

Lotos Group and Poznan University of Technology win Business Innovation Award

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Lotos Group has won the Business Innovation Award as Poland's most innovative company of last year granted by "Polish Market" magazine and the Institute for Eastern Studies. The award ceremony was held during the Innovation Forum in the south-eastern city of Rzeszow. The prize was awarded in recognition of Lotos Group's 10 + Programme, a strategic investment programme which in terms of scale and value was the largest project undertaken in the Polish economy.

A prize for the Best Business Innovation Project went to the Poznan University of Technology for a Foresight study "Greater economic networks - knowledge transformation scenarios to support an innovative economy. The questions asked in this study were whether and how economic networks involving businesses, research institutions and business-related institutions facilitate knowledge transfer and adoption of new organizational solutions, new products and new technologies.

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Economy Waldemar Pawlak presented the awards together with "Polish Market" Editor-in-Chief and President Krystyna Wozniak - Trzosek. On behalf of the winners the awards were received by Gdansk Refinery Development Director Zbigniew Paszkowski and Poznan University of Technology Deputy Rector Magdalena Wyrwicka. Presenting the award said: "In innovation projects you must quickly change set ways of thinking and implement ideas as quickly as possible." He also stressed that innovation depends primarily on business people and the business environment.

"Polish Market" Editor-in-Chief Krystyna Wozniak-Trzosek remarked: "The fight against terrorism and energy issues are undoubtedly very important, but power over the world will belong to those who know how best to develop and protect their

own intellectual property. Without this protection, there is no innovation" The Business Innovation Award is granted in recognition of progress made by entrepreneurs and institutions in technological development and marketing activities. The Best Business Innovation Company and Best Business Innovation Project statuettes went to companies and institutions which launched a major innovation processes and project in Poland.

The winners of the awards were nominated by the Economic Forum Programme Council in consultation with the Polish Market Chapter. The Council brings together a number of outstanding personalities from the world of politics and business including European Parliament President Jerzy Buzek, MEP Elmar Brok, Warsaw Mayor Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz, Polish-American Freedom Foundation President Jerzy Kozminski, former Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski, commentator Leopold Unger, Warsaw Stock Exchange President Ludwik Sobolewski and former Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs Petro Poroshenko.

The Business Innovation Award statuettes refer to the symbol of infinity, continuous development and pursuit of excellence, which is the engine of economic development of regions of global importance.