

## > New rail connection for inland port of Eisenhüttenstadt



Nearly twice as many goods were handled in the port of Eisenhüttenstadt last year compared to 2016. The main type of freight handled were armoustones, which the Water and Shipping Authority is currently installing on the River Oder.

An upgrade of the rail connection at Eisenhüttenstadt's inland port is due to take place. The investment represents an important decision in the future of the port, stressed Knut Kirschke, Managing Director of Stadtwirtschaft Eisenhüttenstadt. By 2019, the plan is to lay down 450 metres of track. This will be connected to the rail section between Eisenhüttenstadt and Frankfurt (Oder) via the goods depot in Ziltendorf. Due to its position on the Oder/Spree Canal, the port of Eisenhüttenstadt is particularly well suited for broken transport routes (changeovers from inland shipping to rail) from and into the Central European Waterways Network. [www.hafen-ehst.de](http://www.hafen-ehst.de)

## > Adding faster Internet



Deutsche Telekom has commenced its programme of extending high-speed internet access in the central urban area of Frankfurt (Oder). By the end of April 2018 around 16,000 households and companies will benefit from these new, high-performance VDSL connections, which enable simultaneous online watching of TV, making of telephone calls and surfing the web at up to 100 MBit/s. In total, around 21 km of optical fibre cables will be newly installed and 119 new switching junction erected.



GROWTH AREA  
FRANKFURT (ODER)  
EISENHÜTTENSTADT

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# Growth Area News 1/2018



## 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/m<sup>2</sup>
- 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 m<sup>3</sup>/h).
- Direct motorway connection (A12/E39), rail connection via Terminal for Combined Transport Frankfurt (Oder), harbour connection at inland port Eisenhüttenstadt
- Trade tax coefficient: 395% 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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## > Tea capsules: UniCaps revolutionises tea drinking market



Using the brand name "My-TeaCup®", UniCaps has developed a range of capsules for currently 16 types of tea prepared in standard Nespresso® and Dolce Gusto® machines. At a visit to the company with Christopher Nüßlein (managing director ICOB), the Lord-Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder), Dr. Martin Wilke (left) learned more about this new technology from company founder and CEO Dirk N. Tillmann (centre).

At the Technology Park in Frankfurt (Oder) UniCaps GmbH will in future be manufacturing sustainable tea capsules for Nespresso® and Dolce Gusto® machines. The company's goal is to revolutionise the tea market. UniCaps has developed its own technology to this end, which reduces brewing times for the various types of tea, ranging from 3-5 minutes, to just a few seconds. Thereby UniCaps only uses pure, natural organic tea and foregoes artificial flavourings and additives, as a matter of principle: "Everybody knows the coffee version from the advert or from their own personal experience and how convenient and simple it is to prepare. Now tea drinkers can benefit

from exactly the same technology," explains company founder and CEO Dirk N. Tillmann. At the core of this innovative production method is a mechanical, patented process in which natural, dried tea leaves are gently shredded so that flavour and aromas are optimally extracted. To begin with, the company will be investing around 4.5 million euros in its new site which, in the medium term, will lead to the creation of around 30 new jobs. The first staff members have already been recruited. UniCaps takes advantage of sales channels from e-commerce, stationary retail, B2B and the hotel industry. [www.unicaps.eu](http://www.unicaps.eu) | [www.my-teacup.de](http://www.my-teacup.de)

## New mayor in Eisenhüttenstadt

Frank Balzer is the new mayor of Eisenhüttenstadt. In a run-off ballot against his predecessor Dagmar Püschel the candidate gained



67.9 percent of votes. Mr. Balzer, who has previously worked in the steel plant of ArcelorMittal in Eisenhüttenstadt in the human resources department and as a deputy Chairman of the works council already announced his main priority will be in the area of business development and attracting new companies to the city. Frank Balzer is known for his commitment to a family-friendly, multi-generation town. The 54-year old citizen of Eisenhüttenstadt has volunteered in various capacities and on committees for many years now, including as a member of the municipal assembly and the district council. Born on 24.12.1963 in Eisenhüttenstadt, Frank Balzer is a married father of three children and has three grandchildren.

[www.eisenhuetttenstadt.de](http://www.eisenhuetttenstadt.de)



### Growth area Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt:

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Der Oberbürgermeister  
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15230 Frankfurt (Oder)  
[www.frankfurt-oder.de](http://www.frankfurt-oder.de)

Stadt Eisenhüttenstadt  
Der Bürgermeister  
Zentraler Platz 1  
15890 Eisenhüttenstadt  
[www.eisenhuetttenstadt.de](http://www.eisenhuetttenstadt.de)

### Photos/graphics:

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Wilfried Quast (Simple Jet)



## > alfatraining offers interactive real-time learning 4.0



Above the rooftops of Frankfurt (Oder), the company alfatraining on the 14th floor of the Oder Tower provides live, lip-synced, training courses in TV quality. On a floorspace of around 420 m<sup>2</sup>, the company has invested in the latest data and video technology, enabling participants to see each other, talk to one another and collaborate on projects.

From its base in Frankfurt (Oder), the alfatraining training centre enables cross-site learning and working using the innovative alfa-view<sup>®</sup> video platform. Throughout Germany, the company is a market leader when it comes to the use of new professional training techniques. Back in 2010 alfatraining introduced the first lip-synced video technology to enable all participants to see, hear and cooperate with one another simultaneously for working

and learning purposes, regardless of where they are. The benefits for participants are obvious: they profit from the full range of all 200 advanced training courses across more than 60 company locations and can even take part in the courses online from home. For further growth, alfatraining works closely with the industry and maintains educational co-operations e.g. with SAP, Siemens and DATEV. [www.alfatraining.de](http://www.alfatraining.de)

## > Intermodal Terminal Frankfurt (Oder) further on a rise



Due to its direct location on the European Transport Corridor II – the main traffic axis for East-West traffic Paris-Berlin-Warsaw-Moscow – the terminal for combined transport (road <-> rail) continues to establish itself as a strategically important hub for cross-border east-west logistics. More than 30 container trains from Rotterdam, Hamburg, Duisburg and Polish economic centers are handled at the terminal every week.

Commencing its operation in 2005, the intermodal terminal Frankfurt (Oder) is developing more and more to a success story for the region. 130,000 standard containers (TEU) have been handled at the terminal last year – twice as many as in 2016. The main part of this is the handling of freights coming from the international seaports Rotterdam and Hamburg as well as from Duisburg and the Polish commercial centers. Most of the containers have been reloaded in Frankfurt (Oder) to other trains or further delivered by truck to customers in the radius of 150 km. Major customers in the region

include e.g. IKEA and the solar company Astronergy. Both companies use the terminal services for the distribution of their products. For the Polish terminal operator PCC Intermodal, it is imaginable to invest in a second crane runway and additional sidings to continue to meet the growing number of transfers and further shorten reloading time on the terminal. In addition, about 70,000 m<sup>2</sup> of additional warehouse area are currently developed directly adjacent to the terminal area to be marketed to other logistics services companies. [www.kv-terminal.de](http://www.kv-terminal.de) | [www.gvz-ffo.de](http://www.gvz-ffo.de)

## > New logistics centre



Spedition Bender GmbH is reinforcing its presence in Eisenhüttenstadt by investing millions of euros in a new 5,000 m<sup>2</sup> logistics hall with a rail connection and administrative building.

The company, with its HQ in Freudenberg near Siegen in Northrhine Westphalia has built a new branch in Eisenhüttenstadt in accordance with the latest building standards. "It was a tight schedule but all those involved pulled together well," explained Marcel Haß, manager of the Eisenhüttenstadt branch, "Our investment is a clear commitment to the city." [www.spedition-bender.de](http://www.spedition-bender.de)

## > RE1 as a sprinter



Brandenburg wants to expand the range of rail transport services it offers and is planning a series of new trains for regional transport purposes in the draft of its new local transport network plan.

Starting from 2022, the Regional Express 1 (RE1) will operate three times per hour between Brandenburg an der Havel and Frankfurt (Oder) during the rush hour. The plan also includes a sprinter train to connect the larger cities with Berlin quickly with only a few stops on the track. The connection from Frankfurt (Oder) via Wriezen to Eberswalde will also profit from the latest plans. In the future trains will operate on this route hourly. In total the number of kilometres covered by trains will increase from 31.5 million at present to 34 million. [www.mil.brandenburg.de](http://www.mil.brandenburg.de)

## > WEFO-tec starts test operation in Frankfurt (Oder)



In close contact during the whole settlement and investment phase: Managing Directors of WEFO-tec Frank Schollmayer (2.f.l.) and Manfred Boguslawski (3.f.l.) with the Lord-Mayor of Frankfurt (Oder) Dr. Martin Wilke (3.f.r.) and Christopher Nüßlein (r.), Managing Director of Investor Center Ostbrandenburg during the first delivery of injection-moulding machines.

"The key factor in our decision to expand to Frankfurt (Oder) was the tangible desire we felt for our company to relocate here," explained Manfred Boguslawski, Managing Director of WEFO-tec at the delivery of the first injection-moulding machines for the new factory in Frankfurt (Oder). At present the infrastructure is being installed in the first factory and, during the course of the first quarter of 2018, production is to be

ramped up in stages to 100%. Up to 14 machines for the manufacture of plastic parts will then be in operation. The recruitment process for up to 50 new staff members is currently underway. At its new site, the company plans to cover the entire value added chain for the production of industrial injection-moulded parts, with preparations already ongoing for the construction of a second production hall. [www.wefo-tec.de](http://www.wefo-tec.de)

## > Wirkaufens: Customers all over Europe



Between 10,000 and 20,000 packages arrive at asgoodasnew in Frankfurt (Oder) every month. Many of which are then sent back out to various locations throughout Europe. Devices received include smartphones, iPads, but also cameras, smart watches or Virtual Reality glasses. The start-up from Frankfurt (Oder) is still the leading provider on the second-hand technology market.

A clear business model: buy used, expensive devices, replace defective parts and resell them following a general overhaul – as good as new. "Rather than a retail firm, we consider ourselves a technology provider," explains Daniel Boldin, who became managing director of asgoodasnew three years ago. The packages are delivered, unpacked and registered. Any data the devices may contain will be fully erased. At individual workstations the devices are then checked via an automated process

for any defective components, which are replaced as required. The idea came about eight years ago when a graduate of the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) started purchasing devices from his living room. Meanwhile the company employs more than 130 staff in Frankfurt (Oder) and Berlin of various nationalities including German, Polish, French, Spanish, Italian and Syrian. Outside of Germany, the company also maintains a presence in Poland, France, Spain, Italy and the Benelux countries. [www.wirkaufens.de](http://www.wirkaufens.de)

## > New aircraft tested



The Simple Jet was exhibited at the AERO 2017 trade fair in Friedrichshafen for the first time. After making its debut at the trade fair, it has been extensively tested at the airfield in Pohlitz.

The Simple Jet, a 120 kg class aircraft, can be powered by a jet, electric or a combustion engine for flying purposes. It was designed by aircraft constructor and engineer Wilfried Quast from Frankfurt (Oder) and is an impressive sight due to its unusual design. The airfield in Pohlitz (EDA) offers a wide range of services as well as a fuelling station for MOGAS, AVGAS and JET A1. [www.simple-jet.de](http://www.simple-jet.de) | [www.flugplatz-eda.com](http://www.flugplatz-eda.com)

## > Orchestra tour in Japan



The Brandenburg State Orchestra Frankfurt (BSOF) has been part of the city of Frankfurt (Oder) since 1842. Its home is in the "Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach" concert hall directly at the River Oder.

In May and June 2019, the musicians from the Brandenburg State Orchestra Frankfurt (Oder) will be giving eight concerts in Tokyo, Kyoto and other Japanese cities. On the tour the orchestra will be directed by the conductor Takao Ukigaya, who has been associated with the orchestra for many years now, having previously toured Japan with the musicians in 2001 and in 2005. The series of concerts will take place prior to the 2020 Olympic Games and is intended to promote international cultural exchange. [www.bsobf.de](http://www.bsobf.de)