

> University to expand its Eastern European competence



The new campus is located in the centre of the city with ample green. On the left: the Auditorium Maximum, one of the University's lecture theatres. On the right: the student halls of residence with a view to the River Oder.

The European University Viadrina in Frankfurt (Oder) is expanding its competence in relation to Poland. The „Centre for Interdisciplinary Polish Studies” was formally opened in Autumn 2011 and is intended as a unique nationwide competence centre for research on Poland. As well as Polish language and literature, the institution will be concerned with many aspects of its history, society and economy. 6,500 students from 80 countries currently attend the Viadrina University. For this year's first semester courses more than 890 applicants (200 from abroad) applied for the 303 available seats.

① www.euv-frankfurt-o.de

> Kleist Year was a success

In January 2012, the end of the dual exhibition „Kleist: Crisis and Experiment” in Frankfurt (Oder) und Berlin signalled the end of the Kleist Year 2011. One of the highlights was the „Kleist Commune” in Frankfurt (Oder) which, as one of the ten most important projects nationwide, was nominated for the Cultural Education Prize. The Kleist Museum, for which a modern annex is currently under construction, was also able to increase its visitor numbers by threefold.



① www.heinrich-von-kleist.org



STEELWORKS OF ARCELORMITTAL AT NIGHT



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 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 and rail connection via Intermodal Terminal (CT-Terminal) in Frankfurt (Oder), harbour connection at Eisenhüttenstadt
- Trade tax coefficient: 340 % to 375 %
- Target-1-Area of the EU: 30% to 50% subsidies for investment costs
- 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 fair events)
- Plethora of lakes and forests, dense network of cycle paths and waterways
- Regional Express trains to Berlin every 30 minutes
- Airport Berlin Brandenburg (BER) reachable by car in 45 minutes

Need more information?

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

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> Top Team: Third world record in Eisenhüttenstadt



Performances of workers in Eisenhüttenstadt have been recognised by Jürgen Heindl, CEO of Progroup AG: „Three world records in a row in such a short time are an impressive example of how motivated, highly qualified teams can together obtain the maximum from modern paper manufacturing technology.”

The list of speed world records by PM2, the Progroup corrugated base paper factory in Eisenhüttenstadt, is becoming longer and longer. At the start of the year, the paper mill and its site team set another world record – its third in brief succession. Production at the gigantic paper mill ran at an average speed of 1,675 m/min for a period of 24 hours, which constituted a new record. The 10.85 m wide PM2 is therefore the first paper mill for corrugated base paper to attain an average production speed of more than 100 km/h. Yet there is far more to the ultra-modern production plant than speed

records. Equipped with large-scale systems for energy and wastewater management, it also conforms with the new European Union Infrastructure Programme for the conservation of sustainable resources. Propapier produces high-quality corrugated base paper at two sites in Germany using waste paper as the exclusive basis. The special technique used at PM2 enables production of lightweight, fibre-saving new paper for lighter yet high-performance, next-generation corrugated cardboard.

① www.progroup.ag

> Top location Brandenburg

In the national business rankings, Brandenburg has risen to become one of Germany's top locations. According to the 2012 barometer for medium and small-sized businesses by Ernst & Young Business Consultants, the state climbed up several places from 13th last year to 5th this year. The survey found that 44 per cent of companies – twice as many as a year ago – are entirely satisfied with general conditions in the region. Progress in infrastructure and its policies for funding received a particularly positive assessment.

① www.ey.com

„Choosing Eisenhüttenstadt as a location was a strategic decision for Progroup AG directed at the Eastern European markets. The existing infrastructure, synergy effects due to its links with the ArcelorMittal steelworks, the qualifications of the local people and close proximity to science and research institutes were particular factors that spoke for Eisenhüttenstadt.”



Jürgen Heindl, CEO Progroup AG

EXPANSION OF IHP



NEW OPERATOR FOR INTERMODAL TERMINAL



FIRST SOLAR: OPENING CEREMONY FOR FF02



> The new Berlin Brandenburg Airport will start with 172 destinations in 50 countries



View of the 400-metre long, 60 metre-wide terminal approach road. Anchored in local building tradition, Berlin Brandenburg Airport is firmly entrenched in the German capital city region. With its structured facades and distinctive, geometrical shapes, the terminal references architectural elements ranging from Schinkel to Bauhaus.

Following a construction period of 6 years, operations will commence at Berlin's new major airport in Schönefeld in the south east of the city in summer 2012. The airport will constitute a next-generation transport hub, optimally networking together air, rail and road traffic. It will provide the Berlin-Brandenburg Capital Region with an airport

with optimal connections, new intercontinental flights, its own motorway connection and a railway station directly under the terminal as well as express trains to the city centre. The underground railway station, which can also be used by ICE trains, has four tracks for long-distance trains and two tracks for the local urban railway. Access to the airport by

„With the opening of the new Berlin-Brandenburg Airport (BER), Frankfurt (Oder) and Eisenhüttenstadt strengthen their role in the German Capital Region. Because of the new flight destinations, the region will move even more into the spotlight of international investors.



Markus Kappes, Managing Director Investor Center Ostbrandenburg

car is via the A113 autobahn and the B96a dual carriageway. The code for the new airport will be BER and it will also have the additional name of „Willy Brandt“. It represents one of the largest infrastructure projects in Germany with an investment volume of 2.5 billion euros. It will also act as a driver for the local economy, creating approx. 40,000 jobs for the entire region.

① <http://ber.berlin-airport.de>

> First Solar wins top employer prize for third time



In March, the Great Place to Work® Institute commended First Solar as one of the best 100 employers in Germany for the third time in succession. In selecting the most employee-friendly companies, criteria such as credibility, respect, fairness, pride and team orientation were assessed in an anonymous staff survey. The world's largest manufacturer of thin solar modules officially opened its second plant in Frankfurt

(Oder) already in November 2011. On its new production system, solar modules with an annual total capacity of around 250 MW can be manufactured across the surface area of 50,000 m². The additional production line means the US company doubles its annual production capacity in Germany to 500 MW in total. „With more than 1,200 employees, we are the largest employer in Frankfurt (Oder) – and one of the largest in the state of Brandenburg“ explained Plant Manager Burkhardt von Westerhold.

① www.firstsolar.de

Following a construction time of just one year and a cost of 170 million euros, the new factory commenced full operations as per schedule in November 2011. Simultaneously the company celebrated at the opening ceremony the one millionth pv-module, produced in the new factory.



> Expansion of IHP



The state of Brandenburg and the Federal Republic of Germany are henceforth focusing on Frankfurt (Oder) as a centre for microelectronics science by funding the expansion of IHP-Institute of Innovations for High Performance Microelectronics. Over the coming two years, nine million euro will be invested in the construction of an extension to provide a further 70 research jobs. The IHP currently employs 300 staff from 23 nations and performs research & development on silicon-based systems, maximum frequency switching mechanisms and technologies including new materials for wireless and broadband communication, air and space travel, biotechnology and medicine and the automotive industry.

① www.ihp-microelectronics.com

> Tom Hanks in flying visit to Eisenhüttenstadt



A quick photo as evidence: Mayoress Dagmar Pitschel and Tom Hanks in the Town Hall of Eisenhüttenstadt. The Mayoress explained the development of Eisenhüttenstadt in recent years.

The world famous Hollywood actor Tom Hanks used a break during shooting of the film „Cloud Atlas“, which took place, among other locations, at the Babelsberg film studios in Potsdam, to visit Eisenhüttenstadt as a tourist. Mr. Hanks was clearly impressed by the architecture and level of renovation in the „planned city“,

which was built from scratch in 1950 as part of the construction of the „Eisenhüttenkombinat Ost“ steelworks (today ArcelorMittal). According to Tom Hanks, „All Americans want to visit Eisenhüttenstadt.“ For two hours, he toured with a tour guide through what is probably Europe's largest monument in terms of surface area. Back in America, the actor then revealed his enthusiasm for Eisenhüttenstadt and the German „autobahn“ (highways with no speed limit) to a viewing public of eight million on the popular programme „Late Show“ with entertainer David Letterman. Excerpts from the programme can also be seen on Youtube. „Iron Hut City is a wonderful city. I'm fascinated by the planning. This young town tells you long stories“. Mr. Hanks announced he would return in a year to see how things have developed.

① www.youtube.de

Keywords: Hanks + Eisenhuettenstadt

> A2: Green light to Poznan

A 105 kilometre long stretch of the A2/E30 has been completed on the Polish side between Frankfurt (Oder) and Poznan, thereby relieving a congestion hotspot between the German and Polish motorway network. The E30 is one of the most important transit sections between Western and Eastern Europe, carrying more than 75% of the whole East-to-West-traffic. With a total cost of 3 billion euros, the section of the A2 was built within two years by the Austrian company Strabag.



> New logistics centre



Prominent guests at the opening ceremony: Getgoods-chairman Markus Rockstädt-Mies (2nd on r.) and HTM-Managing Director Matthias Link (r.) said welcome to Brandenburg's Prime Minister Matthias Platzeck (L) and Dr. Martin Wilke, Lordmayor of Frankfurt (Oder).

The getgoods.de AG, one of Germany's leading online traders of IT and telecommunications products, continues to shine with its growth. To cater for increased capacity requirements, getgoods.de AG opened a new logistics centre in Frankfurt (Oder) in November with a storage space of approx. 3,000 m². The company invested 1.3 million euros in this new state-of-the-art logistics centre, which will enable packaging and shipment of up to 40,000 packages per day. According to preliminary calculations, the company increased its sales in 2011 to 322 million Euros.

① www.htm-gmbh.com

> CT-Terminal: Expansions with new operator PCC



On time movement of cargo from Eastern Europe to the international ports. Frankfurt (Oder) acts as an East-West logistics hub, trains are newly assembled and goods are loaded onto HGVs or from lorries onto trains. Due to a huge increase in handling, dynamic expansion of the CT-Terminal in Frankfurt (Oder) is currently taking place and new routes are being prepared.

From April 2012 onwards, the Intermodal Terminal in Frankfurt (Oder) will be operated by the Polish stock market-listed company PCC Intermodal for a contract period of 20 years. PCC Intermodal has been one of the terminal's biggest users for years now. At present, more than 30 container-block-trains pass the terminal on a regular basis every week. Together with Frankfurt (Oder) City Council, the new operator is planning to further expand the terminal. This shall include, among other things, the erection of a gantry train across the tracks and the development

of adjacent areas for logistics companies. Trains travelling via Frankfurt (Oder) include those providing a connection from the southern Silesian industrial region, the Polish Baltic Coast or, from the start of December 2011, from the Russian capital Moscow to the international ports of Rotterdam, Bremerhaven and Hamburg. Additional Services on site include warehousing, pre- and oncarriage in Brandenburg and Poland, container stripping and stuffing and customs clearance.

① www.kv-terminal.de