This edition of Euromines focuses on best practice in the industry as we engage with external stakeholders, primarily communities, government and regulators. There are two themes emerging from the contributions. One is the importance of social licence in enabling operations and future expansion and the second is the recognised commitment by industry to protecting the environment. The examples of CSR best practice that you will read about show how across Europe the same ideas, values and principals are being applied. So, while the countries may differ, the context in which we are all operating are similar. From Ireland to Eastern Europe and from Scandinavia to Greece and Turkey not only is society demanding more but often, the industry is providing more. Take the example from Finland, which has incorporated Canada’s Towards Sustainable Mining and, at the other end of the process, Lundin’s plans for closure of the Galmoy mine in Ireland. The importance of these initiatives, and the other work being done as showcased in this edition, can be summed up by the article title from the Czech Republic “Happy Locals, Happy Miners”. Because the alternative is also true!

Dr. Anne Monaghan
Director of Stakeholder Engagement
Dalradian Gold Limited (Northern Ireland)
Building trust in Finnish mining activities

The Finnish Network for Sustainable Mining was set up in May 2014 to ensure that mining practices in Finland are responsible and performed in a way that takes into consideration the needs of other people, livelihoods and nature.

The aim of the network is to reduce potential crises in the mining sector by improving stakeholder cooperation and raising sustainability standards in mining operations.

The network is comprised of representatives from environmental groups, mineral and ore exploration companies, other industries (such as tourism, reindeer herding, forestry and agriculture and metal refinery), funding agencies, the Sami people and local decision-makers from municipalities and regions.

The network is placed administratively under the auspices of the Finnish Mining Association, but it operates as its own entity.

So far, the network has provided a toolbox for local actions and a common model for CSR reporting. In addition, it is in the process of finalising a new sustainability standard for mining companies operating in Finland. The standard is based on the Canadian initiative Towards Sustainable Mining, and it has been adjusted to the Finnish context.

The standard contains eight protocols (on stakeholder involvement, conservation of biodiversity, tailings management, water management, CO2 reduction and energy efficiency, safety and health, crisis management, and mine closure), which have been divided into different levels following the logic of credit rating. Once the mining company has decided to comply with the sustainability standard, it will have to report on an annual basis on the implementation of each protocol. Every three years, an external auditor will have to verify whether the information provided by the company is valid.

The standard should be operational as from January 1st, 2016, when the first mining companies will start implementing it as a pilot project. Based on their feedback, the standard will be revised, if needed. The standard will be then translated into English. This procedure might take several months as most companies will not be able to adopt the whole package at once, but will have to move step by step with each protocol.

Mr Eero Yrjö-Koskinen
Secretary General
Finnish Network for Sustainable Mining
Planning for mine closure and restoration starts at the earliest stages of new mine development and has become a core part of doing business. Wherever possible, reclamation is carried out while mining is still active. Today, closure plans must include social, economic, and environmental parameters as well as community engagement to find ways for the mine to provide lasting value to communities.

Galmoy Mines in Ireland located in County Kilkenny, 110km south west of Dublin, is owned by Lundin Mining and is in the final stages of mine closure. The closure process began with discussions between the mine and stakeholders including government ministries, local councils, and environmental groups. Several opportunities for land use were identified. Industrial lands would be sold for continued industrial use, agricultural and forestry lands would be removed from the mines licensed boundary and retained as such, the tailings storage facility would be remediated and future use determined with input from the community.

The tailings storage facility is located in a predominantly agricultural area and was remediated in two phases. The first phase was for agronomic end use, resulting in the creation of agricultural grassland paddocks that were enhanced by native hedging. Grasses were planted and the area was used for agricultural grazing and harvesting. Phase two included creation of a wetland within the footprint of the mining area and tailings storage facility. Several bunds were constructed to separate the wetlands into five distinct ponds to regulate water flow. The wetlands were sequentially planted and, one year later, are well established.
Mine Closure at Lundin Mining’s Galmoy Mines

Early indications are that the wetlands are functioning well as wildlife habitat. The breeding density of curlews, lapwigs, swallows and sandmarks have increased dramatically. The presence of swans, kestrels, waterhens, mallards, lesser black backed gulls, pied wagtail, meadow pipit, pheasant, snipe, dunlin, teal, swallows, stonechat, robin, wrens, crows, ravens, goldfinch, green sand piper, redwing, fieldfare and redpoll have been noted.

The redwing and fieldfare are winter migrants from Scandinavia. The Ringed Plover, Dunlin, and Green sandpiper are autumn migrants which bred in the arctic and land while migrating. A barn owl and an eagle have also been observed.

A number of sky larks and curlew have been noted on the wetland and remediated tailings facility. The curlew was added to the Global Red List category as near threatened by IUCN (International Union of Conservation of Nature) in 2009.

The Lesser Black backed Gulls have roosted in numbers in excess of 900 which far exceeds the threshold for national importance. This gull is on the amber list.

A pair of Little Ringed Plover were observed during a survey in 2010. There were also a pair of Little Ringed Plover present on the wetland in 2015 during final construction and commissioning. These birds are rare in Ireland, with the first record of this species breeding in Ireland in 2008. (Collins K.). A nest with eggs was recorded during a recent survey which is extremely rare. Other wildlife are abundant around the tailings facility and surrounding area such as fox, rabbit, hare, voles, mice, and stoats.

As the mine’s active closure phase comes to an end, Galmoy is demonstrating that careful planning and engagement can lead to successful remediation and closure with former mine lands being put to long-term productive use benefiting local communities.

Chantae Lessard
Manager Corporate Social Responsibility
Lundin Mining

Swans nesting wetland, May 2015

Making Silage, 2011
Most business activities are specific by their need of well conducted and win-win type social and community dialogue. This is crucial for mining industry, which affects the human environment. Českomoravský štěrk, a.s., a member of HeidelbergCement Group Czech Republic is not an exception. It runs excavation of natural stone, sand and gravel at 26 sites in the Czech Republic. Due to the historical context, quarries and pits are often in proximity to towns. Especially in these cases, relations between mining company and local communities is well tested by the course of time.

For example, the beginnings of industrial gravel and sand excavation close to historical town Tovačov in the heart of Moravia comes from 1950s. Four lakes were created step by step, which now extend over 380 hectares. This site of excavation is known as Tovačov Lakes.

This place represents an example of compliance between excavation, nature protection and human activities and it illustrates the benefits of mining for society, if needed dialogue between all sides works properly.

Apart from sand and gravel extraction, these lakes with their crystalline water and natural character of their surroundings offer much more. One of them is utilized as a drinking water reservoir for the region over a long period. Fishing is allowed in these lakes and the company Českomoravský štěrk ensures that there is never a lack of fish. Tovačov Lakes are renowned for their huge catches thus they attract fishermen from far away.

There are also other subjects of public interest. Bathing is allowed in one lake and a Yacht club is run at another. International swimming competitions for hardy and long-distance swimmers are held there as well as occasional training of special and rescue units.

The natural value of this area was appreciated by integration of these lakes into the European network of nature protection areas NATURA 2000. Lakes are situated on important bird migration route and they are also a wintering site for many species thus they became popular destination with ornithologists. Concrete islands, enabling nesting of endangered bird species, a common tern, are floating on these lakes for over 10 years. Monitoring and ringing of these birds takes place annually in cooperation with the Czech Society for Ornithology.
Cooperation with the town Tovačov was always essential and former interest in how to evaluate the impact of excavation on its surroundings was replaced by joint interest in how to link effectively both broad and specific needs of the public alongside environmental protection and excavation continuance. An agreement about dividing the area into zones with different use and use intensity was made between the mining company, town representatives and environmentalists. A non-governmental organisation „For Tovačov Lakes”, was established for this purpose. Besides cooperating groups already mentioned, another member of the organisation is a local villages association. After all, mining activities with Českomořavský štěrk attract every year more than 10 000 visitors, who come to relax or do sports.

Tovačov Lakes have got their web presentation not only on company’s website, but also on websites of ornithologists, fishermen and the town. Information board, viewing tower for bird watching, parking places and cleaning service all deliver a high standard. Still excavation is performed without restriction at the same time. It is not a coincidence that the Commission for Environment of the Olomouc Region Council chose Tovačov Lakes for its meeting and that the Lakes are the goal of many excursions. The highlight of these excursions is usually a tugboat cruise.

Similarly to Tovačov Lakes, mining sites of Českomořavský štěrk are open to the public. Stone quarries Bělkovice and Hrabůvka were visited in June 2015 by participants of international geological conference „31st IAS Meeting of Sedimentology“. Specialists set out in central Moravia from Cracow, Poland, where the conference was held. The sand pit Tasovice in south Moravia was visited in Spring 2015 by several groups of schoolchildren, who learnt about excavation, life in a pit and the restoration process.

Openness is one of the prerequisites for good neighbourly relationship, which is the base for successful and long-term activity of a company, which changes human environment, but these changes can be positive.

Karel Lorek
General Manager
Českomoravský štěrk, a.s.,
a member of HeidelbergCement Group
Dalradian Gold’s stakeholder engagement and CSR strategy at its high grade Curraghinalt gold deposit, Northern Ireland, is characterised by intensive face to face and one to one engagement. The strategy has witnessed remarkable success with the latest household survey conducted by the company in Spring 2015 showing a favourable rating of 93% for development of a mine.

Dalradian acquired the Curraghinalt deposit and licenses for 84,000 hectares in Northern Ireland in 2009. Since then, the company has grown the resource from 600,000 to 3.5 million ounces which includes 1.01 million ounces in the Measured and Indicated categories. First discovered in the 1980s, the deposit’s development was hampered by the conflict in Northern Ireland and the inability to secure licences to use explosives. With political stability and almost twenty years of peace, both of those obstacles have been overcome. An additional ongoing challenge is achieving social licence to mine in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, characterised by small agricultural holdings in a rural area that is also one of the most deprived electoral wards.

Anne Monaghan, Director of Stakeholder Engagement, explained that the history of exploration in the area, its economic profile and the company’s stakeholder engagement and CSR programme were all factors influencing the community’s decision to give Dalradian a fair wind. She said: “No doubt the fact that gold has been known of in the Sperrin Mountains since the 1600s in local folklore and legend and that the area has witnessed many a serious, and not so serious panner, meant that exploration was not new to people.

“What has been new, and what Dalradian has introduced into the equation, has been proving the economic viability of the deposit and moving it toward production. This combined with the realisation that its development will bring social and economic benefits to the community, in what is a remote and economically disadvantaged area, has been a game changer”.

The company has a community relations team on the ground daily. Comprised of five people, four of whom are immediate to the local area, their communication and engagement with locals is intensive and robust. Characterised by fast, proactive information provision, complaints have been minimal with no site noise complaints from the current development phase. Staff give their time to community and charity initiatives including environmental clean-up, recent assistance in packaging aid for the refugee crisis in Europe and small scale financial support for community groups and charities. The company provides Summer internships to students across a range of disciplines and supports and encourages local employment and training.

Patrick Anderson, CEO and Chairman of Dalradian Resources Inc., the Canadian parent company, has attended a number of information events with the community. He commented, “We are very pleased with the community support for our project as we are in the midst of a work program with the goal of delivering a feasibility study and applying for our mine construction permit in 2016.”

“Investors seek confidence in a range of categories; the grade and quantity of gold, of course, but also in the permitting process and in the social licence. We were successful in gaining planning permission for our current underground exploration program and also secured an explosives storage licence and a water licence. Operating responsibly and showing sensitivity to the local communities has enabled us to gain our social licence as well. The latter can be measured as easily as the size of a deposit, and is also as mutable as the price of gold. Having achieved it, our focus as we move to permit a mine in Northern Ireland is to maintain it.”

Anne Monaghan
Director of Stakeholder Engagement
Dalradian Gold
Ten Ways for Cooperation with Local Mining Communities

It is impossible to relocate any mining company. This fact determines the corporate citizenship profile of many of them anywhere in the world. Bulgaria is not an exception. Here we will not just list the ways by which the Bulgarian companies collaborate with local communities. Moreover, they play a significant role in the strategic planning and day-to-day activities in the regions they operate.

Social responsibility is a certain part of the sustainable development of the whole industry, as well as of the mining sector’s philosophy. The companies have an active role and heavily invest in improvements of the environment and the quality of life, preservation of traditions, education and children, as well as in rendering assistance in cases of disaster. The professionals who manage these projects are the company’s ambassadors in these local communities.

**Why do they do that?**
That is the question often asked by many. In Bulgaria the public at large gives two parallel explanations why the companies do social responsibility.

First, despite the old perception, mining companies are more flexible and they listen carefully to the needs of the local people. This could be seen as the business “replace the role” of the state in providing assistance or resources without seeking anything in return. We may find some evidence in educational projects run by the companies, in fighting with the floods in 2014, where mining companies were the first to help the locals. On the other side the social relations are strongly included in all long-term plans of mining companies. Thus, the quality of life of the local people grows.

The other “myth” is that through the CSR projects companies are “paying back what they took from the community”. However, this is an archaism replaced by the proactive role of the companies as a part of the community. In other words, in true partnership, the community and the mining business outline their common future in which the majority of companies exceed their legally set obligations and daily business activities with their significant social role.

Efficiency and adequacy of the social responsibility programs are rooted in the values of the companies, and in the principles they follow. The Bulgarian mining companies are mature and modern organizations, which implement best practices of the sustainable development. Here we speak about large-scale and complex programs for interaction and dialogue with local communities.

**Values and principles**
“We cooperate with the local Municipality of Panagyurishte by our long-term contract for social investments. The areas which we support are infrastructure, health care, education, culture, social policy, youth activities and sport” – gives an example Eng. Delcho Nikolov, CEO of the copper mining company Asarel Medet. Today, Panagyurishte is an example how modern mining industry can grow in harmony with environment protection, biological agriculture and all the other sectors.
Respect for and dialogue with the local communities are just some of the values that the Geotechmin Group follows as well. Two of the companies in the group - Elatzite-Med, a copper mine and Geotechmin, a mine construction company – implemented a qualitative survey of the level of satisfaction of their CSR program done in the last five years. The results, collected in July 2015 are outstanding: 60% of the interviewed are “very satisfied” by the programs, and the rest 40% are “satisfied”. The main benefits for the local people are the very good selection of target groups and in the effort the programs to complement and enrich the activities of the partnership organization. All programs from the social portfolio of the Geotechmin Group get 90.2% approval of its original design, professional realization, and access to the widest range of communities.

Another good example comes from Dundee Precious Metals Chelopech, which follows the principles of transparency in its day-to-day activities. The company continuously demonstrates a responsible behavior and is recognized as a model in the application of sustainable development principles. Since 2011, the company shares its performance by key indicators (business results, ecology, personnel and communities) in its Sustainability Report.

The limestone producer Ognyanovo-K embeds on a voluntary basis the CSR concept in its business strategy. “Our assumed long-term commitment is to develop our activity in an honest and responsible manner, to contribute to our economic growth and, at the very same time, to assist in improving the life of our employees and their families, the local community and society on the whole.” – says the Nikolay Kolev, CEO.

Devnya Cement is focused on the affiliation of the stakeholders. This includes responsibility of the supply chain contractors, respect for the human rights, ecological initiatives, health and safety, volunteer and donation campaigns, products sustainability, support to local communities by stimulating sport and cultural event, career orientation of the youth.

“The preservation of the environment, together with ensuring maximum safety conditions and meaningful cooperation with local communities are at the very center of the values of our Group”, says Stefano Costa, Managing Director of Devnya Cement.

At the Maritsa East Mines, state-owned lignite mine, CSR is also bound to the values for sustainable development: “this is the way we do business.” The company assumes commitments in order to improve the standards of work, of social development, of ecology. Through their activities they improve the local standard of living. Also they have a responsible attitude to society and to institutions, as well as to any national and noble cause. Over the past few years “The Mines” have been suffering from chronic liquidity crisis, nevertheless they are the backbone of the energy security of Bulgaria.

Benefits for the community
To be a good employer with many responsibilities benefits the society too. Ognyanovo-K has a multilayer social responsibility, and they strive to meet all of their obligations: “to pay everything on time; to create new jobs; to provide safe work conditions; to enhance workers’ qualification, to develop the social sphere; to donate, including the improvement of local infrastructure.”

For many decades, Maritsa East Mines has been contributing to the preservation of the country’s millennial history. Coal mining starts only when archaeologists have checked the terrain and collected the artifacts remained from the Ancient Times. Unique findings are presented in the Museum of Archaeology at Radnevo Town where the Headquarters of the company is situated.
Ten Ways for Cooperation with Local Mining Communities

Big companies generate business for the smaller ones; the philosophy of all companies is to look for partnership with local firms. Thus, new jobs are created as well as additional revenues in public budgets. This process leads to many improvements in both sides. Small firms improve their quality and control systems in many of their activities. Following a guarantee for their growth.

DPM Chelopech stimulates new business opportunities fostering the sustainable development of the region, so that they could continue their development even after the mining operation ends. “We believe, that when we approach with care for people this brings mutual benefit and success to us” – summarizes Eng. Konstantina Gradeva-Vassileva, Director “H&S, environment and PR”. More than 90% of the personnel of the company are local residents. Hence, the opportunity for enhanced degree of mutual influence.

When one is setting foot in the Town of Panagyurishte, he/she can clearly distinguish the benefits to the local community from the activity of Asarel Medet. There is a perfect match between what the municipality sees as a cause, and what the company does. “The opportunities offered in our town is in no way inferior to big cities.” – adds eng. Alexander Chobanov, HR Director. Among the most notable places in the town are the hall-treasury of the Panagyurishte Gold Treasure, built by the sponsorship of the company; the new sports hall; the high-tech hospital – both are result from public-private partnerships. The town is a venue for festival tourism with its Fireworks World Championship, as well as for a variety of cultural and sport events.

Benefits for the Business

There are benefits for the business too proving that this is a two-way communication between the local citizens and the mining company. “We discover it in the recognition of our CSR culture, and the philosophy of shared values.” – says Eng. Dobri Tsvetkov, CEO, Elatzite-Med. “Our team and the local community are walking together in one direction because both have common values.” On that basis, the company took the 2015 CSR Award of the Bulgarian Chamber of Mining and Geology.

Benefits for the business are found in the “confidence of being a good corporate citizen and the fulfilled mission to support the sustainable development of the homeland” - Eng. Al. Chobanov adds. It is good to mentioned that Asarel-Medet is a four-time winner of the CSR Award of the BCMG.

Daniel Kryakov
Public Relations Manager
Bulgarian Mining Chamber
How to Engage With a Local Community – Bulgaria’s Example

Proactivity
Before a disaster strikes, proactive measures are essential. They are found in the voluntary role of Geotechmin: it corrects river beds, lays pipes for draining the slopes; restores power transmission line; designs water conduit for irrigation; designs the reconstruction and rehabilitation of village roads.

Preventive help is also concealed behind the crushed stone fractions provided by Ognyanovo-K for the needs of road maintenance in the municipalities where the firm operates.

Every pit has a limited period of operation. For this reason DPM Chelopech is planning measures for ensuring a smooth transition after completion of their activity. With the cooperation of the local community they make provision for the needs of infrastructure, business, sport, and culture. Such awareness is based on the maxim business is impossible to develop in societies in decline.¹

Support in case of need
After a natural disaster strikes, all eyes are always staring at the state and the local businesses. The faster and often more adequate help always comes from the companies.

With materials and funds but also with the work of volunteers, Devnya Cement supported the affected people of the devastating floods at Asparouhovo Quarter and Dobrich Town in 2014. The company dispatched immediately indispensable equipment and materials in the critical first days after the floods. Tons of mud and sludge were hauled from the streets and from the affected people’s houses, so that they could come back to their normal way of living.

It is normal to rely on Maritsa East Mines when heavy rains flood the houses in the towns of Radnevo and Galabovo. In December 2014, the prompt and adequate response of its teams got under control the crisis caused by the floods in both municipalities. The company ensured quick and secure power supply from its own substation in order to overcome the temporary regime of power supply for Galabovo.

Additionally, the company demonstrated national empathy by donating 46 000 l of water and 120 pairs of rubber boots to the affected people and the volunteers in Varna, Dobrich, and Mizia – which are 260 km away from the Mines.

Spirituality
A specific feature of the mining companies’ CSR programs in Bulgaria is the support for restoration or new building of churches and monasteries. There is an unwritten rule that the companies donate products of their own main activity to such causes and projects. For example, Ognyanovo-K supported the restoration and construction of churches and monasteries in Bulgaria (the famous Rila Monastery) and in FYR Macedonia (Radovish). The Geotechmin Group built up two churches in the capital Sofia, and Geotrading restored a 135-year old church in the country.

¹ World Business Council for Sustainable Development
How to Engage With a Local Community – Bulgaria’s Example

Since 2012 nearly 9,000 books were donated by Ellatzite-Med to kindergartens, schools and cultural clubs. Organized under the project “Culture and national identity” many poetry evenings and literary readings, as well as exhibitions became long expected events for the local people.

A future without knowledge on the local history is a sad future. This was the reason for Ognyanovo-K to support more than 10 publication of local history and folklore literature.

**For the children**
Focus on the growing generation is extremely strong among the BCMG companies. Under interesting projects, they endeavour to preserve traditions, to share knowledge, and to educate the youth.

Under the “An apple for health” Initiative of Geotechmin, students are planting apple saplings on school terrains in areas where no such plants have existed for 30 years now. This is the second phase of another project under which more than 20 000 saplings were planted between 2011 and 2014.

Forestation is an activity in which volunteers from Devnya Cement set an example when marking the International Earth Day (22 April): 25 volunteers planted 31 young trees in the town of Devnya and another 19 were donated for planting throughout the town. The 2015 World Environment Day, was also marked by Devnya Cement and local children. Twenty five students had an environment lesson in the open air.

In order to encourage the alternative movement in the city of Burgas, Devnya Cement built a new bike lane where the latest innovative drainage concrete of the company is used.

Panagyurishte Municipality and Asarel-Medet each year grant scholarships to local gifted children. The “Star Class” Project is part of the donation contract between the company and the local authorities since 2012.

**Proud Project 2.0**
The UN Global Compact Bulgaria Network project “Proud of my parents’ work” saw its implementation among the BCMG members – Asarel Medet, Overgas Inc., and Ognyanovo-K. The project makes employees’ children familiar with the work of their parents as valuable and necessary for the society. Further it shows to the children that irrespective of the kind of work you do, some value is created and each and every one of us contributes to the development of society and world.

Daniel Kiryakov
Public Relations Manager
Bulgarian Mining Chamber

Children from the initiative “Apple for Health” of Geotechmin AD

Young visitors at Asarel Medet AD are making their use--group-photo
Do you want your company to still be here in 100 years?

In one of the basic courses for higher management we, as the participants, were asked what should be the main purpose of the enterprise. The majority of us said that the clear and obvious answer of course is profit. I, however, hesitated because my 20 years of experience with the Strojírny Podzímek company is really different. Rather than profit-based this family company is oriented on sustainable development i.e. that enterprise should be more fun and should bring benefits and joy not only to owners, but also to employees as well as to regions where the particular facilities are seated. The purpose is simple - there should be something meaningful left behind us for the following generations. Nevertheless, my opinion was quite unique and it started an interesting discussion through the class.

What do we do differently? If the companies would like to be part of the regional development and support it accordingly, it is important that the company is in profit and has sufficient cash flow. At the same time however, it should also be aware of the people around it - not only in the local communities, but also people around the whole world and it should be based only on the “customers relations”.

The family companies under the branch name ‘Podzímek’ belongs also to the Strojírny Podzímek (Machinery Podzímek) whose core business is the production and delivery of the technological lines for the aggregates and construction industries. Among other businesses under the family name Podzímek are the wood industry facilities and the P&S company responsible for the deliveries for the water and ship industry. These companies are based in the small town of Třešť (population around six thousand) which is located in the middle of the republic, next to the main highway connecting the two major cities of Prague and Brno.
The Podzimek companies cooperate with Třešť to support its long term (around 200 years) tradition of carving the wooden bethlehems. Not only for the direct financial support, but also for support in the form of long term lease in the prestigious exhibition space in Prague (Jindřišská tower) so that the tradition could be displayed to visitors from all around the world. This exhibition space was reconstructed at the company's expense and then it was leased to the church for fifty years at no cost. The company also actively supports the craftsmen in the bethlehems' Woodcarving by gathering wood for them. Additionally, the whole republic project of Dancing Rooms that this company has been supporting since the very beginning and the Cihelna (Brick Factory) project (which is in the Strojírny Podzimek company) has seen nearly 2000 children attend everyday. Eventually, my classmates in the management course started to realise what I was talking about. What I have mentioned above only covers a small portion of examples that the companies support. Others include local theatres, fire brigade, young ice hockey/football players, etc. the list goes on.

What do we do differently? We live with the town. Founding the J.A. Schumpeter foundation we managed to repair the birth house of the world recognized economist and now the Třešť Information Centre is located there.

When talking about the senior of the companies, Mr. Josef Podzimek, we also have to mention the Dunaj-Odra-Labe water corridor. Despite the strong oppression from the so-called environmentalist this project which is more than sixty years old, is still valid. As mentioned above the profit of the company is not the primary focus. Instead, it is the public interest which is most important to the Podzimek companies. Perhaps due to this, fact Mr. Josef Podzimek was awarded the state decoration of “Merit for the economical state development” by the president of the Czech Republic.

What we are also really good at are celebrations. All the companies anniversaries are celebrated with the employees, customers and citizens from all around the region. I would like to say that thanks to this course and traditions, all the Podzimek companies will celebrate 120 years anniversary next year.

Jiří Kotrba
CEO
Strojírny Podzimek company
Euromines

Euromines is the recognized representative of the European metals and minerals mining industry. The members’ main objective is to promote the industry and maintain their relations with European institutions at all levels. Euromines provides services to its members with regard to EU policy and forms a network for cooperation and the exchange of information throughout the sector within Europe. The association also supports contacts with the mining community throughout the world.

Euromines members are large and small companies who with their subsidiaries in Europe and in other parts of the world provide jobs to more than 350,000 people. Their activities and operations produce more than 42 different metals and minerals.

Published by Euromines
Av de Broqueville 12
B-1150 Brussels
Tel 32 (0)2 775 63 56
Fax 32 (0)2 770 63 03
secretariat@euromines.be

© 2015 Euromines

www.euromines.org