian President Alexander Lukashenko.

Poland and fellow European Union states Lithuania and Latvia have reported sharp increases in migrants from countries such as Afghanistan and Iraq trying to cross their borders, in what Brussels and Warsaw say is a form of hybrid warfare designed to put pressure on the bloc over sanctions it imposed on Minsk.

“The Council of Ministers decided to ask President Andrzej Duda to extend the state of emergency for another 60 days ... the situation on the Polish-Belarusian border is still very difficult,” Piotr Muller told a news conference.

Earlier on Tuesday President Duda’s spokesman, Blazej Spychalski, told state run news agency PAP that the head of state would make a decision on the issue by Friday.

<https://news.trust.org/item/20210928115226-9tc1g>

Poland’s Barthel Group buys next company in Germany

Since its inception in 1984, the Barthel Group has continued to expand and develop its business, which in more recent times has seen the company embark on the acquisition trail. One of the newest Group members is ATB-Systemetiketten based in Herne in the industrial Ruhr area of Germany. Already equipped with LeoLED curing, manufactured by UK-based GEW, the ATB production facility was recently enhanced by the installation of two Mark Andy Evolution 5 narrow web flexo presses, which were also fitted with LeoLED technology.

In addition to expanded production capacity, the new technology falls in line with the Group’s stance on environmental protection and sustainability. “We have focussed for many years on resource-saving production processes to minimize energy and material waste wherever possible,” he adds. This applied not only to the choice of LED UV curing, which offers longer lamp life with reduced energy and heat flow, but the elimination of ozone and the need for extraction facilities.

Andreas Puzik, managing director at ATB says, “In addition to the ecological aspects, the new Mark Andy Evolution presses had to meet the highest levels of productivity, process speed and print quality. So, we opted to fit both with Martin Automatic MBS unwind splicers and ABG automatic rewinders.”

https://www.labelandnarrowweb.com/contents/view_breaking-news/2021-09-28/polands-barthel-group-standardizes-on-uv-led-curing-with-mark-andy/

Supplements manufacturer Laboratoria Natury opens new factory in Lublin

Laboratoria Natury, a company operating on the international pharmaceutical market, officially opened its new production plant in Lublin. The 7,000 sq.m. plant’s, pharmaceutical standard technological lines have already been launched, including an innovative line for the production of dietary supplements in chocolate form. The event coincided with the 10th anniversary of the Polish company joining the international group, Maabarot Products Ltd.

The new factory is equipped with innovative lines for the production of syrups, drops, pectin gummies and chocolate molds. Currently, 85 people currently work in the Polish plant, but ultimately, after reaching full production capacity, employment will exceed over 100 employees.



However, what distinguishes the Polish company is the creation of a special zone in the new plant for the production of LLP (Long Life Probiotics) products containing live bacteria cultures. The production has been designed in such a way as to limit the negative influence of external factors (humidity and temperature) on their stability and quality. Thanks to the use of innovative technology, the products from the new plant are characterized by a 24-month period of keeping the declared content of probiotics.

“The expanded plant enables us to further develop globally and strengthens our position on the market. The larger area, new laboratory and specialized machines give the opportunity to produce internationally unique molds that could not be produced in the previous location. These are i.a. probiotics in oil forms and in a child-friendly form of functional sugar-free chocolates. I am glad that it is in Lublin that we can continue to develop, and the city and its representatives create a very good atmosphere for business” – emphasized Sylwia Tandejko, President of the Management Board.

https://www.einnews.com/pr_news/552511408/supplements-manufacturer-laboratoria-natury-officially-opens-new-factory-in-poland

Metalkas lands 13 million pln Swiss contract ahead of its IPO

Metalkas has concluded a contract with the Swiss chain of Landi stores for more than 100,000 metal racks worth over PLN 13 million, the company said. The companies are talking about extending the scope of cooperation, among others to home and industrial ladders.

“Landi joined a wide group of foreign networks cooperating with us. We conducted our negotiations in several stages for many months. As part of them, apart from the advanced testing of samples of Metalkas products in Switzerland, Landi conducted an audit at our production plants in Bydgoszcz, during which he verified our production capacity, product quality and even the work culture of the entire organization. Finally, we signed a contract for the sale of over 100,000 shelves that will be delivered to Landi stores by the end of this year. We hope that this is just the beginning of our further, fruitful cooperation”, said president Jacek Grzenia.

Landi is a chain of over 270 Swiss supermarkets with a wide assortment – from FMCG to home and garden products.

In August, Metalkas applied to the Polish Financial Supervision Authority for approval of the prospectus in connection with the initial public offering of the company's shares and the contemplated admission and introduction of the company's shares to trading on the WSE regulated market.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/metalkas-ma-umowe-ze-szwajcarska-siecia-landi-o-wartosci-ponad-13-mln-zl/>

Biogas deal between 2 large Polish companies

The National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management (NFOŚiGW) and Polska Spółka Gazownictwa (PSG) – a subsidiary of Polskie Górnictwo Naftowego i Gazownictwa (PGNiG) – signed a cooperation agreement under which they want to expand the range of joint activities for the energy transformation of Poland and improvement of air quality. The effect of cooperation is supporting the diversification of supplies and the expansion of the natural gas network infrastructure.

“This agreement is another step in terms of fuel diversification, implementation of the Polish Energy Policy until 2040, but also in terms of securing our native gas sources for industry. Today's agreement concerns the scope of biogas management, which means a wider use of biogas, especially in agriculture. It is also an opportunity to reduce waste in the agricultural sector,” said Michał Kurtyka, Minister of Climate and Environment, during the press conference accompanying the signing of the agreement.

“We put emphasis on energy consulting to make the best use of available resources. Hence, joint activities are planned – we will exchange issues related to energy consultancy,” said Artur Michalski, vice-president of the National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management.

<https://inwestycje.pl/gospodarka/nfosigw-i-psg-podpisaly-porozumienie-o-wspolpracy/>

CoalCo LW Bogdanka aims at wind farms in strategic transition

Lubelski Węgiel Bogdanka wants to finalize a contract with a German partner for the production of components for wind farms in the company, said President Artur Wasil.

“The strategic assumption of Bogdanka's development will be the development of new areas of activity with the use of production for renewable energy sources and within the so-called circular economy. We want to earn money on the extraction and sale of coal and allocate part of the funds to these projects. We are in the process of talking about acquiring competences for the production of elements for windmills. In a year's time we should finish talks with a German partner interested in this investment, and then build a production hall,” Wasil said on the sidelines of the “School of Underground Exploitation” conference.

In the opinion of the president, the interest in the purchase of coal mined in Bogdanka has increased significantly recently.

“Recently, customers from Germany have asked about the possibility of signing a supply contract. At the moment, however, the volume of coal is no longer available. The company upholds its production plans for 9 million tons of coal this year, a possible correction will be possible after summarizing the results for the third quarter. It cannot be ruled out that also next year, coal will be exported to recipients in Ukraine,” added the president.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/lw-bogdanka-chce-produkowac-komponenty-do-elektrowni-wiatrowych/>

NCBR grants 5 million pln to Kool2Play to apply AI to games

Kool2Play has received two grants from the National Center for Research and Development (NCBR), totaling over PLN 5.2 million, the company said. The first of the supported projects concerns the creation

of advanced artificial intelligence of opponents, and the second – the automation of testing games with its use.

“The first project will allow the implementation of the opponents’ artificial intelligence algorithms for the game Urangun. The total value of the project is estimated at over PLN 3.7 million, of which the amount of co-financing will be 2,237,000 pln. The main goal of the project is to create a technology thanks to which the opponents encountered in Urangun will use their own intelligence, and the game will constantly adjust the difficulty level of the game”.

As stated, both projects, supported under the Intelligent Development Operational Program 2014 – 2020, will translate into high quality of the produced productions and will be used for the first time in the Urangun game.

“Uragun is a shooter that was created from the beginning with a focus on dynamic, effective combat. We know how important in action games is not only to refine the use of various types of weapons, but also the intelligence and cunning of opponents. In Urangun, players will fight their way through hordes of enemies controlled by artificial intelligence, and thanks to our project it takes on an additional, more literal meaning “ - commented the president of GK Kool2Play, Marcin Marzęcki.

<https://inwestycje.pl/gaming/kool2play-otrzymal-granty-z-ncbr-wys-ponad-52-mln-zl-na-rozwoj-gier/>

Solorz hungry for more shares of Polsat Plus Group – will spend 2.9 billion pln

Zygmunt Solorz and his subsidiary Reddev signed an agreement with Polsat Plus Group, under which the businessman is to buy over 82 million shares of Polsat Plus group. The price was set at PLN 35 per share.

“The intention of the Company is to purchase under the tender offer no more than 82,904,517 own shares of the Company, and the price offered per share in the tender offer was set by the parties to the Agreement at PLN 35.00”, according to the company. This means that the total value of the transaction should not exceed PLN 2.91 billion.

Who will formally buy the shares? “Due to the restrictions imposed on the Company by the Code of Commercial Companies, Reddev will also be the entity purchasing the Company’s shares under the Tender Offer,” the Polsat Plus group informs.

<https://businessinsider.com.pl/najnowsze/solorz-chce-skupic-akcje-polsat-plus-moze-wydac-29-mln-zl/hzf8be9>

Siemens Mobility signs deal for 30 locomotives to Poland’s Cargounit

Cargounit, the largest independent locomotive leasing company in Poland, has ordered up to 30 Vectron MS locomotives from Siemens Mobility. The framework agreement includes the delivery of 10 units by the end of 2023 and an option for 20 additional locomotives by 2024, as well as the maintenance of the vehicles. The first two locomotives will be delivered this year (2021). The locomotives are planned for service in: Poland, Germany, Austria, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, and Serbia, the Netherlands and optionally Romania and Bulgaria. The leasing company previously ordered six locomotives from Siemens Mobility in 2018 and 2019. Cargounit’s Vectron fleet could grow to 36 locomotives by 2024.

“We are especially pleased to have received our largest Vectron MS order from Poland to date. With this order, Cargounit is investing in one of the most modern and, at the same time, most environmentally friendly universal locomotive available on the EU market today,” said Albrecht Neumann, CEO Rolling Stock at Siemens Mobility. “Thanks to their modular design, the locomotives offer operators maximum flexibility for sustainable, cross-border transport.”

Łukasz Boroń, President of the Management Board of Cargounit commented: “The Cargounit strategy is based on dynamic development through investments in modern electric locomotives. The purchase of

Vectron MS locomotives, which are the core of multisystem locomotive fleets operated by leading national and private carriers, fits perfectly into our company's development plans.(...)

<https://www.globalrailwayreview.com/news/128116/siemens-mobility-deliver-30-locomotives-cargounit/>

Holcim buys Polcalc as bolt-on acquisition in Poland

Holcim has closed the acquisition of the Utelite Corporation in Coalville, Utah (US), a leading producer of lightweight aggregates. Utelite will join Holcim's Mountain Region, alongside operations in the Denver, Phoenix and Las Vegas metro areas. Founded in 1962, Utelite's more than 40 employees serve customers across the western United States and Western Canada. The operation has more than 60 years of proven and probable reserves.

In addition, Holcim closed an agreement to buy Polcalc in Poland. Polcalc employs 78 people and is one of the country's leading producers of granulated calcium carbonate. This acquisition complements Holcim's aggregates business in Poland.

Jan Jenisch, CEO: 'We are pleased to welcome the employees of Utelite and Polcalc and look forward to their experience and capabilities. These two bolt-on acquisitions strengthen our presence in two important growth markets while contributing to Holcim's overall strategy to expand our range of low-carbon products and solutions.'

<https://www.marketscreener.com/quote/stock/HOLCIM-LTD-2956274/news/Holcim-closes-bolt-on-acquisitions-in-the-US-and-Poland-36522825/>

Small Nuclear reactors big potential in Poland

On 23 September, Canada's Cameco, GE Hitachi Nuclear Energy (GEH), GEH SMR Technologies Canada, (GEH SMR Canada) and Synthos Green Energy (SGE) signed a non-exclusive and non-binding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to evaluate the potential establishment of a uranium fuel supply chain in Canada capable of servicing a potential fleet of BWRX-300 SMRs in Poland.

The BWRX-300 is a 300MWe water-cooled, natural circulation SMR with passive safety systems that leverages the design and licensing basis of GEH's US NRC-certified ESBWR. As a result of innovative design simplification, GEH projects the BWRX-300 will require significantly less capital cost per MW compared with other SMR designs.

Synthos, a manufacturer of synthetic rubber and one of the biggest producers of chemical raw materials in Poland, is interested in obtaining affordable, on-demand, carbon-free electricity from a dependable, dedicated source. In 2019 SGE and GEH agreed to collaborate on potential deployment applications for the BWRX-300 in Poland. SGE and GEH signed a strategic agreement in 2020 that further advanced the cooperation.

Cameco supplies uranium, uranium refining and conversion services to the nuclear industry worldwide. In July 2021, Cameco, GEH and Global Nuclear Fuel-Americas (GNF-A) agreed to explore several areas of cooperation to advance the commercialisation and deployment of BWRX-300 SMRs in Canada and around the world. "We believe nuclear energy will play a major role in helping countries and companies around the world achieve their net-zero emission targets," said Cameco president and CEO Tim Gitzel.

<https://www.neimagazine.com/news/newssmr-developers-look-to-poland-9111111>

Ciech plans multiple small gas blocks in 2022

Ciech will sign a contract for a 16 MWe gas unit in Inowrocław within a few days, said Mirosław Skowron, board member.

The planned commissioning of the unit – ensuring energy self-sufficiency of the plants in Inowrocław – is scheduled for 2023.

“We are also conducting talks on the construction of a thermal waste processing installation in Inowrocław, as well as studies related to a large CCGT gas block, which would be launched by 2026,” added Skowron.

According to Ciech’s ESG strategy announced in May, a large gas block, for which the final investment decision has not yet been made, would have a capacity of 140 MWt.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/ciech-planuje-umowe-na-maly-blok-gazowy-w-inowroclawiu-jeszcze-w-iii-kwartale/>

KGHM shakes up innovation with 40 ideas

KGHM Polska Miedź uses innovative solutions prepared by its employees in its day-to-day operations and currently has about 40 innovative projects ready for implementation, said Adam Bugajczuk, vice president for development.

“What we did to obtain new technical solutions before the pandemic brought about 80 new ideas, of which about 40 innovative projects are ready to be implemented. Our Idea Exchange, which started a few years ago, was very formalized and there was too much participation of direct superiors, which often complicated the creativity of implementing what employees came up with. Today, submitting an idea is very simple. It is enough to send your own solution by e-mail to the contact in the inventiveness department. In a moment we will be touring the branches with the new edition of the inventiveness exchange” - said Bugajczuk during a panel at the “Masters & Robots 60 years of KGHM” conference.

Bugajczuk emphasized that the company uses ideas offered by startups, universities, institutes and various types of companies with extensive experience.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/kgmh-przygotowuje-wdrozenie-40-wlasnych-projektow-innowacyjnych/>

Mlekovita milk producer opens 45 million pln logistics center

“Technological development allows us to implement and improve innovative solutions. Being the largest investor in the industry, we have invested over PLN 1 billion in the last decade and therefore, in this difficult period, I also made a very difficult decision to build the largest and most modern logistics center in the dairy industry,” said President Dariusz Sapiński.

The newly opened logistics center includes: refrigerated warehouses, a cold store and a warehouse for technical purposes. Participants in the implementation of the investment include, among others companies: Unibep (construction), Johnson Controls International (refrigeration), Promag (warehouse systems).

“The value of the investment, opened on September 24, amounted to over PLN 45 million and was entirely financed from own funds. It took only a year to build the largest and most modern dairy logistics center, with a total of 17,000 pallet places”.

<https://inwestycje.pl/biznes/mlekovita-otworzyla-centrum-logistyczne-w-wysokiem-mazowieckiem-za-ok-45-mln-zl/>

PGNiG buys 21 licenses in Norway to fuel its gas plans

PGNiG Upstream Norway has obtained the consent of the Norwegian administration to take over all assets of Ineos E&P Norge. The transaction value will amount to approximately USD 323 million.

Ineos E&P Norge assets include interests in 21 licenses. The gas group said that, after the contract is finalized, it will take over access to the fields that are to significantly contribute to the implementation of

its strategic goals, and that after the Baltic Pipe gas pipeline is commissioned, the extracted fuel will go to Poland.

The estimated amount of the transaction will amount to approximately USD 323 million, i.e. approximately PLN 1.27 billion. Originally, PGNiG was to pay \$ 615 million, but the transaction date was January 1, 2021. The difference is therefore due to the reduction of the originally agreed purchase price by the revenues that Ineos E&P Norge obtained for the first nine months of the year.

“This is a very advantageous transaction that demonstrates PGNiG’s competence in the field of investments in the hydrocarbon exploration and production market. The purchase of the Ineos E&P Norge license allows us to achieve one of the strategic goals in the field of security and diversification of gas supplies, and at the same time expands our portfolio with prospective assets with high profitability” – emphasized Paweł Majewski, president of PGNiG. The company is the sole owner of PGNiG Upstream Norway.

<https://businessinsider.com.pl/firmy/pgnig-ma-zgode-na-przejecie-21-koncesji-na-norweskim-szelfie-kontynentalnym-od-ineos/yxnf4wy>

Wirtualna Polska is the sole owner of Nocowanie.pl, PLN 4.3 million for 6.2 percent shares

Wirtualna Polska Media has agreed to buy the remaining 6.25% shares of Nocowanie.pl from Kamil Ruciński for PLN 4.26 million. As a result, it will be the sole shareholder of Nocowanie.pl.

In mid-2016, Wirtualna Polska Media bought 75 percent of Nocowanie.pl spent PLN 22 million. In May last year, WP changed the schedule for the purchase of the remaining 25% of Nocowanie.pl: this year if bought 10% for PLN 13.47 million, and in 2021 and 2022, 7.5% each. The value of these 15% shares were estimated at approx. PLN 21 million.

Nocowanie.pl – at the beginning of October 2020 – absorbed the eHoliday.pl company belonging to Wirtualna Polska and moved to a new seat in Lublin. At the beginning of this year. Tomasz Machała became the president of Nocowanie.pl, and the previous head of the company, Kamil Ruciński, joined its supervisory board.

<https://www.wirtualnemedia.pl/artykul/wirtualna-polska-wlasciciel-nocowanie-pl>

Katowice Zone booms as electromobility grows

More and more projects in the area of electromobility are being drawn to the Katowice Special Economic Zone. Among them are the production of the first ever Polish brand of electric car Izera and investments of FCA Poland, which will produce completely new models of cars with electric and hybrid drive in Poland. In addition, the SK Innovation concern is building factories in which battery separators used in electric cars will be manufactured. The Katowice SEZ also attracts Polish micro and small entrepreneurs. In 2020, they were responsible for almost 70 percent of investment projects.

“The last two years are just great and large projects in electromobility. After all, these are three new electric cars, the Polish Izera and one of the largest projects, SK Innovation, a global manufacturer of separators for electric batteries. We are becoming, in a way, an electromobility hub, because these large projects attract small and medium-sized enterprises. It is also an opportunity for Polish companies in our voivodeship” – emphasizes Dr. Janusz Michałek, president of the Katowice Special Economic Zone.

At the end of 2020, two large electromobility projects were launched in the KSEZ. One of them is the first-ever Polish brand of electric car Izera, the production of which is to start in 2024. In turn, FCA Poland (now, after merging with PSA, it creates the Stellantis concern) will produce completely new car models in Tychy, with electric and hybrid drives. As part of the decision to support the KSEZ itself, the company declared over PLN 755 million of outlays for the Tychy factory.

In turn, this year, the SK Innovation concern bought a plot of land for factories where separators of batteries used in electric cars will be manufactured. The total investment expenditure related to the creation and commissioning of four factories will amount to PLN 7 billion.

<https://biznes.newseria.pl/news/katowicka-specjalna-strefa,p1811340140>

Hexagon Aids Piaseczno Public Safety Transformation

Hexagon's Safety, Infrastructure & Geospatial division announced the municipality of Piaseczno, Poland, has successfully deployed HxGN OnCall® Dispatch, Hexagon's industry-leading computer-aided dispatch (CAD) solution, as an essential part of the town's smart city initiative.

The system, housed in the newly established municipal dispatch center, is helping transform public safety and city operations by enabling greater information flow and coordination of activities between municipal agencies, including municipal police, road and transportation authorities, water and sewage companies and more. With it, dispatchers, field workers and supervisors have the same operational view, making real-time communication and verification possible – a crucial component for completing tasks successfully.

The Hexagon CAD solution integrates with multiple systems throughout the city, including IoT sensors for monitoring flood and parking areas, the city's video monitoring system and Hexagon's Mobile Alert, a popular mobile app used by citizens for reporting municipal infrastructure issues, such as damaged roads and areas of high risk. The dispatching system registers requests from many sources, including email, phone and proactive notifications from applications. The multi-system integration equips operators with pertinent data for a clearer picture of a situation, which increases efficiency and reduces staff stress.

"HxGN OnCall Dispatch is the nucleus of our smart city initiative," said Tomasz Pawlak, manager of the unit in charge of innovation and smart city solutions, Municipal Office of Piaseczno.

<https://www.criticalcommunicationsreview.com/p25/news/105985/hexagon-aids-piaseczno-poland-s-public-safety-transformation>

Getka and Unimot in PV solar panels deal with US First Solar

U.S.-based Getka Group and Polish energy company Unimot announced that First Solar, Inc. will supply 30 megawatts (MW) of advanced, American thin film photovoltaic (PV) solar panels to power a portfolio of projects in Poland. The panels are part of the first phase of a strategic renewable energy initiative to diversify PV module supplies to Poland.

In this initial phase, the partners will utilize First Solar technology produced at its manufacturing facilities in Ohio, which is the largest solar manufacturing footprint in the Western Hemisphere. The PV panels will be delivered in the first quarter of 2022, with plans to expand as Unimot expands solar projects.

"As a dual citizen of the United States and Poland, it brings me great honor to support development that lowers the carbon intensity of Poland's economy," said Dariusz Cichocki, Chairman and CEO of Getka Group. "Through our partnership with Unimot we will meet the increasing energy infrastructure needs of Poland with a focus on improving energy diversity and security in the region, while continuing to support innovation in low carbon technologies."

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/getka-unimot-power-projects-poland-130600392.html>

Poland to double energy production from renewable sources by 2030

President Andrzej Duda has stated that Poland will double the production of energy from renewable sources by 2030, but admitted that this is a huge challenge.

“Energy transition is a huge technological and financial challenge to Poland,” Duda told a high-level UN debate on energy in New York on Friday.

He added that the energy policy adopted by Poland this year and covering the period till 2040, “has outlined a clear vision and laid down a path leading to climate neutrality.”

“By 2030 we intend to produce one third of electricity from renewable sources, with 23 to 25 gigawatts of installed capacity in renewable electricity generation. That would double the amount compared to 2020”.

“Wind farms in the Baltic Sea will play a significant role in this plan,” Duda said, stating that Poland was interested in competitive renewable and nuclear energy know-how, and that natural gas was “a transitional fuel.”

<https://www.thefirstnews.com/article/poland-to-double-energy-production-from-renewable-sources-in-decade-24952>