

> Heleneesee wants to focus on cycling tourists



Located on the outskirts of Frankfurt (Oder): The Heleneesee covers an area of around 250 hectares. Including the guests at the legendary "Helene-Beach-Festival" during the summer, the operators of the park are expecting around 150,000 visitors this year.

The Heleneesee leisure and camping park, which is located just 3km from the Oder-Neiße cycling route, plans to strongly focus on cycling and nature tourists in the future. The Heleneesee is considered as one of the cleanest and most popular swimming lakes in the State of Brandenburg. The leisure park, which incorporates a long and sandy beach, several restaurants and various options for overnight stays such as a campsite, holiday bungalows and hostels, is ideal as a stopover location for young and old. The facility has also been listed by the German ADFC cycling club as a cyclist-friendly host in the category "bed+bike".

① www.heleneesee.de

> Monastery Brewery lauded



The Neuzelle Monastery Brewery, which celebrated its 425th anniversary last year, surprises even enthusiastic beer connoisseurs again and again with new exceptional beer creations. Now, the inventiveness and the courage for new innovations have been honored again by the association Pro Agro. Stefan Fritsche, Managing Director of the Monastery Brewery Neuzelle (photo), received this year's marketing prize of the association for his most recent product line "UrCraft", an unfiltered and very full-bodied beer specialty.

① www.klosterbrauerei.com



THE ARCELORMITTAL STEELWORKS IN EISENHÜTTENSTADT: THE WORLD'S LARGEST STEEL MANUFACTURER IS PLANNING NEW INVESTMENTS TO SAFEGUARD ITS COMPETITIVENESS ... | PAGE 2



GROWTH AREA
FRANKFURT (ODER)
EISENHÜTTENSTADT

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First-class conditions for business and families

A modern and attractive region with huge future potential awaits companies, employees and families in the growth area of Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt:

- Fully-developed industrial areas, including sites for large-scale projects
- Prices on industrial estates from 10 euros/m²
- Multiple redundancy electricity supply for 380 kV, 110 kV or 20 kV
- High-pressure and medium-pressure gas lines (84 bar or 4 bar)
- High-capacity water supply and waste water disposal (installed capacity approx. 500–750 m³/h).
- Direct motorway connection (A12/E39), rail connection via Terminal for Combined Transport Frankfurt (Oder), harbour connection at inland port Eisenhüttenstadt
- Trade tax coefficient: 380% to 400%
- Direct cash-back incentives for labour or investment costs
- Credit sureties and subsidies for R&D projects
- Established educational institutions (European University Viadrina, Sixth Form College, bbw, DAA, Gauß High School etc.)
- Sophisticated business and research competence
- Proven family-friendliness, numerous kindergartens
- Comprehensive cultural and recreational opportunities (Kleist Forum, Brandenburg State Orchestra, Friedrich-Wolf-Theatre, cabaret, trade fairs)
- Plethora of lakes and forests, dense network of cycle paths and waterways
- Express trains to Berlin every 30 minutes
- Airport Berlin (SXF/BER) reachable by car in 45 minutes

Need more information?

The Investor Center Ostbrandenburg gives you helping hands on all matters related to investments in the growth area of Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt – free-of-charge, professionally and in strict confidence.

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> ERGOKONZEPT AG invests in Frankfurt (Oder)



The company logo has already been installed: In opting for the location, ERGOKONZEPT AG cited particularly the site's excellent location near the motorway A12 and the existing environment in the Technology Park East Brandenburg in Frankfurt (Oder). The ultra-modern building was built in 2008 and is suitable for research and development as well as for series production. It has a floor space of 2,250 square meters and contains in addition to the production area also capacities for offices and research laboratories.

The ERGOKONZEPT AG has acquired the production hall of the former solar company Odersun in Frankfurt (Oder). The innovative company from Potsdam schedules to create around 60 new jobs in the fields of pharmaceuticals and motor development at its new location in the Technology Park East Brandenburg until the end of 2018. The former will include, among others, the development of homeopathic medicine and the production of stem cells for paramedicine. In addition, the company will concentrate on developing a technical solution enabling significant reductions in fuel consumption and harmful emissions from combustion engines.

As Ingolf Piechota, Project Manager at ERGOKONZEPT, reports, the decision for Frankfurt (Oder) was straightforward: "We were on the lookout for a location suitable for developing our wide range of products. Particularly for the pharmaceutical industry, it was important that the new site meets certain technical, safety and health requirements. As soon as the city informed us, that our utilization concept matched the existing land-use plan, we decided quickly." At present, the company prepares all necessary documents for the future utilization of the building. It is planned to commence production in 2016. ① www.ergokonzept.de

> Twin city as trailblazer



Visitors of the binational twin city: EU Commissioner Corina Crețu (2nd from left) and Marshal of Lubuskie Elżbieta Polak have been informed by Frankfurt's Mayor Dr. Martin Wilke (left) and his counterpart from Slubice Tomasz Ciszewicz about cross-border projects.

Frankfurt (Oder) and Slubice are living the European ideal. As a result of various projects, both cities are growing continuously together. Following the cross-border bus route, which commenced operation in 2012, both cities now merged their district heating grids, a binational project which is so far unique within Europe. With the help of the EU, both cities want to expedite this path of mutual complement one another. Projects currently being developed include collaborations in the area of waste disposal, communal fire protection and a new German/Polish secondary education institution. ① www.frankfurt-oder.de | www.slubice.pl



Growth area Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt:

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15230 Frankfurt (Oder)
www.frankfurt-oder.de

Stadt Eisenhüttenstadt
Die Bürgermeisterin
Zentraler Platz 1
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt
www.eisenhuettenstadt.de

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> **CHINT Group considers expansion in Frankfurt (Oder) and exports PV modules to USA**



Astronergy currently produces around 750,000 crystalline solar modules per year in Frankfurt (Oder) using the latest robot technology and 210 staff. This corresponds to a total power of 180 MW.



At a meeting with Astronergy Management at this year's Hanover Trade Fair: Brandenburgs Minister of Economic and Energy Affairs Albrecht Gerber (3rd from right), Brandenburgs Prime Minister Dietmar Woidke (2nd from right) and Frankfurt's Lord Mayor Dr. Martin Wilke (right) agreed to continue talks with the Chinese Chint Group about extending the scope of production and services at its site in Frankfurt (Oder).

Astronergy Solarmodule GmbH, a subsidiary of the Chinese CHINT Group, considers to further expand its production facilities and its scope of services at the companies site in Frankfurt (Oder). The company also announced recently the receipt of a certification to ship its solar modules to the US market from now on. Until now, the crystalline modules were chiefly produced in

Frankfurt (Oder) for customers in Germany, the UK and Italy. In mid-April, the company enjoyed a spectacular day as being part of this years CHINT International Marketing Forum. Thomas Volz, Managing Director of Astronergy Solarmodule GmbH, and Dr. Martin Wilke, Lord Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder), welcomed together around 250 business leaders from more than 90 coun-

tries in the city at the river Oder. As most of them were suppliers and customers of CHINT Group, the reception was followed by a company tour through the ultramodern factory, which was taken over in 2013. Visitors were also informed about the first-class conditions for new investments in production, services and logistics in the region. www.astronergy.com

> **ArcelorMittal: New investments in Eisenhüttenstadt**



A steel production site with a long tradition: Founded at the start of 1950s on the German/Polish border as Eisenhüttenkombinat Ost, an iron ore factory with six blast furnaces, the steel works in Eisenhüttenstadt belongs today to the world's largest steel manufacturer ArcelorMittal and comprises a modern integrated iron and steel works campus incorporating state-of-the-art systems and technologies.

ArcelorMittal is planning to invest around 34 million euros in its steelworks in Eisenhüttenstadt this year. The money will be invested into, among others, increasing the capacity of the carbon dust injection plant for the blast furnace 5A and into preparatory maintenance, which is necessary prior to the scheduled comprehensive overhaul of the blast furnace next year. To compensate for the resultant downtime, blast furnace 1 has been blown in again for preproduction of steel slab during the forthcoming maintenance work. Over and above this, investments will be made in the installation of a

new gantry crane in the hot rolling mill and in developing the performance of its walking beam furnace and galvanisation system number 1. The actions are part of a modernisation package of ArcelorMittal in its four sites in Germany, comprising 88 million euros in total. "Germany is a first-class location for manufacturing products with high added value. These investments are aimed at upholding the competitiveness of our plants," explained Frank Schulz, President of the Management Board at ArcelorMittal Germany Holding. www.arcelormittal-ehst.com

> **100th boat laid on keel**



45 years of boat and shipbuilding: Lothar Elsner, Production Manager at Neue Oderwerft GmbH, in front of the 100th vessel, which will later operate on the River Elbe.

A grand company jubilee was celebrated at the Neue Oderwerft shipyard in Eisenhüttenstadt. The 100th vessel, a pusher barge, was laid on keel. It is one of three work boats that were ordered by the Waterways and Shipping Authority of Lauenburg. In her celebratory speech, Elke Ruchatz, Managing Director of the shipyard, expressed her gratitude to her staff who stood by the company even during difficult times. In 2013 she was awarded the German Federal Cross of Merit herself for rescuing the shipyard. www.neue-oderwerft.de

> **PCC Intermodal: Handling continues to grow at the intermodal terminal in Frankfurt (Oder)**



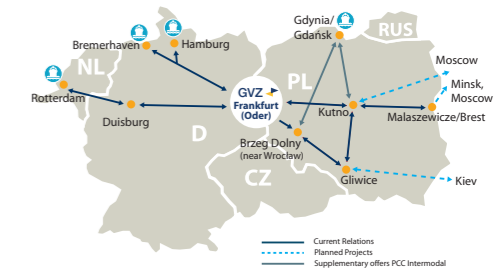
A gigantic, high-performance system: The new gantry crane at the terminal for intermodal transport in Frankfurt (Oder) enables significantly faster container handling. The crane runway, which was built and installed by the Austrian intermodal crane specialist KUNZ AG, can move up to 41 tons across all tracks above the 640 metre long handling site.

More than 10 million euros have been jointly invested by the city of Frankfurt (Oder), the State of Brandenburg, the German Federal Republic, the EU and the terminals operator PCC Intermodal (PCCI) for the expansion of the intermodal transport terminal in Frankfurt (Oder). One year ago, six to seven trains per week were being handled here. Currently, more than 22 trains with desti-

nations including Hamburg, Rotterdam, Duisburg, Gliwice, Kutno and Brzeg Dolny are being transhipped per week and even new relations to China are being tested. Despite the expansion work, it was possible to increase the container handling to 3,700 containers per month. This figure is expected to rise to 5,000 containers in 2015. www.kv-terminal.de | www.gvz-ffo.de

"The good infrastructure of the CT terminal as well as the central geographical location of Frankfurt (Oder) form an important basis for the development of our European intermodal network. That's why we decided in 2012 to become the terminal operator."

Dariusz Stefanski
Chairman of the Board PCC Intermodal



Current relations of the intermodal terminal Frankfurt (Oder)

> **45% increase in turnover for Asgoodasnew**



An "Asgoodasnew" expert in Frankfurt (Oder) checking a used mobile phone: In Germany alone, 106 million mobile phones are no longer in use - with this figure rising over time. The same also applies to the number of staff at this multiple award-winning and former start-up company. Asgoodasnew now employs more than 100 staff at its sites in Frankfurt (Oder) and Berlin.

The Asgoodasnew Electronics GmbH, which was founded in 2008, celebrated its most successful year in the company history to date with an increase in turnover by more than 45%. As a result of that growth, the start-up, which was founded in a living room in Frankfurt (Oder), reported a turnover of more than 21 million euros for 2014. According to its own information, it was thereby able to further extend its market leadership as the no. 1 in Germany for premium quality reconditioned consumer elec-

tronics goods. The company purchases various used electronic devices such as mobile phones, tablets or cameras via its own online shop WIRKAUFENS and in cooperation with several retail stores. These devices are then checked by experts, reconditioned and made available for resale via various internet sales portals. According to the company, its business model enables significantly higher profit margins than the classical sale of new goods. www.asgoodasnew.com

> **Research on start-ups**



It's springtime on the Viadrina campus: With around 6,500 students from more than 80 countries, the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) is one of Germany's most international universities.

The Centre for Entrepreneurship at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) will be focussing stronger on research into entrepreneurship and start-up businesses. It will henceforth be known as the Centre for Entrepreneurship & Research (CfER). The institution was founded to promote entrepreneurial spirit among students, alumni and academics. A new series of lectures is planned to establish this subject area more firmly in the Viadrina's teaching programme. Collaborations with companies in the Oder region and in southern Germany are also to be further developed. www.europa-uni.de