

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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Days of Sweden on Malaya Konyushennaya and in *Mega-Dybenko*, 2-3 June 2007



The Consulate General of Sweden in Saint Petersburg invites Swedish companies and organizations interested in the Russian market to take part in the celebration of the Swedish National Day. The festivities will take place on 2 June 2007 on Malaya Konyushennaya St. and on 3 June 2007 in the shopping mall *Mega-Dybenko*.

Take part in our fancy fair exhibiting Swedish products and services, joyful quizzes, floorball competition, folk music, presentation of interesting places to see in Sweden, a stage, with performances every hour, child theater and much more.

Time and location:

2 June 12 p.m.-18.p.m. Open-air celebration on Malaya Konyushennaya.

3 June 10 a.m.-22 p.m. Celebration at the shopping mall *Mega-Dybenko*.

For more details, please contact Alia Khalikova at the Consulate General of Sweden. Phone: +7-812-329 14 23, fax: +7-812-329 14 50, e-mail: alia.khalikova@foreign.ministry.se

Economic and Investment Potential of St. Petersburg Seminar in Stockholm, 19 April 2007

On 19 April 2007 a seminar on present economic potential and investment possibilities in St. Petersburg, organised by the Government of St. Petersburg together with Trade representative of Russian Federation in Sweden and the St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry will take place in Stockholm.

The idea of conducting the seminar was proposed by the Government of St. Petersburg. The general goal of this seminar and business-meeting is presentation of investment climate and economic possibilities of St. Petersburg to potential investors and companies that want to enter St. Petersburg market. Partners of the St. Petersburg Government are large consulting and recruiting companies that operate on St. Petersburg market.

During the Seminar the following aspects will be discussed:

- Investment attraction in St. Petersburg,
- Dynamics of socio-economic development,
- Perspectives of Special Economic Zone development,
- Special features in implementation of investment projects in St. Petersburg,
- Law aspects of operation of companies with foreign capital in St. Petersburg (taxation law, privileges, given to foreign companies).

If you would like to register to attend, please contact Anna Kuriko, St. Petersburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry, e-mail: sbtp@rambler.ru

St. Petersburg carnival became "A" category



On 27 May the St. Petersburg carnival will take place in the main street. The association of the European carnivals has included the Petersburg carnival in a "A" category alongside with Venetian, Cologne, Lisboan and Nice carnivals. On 2 April the Supreme Council of a carnival-2007 elected 5 candidates for a role of king.

Source: Metro newspaper, April 2007

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Foreign Investments in the Leningrad Region Grew by 50 %



In 2006 foreign investments in the economy of the Leningrad region amounted to the total of USD 540,4 million (1,5 times as much as last year). The investments were divided as follows: USD 115,7 million (21,4 %) from the USA, USD 83,2 million from Finland (15,4 %), USD 76,3 million from Spain (14,1%), and USD 60,9 million from Denmark (11,3%).

Source: Government of the Leningrad Region, www.lenobl.ru

Photo: www.interpres.ru

Volvo and Man Planning to Construct Plants in St. Petersburg



Man and *Volvo* – European manufacturers of buses, trucks and other types of vehicles and equipment – have plans to construct their plants in Russia, St. Petersburg being the priority location.

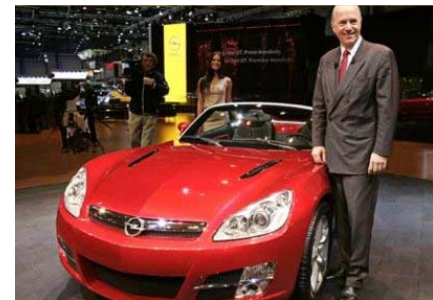
According to Per Gustav – Director General of *Man*'s subsidiary in Russia – the company will need at least 3 years to set up the production of *Man* equipment in Russia. At the first stage the plant will produce 300-500 buses and 3-5 thousand trucks a year. At present the company plans to further develop the net of *Man*'s dealers in Russia. In 2006 there were 8 of them, in 2007 the company is planning to double their number.

According to Tomas Kuta – General Manager of Volvo Construction Equipment representative office in Russia – the company will start the construction of a plant in at least 5 years when the sales volume will amount to 2 thousand units of construction equipment per year. In 2006 the figures constituted 500 units. In 2007 the sales volume is planned to grow to 600-700 units.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg* newspaper, March 2007, www.dp.ru

General Motors to Increase Capacity of New Plant in St. Petersburg

According to the President of *General Motors Europe* – Carl-Peter Forster – the company is planning to expand the production



capacity of its new plant in St. Petersburg. The later is aimed at handling the growing demand for cars in Russia. The plant, whose construction is to be accomplished in the end of 2008, is planned to be expanded to produce 100 thousand units per year (compared to the earlier planned 40 thousand units).

In 2006 Russia was *GM*'s fifth biggest market in Europe. The sales volume in the Russian market constituted 132 600 vehicles, whereas the overall sales of *GM Europe* in 2006 made up 2 million units.

Source: www.mosnews.com

Photo: Spiegel Online, www.spiegel.de

Visit of the Lord Mayor of London to St. Petersburg



In the frame of the Lord Mayor of London's visit to St. Petersburg the seminar on Creating a Successful Business Environment by providing Professional services was run at British Council St. Petersburg on 4 April 2007. As an ambassador for UK based financial and business services (including education), the Lord Mayor stressed that St. Petersburg and London have every reason to be the best business partners and develop cooperation in all these areas.

On the photo: Marina Beylina, *British Council St. Petersburg*, Stephen Kinnock, *Director British Council St. Petersburg*, Sir Paul Judge, the Lord Mayor of London.

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Construction Conference in the Leningrad Region



On 6 April the construction conference *Development of the Leningrad Region's Construction Complex and the Decision on the "Available Dwelling to the Citizens of Russia" National Project* will take place in the Government of the Leningrad Region. Among the participants of the conference are representatives of the Government of the Leningrad Region, construction associations, and construction and investment companies. The conference is jointly organized by the Government of the Leningrad Region and *Kommersant* publishing house.

Source: Government of the Leningrad Region, www.lenobl.ru; *Kommersant* publishing house www.kommersant.ru

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Interpress Photo Agency celebrates 10 years anniversary



Photo: www.interpress.ru

The archive of the newsletters can be found at http://www.stockholmregion.org/websites/stockholm/sd_page/274/3/index.php?

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