

> Satisfaction of Viadrina students higher than average



Studying as part of a big family. With 6,500 students, the Viadrina is only a small university but with students from 80 nations it is the most international German university at the same time.

According to the latest university quality monitor by the HIS Institute, 80 percent of the students at the European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) are very satisfied with the conditions at their university. Throughout Germany, only 60 percent of those surveyed came to the same conclusion on average. 71 percent of Viadrina students consider the breadth of courses available at the university to be very good, whereas nationwide the figure was only 58 percent. A similar percentage was cited when assessing the teaching staff and with regard to practicality of the courses offered.

① www.europa-uni.de

> Cross-border bus a hit



The city of Frankfurt (Oder) and its neighbouring Polish town Słubice are growing closer together. Since end of 2012, a cross-border bus has been operating between the train station in Frankfurt and Plac Bohaterów in Słubice. This makes it easier for residents on both sides to go shopping in their neighbouring town or for students to commute between the university campuses on the German and Polish sides. In total, around 200,000 passengers are expected in 2013.

① www.svf-ffo.de



**GROWTH AREA
FRANKFURT (ODER)
EISENHÜTTENSTADT**

Growth Area News 1/2013



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%
- Target-1-Area of the EU: 30% to 50% of investment costs as cash-incentives
- Credit sureties and subsidies for R&D projects
- Established educational institutions (European University Viadrina, Sixth Form College, bbw, DAA, Gauß Gymnasium 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 investing in the growth area of Frankfurt (Oder)/Eisenhüttenstadt – free-of-charge, professionally and in strict confidence.

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> 3 million customers & outstanding turnover for Getgoods



Parcel and parcel – each day between 8,000 and 10,000 parcels leave the getgoods.de AG logistics centre in the TeGeCe Technology Centre in Frankfurt (Oder). The company operates various online platforms and is one of the fastest growing participants on the e-commerce market. GetGoods.de AG currently employs 200 staff at its sites in Frankfurt (Oder) and Berlin.

The getgoods.de AG from Frankfurt (Oder), one of Germany's leading online traders, which distributes and sells its products both via its own online platforms like www.getgoods.de, www.hoh.de or www.handyshop.de and via Amazon and eBay, has attained its self-appointed turnover target for 2012. Over the past year, the online dealer's turnover increased significantly by 27 percent to 402.3 million euros. The extensive product range originally started with mobile phones, smartphones, traditional landline telephones, laptops, tablet computers, electronic entertainment goods and white goods like washing machines and kitchen devices. Their product portfolio has now been expanded to include toys, leisure and Do-It-Yourself materials and an own travel portal. At www.getgoods-reisen.de, customers will find via internet a comprehensive range of all-inclusive trips and city breaks, cruises, special journeys for sports fans plus a wide selection of hotels, fincas, holiday apartments and houses. A portal for books is also planned for the near future. According to the motto "One for all", the online company is further expanding its product range and plans to continue on its successful course for growth with new ideas, products and other highlights in 2013.

The Canadian company 5N Plus Inc., which operates with its subsidiary 5N PV GmbH a 4.000 m² production site in Eisenhüttenstadt in East Brandenburg since 2009, has been awarded a prize for being one of the 50 most rapidly growing technology companies in Canada. In the latest „technology fast 50“ ranking list by the auditing and business consultation company Deloitte, the company occupies one of the top places (14th) due to its rapid growth of 717% during the period 2006 – 2011. The company currently employs 60 staff in Eisenhüttenstadt and about 200 staff worldwide.

① www.getgoods-ag.de

> New award for 5N Plus



5N Plus produces and recycles metals and compounds with a maximum degree of purity, including cadmium telluride and cadmium sulphide, to be used e.g. in the electronics and solar industries.

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① www.5Nplus.com

> **Paper mill in Eisenhüttenstadt running at full capacity**



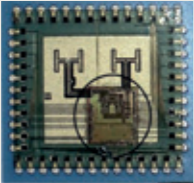
The PM2 in Eisenhüttenstadt, Europe's largest factory for the manufacture of corrugated base paper, operates now in its third year of production. During this time, it has set several world records for the production speed in the process. Progroup AG currently employs 150 staff at this state-of-the-art factory.

Despite having replaced its paper drum recently, Jürgen Heindl, CEO of Progroup AG, predicts the planned production capacity of 650,000t of corrugated base paper will be reached in 2013 and regards the factory in Eisenhüttenstadt as well-equipped for the future. The advanced technology of the three-year old plant provides it with a significant benefit over its competitors in times of rapidly increasing prices for used paper. The technology enables the production of fibre-saving new papers for easier and at the

same time more higher performance next-generation corrugated cardboards. Around 60 percent of the base paper produced in the factory in Eisenhüttenstadt is further processed into corrugated cardboard in Progroup AG's own plants for the packaging industry. Exports are also increasingly important, particularly to Poland where there continues to be big backlog demand in the consumption of corrugated cardboard for the consumer goods industry compared to the demand in Germany. www.progroup.ag

> **IHP researchers develop smallest radar in the world**

Together with the company Silicon Radar from Frankfurt (Oder), the University of Karlsruhe and Bosch, scientists at the Leibniz-Institute IHP – Innovations for high performance microelectronics, have succeeded in developing a tiny, 8mm x 8mm radar sensor with an integrated antenna that is capable of both sending and receiving radar signals. This can be used, for instance, for non-contact measurement of short distances with



millimetre precision. The revolutionary „system-in-IC-housing“ technology enables low-cost miniature sensor systems to be installed in industrial systems, security systems and for use in the automotive industry, e.g. for distance measurement, motion sensors, gauging of shock absorbers and characterisation of materials. This new technology will help, among other things, to reduce traffic accidents in the future. www.ihp-microelectronics.com



At the IHP in Frankfurt (Oder) 300 staff from 22 countries carry out research on silicon-based systems and ultrahigh frequency switching units/technologies as well as on new materials. They develop innovative solutions for wireless & broadband communication and for areas such as aviation and aerospace, biotechnology and medicine, the automotive industry, security technology and industrial automation.

> **Conergy top in the south**

After major orders in Greece, Conergy AG, which operates one of the world's most sophisticated solar factories for silicon-based solar modules in Frankfurt (Oder), has now secured an order for two on-roof solar installations in Spain, amounting to a total volume of 3.3 megawatts. The larger of the two installations has a total capacity of 1.8 megawatts and is located on an area of around 12,000 m² on the grounds of a well-known German logistics company in Seseña, 80 kilometres south of Madrid. www.conergy.de



Luis Jiménez Gutierrez, Head of Conergy in Spain, defines the leading position on the Canaries market: „On Gran Canaria, we built the largest roof installation in the island group (photo). Together with our partner Prosolia, we are now building the second largest on Tenerife.“

> **New service on the A12**



The new building is open 24/7. For long-haulage drivers on their way to Eastern Europe, it represents the last opportunity to stop in Germany with a wealth of possibilities for service and shopping.

The first section of the motorway service station on the A12/E30 in the freight village Frankfurt (Oder) has been completed with a service, sales and warehouse building. 1.000 m² of storage space and a sales area of 700 m² are now available to cater for trucks. Building operator and owner Eugen Scharf is now planning to construct a HGV car park with 205 spaces as the next part of the 7.5 million euro project. By 2015, a self-service filling station for lorries and a HGV workshop are to be added too. The service station has already established itself as an important stopping point for lorry drivers en route from east to west.

> **Frankfurt (Oder) for TRANSWAGGON a gateway to Poland**

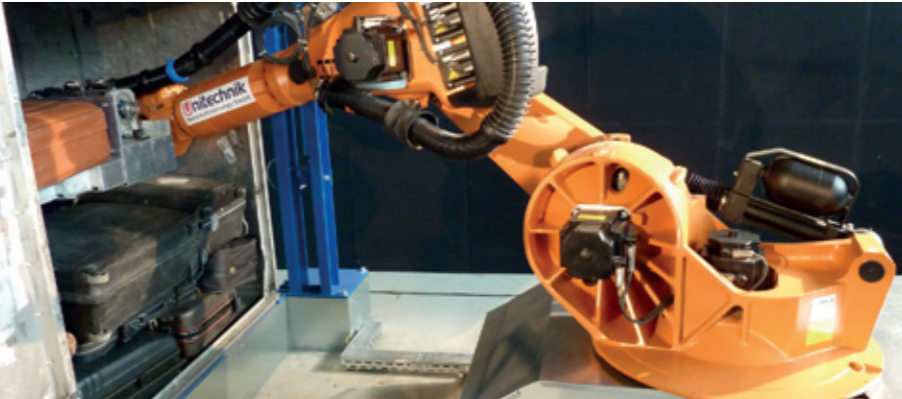
The Hamburg based company TRANSWAGGON GmbH will be using Frankfurt (Oder) as a hub for the exchange of rail wagons with Poland. Since February 2013, the company has hired rail transport installations at the Terminal for Combined Transport in Frankfurt (Oder) to jointly use them with the Frankfurt rail transport company DeltaRail GmbH, as a consolidation point for rail transport to Poland for wagon handling, check-in, marshalling and parking of wagons. „TRANSWAGGON offers its customers tailor-made solutions. This is also precisely what we were able to



The first TRANSWAGGON block train assembled in Frankfurt (Oder) passed over a bridge from Frankfurt (Oder)/Germany towards Poland in February. The company specialises in cross-European provision of freight goods for the transport of all types of commercial goods, products from the paper and pulp industry, wood products as well as vehicles and vehicle parts for production. For this, it has developed special rail-specific services over the years, which have been upgraded and adapted as required.

> **Easyjet & ArcelorMittal to use Unitechnik robots**

Automatic loading of flight baggage, a technology which has been invented in Eisenhüttenstadt and which was awarded the innovation price by the State of Brandenburg in 2010, is now to be tested in practice. The British airline Easyjet intends to test the baggage loading system at a gate at Berlin-Schönefeld Airport. „Our goal is that the system will be adopted at the new international airport Berlin Brandenburg BER. Until then we will optimise it steadily“, explains Eckhard Wilberg, Managing Director of Unitechnik in Eisenhüttenstadt. Another major



The automatic flight baggage loading system developed by Unitechnik Automatisierungs GmbH in Eisenhüttenstadt is currently a unique technology globally. The patented system meets requirements with respect to safety, performance and ergonomics applicable worldwide for future-reliable flight baggage logistics.

offer the company here at the Terminal for Combined Transport in Frankfurt (Oder),“ explains Sybille Rehse, project manager at the Investor Center Ostbrandenburg, who accompanied the company. TRANSWAGGON views its future in Frankfurt (Oder) positively: „We are planning additional steps for the use of the Frankfurt site in close cooperation with our partners and the city. Our goal is to serve our customers optimally,“ says Joerg Zabel, authorized signatory of TRANSWAGGON GmbH. www.gvz-ffo.de | www.transwaggon.de

> **Beer for the world**



After the launch of deposits for cans in Germany in 2003, the brewery in Frankfurt reacted quickly and decided to supply large quantities of beer in PET bottles for discount grocery stores.

It's not just the locals who appreciate Frankfurt beer however. The Frankfurter Brauhaus GmbH, which has been awarded in 2012 for its product quality for the third time in succession, now supplies – as well as clients in Europe – customers in South-East Asia, North and South Africa and South America. Having taken over a French brewery in Champigneulle and the Dresden brewery „Feldschlösschen“, the company is capable of brewing and optimally distributing seven million hectolitres of beer per year. www.frankfurter-brauhaus.de

> **WIRKAUFENS expanding**



WIRKAUFENS (Eng: We'll buy it!) was founded in 2008 by Christian Wolf (photo) in his living room. The company now employs 100 staff and is one of the leading re-commerce companies.

WIRKAUFENS, an online electronic goods purchaser from Frankfurt (Oder), is continuing its course of expansion in Europe. After the successful launch onto the Austrian and Spanish markets in 2012, where the company already purchases thousands of devices each month just a few months after its launch, it will now commence activities in Poland in spring 2013. With almost 40 million inhabitants and with Poland experiencing a commercial boom, the country has become an attractive option for many companies. The portal in Poland can be accessed via www.kupimyto.pl – the literal translation of the German “WIRKAUFENS”. www.wirkaufens.de