GDAŃSK

B U S I N E S S G U I D E







Ladies and Gentlemen,

Gdańsk is a city whose nature has for centuries been determined by the strategic location on the crossroads of the European trade routes, as well as the open approach to changes and the entrepreneurial spirit of its inhabitants.

Emphasising the city's European roots the city authorities embark on various actions to meet the challenges of the new united Europe. To that aim they pursue broad-scale investments to upgrade the quality of the infrastructure and the quality of life of the local population. They also introduce organisational and legal changes to accelerate investment processes in the city.

Whoever chooses to locate his/her business in Gdańsk can be sure to find favourable climate and space for development here.

Let me invite you to the city which creates conditions conducive to successful pursuance of any business venture.

Welcome to Gdańsk!

Respectfully yours Mayor of Gdańsk

Ptdanouin

Gdańsk is an agglomeration with the population nearing half a million, an important centre of the economic, scientific, and cultural life, and a frequented tourist location.

Gdańsk has for years been selected to be the venue of international meetings by politicians, business people, academicians, researchers, and artists. For years too it has initiated many major events of an international format. Lying on the Bay of Gdańsk, on the southern shores of the Baltic Sea, the city goes back a thousand years in history. For centuries it has played the key role in the trade between northern and western Europe on the one hand, and central and eastern European countries on the other hand. Today, Gdańsk is the capital of the Pomeranian voivodship and a major Polish centre of economy and administration.

Vital institutions of the central and local governments have their seats in Gdańsk, to name e.g. the Provincial Administration Office, local government of the province, Regional Agency for Consumer and Competition Protection, Court of Appeal, or High Administrative Court.



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Wealth and Stability



The numerous industrial plants in the city area, and its substantial participation in international trade contribute to accumulation of sizeable funds that are re-invested in new business ventures. This puts the city among the top economic centres in Poland.



Source: City Hall of Gdańsk.

Since the day Poland joined the European Union Gdańsk has led in the sphere of obtaining the EU funds and dedicating them to large-scale infrastructural projects. Thanks to its active stance in this respect Gdańsk has a chance of upgrading its infrastructure to the prevailing European standard of quality over the next few years.

The condition of the local economy is reflected in the size of the municipal budget, one of the highest country wide. This translates to the size of the municipal expenditure per statistical resident.

The city is pursuing a large-scale investment programme aimed at bringing its urban infrastructure to the level represented by cities in Western Europe. The Long-Term Investment Plans adopted since the year 2003 prove a successful tool in applying the funds obtained from the European Union to crucial investments.

The Gdańsk authorities reach for various financial instruments, e.g. loans and municipal bonds. In order to secure relatively cheap sources of finance the municipality has, since the year 2000, commissioned independent and objective assessment of the city's creditworthiness. The city is audited by Fitch Ratings, one of the three most renowned rating agencies

The income in the Gdańsk city budget in the years 2000-2006

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Income (PLN M)	921.5	957.8	912.4	976.6	1295.7	1252.1	1281.7







Source: Own studies based on data from the Statistical Office in Gdańsk.

The total expenditure per head in the Gdańsk city budget in the years 2000-2006





Own study based on the resolution approving the Gdańsk Municipal Budget for 2006.

in the world, and for several years has retained the 'BBB – stable' rating. In the opinion of Fitch Ratings the credit rating identified for Gdańsk reflects its well developed and diverse economy, and a strong tax base, both pertaining to income

	2003	2004	2005
Gdańsk	53.6%	33.2%	27.9%
Szczecin	30.4%	29.2%	28.6%
Bydgoszcz	40.5%	36.4%	29.7%
Wrocław	56.4%	46.9%	31.3%
Poznań	37.9%	34.9%	32.9%
Łódź	38.5%	35.2%	33.6%
Warszawa	37.2%	36.7%	37.8%
Kraków	57.8%	54.3%	52.0%

Debt ratios of the largest Polish cities in the years 2003-2005

Source: Own study based on the budget performance reports from the local governments to the Ministry of Finance for the years 2003-2005.

growth. The opinion highlights the positive features, for instance the city's favourable location and its developing economy. Gdańsk belongs to the wealthiest and swiftest growing cities in Poland. The competitive and diverse structure of the local economy, with services gaining an ever more prominent position, makes the city particularly attractive to investors and turns it into a centre of modern technologies. The steeply falling unemployment rate can be noted as one of the indices reflecting the city's sound economic standing.

The best evidence of the city's stable financial position can be found in the fact that despite a growing debt incurred to pursue large-scale investment projects Gdańsk's debt-toincome ratio is going down, unlike in many other metropolis agglomerations in Poland.

A sound Infrastructure



Good business cannot be done without an adequate infrastructure understood not only as the presence of institutions such as banks, insurers, or brokers, but also the rudimental components of the surrounding technical infrastructure.





A City Open to the World

When selecting the appropriate location for the city its founders were guided primarily by the criterion of the site accessibility for transport. A thousand years ago the key medium was inland water-transport along the Vistula river up south, and sea transport to other Baltic cities and states. Today, the city's accessibility is determined by its road, air, and sea transport links.

Gdańsk is well prepared to handle air transport. 20 minutes from the centre, within the administrative borders of the city lies a modern international airport managed by the Gdańsk Airport company. Opened in 1997, the passenger terminal can serve up to one million passengers a year and in terms of the traffic volume is currently the fourth largest facility of the kind in Poland after Warsaw, Kraków, and Katowice. The airport services local flights to Warsaw, Kraków, and Wrocław, and international flights to Frankfurt on the Mein, Bonn, Dortmund, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Oslo, Hamburg, London, Dublin, Cork, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Liverpool, Shannon, and Munich. The timetable of the domestic and international flights offered by members of the air carrier Star Alliance, i.e. LOT, Lufthansa, and SAS, and the low cost lines of Wizz Air, Ryanair, Centralwings, Germanwings, the Norwegian Air Shuttle, and Direct Fly, makes it possible to reach any point on the globe straight from Gdańsk. For several years now the airport has also been growing in its role of an important centre of chartered tourist flights.

In view of the dynamically growing passenger traffic and the need to bring the passenger services up to the requirements of the Schengen Agreement, the authorities of the Lech Wałęsa Gdańsk Airport have launched the terminal expansion project. Soon the airport will be capable of taking up to 2 million passengers a year, and its ultimate capacity is envisaged at approximately 3-4 million passengers per annum.

The Gdańsk airport has risen in status becoming a major reloading terminal for air-transported goods. The recorded dynamic quantitative growth in the cargo handled comes as a result of the economic development of the city and region. The airport expansion plans envisage the erection of a modern reloading terminal that will increase the port's handling capacity and improve the airfreight service standard.

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	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006 (plan)
Passengers (thousand)	270	319.2	318	365	466.7	672,1	1300
Cargo (tonnes)	1552	1954	2211	2686	3100	3459	2900

Graph background data: Passenger and cargo traffic at the Lech Wałęsa Gdańsk Airport

Source: Lech Wałęsa Gdańsk Airport.



Have a Good Journey

Gdańsk lies on the crossroads of three international routes of key importance for the Polish economy. These are: national road No. 6 from Gdańsk through Słupsk, Koszalin, Szczecin, and onwards to Berlin; national road No. 7 linking Gdańsk to the routes heading to the eastern state border (national road No. 16) and onwards to Warsaw, Kraków, and up to the Czech/ Slovak border. Finally, there is national road No. 1 which starts in Gdańsk, then goes through Toruń, Łódź, Częstochowa, and Katowice up to the Czech border on the one hand, and via Bydgoszcz, Poznań, and Wrocław (national road No. 5) leads on to the Czech and German border in the south-western corner of the country. The city is but a rough dozen kilometers from the A-1 motorway. Currently in construction, it will communicate the Gdańsk agglomeration via the Tri-City Ring Road with the southern Polish border.

Appreciating the advantages of the city's geographic location its authorities do their best to improve the standard of the existing roads and expand the city's transport network so as to bring it up to the European standards. The investments made to improve the city's transport accessibility and its inner traffic in the years 2002-2006 add up to more than PLN 400 million.

The major road projects in progress include the W-Z [East-West] route that will pertain substantially to facilitating transit along the city's key national roads Nos. 1, 6, and 7. Thanks to the subsidy obtained from the EU funds a subsequent section of the road is now in construction (the section completion is planned for autumn 2007). The last stretch to link the route with the Tri-City Ring Road is included in the plans for 2007-11.

The year 2004 also marked the completion of stage one in the road revamp project along Słowackiego Street. This route will facilitate traffic between the city centre, Gdańsk Airport, and the Tri-City Ring Road.



Main road transport routes



To improve the transport link between the port, city, and national roads Gdańsk ventured on one of the largest road investments in Poland. The project consisted in erecting a cable-stayed bridge over Martwa Wisła to link national road No. 7 to the eastern port basins where alongside the modern ferry terminal a huge container terminal and logistics centre are now in construction. To supplement the investment the City of Gdańsk and the Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A. have embarked on a joint project to improve the port's accessibility to transport. Their goal is to increase the cargo handling potential and provide convenient links between the national and international road and railway networks, the Industrial Pier, Westerplatte Ferry Terminal, and the Customs Free Zone Gdańsk. The project will take PLN 152.2 million to complete, and more than half of the sum will be covered from the EU funds obtained under the Sector Operational Programme Transport.

The city has already developed a list of priority road investments planned for the years 2007-2013 valued at the aggregate of nearly PLN 2 billion. Their execution, based largely on the EU funds, will contribute to improving the conditions of the dynamically growing transit traffic and the transport inside the city.



The major investments in transport and roads in Gdańsk, planned for 2007-2013

Investment Project	Value (PLN M)
Construction of the Sucharski Route from the Olszynka junction to Marynarki Polskiej Street	820
Gdańsk Urban Transport Project	400
Construction of the lower section of the Słowacki Route	273
Transformation of the road crossing (roads Nos. 1 and 7) at the Downtown junction – vicinities of the Oko- powa and Targ Sienny Streets	120
Intelligent Traffic Control System	110
Construction of the Nowa Wałowa Street	70
Erection of a fixed bridge with a lift span over Martwa Wisła in Gdańsk-Sobieszewo	20
Revamp of the Łostowicka Street	61
Construction of the W-Z Route, section from Kartuska to Otomińska Street	62
Revamp of the al. Jana Pawła II Street in Gdańsk, from Hynka Street to al. Rzeczpospolitej Street	9

Source: Development Projects Department, Gdańsk City Hall.



The Railway: Passenger, Container, and Bulk Cargo Transport

Gdańsk converges four strategic railway lines of international importance, all linking the city and port with the major industrial centres in the country and leading on to the state borders:

- Gdańsk Koszalin Szczecin western state border
- Gdańsk Warszawa Kraków southern state border
- Gdańsk Bydgoszcz Łódź Katowice with a branch off to Poznań and Wrocław, and onwards to the state southern and western borders
- Gdańsk Elbląg Olsztyn Białystok Lublin with a branch off to Kaliningrad and the eastern state border.

The local passenger traffic is served by the Swift Urban Railway line carrying commuters between Gdańsk and Wejherowo. Other lines link the voivodship capital with the regional towns of Lębork and Tczew located north and south of the city, respectively. The long-distance passenger traffic is conveniently served by excellently functioning lines which link Gdańsk to the major cities all over Poland. You can select between several score fast trains, express trains, and the Inter-City.

Having said that, one admits that the prime role the railway fulfils is provision of convenient transport of the large volumes of cargo handled by the seaport. These are general goods, containers, and bulk cargo (liquid and loose).



The Sea-Gate to the World

The deepest and never freezing port on the Baltic Sea, Gdańsk is the largest reloading centre on the Polish and Southern Baltic coasts. Apart from handling bulk cargo (oil, coal, metal ores) it services a number of regular transport lines linking it to the ports on the Baltic Sea and in Western Europe. Gdańsk aspires to the position of the regional distribution centre for Poland, countries of Central and Eastern Europe, and the new, post-soviet states.

The development strategy put together by Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A., manager of the port area, projects that the volume of bulk and general cargo handled will double by the year 2010. The increase will be the function of the growing transit, expansion, and erection of new specialist reloading terminals. The largest investment currently in progress in the Gdańsk port is the erection of a container terminal and a ro-ro service ramp in the vicinity of the Northern Port piers. Its completion planned for mid-2007, this first stage in the project will yield new stands for container carriers and ro-ro vessels and form the base for attaining the handling volume of 500 thousand TEU per annum. Stage two in the expansion project will increase the terminal capacity to 1 million TEU per year. The builder is the British-owned DCT Gdańsk S.A., which in January 2004 signed a 30-year lease agreement for 30 ha of land with the Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A.. Stage one of the project is estimated to cost approximately USD 175 million, the entire venture will take USD 500 million.

Container traffic handled in the port of Gdańsk in 2000-2005 (TEU)

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Gdańsk	18037	20475	20136	22537	43739	70014

Source: Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A..



The Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A. work hand in hand with the local city government undertaking road investments aimed at facilitating access to the port, and large investment projects launched with the intention of creating the basis for stimulating business in the transition areas along the city-port borders. To point to the effects of the cooperation, one should note the preparation to the development of as much as 134 ha of the land into a huge logistics and distribution centre. The venture is undertaken together with the administration of the Pomeranian Special Economic Zone and the British company of DCT Logistics. The centre is planned to create 5 thousand new jobs.

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Coal	5908.7	6064.7	6962.4	5926.2	5920.8	6921.5
Other bulk cargo	2535.5	2334.1	1947.8	2581.8	2619.4	2694.8
Grain	495.9	507.1	539.6	396.8	403.4	338.9
General goods	1542.9	1868.3	1876.1	2295.9	2569.6	1939.8
Liquid fuels	6060.6	6196.3	5980.3	9991.4	11801.6	11446
Total	16543.5	18971.5	17371.4	21293	25318.8	25346

Cargo handling at the Port of Gdańsk in 2000–2005 (in thousand tonnes), by major cargo groups

Source: Port of Gdańsk Authority S.A..





Gdańsk On-Line

Thanks to the investments made over the last 10 years today the residents, entrepreneurs, and investors enjoy practically unlimited access to the modern telecommunications infrastructure. The city has several operators offering traditional cable TV combined with swift broadband access to the Internet. Wherever traditional telecommunication links are unavailable, the services of three, soon four, mobile phone operators can be used. Their offer embracing the whole city area combines the typical mobile telephone service with wireless data transmission in a whole range of technologies in the GPRS, EDGE, and UMTS standards. To meet the growing demand for access from mobile laptop users the city authorities have joined forces with the Gdańsk University of Technology and Intel Technology Poland and launched a project of building a network of free, wireless Internet gates to enable free access to the virtual net at major locations all over the city. The venture is pursued under the EU project called e-Gdańsk.



To Serve the Business

The entrepreneurs and investors operating in Gdańsk have no need to complain about the business infrastructure. A comprehensive range of financial services is provided by the dense network of branches and sub-branches of several dozen commercial banks, including agencies of foreign bankers. The day-to-day financial operations are facilitated by the recently spreading electronic banking services which enable remote management of bank accounts and effecting many rudimental banking operations. Their investment offer addressed at businesses is supplemented by leasing companies that operate from their locally-based head offices and through numerous agents. Stationed in the city, you can avail yourself to the product offer extended by most major players in the Polish insurance market, or use the mediation services of brokerage agents and houses. Entrepreneurs, investors, and trade partners can also rely on support from several hundred local firms specialising in legal, business, and marketing advisory services, including agencies of international concerns: Ernst & Young, Deloitte, and PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Locally, one can also get assistance from renowned firms dealing in international classification and certification. Their services range from ISO 9000, 14000, and 18000 to a spectrum of specific trade standards. The providers include Bureau Veritas Quality International (BVQI), Det Norske Veritas, Lloyd's Register Quality Assurance (LRQA), SGS ICS Polska, Polish Ship Register, Certification Office, and TÜV Nord Polska.



Gdańsk is one of the largest centres of fairs and exhibition events in Poland. International Gdańsk Fairs S.A. [MTG] organises over 30 cyclical trade events (fairs, shows, and the accompanying conferences) a year. Gdańsk's hallmark are its own events unique world wide - the amber fairs called Amberif and Ambermart. The city also hosts the biannual Baltexpo trade fair, one of the largest maritime events in Europe.

Gdańsk is also growing in status as a congress and exhibition centre. Its offer in this respect has gained a new dimension as of 2005 when the erection of the Gdańsk Centre of Music and Congress Events (main premises of the Polish Baltic Philharmonic Hall) was completed. The complex combines e.g. the concert and congress hall capable of seating 1000, a chamber music hall for 180 people, a triple-star hotel, restaurant, and car park.



Undoubtedly, the spirit of transformation, trust in new opportunities, and social energy made Gdańsk stand out on the map of Poland in the early 90-ies. The founders of this Bank felt Gdańsk should be more than a cradle of new ideas. It should also be a source of economic transformation. They believed a national company could be built in Gdańsk and managed from Gdańsk. Time has proved them right.

Mariusz Karpiński President of the Management Board GE Capital Bank S.A.



Another project pursued together with Sopot, i.e. construction of a sports and congress hall, will open a whole new range of possibilities to host conventions and conferences. Recently the city has also embarked on a totally new and priority project, namely the European Solidarity Centre intended as a live monument to commemorate the road the postcommunist countries of today have travelled to regain freedom and democracy. The European Solidarity Centre is visualised as combining a number of functions, including that of a museum, archives, centre of research and studies, and congress facility.

One of the key conditions of running a business in Gdańsk is availability of modern office space. Over the recent years the city has gained about a dozen modern sites of the kind, where the quality of the equipment and interior finish matches the European standards.

The projects completed in 2005 alone include e.g. ALLCON@ park, a new component of the office complex located in the immediate vicinity of the Lech Wałęsa Airport in Gdańsk. The site is a 5 storey high building, 6 thousand square metres in area, most of which is rented by companies of the new technology sector: Intel Technology Poland, and Young Digital Planet. In 2006 the City Centre gained a modern Haxo office building, 2.2 thousand square metres large, erected by the 'MART' Investment Group. The Torus company from Gdańsk is currently in the course of building the 'Office Park – Arkońska' complex located in the immediate neighbourhood of the International Gdańsk Fairs S.A.. In 2005 the same investor completed another large project in Gdańsk, namely a class A office block offering 8.3 thousand square metres of space. High standard office space is available not only in high rise blocks, but also in complexes continuing the historic line of the Gdańsk architecture, located downtown, within the Main and Lower City areas.

The rental charged for modern office premises in Gdańsk is competitive to other major urban centres such as Warsaw, Katowice, Poznań, or Kraków, and depending on the standard ranges between EUR 8 and EUR 15 per sq. m. per month, with the utility bills oscillating around EUR 2.5-4 per sq. m. a month.

Both the city, and private owners have attractively located land to offer, fit for investments, where the spatial development plans envisage further development of the administrative and office functions.



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Urban Planners' Paradise



Gdańsk is in the midst of preparations to launch several huge urban projects that will contribute to a substantial increase in the number of available commercial premises of various functions.



The task will be much easier once the respective spatial development plans needed for embarking on the design or execution stages in any investments are in place. In terms of the relative size of the city area covered with spatial development plans Gdańsk is the leader among other voivodship capitals. The coverage ratio here stands at 50% of the entire city area. The municipal authorities have approved plans covering as much as 70% of all land available for investments within the city borders.

Their priority goal is to develop the land available for investments within the historic body of the Main City. The spatial development plan for the area obtained approval from the City Council in the summer of 2003. 49 hectares of land are designed for building up with 200 new houses reminiscent of the historic city quarters.

Their stylish outer shells can be adapted for housing, office, hotel, and catering purposes. The city, however, has not stopped short having approved the plan. In order to ease the way for future investors, Gdańsk has launched preparations to investments by commissioning archaeological excavations out of its own budget.

The nearby city quarters on the Motława river have raised interest in the world leaders in property trading, specialising in large investment projects. The Italian Pirelli Pekao Real Estate, has, for instance, expressed its intention of making investments in the attractive area of the Motława waterfront. The concept they have presented to develop the postindustrial estate in the immediate vicinity of the Gdańsk marina envisages the erection of a presentable housingcum-services complex by the year 2009. Next to the site, NAVO Investment intends to transform the nearby historic granary into a triple-star hotel with 52 rooms. They plan to open the facility as early as in 2007. Foreign investors also show interest in the unusually attractive location of the Granary Island neighbouring on the Old City. The northern tip of the Granary Island was in 2005 purchased by the Spanish potentate in the housing market, Martinsa Grupo Inmobiliario. The new investor intends to work hand in hand with the city authorities to develop the concept and then build a modern, multi-functional centre which will naturally extend the present pedestrian traffic routes of the existing Main City area. As for the southern tip of the island, a similar designation is proposed by the international consortium formed by NDI S.A. and GRAY International. The consortium plans to develop a centre that will combine the trading, administrational, office, educational, housing, hotel, entertainment, and recreational functions.

New investments are also pursued in the Main City proper. Inpro Builders, a developer based in Gdańsk, is preparing an investment in a complex of 15 townhouses reminiscent of the traditional Gdańsk architecture at Szeroka Street. The site will combine 100 suites with service and trade outlets. The lot at Targ Rybny, sold in 2006, is now the site of archaeological excavations preceding the erection of a fivestar hotel.

Time is also ticking for the commencement of those investments which inspire the highest interest among the urban planners. These will comprise the New City area reclaimed from the shipyard, neighbouring on the City Centre. The new owner of the land, i.e. the Danish investment group Baltic Property Trust, is bracing itself to pursue this large-scale venture (the area will be developed into a new, multi-functional district).





Profound Revitalisation

Gdańsk is one of the pioneer cities in Poland to have developed a comprehensive programme of revitalising its urban area. The venture planned for the next 25 years will be financed from the municipal budget and the EU funds.

The idea behind the project is to boost social and economic activity in the districts degraded by the industry or military. It further comprises the districts that have been 'forgotten' in all revitalisation processes since the war.

The selection of the areas to be included in the revitalisation venture was made based on several criteria. The decisive factors included high unemployment, social exclusion and poverty, low education among the local community, and low enterprise initiative. These social criteria were supplemented with environmental pollution, the density of architecture of cultural value, poor technical condition of the existing buildings and scarcity of the technical infrastructure. The aspect of the economic potential inherent in the area was also taken into consideration.

The application of a single criterion out of those mentioned above during the programme building exercise yielded a list of as many as 60 areas adding up to two third parts of the city's entire built-up land. Out of these 13 quarters were short-listed as priority areas, i.e.: Jelitkowo, Brzeźno, Nowy Port [New Port], Kolonia Abegga, Lower Wrzeszcz, Grodzisko [Stronghold], Biskupia Górka [Bishop's Hillock], the Old Suburb, Granary Island, Lower City, Angielska Grobla - Długie Ogrody [English Dyke – Long Gardens], Święty Wojciech [St Adalbert], and Orunia. Stage one of the programme envisages revitalisation of the Lower City and Grodzisko [Stronghold]. The first effects of the efforts are already to be seen. The 19. century Grodzisko fortress has, thanks to the 'Hevelianum Centre' project, obtained EU funds from the Integrated Regional Development Operating Programme. With the Hevelianum project carried through, the parkland around the hill and its historic fortifications will be transformed into a centre of education and recreation for the Gdańsk residents and visitors.

New investments have also entered other city quarters included in the revitalisation plan. Housing estates are being built on the Motława River in the Old Suburb. The investors here include Invest Komfort, a locally known developer. In Jelitkowo, the municipal investments in the recreational infrastructure have gone hand in hand with the now completed project of erecting a luxurious suite compound overlooking the sea. In the Lower Wrzeszcz area, the site previously occupied by the Gdańsk brewery has changed its owners. The purchasers, namely the Pomeranian developers: PB Górski and Hossa SA, intend to transform this excellently located post-industrial estate into a modern district combining the residential and service functions.







Economy



The last two decades or so have witnessed profound transformation of the Gdańsk economy. The restructuring of the traditional industries has stimulated strong development of know-how based businesses of the service sector. The changes in the structure of the city's economy are not only of the qualitative nature. The ownership structure has also changed. Today more than 95 percent of entities registered as operating from Gdańsk represent private enterprises and companies actively searching their own place in the local, national, and international markets.

Moving away from Shipbuilding and Refining...

The city's industrial landscape continues to be based on the cornerstone of shipbuilding with its tradition rooted back in the Middle Ages. Shipbuilding focuses on three key areas: large seafaring newbuilds, ship repairs and alterations, and boatbuilding. New constructions are the domain of two enterprises: Gdańsk Shipyard S.A. and Northern Shipyard S.A. Their product range comprises various vessels, e.g. container ships, bulk carriers, ferries, fishing vessels, and special purpose boats. These core production lines are supplemented with the offer extended by scores of other co-operating businesses and subcontractors who manufacture e.g. ship assemblies and hulls ordered by domestic and foreign yards.

Gdańsk Ship Repair Yard S.A. is the European and world leader in its field. Most income is generated from repairs commissioned by foreign ship owners. Together with its subsidiary, Northern Shipyard S.A., the Repair Yard is now expanding the scope of its activities to supplement repairs and alterations with new constructions.

The yard offers ferries, container ships, and special projects for the offshore market.



Alongside the leaders building and repairing ships Gdańsk has many smaller yards offering construction and revamp services to shipyards and individual ship owners. Here, one should mention Wisła Yard S.A., Crist, Maritme Ltd, and Aluship International specialising in aluminium hulls of various sizes and ship members. The boat builders from Gdańsk produce both replicas of historic vessels, and modern luxurious sail and motor yachts, and sport boats. Let us just mention that the 'Sea Clipper', the largest sailing cruiser in the world, came from the docks of a private boat building yard in Gdańsk.



The second pillar of the Gdańsk industry rests on oil processing and chemicals. The Lotos S.A. Group, whose other members include Petrobaltic, the company specialising in off-shore oil and gas mining, plus refineries located in southern Poland, is the second largest producer of liquid fuels and oil derivatives countrywide. Thanks to the investment programme of the years 1995-2005 the plant doubled its production capacity, improved the quality of its products and at the same time reduced its power consumption and pollutant emission.

Apart from Grupa Lotos S.A., the city has two other large chemical plants, that is Siarkopol S.A. (sulphur) and "Fosfory" Gdańsk Phosphorus Producers (provider of phosphoric fertilisers enjoying a marked presence in the market). Fregata S.A. specialising in crop protection products, has also secured a good market position.

In the spectrum of the industries present in Gdańsk there are two branches characterised by high developmental potential. These are the metal-forming industry and industrial machine manufacturing, and industrial automation. Gdańsk is the hometown of one of the largest slide bearing manufacturers in Poland, Federal Mogul Bimet, and machine and equipment manufacturers co-operating with various industries, Elmor S.A., and Elektromontaż S.A..

...to Know-How-Based Economy

The traditional industry lines are, however, gradually losing position to the industries based on know-how and yielding the characteristic high added value. This shift can be observed in the activities of e.g. Farmix and Ziaja, producers and exporters of cosmetics with an established position in the country, functioning on the verge of the old and new economies.

Several manufacturers of electronic and telecommunication equipment well-known home and abroad have chosen Gdańsk as their prime business location:

- DGT manufacturer of large digital telephone exchanges, and wireless and special communication systems,
- Unimor Radiocom supplier of e.g. radio communication equipment for aviation,
- Platan digital subscriber telephone exchanges,
- Telkom-Telmor producer of elements of the telecommunication infrastructure,
- Satel electronic alarm systems,
- Technoservice producer of mounting plates for electronic elements and systems,
- Emtal manufacturer of tele-information and electronic systems for public transport.

Implementation of the state-of-the-art data transmission technologies is the area pondered by the researchers and engineers employed by the R&D branch of another Gdańskbased company - Intel Technologies Poland of the Intel concern. In 2005 the group of leaders in the IT sector was joined in by the American IT concern, Compuware. Another company based in Gdańsk, Young Digital Planet, creates technologically advanced multi-medial educational software



Gdańsk



Gdańsk is among the several score sites all over the world where Intel Corporation located its research and development centres. The Gdańsk centre specialises in cable and wireless communication technologies co-operating and competing for new developmental projects with other Intel centres e.g. in the U.S., Western Europe, Russia, India, and China. Our decisions to develop such centres come as the function of such factors as availability of qualified staff, high class operating infrastructure, convenient location in the vicinity of sound academic centres, and clean and friendly environment. Gdańsk offers such conditions, hence our presence here.

Leszek Pankiewicz, President of Intel Technology Poland



appreciated both in Poland and abroad, and C-Map Poland designs specialist software and creates digital navigation maps. Gdańsk is the hometown of Lufthansa Systems Poland, which provides IT back-up to one of the largest air carriers in the world, the German Lufthansa, and produces software supporting airline management.

Apart from these large enterprises, the IT sector in Gdańsk groups several hundred smaller companies producing specialist software (e.g. for the health service, architects, and the building industry), and providing maintenance and Internet services (ISP, Internet service creation and servicing). Many firms specialising in IT system integration, hardware and software supplies and servicing have their branches in Gdańsk. The IT sector employers in Gdańsk willingly tap the graduate market and the research staff of the Gdańsk University of Technology and the University of Gdańsk.



The Tourist Capital of the Region

Gdańsk is more than only a large business centre. It is also one of the prime tourist destinations in Poland. Numerous monuments of the past, museums open all year round, the beautiful natural setting, and the perspective of active leisure on the Baltic Sea attract over one-and-a-half million domestic and foreign visitors coming here for a longer stay every year. The estimates of experts in the tourist industry (Institute of Tourism in Warsaw) indicate that the number of tourists visiting the city in 2007 will exceed 1.7 million people (including 700 thousand from abroad).

The development of the tourist services market, and especially of the indispensable infrastructure, relies not only on the growing number of visitors, but most of all their willingness to spend money during their stay. The range of tourist attractions and various forms of leisure is growing by the years, and in line grows the city's kitty supplied by the visiting tourists. Comparing the figures for the summer seasons of 2004 and 2006 we see that the sums spent by foreign tourists in Gdańsk went up from PLN 720 to 1254. The same figures for the Polish visitors are PLN 340 and 668.

The specific nature of the state border protects tourism development in the region and city from the effects of fluctuations in the cross-border tourism observed on both the eastern and western Polish borders. In its estimates the Institute of Tourism in Warsaw confirms that Gdańsk is most

Domestic and foreign visitors to Gdańsk in 2000 – 2007 (in million)



Source: Estimates of the Institute of Tourism ; * year 2007 - projections.

of all the place selected as a tourist and leisure destination, unlike Warsaw or Poznań visited primarily for business or trade purposes (not unlike other border regions and towns). The number of visitors boarding in Gdańsk is growing in line with the intensifying tourist traffic and improving accommodation base in the city. In 1995 there were 243.4 thousand visitors stationed in Gdańsk, while in 2005 the number rose to 364.9 thousand. The increasing potential of the city as a tourist destination has found recognition among national and international investors in the hotel industry. Thanks to them the number of qualified accommodation facilities rose from 62 in 1995 to 73 in 2005. The number of hotels in the time went up from 6 to 16, mostly thanks to new 4 and 5-star enterprises.

Even though the accommodation base is developing dynamically in terms of the number of hotels and beds, Gdańsk continues to lag behind many other large cities in Poland. Compared to other agglomerations Gdańsk is primarily short of cheap tourist class facilities (* i **) preferred by individual visitors from Poland and abroad staying here in the summer. The potential inherent in the hotel market in Gdańsk is best captured in the bed use ratio. Gdańsk is the only Polish city that can boast of the ratio above 50 percent and by far surpasses other cities, particularly in the 4, 3, and 2-star hotel categories.

The prospective increase in the number of visitors and the present bed use ratio in Gdańsk form a favourable basis for further investments in the hotel industry in the city.

The investors do recognize the fact. Apart from two hotels opened in 2006, there are further seven new hotel investments in progress in the city. Their classes range from the tourist category facilities to 4 and 5-star establishments.

The nature of the visits paid by foreign guests in 2006



Source: Eurotest Institute, on commission from the Gdańsk City Hall; the figures do not add up to 100%, as the respondents could each select more than one option.

Foreign visitors to Gdańsk by nationalities

	Germany	US	UK	Sweden	Other
2003	43.1%	14.7%	11.8%	7.8%	22.5%
2005	39.0%	2.9%	8.2%	7.6%	41.5%

Source: Survey by the Eurotest Institute commissioned by the Gdańsk City Hall.

Hotels and accommodation facilities in Gdańsk in 1995-2005

Year	Number of sites	Number of beds
1995	6	1498
2000	9	1983
2001	9	2001
2002	14	2301
2003	14	2299
2004	14	1411
2005	16	2523

Source: Statistical Office, Gdańsk.

Concrete, Steel, and Glass

The Gdańsk economy has its own, well-developed contractorship base prepared to take up construction investments of any size and designation. The backbone of the sector is made up of three large corporations, i.e.: Hydrobudowa Gdańsk S.A. (hydro-engineering), Polnord-Energobudowa S.A. (industrial and housing building projects), and Elektromontaż Gdańsk S.A. (industrial construction). Somewhat smaller players in the market include the Doraco Building Corporation, Inpro Building Enterprise S.A., and Kokoszki Building Enterprise S.A..

The Gdańsk builder market further includes several branches of large building corporations (e.g. Skanska S.A.) and several hundred minor building businesses specialising in finishing works, earthworks, assembly, and erection. Many local companies deal in producing concrete, the basic material for large investments.



Graph background data: Number of flats handed over for use in 2000-2005 (in thousand)

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Total	2939	2981	2115	2636

Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.

The presence of building and developer firms stimulates not only industrial construction projects, but also homebuilding. Residential sites and estates grow in the lower terrace area, on land obtained from both the city and private owners, and among the rolling moraine hills of southern Gdańsk. Developers and housing co-operatives offer homes of varied sizes and finishing standards (including luxurious suites and one-family houses). In 2005 the Gdańsk home-building industry handed over the aggregate of 2 636 flats totalling 201.1 thousand square metres. The average floor area of a new flat offered in Gdańsk in 2005 stood at 76.3 sq. m.

Flats for sale and rental prevail in the home-building market. In 2005 the developers operating in the Gdańsk residential real property market built 1 850 flats of the type.



Completed dwellings in major cities of Poland in year 2005 (per thous. inhabitans)



Source: City Hall of Gdansk.

The leaders are businesses from Gdańsk and its vicinities: Grupa Inwestycyjna "Hossa" S.A., Przedsiębiorstwo Budowlane "Górski", Polnord-Dom, Przedsiębiorstwo Budowlane INPRO S.A., "Dominium" S.A., Towarzystwo Ziemskie S.A., Invest Komfort S.A., and Ekolan S.A..

Community tenant housing, supported by the Gdańsk authorities, is also developing dynamically. Over the last three years two community housing societies operating in Gdańsk have built 745 flats of the tenant type. Despite the intensifying investments in housing, Gdańsk observes increase in uncovered demand for new homes. Availability of new land designated for residential purposes creates opportunities for the domestic and foreign developers to engage in new housing projects, their only limiting factor being the price.

The Amber Fields

Gdańsk, the acclaimed world amber capital, is the cradle of artistic amber workmanship and a major centre of its excavation and processing. The city's fame for exquisite amber art has been with it for ages. The honey-golden stone intricately set in silver is invariably an object of admiration. The variety, artistic workmanship, and elegance of amber jewellery paved the mineral the way to royal courts all over Europe.





This local, ages-long tradition is cherished and successfully continued. Almost 2000 businesses spread all over Pomerania and providing the total of nearly 20 thousand jobs operate in amber-related industries. More than 80% of their production is export-bound and sold in e.g. the USA, Western Europe, Japan, and China. Gdańsk is the hometown of the National Amber Chamber – the organisation grouping Polish companies dealing in excavation of the Baltic amber resources, designing and manufacturing artistic objects.

In order to visualise the history-long achievements of Gdańsk in amber-working the year 2006 marked the official opening of the Amber Museum housed in the restored historic Gateway complex. On the initiative from the Mayor of Gdańsk the World Amber Council was formed in the same year.

Today, amber is one of the top tourist products Gdańsk offers. The city is dotted with several dozen galleries and shops selling unique amber jewellery and souvenirs, and the Amberif and Ambermart trade fairs are the largest events devoted to the mineral in the world.



Trade, Large and Small Scale

It is due to the location of Gdańsk that is residents have for ages engaged in trade. The same is true of our times. The city continues to be an important centre of international commerce, particularly sea trade. The extensive retail shopping and service network not only meets all needs of the city and its agglomeration, but also attracts shoppers from all over the region and abroad, mainly the Scandinavian countries and the Kaliningrad region.





Numerous investments in large shopping malls made primarily by international chain store companies have brought the trade and services in the city to the international standards. A dozen-or-so large shopping centres have appeared in the outskirts and along the main transport routes. Several others providing both leased and freehold selling floor of high standard are presently under construction or in preparation. The large chain offer is supplemented with smaller shopping centres and hundreds of retail and service outlets spread all over the city.

PROMOCIA

CENY

Large-area shopping malls

www. gdansk.pl



- Matarnia Shopping Centre, IKEA furniture market, OBI building market, RTV-Euro-AGD markets [brown and white goods], Top-Wert, Electroworld, shopping mall
- Alfa Centrum BOMI supermarket, RTV-Euro-AGD market, shopping mall, cinema-plex
- ETC Intermarche supermarket, RTV-Euro AGD market, shopping mall
- Okey Shopping Centre Media Markt electronic goods market, house fittings and fixtures
- Praktiker building market
- Real hypermarket, shopping mall, office premises
- Top Shopping centre of furniture and house fittings and fixtures, Office Depot market, Biedronka supermarket

- Manhattan Shopping Gallery Albert supermarket, AVANS electronic goods market, shopping mall
- Madison Shopping Gallery BOMI supermarket, shopping mall
- City Forum/Krewetka, EMPiK market, BOMI supermarket, multi-cinema, shopping gallery
- Morena Shopping Centre, Carrefour hypermarket, RTV-Euro-AGD market, Jysk market, shopping mall
- Selgros hypermarket
- Auchan Shopping Centre Auchan hypermarket, AVANS electronic goods market, shopping mall, Leroy Merlin building market, Jysk market, Norauto car service centre
- Fashion House Outlet Centre Gdańsk shopping mall
- Galeria Bałtycka (under construction)



In Good Company

The city's developmental potential, its economy, educated and well-off population have, since the early days of the Polish economic transformation, attracted foreign investors interested in promising places worth making capital investments in Poland.

Foreign capital participation has the longest history in the food industry and is represented by e.g.:

- Dr Oetker (food concentrates, Germany),
- Baltic Malt (short malt, Germany),
- Gdańsk Flour Mills and Granaries, Dr Cordesmeyer (cereals, Germany).

The involvement of foreign capital in the high-tech market is on the rise. Since 2001 the US Intel has owned Intel Technology Poland Sp. z o.o., its R&D branch acquired from the Danish Olicom concern. Another firm operating in the tele-information line, Young Digital Planet specialising in multi-media software production, has gained equity participation from the Finnish multi-medial concern, WS OY. In 2005 Compuware Corp. engaged in a world merger and in effect acquired the IT company, Adlex Polska. In view of its heretofore achievements, the Gdańsk company has a chance of becoming the natural design and research background for the American concern. This opens the chance of creating up to 1000 jobs for the local IT engineers. Gdańsk is also the home-town of the Polish-Italian company, C-Map Poland and its design and production back-up facilities. Here, the team of 120 experts creates advanced software and digital navigation maps for sailors and aviators.

Foreign investors are engaged in financial institutions based in Gdańsk. Located in the city are the head offices of GE Money Bank S.A. (closely linked to the financial arm of the American General Electric concern), and the FuturaPrime Group (owned by Masterlease Europe – a member of the American GMAC Financial Services group).

Foreign capital is also present in many other industries:

- biotechnology EURx sp. z o.o. (US capital),
- transport and logistics Deepwater Container Terminal Gdańsk S.A. (UK capital),
- health service: Swissmed (THEO FREY AG, Switzerland), Synevo Laboratorium Gdańsk (Medicover, Sweden),



- environment protection: Ekofinn-Pol (OY Ekofinn AB, Finnish capital),
- media: Prasa Bałtycka (Passauer Neues Presse, German capital),
- motor industry: Delphi Automotive Systems Poland (previously: Eaton Controls, US capital),
- electrical machine building: Federal Mogul Bimet S.A. (US capital), Johann A. Krause - subsidiary of ThyssenKrupp company (Germany)
- industrial automation: Suruga Seiki (Japan),
- professional power generation: Gdańskie
 Przedsiębiorstwo Energetyki Cieplnej (German capital), Elektrociepłownie
 Wybrzeże S.A. (E.D.F. International and G.D.F. International, France),
- water supply and sewage management: Saur Neptun Gdańsk (Saur France, France),

building: Hydrobudowa S.A. (water engineering – NCC AB, Swedish capital), B-Complex (concrete and cobble block production, CRH concern, Ireland), Thomas-Beton Polska (concrete production, Thomas Concrete Group AB, Sweden), Unicon-Beton (concrete production, Unicon Group AS, Denmark), Górażdże Beton (concrete production, Heidelberg Cement Group, Germany).

Foreign investors also have their share in the creation of the modern trade and services infrastructure: Apsys International (CH Osowa/Geant), Metro AG (Praktiker, MediaMarkt, Real), DSG International (Electroworld), Auchan/Leroy Merlin, IKEA (CH Matarnia), Obi, ECE Projektmanagement (Alfa Centrum, Galeria Bałtycka), catering network (McDonalds, KFC/Pizza Hut), petrol station grid (BP, Shell, Neste, Statoil) and the hotel industry (Holiday Inn, Accor Novotel, and Mercure, Radisson chains).



I invested in Gdańsk because the city, together with the entire Tri-City agglomeration represents a huge economic potential. Moreover, the supporting attitude of the Gdańsk authorities to such an innovative idea as building a modern hospital to meet the European standards from the very scratch encouraged investments. Our market research indicates the local demand for modern medical services is enormous.

In addition, both the Medical and Technical Universities of Gdańsk provide a wealth of excellently educated specialists ensuring the proper intellectual base for a process of the type.

Roman Walasiński, President of Swissmed Centrum Zdrowia S.A.
The Society



The potential investor in Gdańsk has access to qualified workforce representing a variety of specialised areas, graduates of several dozen school establishments of secondary and university levels, including a dozen-or-so state and privately-owned schools of higher education spread all over the Tri-City.

The number of university schools in Gdańsk alone rose from 6 to 13 over the last 15 years. The number of students in the same period has tripled going from 24.1 thousand in the academic year of 1990/91 to 72.3 thousand in the school year of 2005/06.

The growing demand for education among the Gdańsk residents calls for appropriately qualified teaching staff. In

its care for high standard instruction at its higher schools the city cooperates with selected departments and supports them organisationally in their efforts to attract high class research staff from outside the region. The Gdańsk authorities finance scholarship programmes for participants in doctoral studies and awards for outstanding researchers in the fields of sciences and humanities. In this way they stimulate the process of self-improvement among the university staff and encourage their own research work.

Students of tertiary education establishments in Gdańsk (in thousand)

1990/1991	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006
24.1	57.7	60.4	61.9	63.9	68.6	72.3

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletin.

University teaching staff in Gdańsk

1995/1996	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006
3715	3982	4046	4142	4183	4443	4467

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.

Post-graduate and doctoral students

Year	1995/1996	2000/2001	2001/2002	2002/2003	2003/2004	2004/2005	2005/2006
Post-graduate stu- dents	2285	4085	4050	3838	4330	4371	4272
Doctoral students	415	826	857	971	1409	1488	1545

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.

Broad access to schools of higher education enjoyed by the young in Gdańsk keeps the proportionate share of people holding tertiary school qualifications very high in the total population in the employment age. Most graduates and students of the Gdańsk universities and colleges opt for business and administration or technology and engineering. In terms of the standard of the provided education and professional qualifications acquired by its engineering graduates the Gdańsk University of Technology ranks among the very top universities in Poland. This places them in the group of the most sought for job candidates in the region and Poland. Science and research in Gdańsk is not, however, limited to universities. Alongside, function a dozen-or-so research institutes and R&D centres. The abundant scientific and technical resources and experienced research staff are there, available to be engaged in implementation studies for the industry.



Entrepreneurial and Well-off

Gdańsk continues to have the largest number of jobs to offer in the Pomeranian region, and at the same time its market is abundant in experienced and qualified labour. The visible acceleration of the economic growth observed since Poland's accession to the European Union has had beneficial effects on the labour market in Gdańsk. The rate of registered unemployment, which in 2002 stood at 13.1%, has dropped to 7.7% at the end of June 2006. Even though, the potential employers need not worry about securing qualified staff. Thanks to the city's location and the well-designed public transport system the employers based in Gdańsk can tap the workforce available from the communes around the city.

In terms of the prevailing remuneration Gdańsk continues to be competitive compared to such cities as Warszawa or Katowice. The relatively high average remuneration translates to a higher household purchasing power, hence higher consumption of fast moving and durable goods, which makes Gdańsk an attractive selling market.



The structure of the Gdańsk economy in 2005 (by number of entities and their nature)

Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletin for 2005.

Business entities in the national economy registered in Gdańsk

Year	1995	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	VI 2006
Total	33921	54581	56925	57853	59411	58222	58631	58791

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.



Businesses of the SMEs sector play a major role in curbing unemployment. The overall number of organisations making up the national economy is on the rise. Among them privately owned entities play the dominant role and today account for 95 percent of the total figure. Since 1995 the number of businesses based in Gdańsk has gone up from 33.9 thousand to 58.8 thousand in mid-2006. Entities organised under the commercial companies law are also steadily growing in number.

The statistics picturing the situation at the close of June reveal Gdańsk was the base of 7094 companies. Out of them as many as 1219 organisations had shareholders and/or stockholders representing foreign capital. Enterprise development and the city's wealth are largely determined by the financial results generated by the business. The end-of-2005 figures show that enterprises in Gdańsk achieved the gross profitability of 6.2% and net profitability of 4.8%. This places the local entrepreneurs among the leading businesses among all voivodship cities in Poland.

Registered unemployment in Gdańsk

Year	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	June 2006
Rate of unemployment (%)	10.2	13.1	12.8	11.5	9.6	7.7

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.

Average gross remuneration per month, in PLN

Year	2002	2003	2004	2005
Gross pay (in PLN)	2 526.27	2 644.66	2 838.4	3 072.47

Source: Social and Economic Situation in Gdańsk, Bulletins.





The living standard is always closely related to the quality of the surrounding natural environment. Gdańsk pays exceptionally much attention to environmental issues, which translates to numerous environmental investments.



The problem of wastes produced in the process of burning coal at municipal power and heat generation plants was definitely solved as early as in the 90-ies. The city gained a modern plant, Pollytag, which recycles cinder into aggregate used in the building industry. Local coal-fuelled boiler houses and individual stove-based heating systems have been practically eliminated. This has effected in a substantial drop in the volume of harmful gas and dust emission into the air.

From 1997 onwards the city pursued the 'Plan of Reducing the Emission Level by 2002'. In effect, via the Communal Fund for Environment Protection and Water Management the city helped individuals, entrepreneurs, and organisations with no personality at law (social welfare hostels, and cultural and educational establishments) to modernise their theretofore existing coal-fuelled heating systems. The achieved drop in air pollution was also due to the large-scale investment programme pursued by the Gdańsk Heat Generators. Over the last 15 years the company has liquidated or modernised old coal-fuelled boiler houses altering their systems so that they can take alternative fuels such as fuel oil and natural gas.

No less attention is given to the waters around the city. Thanks to the expansion and revamp of the sewer grid, and the completion of the construction works on the huge Waste Water Treatment Plant East practically all communal and industrial waste water discharged to the rivers and sea is mechanically and biologically treated.

The city's green aura in the summer is due to the municipal services who tend to the parks and squares canopied by several-hundred-year-old trees. Eight large park complexes within the city have either been set up or given a thorough revamp over the last four years. The increasing use of the alternative city transport, i.e. bikes, also carries an ecological aspect with it. Having a 65 km-long network of cycling tracks

Gdańsk is doubtlessly the leader country wide. The investment plans envisage extending the cycling track grid so as to reach at least 150 km in the year 2013.

The determination with which the city authorities promote this mode of transport has found appreciation on the international forum. Gdańsk was the second city world wide to have obtained a USD 1 million grant from the UN Global Environment Facility fund towards financing the new cycling tracks programme.

The city's environmental efforts have earned appreciation both domestically and internationally. In the recent years Gdańsk has received many valuable distinctions in the area:

- the European City of Sustained Development award for the environment upgrading plan and its steady execution (1999);
- the Swedish Baltic Sea award for the erection of the modern 'East' waste water treatment plant, and the golden 'Mankind, Technology, Nature' EXPO medal in Hanover for comprehensive water management (2000);
- the 'Leader of Polish Ecology' award from the Minister of Environment Protection, and the UBC Best Practice Award for the pursuance of the 'Ecological Island of Sobieszewo' project, a largescale programme of revitalising the natural environment (2001).

Years of effort and achievements in environment protection were crowned with the title of the Leader of Polish Ecology in the Commune category granted by the Minister of Environment Protection in 2004 for 'Modern Environment Management in the Municipality of Gdańsk'.

The Gdańsk Water and Waste Water Project ranks among the most vital and largest investments ever taken in Gdańsk. Its results will translate to improved life quality of the residents and the city's higher attractiveness to investors. The goal adopted for the venture scheduled for the years 2005-2009 by the Gdańsk Water and Sewage Infrastructure company is defined as thorough modernisation and expansion of the water and sewage infrastructure. This investment project, of key importance for the achievement of improved condition and protection of the natural environment, is streamlined around four major tasks:

- expansion of the East waste water treatment plant,
- liquidation of the Zaspa waste water treatment facility,
- improvement of the water management (laying new water mains and potable water treatment installations),
- building the sewers in the districts still deprived of the installations (e.g. in Gdańsk Olszynka).

The aggregate cost of the project adds up to PLN 513 million, out of which PLN 370 million will be EU-financed.



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Time off – for the Spirit and Body



The opportunities to spend the time off work in an exciting way are many in Gdańsk. This is due not only to its gem historic sites, but also a rich base of culture and sports facilities. The city has several theatres, a philharmonic hall, opera house, an open-air stage, three cinema centres, and several smaller cinema theatres.

Over 100 catering outlets, including pubs and night clubs, invite guests to come in and relax. Every year the city holds dozens of open-air cultural, recreational, and sports events that entertain both the residents and throngs of tourists. The care on the part of the Gdańsk city authorities and the cooperating cultural institutions and organisers of active leisure makes the events steadily grow in number. The prime events permanently rooted in the Gdańsk cultural calendar are: St Dominic Fair, "Feta" International Open-Air and Street Theatre Festival, International Shakespearean Festival, and the concerts by world stars in the 'Space of Freedom' cycle accompanying the annual celebrations to commemorate the formation of Solidarity and the signing of the August Agreements (Jean Michael Jarre, David Gilmour). Gdańsk lies on the route of the WCI Pro Tour race, a stage in the world-leading cycling event, the Tour de Pologne. Here, too, numerous sailing events are staged.



Active relaxation can be sought at numerous sports clubs and their sections, city and district sports facilities open to the public (including swimming pools, gym halls, and sports grounds), fitness clubs (including two large centres sponsored by known Polish sportsmen, Robert Korzeniowski and Dariusz Michalczewski), snooker and bowling clubs, horse-riding clubs, and sports shooting ranges.

The city is swiftly expanding its cycling track network today totalling over 65 kilometres. The target for the year 2013 is set for at least 150 km. On top of that, cycling fans have a large choice of tens of kilometres of recreational tourist tracks crisscrossing the woods of the Tri-City Landscape Park and the Sobieszewska Island.

The city and region's top tourist and recreational attraction in the summer are the clean seashore bathing grounds along the shores of the Bay of Gdańsk. Water sport fans can indulge in their pastime primarily on the Bay itself. Alongside the marina tucked in the historic city centre, Gdańsk has gained a modern and equipped with complete technical infrastructure National Sailing Centre established thanks to the EU funds. The centre does not restrict itself to serving the students of the Gdańsk Academy of Physical Education and Sport, but is open to domestic and foreign water sport fans. The canals of the Motława River and Martwa Wisła, and the numerous lakes of the Kashubian Lake District around the city offer excellent conditions for canoeing. In the summer the gear can be obtained from the numerous boat-hire outlets and clubs of water sports lovers. You can also charter sailing yachts and motor boats from private owners and set off for an even long cruise.

The improving condition of the water in the Bay of Gdańsk is accompanied with swift development of seashore resorts and the catering and entertainment base along the seashore belt. The location of Gdańsk proves favourable in many ways. It is e.g. an excellent base for sea trips to Kaliningrad, the Hel peninsula, or even Stockholm.

Within the city's administrative borders stretches the Tri-City Landscape Park with unique flora stands and post-glacial erratic rocks. Here, picturesquely sprawling in the Wood Mill Valley lie the Coastal City Zoological Gardens occupying the area of 120 ha. The city greens include the historic complex of the Oliwa Park, and two nature reserves of the Sobieszewska Island. The globally-unique nature of the latter stems from the fact that both reserves lie within the city's administrative borders.

The city has also much to offer to the lovers of the old art of fortification. Relics of the Medieval city walls and towers in the city dot its excellently preserved 16. and 17. century fortifications transformed into a pedestrian boulevard. The largest surviving complex of the defence architecture is, however, the 'Gdańsk Stronghold' Culture Park of City Fortifications towering the town. The complex is made up of 19. century fort structures built in the times of the Napoleon wars and extensively expanded later on. Today, thanks to the EU funds, the historic structures which once served military purposes are being transformed into a modern 'Hevelianum' centre of education and recreation open to both the residents and tourists visiting Gdańsk.



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The Gdańsk authorities pursue a multi-directional line of action to make the region more attractive to domestic and foreign investors. Gdańsk is engaged in the development programme focused not only on the city itself, but also the entire metropolis. It is open to new initiatives, ideas, and eagerly supports, rewards, and subsidises modern projects pursued by the business world.

The economic policy pursued by the Gdańsk authorities is reflected in numerous ventures addressed at the already operating organisations and the prospective domestic and foreign investors. The objectives the authorities aim at include stimulating economic growth, establishing conditions for new investments, and creating new jobs.

Business Service Centre

Formed in 2003, the Business Service Centre (COB) focuses on:

- providing individual services to the domestic and foreign investors who choose Gdańsk as the location for their investments,
- engaging in active search for investors home and abroad,
- accumulating and providing access to information on the investment opportunities and the economic potential inherent in the city to the prospective investors,
- maintaining a bank of the investment proposals,
- presenting the city's economic potential on the national and international forums.

Gdańsk Enterprise Foundation

In search for new forms of stimulating the pro-active business stance in the city residents the Gdańsk authorities set up the Gdańsk Enterprise Foundation (GFP) in 2005. The task of the foundation is defined as supporting and promoting enterprise, and providing education in the area, plus supporting small and medium size enterprises in the business content and organisational aspects. By providing legal and business advice, and running the 'Starter' Business Incubator the foundation helps to mitigate the risk run by sole traders.

Business Services Centre 80-803 Gdańsk, ul. Nowe Ogrody 8/12, room 130 tel. (058) 323 61 30, fax (058) 323 65 23 cob@gdansk.gda.pl Gdańsk Enterprise Foundation 80-830 Gdańsk, ul. Długi Targ 28/29 tel. (058) 690 72 96, fax (058) 305 85 35 fp@gdansk.gda.pl, www.gfp.com.pl

Entrepreneur Service Centre

The city also provides comprehensive services to the local entrepreneurs and natural persons at the stage of intending to start their own businesses. In a joint project with the Inland Revenue Offices, Social Insurance Agency, Statistical Office, and local organisations engaged in supporting the development of enterprise, in 2004 the Gdańsk authorities formed the Entrepreneur Service Centre (COP). Alongside providing assistance in setting up a business, the Centre helps in obtaining information on the support available to the Gdańsk-based SMEs. Over less than three years several thousand entrepreneurs have availed themselves to the COP services. The Centre has also pertained to the creation of several thousand new businesses.

Pomeranian Loan Fund

The Gdańsk authorities have joined in the loan fund project addressed at the SME sector, co-organised by other parties, the voivodship local government included. The Pomeranian Loan Fund company was set up in the early 2005, and since that time it has already extended 261 loans adding up to the aggregate of PLN 4.9 million to the Gdańsk and Pomeranian entrepreneurs. In 2006 the Fund signed an EU subsidy contract for PLN 3 million. The Company is working towards obtaining more funds so as to achieve a substantial expansion in the scale of its scale operations.

Entrepreneur Service Centre 80-254 Gdańsk, ul. Partyzantów 74 tel. (058) 323 69 7 m.wisniewski@gdansk.gda.pl Pomeranian Loan Fund 80-819 Gdańsk, ul. Okopowa 7 tel. 308 15 06, fax. 307 51 25 biuro@pfp.gda.pl, www.pfp.gda.pl

Pomeranian Regional Credit Guarantee Fund

The Municipality of Gdańsk is also a member of the Pomeranian Regional Credit Guarantee Fund formed back in 2001. The company guarantees loans extended to entrepreneurs of the SME sector in the Pomeranian voivodship. The Fund is financed primarily from the contributions made by the local authorities, however it also obtains funds from the European Union. In 2005 the Fund signed a subsidy contract for PLN 20 million, and in 2006 another contract for PLN 3 million. In line with the growing size of the Fund's capital, the number of guarantees and their maximum amount are increasing (today, the entrepreneur can obtain a guarantee for up to PLN 450 thousand).

INVENO

The most recent initiative which the Gdańsk authorities have actively joined in is the project of the venture-capital-type fund established by the local authorities of the voivodship (SCVC INVENO). The company formed in August 2006 defines its purpose as supporting the development of SMEs in Pomerania by providing financial support to those investment projects, mainly in the hi-tech industry, which bankers deem risky. The shareholders in the company are the Gdańsk local authorities, the city of Gdynia, and the Pomerania Development Agency. The company, called SCVC INVENO, will have the initial equity of PLN 1 million. INVENO will pursue the goal of triggering the development of small and medium size businesses in the region by providing them with equity and facilitating their access to broader sources of finance.

Pomeranian Regional Credit Guarantee Fund sp. z o.o. 80-846 Gdańsk, ul. Kowalska 10 tel. 320 34 05, 320 34 06, fax 320 36 37 prfpk@prfpk.com.pl, www.prfpk.com.pl

SCVC INVENO Sp.z o.o. 81-451 Gdynia, Al. Zwycięstwa 96/98 tel. (058) 735 11 17, fax (0 58) 735 11 19 biuro@inveno.pl, www.inveno.pl

Enterprise Promotion

Since 2004 the city authorities have promoted local enterprise by organising two prestigious competitions joined in by the investors and entrepreneurs in the SME sector: for the 'Gdańsk Koga" award and the 'Leader of Enterprise in Gdańsk' title. Recognition is given to businesses for honesty and reliability in business, and dynamic business development. The distinction carries prestigious awards and opportunities to benefit from attractive promotional packages.



Telephones and Addresses

City Hall of Gdańsk	80-803 Gdańsk, ul. Nowe Ogrody 8/12	tel. (0 58) 323 60 00, fax (0 58) 302 39 41	umg@gdansk.gda.pl	www.gdansk.pl
Gdańsk Development Office	80-855 Gdańsk, ul. Wały Piastowskie 24	tel.: (0 58) 320 36 57, (0 58) 308 44 45, 308 44 51, fax (0 58) 308 44 49	brg@brg.gda.pl	www.brg.gda.pl
President of the Pomeranian Region Office	80-810 Gdańsk, ul. Okopowa 21/27	tel. (0 58) 32 61 555, tel./fax (0 58) 32 61 556	info@woj-pomorskie.pl	www.woj-pomorskie.pl
Pomeranian Provincial Office	80-810 Gdańsk, ul. Okopowa 21/27	tel. (0 58) 307 72 74, tel. (0 58) 307 76 95	zok@gdansk.uw.gov.pl	www.gdansk.uw.gov.pl

Institutions Supporting Business Development

Polish Agency for Information and Foreign Investments	00-585 Warszawa, ul. Bagatela 12	tel. (0 22) 334 98 00, fax (0 22) 334 99 99	post@paiz.gov.pl	www.paiz.gov.pl
Pomerania Development Agency S.A.	80-831 Gdańsk, ul. Piwna 36/39	tel. (0 58) 32 33 100, fax (0 58) 30 11 341	sekretariat@arpg.gda.pl	www.arpg.gda.pl
Business Centre Club – Gdańsk Lodge	80-255 Gdańsk, ul. Podleśna 27	tel. (0 58) 340 38 81	gdanska@bcc.org.pl	
Euro Info Centre	80-232 Gdańsk, ul. Matejki 6	tel. (0 58) 347 03 40, fax (0 58) 347 03 41	poczta@euroinfo.gda.pl	www.euroinfo.gda.pl
Gdańsk Business Club	80-237 Gdańsk, ul. Uphagena 23	tel. (0 58) 345 83 73	biuro@gkb.pl	www.gkb.pl
Gdańsk Employers Union	80-237 Gdańsk, ul. Uphagena 23	tel./fax (0 58) 345 83 74	sekretariat@gzp.gda.pl	www.gzp.gda.pl
Institute for Market Economics	80-227 Gdańsk, ul. Do Studzienki 63	tel. (0 58) 524 49 00, fax (0 58) 524 49 08	ibngr@ibngr.edu.pl	www.ibngr.edu.pl
Cotton Chamber in Gdynia	81-369 Gdynia, ul. Derdowskiego 7	tel. (0 58) 620 75 98, fax (0 58) 620 75 97	ib@gca.org.pl	www.bawelna.org.pl
Polish Amber Chamber	80-308 Gdańsk, ul. Wita Stwosza 73 p. 116	tel./fax (0 58) 552 49 19	amberchamber@ amberchamber.org.pl	www.amberchamber.org.pl
Polish Chamber of Maritime Economy	81-372 Gdynia, ul. Armii Krajowej 24	tel. (0 58) 661 53 75, fax. (0 58) 782 01 91	izba@kigm.pl	www.kigm.pl
Gdańsk International Fairs S.A.	80-382 Gdańsk, ul.Beniowskiego 5	tel. (0 58) 554 92 00, fax (0 58) 552 21 68	sekretariat@mtgsa.com.pl	www.mtgsa.pl
Dutch – Polish Chamber of Commerce	80-830 Gdańsk, ul. Długi Targ 46/47	tel: (0 58) 324 88 72, fax (0 58) 324 88 73	gdansk.office @nlchamber.pl	
Polish Chamber of Clothing and Textiles	81-303 Gdynia, ul. Kielecka 7	tel. (0 58) 620 59 25, c(0 58) 620 95 01, fax (0 22) 621 69 23	piot.gdynia@textiles.pl	www.textiles.pl
Polish Chamber of Forwarding and Logistics	81-368 Gdynia, ul. Świętojańska 3/2	tel. (0 58) 620 98 26, tel. (0 58) 620 19 50, fax (0 58) 661 39 35	pisil@pisil.pl	www.pisil.pl
Polish Chamber of Tourism, Pomeranian Branch In Gdańsk	80-850 Gdańsk, ul. Rajska 2	tel./fax (0 58) 301 72 30	biuro@p.i.t.gda.pl	www.p.i.t.gda.pl
Polish-Swedish Chamber of Commerce	80-748 Gdańsk, ul. Chmielna 101/102	tel. (0 58) 763 14 69	psig@psig.com.pl	www.psig.com.pl

Pomeranian Chamber of Crafts and Small and Medium Size Enterprises	80-831 Gdańsk, ul. Piwna 1/2	tel. (0 58) 301 84 41, fax. (0 58) 301 79 31	biuro @pomorskaizba.com.pl	www.pomorskaizba.com.pl
Pomeranian Employers Organisation	81-035 Gdynia, ul. Krzywoustego 6	tel. (0 58) 623 79 69, fax. (0 58) 623 77 69		
Agency Office of Schlezwig-Holstein	80-830 Gdańsk, ul. Długi Targ 39/40	tel./fax (0 58) 301 86 86	shb.gdansk@logonet.pl	
Pomeranian Regional Economic Parliament	81-372 Gdynia, ul. Armii Krajowej 24	tel./fax (0 58) 782 01 91	kigm@kigm.pl	
'Free Enterprise' Association, Field Branch in Gdańsk	80-232 Gdańsk, ul. Matejki 6	tel. (0 58) 34 70 342, fax (0 58) 34 70 344	cig@swp.gda.pl	www.swp.gda.pl
Technology Transfer Centre Association	80-320 Gdańsk, ul. Grunwaldzka 529	tel. (0 58) 552 14 98	ctt@post.pl	www.ctt.gda.pl
Pomeranian Association of Property Agents	81-383 Gdynia, ul. I Armii Wojska Polskiego 13	tel./fax (0 58) 661 79 37	sppon@sppon.pl	www.sppon.pl
Swedish ENA Ltd. Office	80-750 Gdańsk, ul. Stągiewna 2/3	tel. (0 58) 300 96 00	enaltd@enaltd.com	
Trade Commission of Denmark	81-319 Gdynia, ul. Śląska 21	tel. (0 58) 628 64 06, fax (0 58) 628 64 05	dtcgdy@dtcgdy.pl	www.dtcgdansk.um.dk

Diplomatic Posts

Honorary Consul of the Republic of Finland	81-323 Gdynia, ul. Morska 59	tel. (0 58) 621 68 52, fax (0 58) 661 48 64	konsulat_honorowy_fin @poczta.onet.pl
General Consul of the Kingdom of Sweden	80-748 Gdańsk, ul. Chmielna 101/102	tel. (0 58) 300 95 00, 300 95 16 / 17 (Sławomir Chmiel) fax (0 58) 300 95 08	generalkonsulat.gdansk @foreign.ministry.se
General Consulate of the Chinese People's Republic	80-236 Gdańsk-Wrzeszcz, ul. Grunwaldzka 1	tel. (0 58) 340 26 26, 340 26 20, fax (0 58) 341 56 00	
General Consulate of the Russian Federation	80-251 Gdańsk-Wrzeszcz, ul. Batorego 15	tel. (0 58) 341 10 88, 341 96 39, fax (0 58) 341 40 92	
General Consulate of the Republic of Belarus	80-803 Gdańsk, ul. Wały Piastowskie 1	tel. (0 58) 341 00 26, fax (0 58) 341 40 26	
General Consulate of the Federal Republic of Germany	80 219 Gdańsk-Wrzeszcz, Al. Zwycięstwa 23	tel. (058) 340 65 40, 340 65 10, tel. (058) 340 65 20, 340 65 30, fax (058) 340 65 60	zreg@danz.auswaertiges-amt.de
General Consulate of Ukraine	80-278 Gdańsk, ul. Chrzanowskiego 60A	tel. (0 58) 346 06 90, fax (0 58) 346 07 07	kgu@softel.(058)gda.pl
Honorary Consul of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	80-224 Gdańsk, ul. Grunwaldzka 100/102	tel. (0 58) 341 43 65, fax (0 58) 344 16 08, 0 501 502 768	consul@abcc.com.pl
Honorary Consul of France	81-704 Sopot, ul. Kościuszki 16	tel./fax (0 58) 551 44 43, tel. (0 58) 550 32 49, 0 601 658 986	
Honorary Consul of the Republic of Austria	81-321 Gdynia, ul. Podolska 21	tel. (0 58) 620 19 93, fax (0 58) 620 19 12	
Honorary General Consul of the Republic of Iceland	80-872 Sopot, ul. Słowackiego 30/17	tel./fax (0 58) 551 58 40	
Honorary Consul of the Republic of Latvia	80-826 Gdańsk, ul. Ogarna 99/100	tel. (0 58) 305 33 24	
Honorary Consul of Italy	81-372 Gdynia, ul. Świętojańska 32	tel. (0 58) 620 15 61, fax (0 58) 620 74 50	

Honorary Consul of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Gdańsk	80-830 Gdańsk, ul. Długi Targ 33/34	tel./fax (0 58) 346 98 78	consulate@pwrs.pl
Consul of the Kingdom of Denmark	80-828 Gdańsk, ul. Długi Targ 1-7	tel./fax (0 58) 320 34 04	Jfskelnik@wp.pl
Honorary General Consul of	81-533 Gdynia,	tel. (0 58) 664 64 64,	
Romania	ul. Druskiennicka 1	fax (0 58) 664 64 77	
Honorary Consul of	80-237 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 341 25 21	witold.waclawik
Peru	ul. Jana Uphagena 3/1A		@rotary.sprintnet.pl
Honorary Consul of Chile	81-401 Gdynia, ul. Świętojańska 135/5	tel. (0 58) 622 74 25, fax (0 58) 622 14 06, tel/fax (0 58) 622 95 00	Konsulatchile@poczta.onet.pl
Honorary Consul of the Mexican United States	81-759 Sopot , ul. Grunwaldzka 12-16	tel./fax (058) 555 16 09	consulmex@centromost.com.pl
Honorary Consul of	81-383 Gdynia,	tel. (0 58) 620 94 43,	janmichal@poczta.onet.pl
the Republic of Cyprus in Gdynia	ul. I Armii Wojska Polskiego 35	fax (0 58) 620 16 00	
Honorary Consul of the Republic	81-759 Sopot,	tel. (0 58) 555 10 02,	
of Slovakia	ul. Grunwaldzka 12-16	fax (0 58) 551 72 78	
Honorary Consul of the People's Republic of Bangladesh	81-583 Gdynia, ul. Wzgórze Bernadowo 116	tel. (0 58) 664 70 21, fax (0 58) 664 70 14, 0 601 765 202	Jzajadło@kki.net.pl
Honorary Consul of	80-255 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 341 48 33,	Konsulat
the Kingdom of Spain	ul. Podleśna 27	fax (0 58) 345 13 36	@profit-conult.com.pl
Honorary Consul of Lithuania	ul. Heweliusza 11 (adres konsulatu), piętro 10, p. 1002, 80-890 Gdańsk, (ul. Astronomów 9, 80-299 Gdańsk- adres domowy)	tel. (0 58) 764 84 84, fax (0 58) 764 84 85	
Honorary Consul of	81-341 Gdynia,	tel. (0 58) 661 80 04,	
the Kingdom of Norway	ul. Wenedy 15	fax (0 58) 661 80 05	

Tax and Customs Authorities

Inland Revenue Chamber in Gdańsk	80-831 Gdańsk, ul. Długa 75/76	tel. (0 58) 300 23 00	www.izba-skarbowa.gdansk.pl
Pomeranian Inland Revenue	80-749 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 69-05-938,	us2271@pm.mofnet.gov.pl
Office in Gdańsk	ul. Żytnia 4/6	fax (0 58) 69-05-957	www.us.gdansk.pl
Inland Revenue Office No.	80-822 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 321-23-00,	us2205@pm.mofnet.gov.pl
I in Gdańsk	ul. Rzeźnicka 54/56	fax (0 58) 321-23-01	
Inland Revenue Office No.	80-391 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 690 92 00,	www.us2.gdansk.pl
Il in Gdańsk	ul. Kołobrzeska 43	fax (0 58) 690 91 01	
Inland Revenue Office No.	80-560 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 346 43 46,	
III in Gdańsk	ul. Żaglowa 2	fax (0 58) 346-41-23	
Customs Chamber in Gdynia	81-029 Gdynia, ul. Północna 9A	tel. (0 58) 620-29-30, 666-93-93, tel. (0 58) 666-90-88, 666-90-87, fax (0 58) 621-05-54	
Customs Office	80-730 Gdańsk,	tel. (0 58) 301 05 30,	Slawomir.Twardowski
in Gdańsk	ul. Opłotki 1	fax. (0 58) 301 59 41	@gdy.mofnet.gov.pl



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