

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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TELE2 Is Improving the Quality of Connection in St. Petersburg

TELE2 During the three years operation on the Russian market, the TELE2 Company has reached fifth place in the rating among cellular network operators. According to the President of TELE2 Russia Carl-Magnus Stenberg, the Russian market and St. Petersburg especially is now most promising for the company. The marketing principles of TELE2 that are considered to be the key to its success are simplicity, necessary quality and low prices.

Source: *Metro* newspaper, January 2006

Skandinaviska Enskilda Banken AB (SEB) Is Buying JSC Petroenergobank

Swedish bank SEB AB came to an agreement on purchase of JSC Petroenergobank in St. Petersburg.



Closing of the transaction is supposed to take place in the middle of April 2006. Transaction terms and value are not publicized. Petroenergobank with assets of 1,7 mlrd rubles was established in 1995.

Source: *Delovoy Peterburg*, February 2006.

Youth Yachting



An international project *Rusich. Brotherhood of the Eastern Way* was launched by the Novoladozsky yacht club in the Leningrad region.

In 2006-2007 the organizers plan to build a new moto-sailer *Rusich* and arrange cruising on the following routes: New Ladoga – Old Ladoga – Kirishi – Great Novgorod and back, as well as Old Ladoga - New Ladoga – St. Petersburg – Kronshtadt – Vyborg – Hamina – Kotka - Helsinki. The opening of the Eastern way and development of travel routes on the territory of Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and other members of the project are expected in 2008-2010 years.

The main aim of the project is to encourage young people's curiosity and interest in further studies of culture and history as well as to launch a regular tourist route and to conduct environmental research during the expeditions.

The project work group is looking for partners in Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Finland, Norway, Turkey, Russia, Ukraine and Belarus. The project has been already joined by the Finnish international, cultural and historical organization ACTIO.



Contact person: Ilya Prokofev, Press office of the Government of the Leningrad region, e-mail: lenobl@lenobl.ru

Six Special Economic Zones Established in Russia

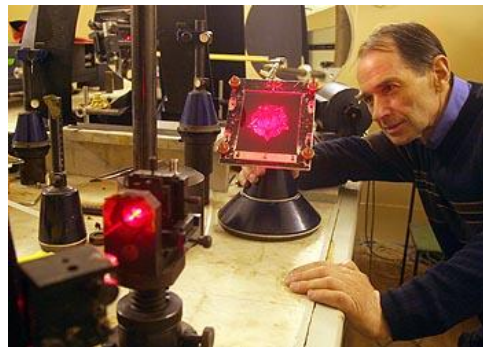
The Legislative Act of the Russian Federation *On the Special Economic Zones* entered into force on 1 January 2006. It stipulates the establishment of six special economic zones: four research and development zones in St. Petersburg, Dubna (Moscow Region), Zelenograd (Moscow Region) and Tomsk, as well as two industrial production zones in Elabuga (Tatarstan) and Lipeck.

Each economic zone will specialize in particular fields. The economic zones will be specialized according to type of activities. Thus, IT and nuclear technologies will be developed in Dubna, industrial electronics and biotechnologies – in Tomsk, while Zelenograd economic zone will specialize on micro- and nanotechnologies. St. Petersburg research and development zone will focus on IT and analytical instrument-making. It is planned to produce components for motorcar industry in Elabuga, in particular in cooperation with *Hyundai* and *General Motors*. Consumer electronics and furniture will be produced in the special economic zone in Lipeck.

As stated by the Head of the Russian Federal Agency on Special Economic Zones Management Jurij Zhdanov, by the year 2020 the total number of employees involved in production of competitive, science intensive goods and services in the regions with special economic zones is expected to double. With the help of the activities developed by the special economic zones' residents the share of high-tech export in the respective regions is expected to grow approximately by 20%. The development of engineering and transport infrastructure of the special economic zones has now been started.

Source: Metro newspaper, www.opec.ru

Photo: www.interpress.ru



Science Parks Developing in St. Petersburg



University.

Several different science park projects are currently being developed in St. Petersburg. One of them, with the newly acquired status of the special economic zone, will be located in Peterhof and established on the basis of the St. Petersburg State University.

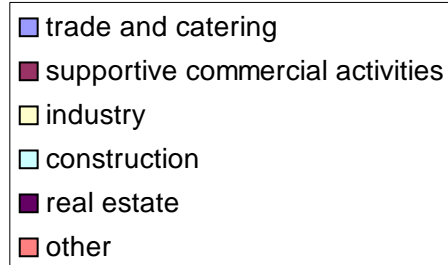
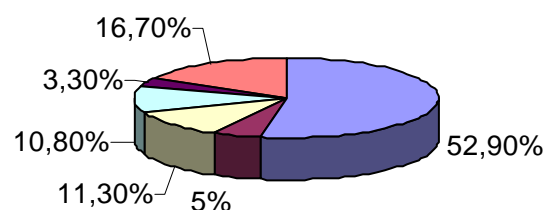
The construction of the Northern Science Park developed by the noncommercial partnership Russoft will be started in April 2006. Approximately 50% of its area will be rented to software development companies. It is expected that medium-size companies will constitute the major part of lessees, while 10% of the area will be occupied by small companies.

The implementation of another science park project will soon be started by the St. Petersburg State University of Telecommunications. According to Valentin Makarov, Head of the Russoft, each of the science parks will be able to occupy its own niche due to specialization.

Source: Delovoy Peterburg

Photo: www.interpress.ru

SME Sectoral Structure



Source: Delovoy Peterburg

The V International Conference *Modern Power Industry – 2006*



The VI International Forum *Fuel and Energy Complex of Russia* and the V International Conference *Modern Power Industry – 2006* will take place in St. Petersburg on 11-13 April and 11-12 April 2006 respectively. The goals of the conference are to discuss the contemporary state of the Russian power industry, optimization of reform and measures for securing energy supply.

The conference, in particular, focuses on the issues of reforming regional power complexes in Russia, as well as the role of the Russian power industry in the globalizing energy business. The participants of the conference are representatives of international energy organizations, heads of Russian and foreign branch companies, representatives of research institutes and universities, executive and legislative bodies, regional administrations, representatives of local and foreign international financial, consulting and insurance companies working in the industry. The conference is held on the threshold of the G8 summit, which will take place in summer 2006 in St. Petersburg.

Contact person: Viktor Valuev, *Exhibitions-Seminars-Business*, e-mail: valuev@restec.ru

Public Procurement in St. Petersburg: Facts and figures

- Over 90.000 state contracts were negotiated in St.Petersburg in 2005.
- Starting from 1 January 2006 the state customers' tender committees will make purchasing decisions within the limits of 15 million RUR (appr. 4 million SEK)
- The Committee on Construction plans to invest 163 million RUR (appr. 44 million SEK) in the final stage of the construction of the new ice stadium.
- More than 10,5 billion RUR (appr. 2,8 billion SEK) are invested by the Committee on City Improvement and Roads in the development of work documentation and building of the southern part of the West fast speed road
- The Administration of the Nevsky city district will provide about 110 million RUR (appr. 30 million SEK) for the development of the house yards.
- The Healthcare Committee plans to allocate 78,6 million RUR (appr. 21 million SEK) on purchasing of diagnostics and treatment facilities for HIV positive patients.
- Source: *Public Procurement* magazine, 2005



New football stadium in St.Petersburg

The tender on the best architectural project for the new football stadium was announced. The stadium is expected to meet the FIFA and UEFA requirements and will be situated on Krestovsky Island in St. Petersburg.



Source: *Metro* newspaper, February 2006

Photo: www.interpress.ru

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

STOCKHOLM REGION OFFICE in ST PETERSBURG
Visiting address: Nevsky 1, St. Petersburg
Postal address: BOX 1005, 190000, St. Petersburg
tel.: +7-812-314 68 18, fax: +7-812-314 68 53
e-mail: stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru
www.stockholmregion.org