

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

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Ust-Luga Port



The new capacities are currently being developed at the port of Ust-Luga, Leningrad region. This is a step in the President's consistent policy of setting up Russia's own infrastructure for the export of natural resources. The port of Ust-Luga provides an alternative to the export of Russian coal via the ports of Riga, Tallinn and Ventspils. The capacity of the new coal complex will constitute 12-15 million tons per year, which is much higher than the average standards of the western ports. The economic effect will come up to 75 million USD per year. The port is expected to function 326 days per year. 62,3 billion RUR (appr. 2,3 billion USD) is to be invested in the port development.

Source: Delovoy Peterburg

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Investment Rating of Regions in the Northwest Russia

According to the results of the annual research, carried out by Expert RA agency, all the regions in Northwest Russia confirmed their previous investment ratings. However, some of them changed their respective positions in this rating covering all regions of the Russian Federation. For example, the Leningrad Region went up from the 19th to 21st position. St. Petersburg, which even previously had been considered a secure region, ranked the highest thanks to the environmental improvements after the launching of the Southwest wastewater treatment plant.

Moscow occupies the 9th position in the rating.

Source: *Northwest Business* magazine, December 2005

Region	Rating index
St. Petersburg	1B*
Leningrad region	2B**
Arhangelsk region	3B1***
Vologda region	3B1
Kaliningrad region	3B1
Murmansk region	3B1
Novgorod region	3B2****
Pskov region	3B2
Nenetsky autonomous District	3B2
Republic of Karelia	3B2
Republic of Komi	3C1*****
*High potential – moderate risk	
**Medium potential – moderate risk	
***Lower potential – moderate risk	
****Minor potential – moderate risk	
*****Lower potential – high risk	

The Second Petersburg Technical Fair (PTF)

The Second Petersburg Technical Fair (PTF) was held on 14-17 March in St. Petersburg. PTF 2006 comprised eight specialized exhibitions - METALLURGY, CASTING, MWTE - METALWORKING, TOOLS, COMPRESSORS, PUMPS, VALVES, PRIVEX (driving gears and their elements), BEARINGS, and PTA - Northwest (progressive technologies in automation). Over 250 organizations from 26 Russian cities and 12 countries exhibited at the fair, which attracted over 10 000 visitors. This year PTF business programme has provided specialists with additional opportunities for communication. Round-table meetings with experts in leasing, insurance, subcontracting, logistics and industrial marketing were arranged.



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Swedish Company Plans to Build a Garbage Processing Plant in St. Petersburg

Limited Liability Company Miljö, owned by several Swedish companies, has got permission from St. Petersburg Government for construction of a garbage processing plant in St. Petersburg suburb Levashovo. This is the first foreign investor, which has so closely approached the implementation phase of a 'garbage project'. The approximate construction costs comprise 100–120 mln Euro. The future plant capacity constitutes 500 thousand tons per year. Construction of the garbage processing plant in Levashovo generated negative reaction among those who live and work in the suburb: the plant itself and garbage trucks driving garbage to the plant day-and-night, will destroy recreational attractiveness of the place.



Source: Delovoj Peterburg, February 2006.

Photo: www.interpress.ru

St. Petersburg Attracts Finnish Companies to the Housing and Communal Services Market



St. Petersburg Center for Business Contacts BISCON plans to attract Finnish companies to the housing and communal services market of St. Petersburg. For that purpose the information

seminar was organized in Kouvola, Finland, in the end of January 2006. The main idea is to introduce the development prospects of liberalizing the housing and communal services sector in Russia in general and St. Petersburg in particular.

Contact person: Olga V. Volkova, Committee for External Relations of Saint Petersburg

Photo: www.interpress.ru

St. Petersburg Construction Market Facts and Figures



2,3 million m² of housing facilities were constructed in St. Petersburg in 2005. According to forecasts, in 2006 this indicator will rise up to 3,0 million m², while in 2007 housing construction is expected to go down to 1,4 million m².

In 2004 the average price level on the primary housing market of St. Petersburg had demonstrated remarkable growth rising from 747 USD/m² to 970 USD/m². In 2005 it showed just a minor increase, with an average price constituting 1008,3 USD/m² in December.

Source: Delovoj Peterburg, Subsidiary "Where to live", March 2006

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Presentation of Green Pack - Environmental Materials for Schools



On 15 March 2006 the Consulate General of Finland together with St. Petersburg Committee on Environmental Protection and Safety made a presentation of educational materials on environment and sustainable development - *Green Pack*. Ludmila Kostkina, Vice Governor of St. Petersburg responsible for social and environmental issues, took part in the presentation.

The *Green Pack* program was developed by the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe with support from the Toyota Environmental Activities Grant Program and the Finnish Ministry of Environment. The Pack includes a handbook with lesson plans, a video cassette, a CD-ROM, an environmental game, and the student fact sheets. *The Green Pack* is targeted at teachers and students of secondary schools, as well as institutions for further education.



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Conference Facilities in St. Petersburg Facts and Figures



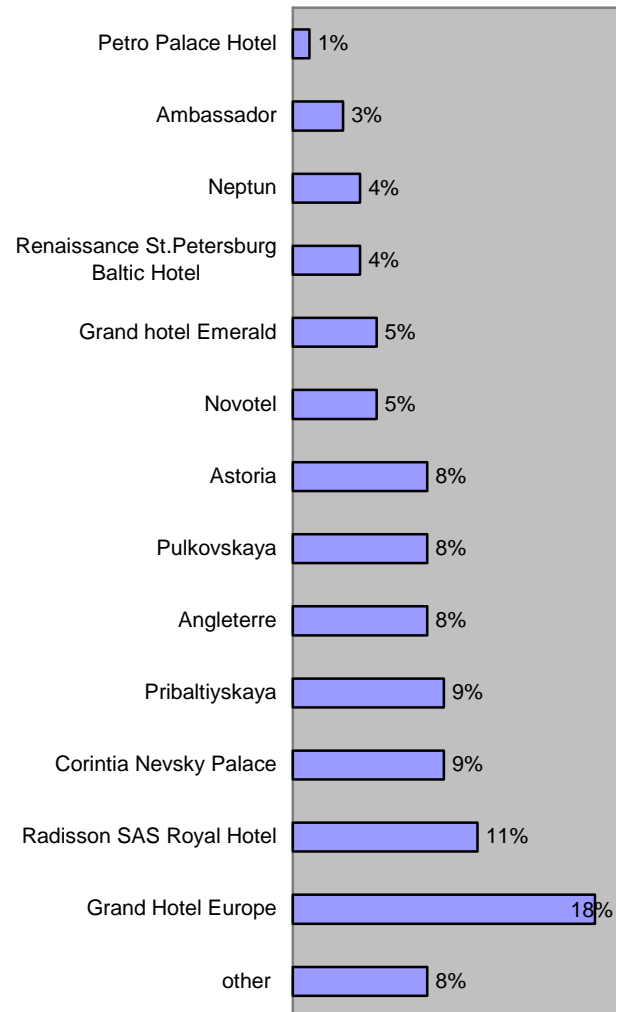
Hotel	Total floor space (m2)	Number of conf. halls	Min-Max space (m2)	Min-Max Capacity (pers)	Min-Max Rent (SEK per day)
Radisson SAS Royal Hotel	234	7	17-98	8-120	3750-6650
Grand Hotel Europe	223	4	39-94	15-70	3900-6790
Astoria	506	6	16-260	8-220	2560-15550
Grand Hotel Emerald	187	4	24-62	10-40	2400-8000
Renaissance St.Petersburg Baltic Hotel	354	6	30-170	20-200	2750-7400
Corintia Nevsky Palace	425	4	35-200	30-200	2750-9150
Petro Palace Hotel	217	5	24-108	16-100	2200-5150
Neptun	325	5	25-100	12-110	1470-4400
Novotel	440	9	25-140	20-200	1650-5270
Ambassador	479	8	27-287	15-150	2350-4680
Pulkovskaya	1586	10	13-627	10-500	1870-15610
Angleterre	491	5	25-200	12-205	1830-5480
Pribaltiyskaya	4415	14	25-1563	20-2000	780-49500

Source: Delovoy Peterburg

Photo: www.interpress.ru

Most Preferable Hotels in St. Petersburg for MICE Industry

Delovoy Peterburg newspaper carried out a poll among the visitors of its website www.dp.ru, offering them to choose the most convenient hotel for arranging conferences and congresses in the city. Over 340 people answered the question. The results are as follows:



Source: Delovoy Peterburg

The archive of the newsletters can be found at <http://www.stockholmregion.org/tpl/topic.asp?ID=457>

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