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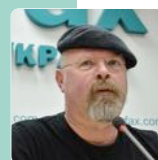
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## SME REPRESENTATIVES NOTE IMPROVEMENT OF BUSINESS CLIMATE IN UKRAINE IN 2016 – SURVEY

Representatives of small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) have noted the improvement of the business climate in Ukraine: the corresponding index in 2016 rose to plus 0.06 from plus 0.01 in 2015 (on a scale from minus 1 to plus 1), according to the results of the “Annual assessment of the business climate 2016.”

“The index has improved by 5 percentage points. This not much but nevertheless it is a positive trend,” the coordinator of the analytical component of the USAID LEV program, the executive director of the Institute for Economic Research and Policy Consulting, Oksana Kuziakiv, said at a press conference at Interfax- Ukraine in Kyiv.

According to the results of the survey, low demand became the main obstacle to the development of small and medium-sized enterprises in 2016. It ousted the “unfavorable political situation,” which was the main obstacle in 2015, to the second place. The optimism of small and medium-sized enterprises regarding the short-term plans has grown, while its growth rate relative to the two-year plans has slightly decreased. This suggests that there is no time for “postponing” the reforms, the expert explained. ■

## UKRAINE SEEKS TO RAISE \$200 MLN OF LOANS MORE TO INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE IN MEDIUM TERM OUTLOOK



Ukraine seeks in the medium term outlook by 2020 to attract an additional \$200 million of loans on the international market and investment from private companies to invest in transport infrastructure, rolling stock and increase the quality of services.

According to the document, in 2016, budget spending on the transport sector totaled UAH 29.2 billion or 3.32% of all expenditure of the consolidated budget of Ukraine. Some 52% was financed using the national budget funds and UAH 13.9 billion was provided by local budgets.

“The need in financing of only repair of roads is UAH 39 billion a year. By 2021, public joint-stock company Ukrzaliznytsia seeks to spend UAH 108 billion to repair and buy rolling stock,” reads the document.

Capital investment in the transport sector in 2016 amounted to UAH 24.616 billion, including UAH 8.728 billion in the warehouse services and auxiliary services, and UAH 14.957 billion in overland transport and pipelines. ■

## UKRAINE, LITHUANIA WORK TOGETHER TO BOOST TRADE AND INVESTMENTS

Bilateral trade and economic cooperation between Ukraine and Lithuania could return to the pre-crisis level, which is over \$1.5 billion, in the coming years thanks to the activity of the two countries' business structures, while close cooperation will ensure the accelerated development of certain sectors of the economy of both states. First of all, Ukrainians are interested in the adoption of energy-saving technologies, the development of business infrastructure, the adaptation of production to EU standards and regulations. Lithuanian partners are in dire need for Ukrainian specialists and are ready to invest in the Ukrainian market and place foreign orders on it as outsourcing.

This was discussed at the conference titled "Ukraine and Lithuania: Investment and Business Opportunities," which was held in Kyiv. The event was a practical continuation of the economic forums held at high levels and traditionally organized by the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE), the Lithuanian Confederation of Industrialists, the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, and other partners. This time the conference touched on practical aspects of work in both countries, opportunities to boost investment, advantages and problems of doing business and other issues.

"Lithuania and Ukraine have not only built a good partnership, but also created an atmosphere of trust and friendship, which will help us achieve concrete results. The countries have reached the unprecedented level of cooperation and are in many ways complementary: Lithuania is now a member of the European Union, it has developed business infrastructure, the IT sector; Western investment is actively injected in our country. In turn, Ukraine has a huge potential in terms of economic development, human resources, the agricultural sector," Ambassador of Lithuania to Ukraine Marius Janukonis said.

ULIE President Anatoliy Kinakh drew attention to the need for further implementation of reforms in Ukraine that would be conducive to a favorable business and investment climate. They include further currency liberalization, land market regulations, an improvement in taxation and other issues. ■

## NUMBER OF TOURISTS COMING TO UKRAINE 5.6% UP IN 2016



The number of foreign tourists visiting Ukraine in 2016 increased by 5.6% compared to 2015, to 13.6 million people, according to a report from the Ministry of Economic Development and Trade, with reference to data from the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine.

According to its data, Moldovan citizens predominated among foreign tourists who visited Ukraine in 2016, they accounted for 32.9% or 4.474 million people.

At the same time, Belarusian citizens took a share of 13.4% (1.828 million people), Russians 11.3% (1.543 million people), Hungarians 9.3% (1.271 million people), and Polish citizens 8.8% (1.195 million people).

The number of tourists from Russia who visited Ukraine in 2016 increased by 16.8%, or by 221,643 people, compared to 2015.

Most of all tourist traffic to Ukraine in 2016 grew from Tajikistan: the figure tripled compared to 2015, to 165,158 people. The number of tourists from Uzbekistan increased by 1.9 times, to 136,021 people, from Lithuania by 48%, to 52,273 people, from Turkey by 44.7%, to 206,706 people, and from Israel by 45.1%, to 217,160 people.

According to the document, 95.3% of tourists visited Ukraine in 2016 for personal reasons, 2% on transit, 1.3% as tourists, 1.1% for other purposes, and 0.2% for service purposes. ■

## BUSINESSMAN AKHMETOV REMAINS LEADER OF FOCUS' TOP LIST OF RICHEST UKRAINIANS



**S**CM Group owner Rinat Akhmetov remains the richest Ukrainian in 2016 according to the Focus magazine, with fortune of \$2.2 billion.

According to the list, co-owners of the Privat Bank Ihor Kolomoisky and Hennadiy Boholiubov (with \$1.2 billion each) are second and third on the list and owner of EastOne Victor Pinchuk with \$1.1 billion was fourth, the same as in 2015.

Owner of Kernel Group Andriy Verevsky with \$871 million fortune climbed from 10th position to fifth in 2016 and owner of Myronivsky Hliboproduct Yuriy Kosiuk with \$738 million who was fifth earlier is not sixth.

Owner of DCH Group Oleksandr Yaroslavsky with \$734 million dropped from sixth to seventh position and owner of Ferrexpo Kostiantyn Zhevaho climbed from 18th to eighth with \$625 million.

Owner of Group DF Dmytro Firtash with \$623 million is still ninth, and Ukrainian President and owner of Roshen Petro Poroshenko declined from eighth to 10th position with \$589 million.

New persons placed on the list were co-owner of Inter TV channel Valeriy Khoroshkovsky (20th with \$356 million), Board Chairman of MCG Pavlo Fuks (24th with \$270), owner and president of Prometey Group Rafael Goroyan (65th with \$90 million), co-owner of IMEXBANK Leonid Klimov (71st with \$75 million), Oleksandr Tabalov who headed Formula Smaku (74th with \$69 million), largest shareholder of NKMZ Heorhiy Skudar (79th with \$63 million), head and co-owner of Kriukov Car Building Works Volodymyr Prykhodko (83rd with \$62 million).

The new persons were also ex co-owner of Skymall Andriy Adamovsky, owner of Biosphere company Andriy Zdesenko, President of Kovalska Group Oleksandr Pylypenko, Head of Atoll Holding Oleh Boyariv, co-owner of Nemiroff Yakiv Hryb and Anatoliy Kipish, founder of Agrospectsservice Serhiy Tarasov, Head of LNZ Group Dmytro Kravchenko and Head of Rud Petro Rud. ■

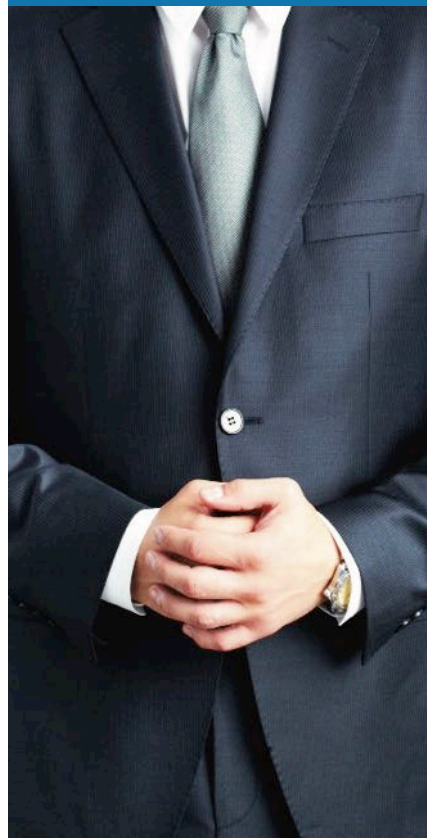
## INFRASTRUCTURE MINISTRY INITIATES LAUNCH OF TRAINS TO SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

**U**kraine's Infrastructure Ministry has said that some railway routes for communications with European countries should be launched, Infrastructure Minister Volodymyr Omelyan said at a government meeting.

"The ministry believes that new railway routes to European countries – Poland, Slovakia, Hungary, Germany and Romania should be launched to continue expanding communications with Europe," he said.

Earlier Ukrzaliznytsia launched the Intercity+ train on the Kyiv-Przemysl (Poland) route. Soon a new two-wagon rail bus Pesa with 182 seats for passengers would start running on the Kovel-Yahodyn-Chelm (Poland) route. ■

## BUSINESS WAITING FOR TRANSPARENT INFRASTRUCTURE ACCESS MECHANISM – EBA



**B**usiness and investors are waiting for the creation of a transparent and clear mechanism for having access of investors to infrastructure, European Business Association (EBA) Executive Director Anna Derevyanko has said. A transparent mechanism for having access of investors to infrastructure should be introduced and they should have absolutely equal rights, she said at the Ukrainian Infrastructure Forum in Kyiv. Transparent regulation of tariffs and the clear regulatory base are required, she said.

As for the port infrastructure, Derevyanko said that competitiveness of ports should be increased and port dues are to be brought to the competitive level. She said that the rules for compensation of investment in the port sphere should be adopted, adding that this issue is important for investors. ■

## CONSTRUCTION OF SIGMA PARK YARYCHIV INDUSTRIAL PARK NEAR LVIV TO START IN APRIL – PM



Construction of one of the largest industrial parks in western Ukraine – Sigma Park Yarychiv – on a land parcel of around 25 ha in Lviv region will start in April 2017, Ukrainian Prime Minister Volodymyr Groysman wrote on his Facebook page on.

“In April the preparation for construction of one of the largest logistics parks in western Ukraine Sigma Park Yarychiv on 25 ha will start. Several large and dozens of small foreign companies will operation in Stry Yarychiv located 20 km far from Lviv in two years. They would create around 8,000 jobs,” the prime minister said.

He said that the opening of the industrial park would add some UAH 40-50 million to the budget of the rural council every year.

“I am sure that the creation of these industrial parks would allow us to make a breakthrough. Thanks to the founders for the real step to economic growth! I hope that lawmakers would support relevant legislation on industrial and technological parks that would help to stimulate this development,” he said. ■

## ULIE TO WORK WITH ITALIAN CHAMBER FROM ABRUZZO



Italy feels the circumstances of the economic crisis. Therefore, closer cooperation between Italian and Ukrainian industrialists and entrepreneurs and business associations is seen as very promising. It was discussed at a meeting of President of the Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE) Anatoliy Kinakh and President of the Italian Chamber for the Balkans and Ukraine Paolo Di Lullo.

The Italian Chamber is known in Ukraine primarily through sincere support of Ukrainian soldiers injured in military operations in the east of the country. Italian businessmen have in particular sponsored prosthetics and rehabilitation treatment of eight Ukrainian soldiers. Anatoliy Kinakh thanked the counterparts for their care and support.

“We are a regional structure that brings together 112 entrepreneurs mainly representing small businesses in the region of Abruzzo. However, our goal is to expand business opportunities through cooperation with neighboring countries, so we have opened offices in Kyiv, Minsk, Bucharest and in Morocco,” Paolo Di Lullo said presenting the Chamber.

The parties agreed to work out a specific protocol of intentions and strengthen communication between the organizations. ■

## CHINA READY TO INTRODUCE VISA-FREE REGIME FOR UKRAINIANS – AMBASSADOR



The Chinese government expresses its readiness to introduce a visa-free regime with Ukraine on the basis of the will of the two countries, Chinese Ambassador to Ukraine Du Wei has said.

“The Chinese side is ready at any time, in accordance with the readiness of the two sides, on the principle of equality and mutual benefit, to take new measures for the exchange of people between our countries, including a visa-free regime,” he said at a press conference on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Ukraine and China in Kyiv.

The diplomat also said that the Chinese side welcomes the decision of the European Union to liberalize the visa regime with Ukraine. ■

## TECHNOLOGY IS A UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE, BUT IT SHOULD BE TREATED WITH RESPECT



Former co-host of MythBusters television show Jamie Hyneman believes that technology is a universal language, but it should be treated with respect. "Technology is a kind of a universal language... I am somewhat of a critic of all the smart phones and everybody keeping tabs on them all the time and not existing in the real world. But it also seems to be that culture and technol-

ogy are diffusing through and being communicated around the world," he said at a press conference at Interfax-Ukraine on Friday.

Hyneman noted that there has been a growing public interest to science in the last decade. But he does not think that MythBusters should take credit for this. The TV show rather was very fortunate to appear in the right time and take advantage of this surge of interest, he said.

According to him, such an increase in interest in science could be caused in part by the spread of the active use of the Internet and thus the availability of information. The former co-host of MythBusters said people should not be afraid of technology, but should treat it with respect.

"I don't think that we should be afraid of technology, we should embrace it, but treat it with respect and with careful thought," Hyneman said.

On April 22, Hyneman will be a member of the panel of judges of the engineering startup competition, the Vernadsky Challenge, in Dnipro.

The Vernadsky Challenge competition has been held since 2015. It allows talented engineers and inventors to present their projects and compete for a UAH 2 million grant. Over the 3-year history of the Vernadsky Challenge, 576 startups have participated in the event and the winners have received a total of UAH 3 million in grant funding.

Vernadsky Challenge 2017 has attracted applications from 230 startups. The panel of judges is headed by competition founders Dmitry Sholomko, Google Ukraine director, and Noosphere Ventures founder Max Polyakov.

## UBC GROUP WILL LAUNCH FIRST STAGE OF REFRIGERATOR PLANT IN VINNYTSIA IN AUTUMN 2017

UBC Group (Kharkiv), a commercial and industrial holding working in the field of refrigeration appliances, will launch the first stage of a refrigerator plant in Vinnytsia in autumn 2017.

"We now have a problem with production capacities. We need new production capacities to increase the market share in Western Europe and America. And we are building a plant in Vinnytsia for this purpose. We bought 11 hectares of land there and rented the same area," UBC Group President Ihor Humenny told Interfax-Ukraine.

He said at present UBC Group has completed the zero cycle and in May-June will assemble industrial buildings. The facilities are manufactured in Sweden and are assembled on the site as Lego bricks.

"Now plant parts are being delivered to Ukraine. Its assembly will take two months, it will be ready in June. The first phase of the plant will be commissioned this autumn. It is planned that 400 people will work there in autumn, then the plant will expand, and over a year we will bring the number of employees to 1,000," the expert said.

UBC Group has three factories in Ukraine and offices in 26 countries.

UBC Group also owns a network of Stargorod brewery restaurants in the CIS and Baltic countries.

## MOBILE OPERATORS CLAIM THEIR NETWORKS READY FOR 4G



Kyivstar mobile operator has prepared 70% of its network for the introduction of 4G (LTE) communications and plans to reach 100% by the end of the second quarter of 2017.

"Traffic consumption has jumped. We have expanded the network capacity by 250%. We improve the technical specifications of the network. We have prepared 70% of the network for 1,800 MHz range and by the end of the second quarter 2017 we will prepare 100% of the network," Kyivstar President Petro Chernyshov said at a press conference in Kyiv on Tuesday.

He said that in 2015-2016 Kyivstar invested UAH 9.4 billion in infrastructure, including the cost of the 3G license.

PR Director of Vodafone-Ukraine Viktoria Ruban said that 89% of the operator's network is ready for the introduction of 4G.

"Investment in the network in 2015-2016 totaled UAH 10 billion, including the cost of the 3G license," she said.

The press service of lifecell did not specify the percentage for the readiness of its network, adding that all equipment installed by the operator for introducing 3G is ready for the launch of LTE.

"Total investment of lifecell in 2015-2016 was UAH 8.5 billion," the press service said.

## DTEK TO INVEST UAH 1.1 BLN IN RECONSTRUCTION OF UNIT 10 OF BURSHTYN TPP



**D**TEK Energo has started reconstruction of unit 10 of Burshtyn thermal power plant (TPP) for UAH 1.1 billion (around \$40 million), the company's press service has reported.

By December 2017 it is planned to replace aggregates and upgrade the unit's systems, which would allow improving its production and environment friendly characteristics.

A turbine, a boiler drum, a transformer for own needs, turbine generator excitation systems will be replaced and the generator, coal pulverization systems and other equipment will be completely reconstructed. Emission will be reduced thanks to the replacement of the filter.

Reconstruction would allow increasing the capacity of the unit from 195 MW to 210 MW. Its lifespan would be extended to 15 years. Emission will be reduced to 50 mg per cubic meter, which suits European standards.

DTEK said that early June reconstruction of unit 1 of Kryvy Rih TPP will be finished. Reconstruction of unit 10 of Burshtyn TPP will be third project for this plant. Since 2012, DTEK has invested over \$180 million in overhaul and upgrade of equipment at the units of this TPP. ■

## EUROPEAN SYSTEM FOR MONITORING GREENHOUSE GASES EMISSION TO BE INTRODUCED IN UKRAINE

**T**he Ecology and Natural Resources Ministry of Ukraine with the support of the World Bank is actively working on implementing an efficient monitoring, reporting and verification system for greenhouse gases emissions in Ukraine, Ecology Minister Ostap Semerak has said.

Semerak said this during a working meeting dedicated to Ukraine's compliance with its international obligations on climate change and the introduction of market mechanisms in line with Directive 2003/87/EC establishing a scheme for greenhouse gas emission allowance trading, the Ecology Ministry's press service reported on Monday.

"The national system of trade in greenhouse gas emissions quotas will be an absolutely new instrument for Ukraine to implement the state policy in the field of climate change, therefore, international support and the experience of other countries in implementing the national market for trading in greenhouse gas emission quotas is important for us," Semerak explained.

At the same time, he stressed that without a proper monitoring system for greenhouse gases emission in Ukraine, a real national market for trading in quotas is unlikely to be created.

"By the end of 2017 we are planning to submit to the government and parliament the law of Ukraine on the system for monitoring, reporting and verifying greenhouse gases emission," Semerak said. ■

## CONSTRUCTION WORK IN UKRAINE 11.5% UP IN MARCH – STATISTICS



**T**he volume of construction works in Ukraine in March 2017 increased by 11.5% compared to March 2016, while the increase in February 2017 from February 2016 was 4.8%.

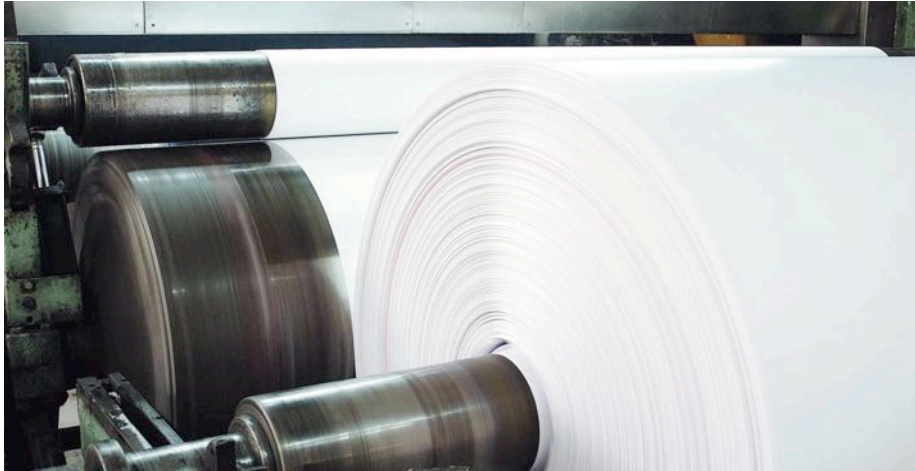
The State Statistics Service said the data are given without taking into account the temporarily occupied territory of Crimea and Sevastopol and part of the anti-terrorist operation zone in the east of Ukraine. Data on Donetsk and Luhansk regions could be adjusted.

According to the service, the volume of construction works carried out in March 2017 from February 2017 increased by 20%, whereas in February 2017 from January 2017 it grew by 2.3%.

According to the report, in March 2017 from March 2016 the growth in the volume of construction work was observed in all the areas of construction. The largest increase in the figure was recorded in construction of non-residential buildings by 19%.

In January-March 2017 from January-March 2016 the volume of construction work reduced in nine regions of Ukraine. The largest decrease in the figure for the three months of this year was observed in Mykolaiv (by 41.8%, to UAH 253.6 million) and Vinnytsia regions (24.1%, to UAH 240.8 million). ■

## WEIDMANN MALYN PAPER FACTORY SEES 4.3-FOLD RISE IN NET PROFIT IN 2016



**W**eidmann Malyn paper factory (MPF, Zhytomyr region), the producer of electrical insulating board for power engineering machines in Ukraine, saw a 4.3-fold rise in net profit in 2016, reaching UAH 36.06 million. According to a company report, net revenue grew by 23%, to UAH 511.04 million.

According to the report, in 2016 the factor sold over 4,000 tonnes of paper for UAH 193.63 million and 5,750 tonnes of cardboard for UAH 282.19 million.

Some 30% of electrical insulating paper and crepe paper was sold in Ukraine, 20% in the CIS and 40% in other countries.

The key rivals in production of these types of paper are Russia's Segezha pulp and paper mill and Energia LLC.

Transformer board was mainly sold in non-CIS countries (50%), as well as in Ukraine (20%) and CIS countries. The key rivals are Russian, Turkish and German companies. MPF Weidmann is a member of the WICOR international group, the only company in Eastern Europe that can supply almost all kinds of electrical insulating paper and cardboard meeting regional and international standards. ■

## BORYSPIL AIRPORT SAYS RAIL LINK WITH KYIV WILL BE NEEDED IN THREE YEARS



**B**oryspil International Airport, the largest airport in the country, predicts the emergence of an acute need for rail link with Kyiv in 2020-2021.

"At such a rate of growth, we will have an urgent need to organize rail transportation of passengers to the airport in three years. And this is the task that should be solved only in cooperation with Ukrzaliznytsia, Kyiv city administration and the airport," airport head Pavlo Riabikin said at the Ukrainian Infrastructure Forum in Kyiv.

According to him, this will entail a number of investment projects in the territory of the enterprise, which will be implemented involving investors. ■

## BIOFARMA TO INVEST \$5 MLN IN DEVELOPMENT OF NEW DRUGS OVER FIVE YEARS



**B**iofarma LLC manufacturer of blood products (Kyiv) intends to invest \$5 million in the development of new medicines within five years, company president Kostiantyn Yefymenko has said at a press conference at the enterprise in Bila Tserkva (Kyiv region).

"In the next five years we will spend \$5 million on the development of new drugs and conducting preclinical trials," he said.

In addition, according to Yefymenko, Biofarma plans to invest about \$10 million in the construction of blood plasma collection centers.

"We will invest about \$10 million in the construction of plasma collection centers. We have already built a modern center in Sumy, in which we invested \$3.5 million. European experts recognized that our center is better than its international counterparts," he said.

According to the company president, over the next five years Biofarma intends to invest \$40 million in building a new fractionator for production of plasma preparations and clotting factors.

For the implementation of the projects the company intends to attract own funds, as well as borrowed resources. In particular, Biofarma signed a contract with Raiffeisen Bank Aval on opening a ten-year line of EUR10 million for 10 years, as well as a \$5 million contract with BNP Paribas. ■

## TOTAL COST OF ASSETS OF UKRAINIAN PRIVATE PENSION FUNDS 8% UP IN 2016 – WATCHDOG



**T**he total cost of assets of private pension funds in Ukraine as of late 2016 reached UAH 2.139 billion, and this was 8% more than as of late 2015 and 13.4% less than as of late 2014, according to a posting on the website of the national commission for financial service markets regulation.

The regulator said that total revenue received from investment of pension assets grew by 23.9%, to UAH 1.081 billion. Profit from investing assets was UAH 834.8 million (27.1% up).

The sum of retirement investments grew by 0.4%, to UAH 1.895 billion. Companies paid UAH 1.802 billion (95.1% of total investments, 0.2% down). Investments by individuals totaled UAH 92.2 million (14.8% up).

Expenses settled using pension assets grew by 14.2%, reaching UAH 245.7 million for the period of existence of pension funds or 11.5% of total cost of assets.

The regulator said that the number of pension contracts signed by administrators of the private pension funds grew by 4.9%, to 62,600 thanks to growth of the number of contracts signed with individuals by 6.2%, to 55,200.

The total number of participants of private pension funds was 834,000, including 81,300 (9.7%) receiving pensions.

Pension payments grew by 13.1%, to UAH 629.9 million. ■

## BITFURY TO CREATE NEW DATA STORAGE SYSTEM FOR UKRAINE BASED ON BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY

**U**kraine's Cabinet of Ministers has entered into arrangements with U.S. Bitfury Group to create the e-Governance system on a Blockchain platform for Ukraine. According a posting on the company's website, the main areas of partnership being explored for the pilot project are using Blockchain in national registers, public services, social security, public health and the energy sector. Once the pilot is complete, the program will expand into all other areas, including cybersecurity.

"Blockchain technology, among other benefits, will help improve the protection of state-managed databases against unauthorized interference, reduce cost to citizens, improve overall efficiency, improve investment in Ukraine, and help reduce corruption across the board," the company said.

Head of the State Agency for eGovernance of Ukraine Oleksandr Ryzhenko signed the memorandum with Bitfury.

"We understand that there's no alternative way instead of bringing to public services latest technologies. Blockchain has proved itself as a good ground for cost reduction, government efficiency & transparency to help reduce corruption," Bitfury Group CEO Valery Vavilov said.

He said that partnership with the Ukrainian government is about making the lives of the Ukrainian people better.

"The Blockchain is a transformational technology that is easy to use, inexpensive, and much more secure than current systems," he said. ■

## KHARKIV BEARING PLANT RESUMES DELIVERIES TO LITHUANIA



**K**harkiv Bearing Plant (HARP), part of UPEC Industrial Group, has resumed deliveries to Lithuania and plans to expand supplies, taking into account the increasing number of dealers in this country, UPEC's press service has reported.

"The Lithuanian market is very promising for us. Many agricultural machines produced in the Soviet Union are being used there. And many agrarians prefer choosing agricultural machinery manufactured by reliable producers from CIS countries rather than foreign producers," the press service said citing manager for foreign economic activity Olena Sviachenko. The UPEC press service told Interfax-Ukraine the last time HARP delivered its products to Lithuania in 2015.

HARP presented a wide range of products at the "Ka pasesi...2017" exhibition held in Lithuania on March 30-April 1, during which the company specialists negotiated with local dealers that are ready to supply the plant's products to the Baltic market.

According to Sviachenko, currently HARP products in Lithuania are represented by JSC IGNERA, with which a contract for cooperation was signed in March 2017. ■

## NESTLE INVESTS UAH 400 MLN IN PRODUCTION IN UKRAINE IN 2016



Nestle, a large food producer, invested UAH 400 million in production facilities in Ukraine in 2016, Nestle Director for Ukraine and Moldova Ansgar Bornemann has said at a press conference. "Total investment in Ukraine last year was UAH 400 million," he said.

Bornemann said that investment grew compared to 2015. This is linked to investment of UAH 150 million in a new waffle production line at Lviv confectionary factory Svitoch.

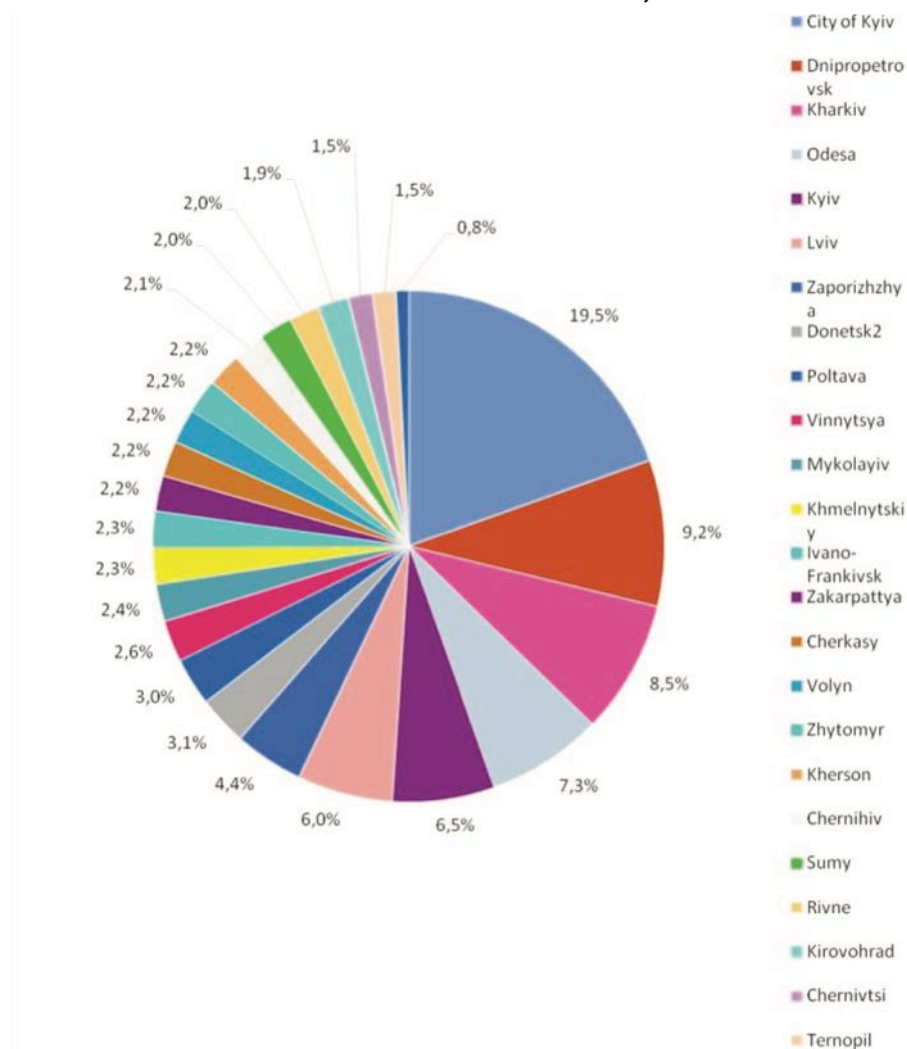
He said that on average when no capital investment projects are implemented investment totals some UAH 150 million.

He also said that the share of Ukrainian raw materials at three factories in Ukraine is 75-80%.

Switzerland's Nestle started operating in Ukraine in 1994 when it opened a representative office. The company markets the following international brands: NESCAFÉ, Nesquik, Nuts, Friskies, KitKat, and others.

Nestle in Ukraine unites Lviv confectionary factory Svitoch, Nestle Ukraine LLC, PrJSC Volynholding (the Torchyn brand) and Technocom LLC (the Mivina brand). ■

## TURNOVER OF RETAIL TRADE IN JANUARY–FEBRUARY 2017, MLN.UAH



## NEW TERMINAL OF ODESA AIRPORT ACCEPTS FIRST PASSENGERS



A new terminal of Odesa International Airport has accepted first passengers.

According to the airport press service, starting from Saturday's flight PS057 Kyiv (Boryspil)-Odesa, the new terminal will accept and service passengers of domestic flights of the airlines flying on the Kyiv (Boryspil)-Odesa and Kyiv (Zhuliany)-Odesa routes.

"After working out the technologies for servicing domestic flights, the next stages will be the transfer to the new terminal of passengers of charter and international scheduled flights," the press service added.

As reported, in early July 2011 Odesa City Council agreed to participate in joint venture Odesa International Airport LLC, which was created to reconstruct municipal enterprise Odesa International Airport. The second participant in the JV was Odessa Airport Development Ltd. with a charter capital of about UAH 1,000. ■

## AGRICULTURAL TECHNOLOGY COMPANY TO OPEN SOYBEANS PLANT IN KHMELNYTSKY REGION IN 2017



**A**gricultural Technology Company plans in 2017 to complete building a plant for deep soybeans processing with a capacity of 1,500 tonnes per day in Khmelnytsky region, Head of the AdamPol Soja project Dmytro Motuzko has said.

“At the first stage the plant will process non-genetically modified soybeans for soybean meal, oil, and lecithin. In future it is planned to produce soybean concentrates and isolates, which are not produced in Ukraine now,” he said at a press conference.

Agricultural Technology Company is a vertically integrated agrarian company for production of seeds, cultivation of grains, oilseeds and vegetables in Ukraine.

The company grows soybeans, corn and potatoes, annually harvests 250,000 tonnes of various grains and oilseeds from an area of 32,000 hectares.

In 2009, the company commissioned a Cimbria Unigrain A/ S seed factory in Denmark.

The company plans to sell products under the AdamPol Soja brand. ■

## ED&F MAN WILL INVEST OVER \$60 MLN IN IRRIGATION SYSTEMS IN KHERSON AND MYKOLAIV REGIONS BY 2020

**T**he investment of ED&F Man, one of the world's largest sugar trading companies, in the first stage of an irrigation complex in the village of Kyselivka (Kherson region) amounted to \$5 million.

According to a company press release, the first stage of the project is launched for irrigation of 1,000 hectares in Kherson region.

The company plans by 2020 to increase the total area under irrigation to 20,000 hectares in Mykolaiv and Kherson regions and invest more than \$60 million.

“New automatic irrigation systems will ensure the proper moistening of fields around Zaselsky sugar plant, solve the problem of growing sugar beets in conditions of arid steppe,” the company said in the press release.

ED&F Man owns Zaselsky sugar factory (Mykolaiv region) with a production capacity of 50,000 tonnes of goods per year.

For the period of its work in Ukraine, ED&F Man has invested more than \$150 million in development. ■

The Ukrainian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (ULIE) is the largest union of business associations and individual enterprises in Ukraine with its members ranging from vertically integrated corporations to small and medium enterprises (SMEs). For already more than 20 years the League's key mission is to promote and protect interests of the Ukrainian business within Ukraine and beyond. With its central offices in Kyiv, ULIE manages 28 regional subsidiaries, 73 branches, 22 representative offices and 34 commissions on key sectors of the economy.

The League is also a signatory to 155 international agreements on cooperation and has representative offices in 21 countries, including Representative Office in the EU in Brussels.

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