

North Moravia and Silesia Region

In the last century North Moravia and Silesia Region had become one of the most industrial centres of Central Europe and since that time the region has been keeping this position. The origin and the expansion of industrial production of the territory closely relate to the use of the local mineral wealth and to the traffic development by means of railways. Recently the region has been passing the process of re-structuralization to promote large scale of industrial activities and development of services of all kinds. The Region of North Moravia and Silesia is the most densely populated region in the Czech republic (excluding Prague).

Ostrava (pop 324 000) is the largest city in the region and the administrative centre. Ostrava is located 20 km from Polish border, 55 km from Slovakian border, 350 km from Prague and 310 km from Wien. There are other important cities around Ostrava in the circle with radius of about 50 km. Frýdek – Místek (pop 61.000), Havířov (pop 87 000), Karviná (pop 65 000), Opava (pop 61 000). Workers on all levels are technically advanced and traditionally very skilful. Workers are used to work intensively and there is vibrant "working ethics" too. (More about the region you can find on: <http://www.rdaova.cz/RIS/Eng/Ris/Region/ram1.htm>)

There is an extensive industrial diversification in the Region. Apart from metallurgy and mechanical engineering companies producing products as for example the parts of cars, pumps, textile machines and instruments, there are also wood and furniture industry, electronics and electrical engineering, pharmaceutical industry and chemical industry.

Short description of main companies

- Tatra, a.s.** (CZ) - trucks producer (Multiple winner of Race Paris –Dakar). (<http://www.tatra.cz/>)
- Třinecké železářny and Moravia steel, a.s.** (CZ) - metallurgy and mechanical engineering (<http://www.trz.cz>)
- Nová Huť, a.s. and Vítkovice, a.s.** (CZ) - metallurgy and mechanical engineering (<http://www.novahut.cz>)
- Vítkovice, a.s.** - metallurgy and mechanical engineering (<http://www.vitkovice.cz/>)
- ŽDB Bohumín a.s.** (CZ) - e.g. carbon steel drawn wires and wire products (<http://www.zdb.cz>)
- Bekaert** (Belgium) metal fibres, wires for industry, building products. (<http://www.bekaert.com/>)
- Autopal Nový Jičín** (Ford Motor Co., USA) lighting systems and air-condition units (<http://www.autopal.cz>)
- HL Autokola** (Hayes Lemmerz S.P.A –USA) Cast aluminium wheels for cars (<http://www.hayes-lemmerz.com>)
- Válcovny plechu, a.s.** (CZ) hot and cold rolled sheets and strips (<http://www.vpfm.cz/>).
- JÄKL Karviná a.s.** (CZ) steel thin-walled welded tubes, sections and open sections (<http://www.jakl.cz/>).
- OSTROJ Opava, a.s.** (CZ) machines and equipment for coal underground mining (<http://www.ostroj.cz/>).
- MSA, a.s.** (CZ) company producing a wide range of industrial valves (<http://www.msa.cz/>).
- Biocel, a.s.** (CZ) magnesium-bisulphite bleached wood pulp sold as VIAN (<http://www.biocel.cz/>).
- Galena, a.s.** (IVAX-CR, CZ) producer of pharmaceutical chemicals (<http://www.galena.cz/>).

	North Moravia and Silesia	Czech Republic
area	5,554 km ²	78,886 km ²
population	1,278,036	10,304,302
Unemployment rate	~ 15,1 %	~ 8,9 %



Optimit, a.s. (Semperit, A) e.g. industrial hoses (http://www.semperit.at/engl/e_index_semperflex.htm).

LANEX, a.s. (CZ) technical textiles, bulk bags, ropes and cords (<http://www.lanex.cz/>).

Autocont CZ, a.s. (Cz) leader in IT supply (<http://www.autocont.cz/>)

Siemens Automobilové systémy s.r.o. (Siemens) electronic automotive equipment (<http://www.siemens.com/>)

Famous companies in brewing industry are **Ostravar** (Interbrew - Belgium) (<http://www.prazskepivovary.cz/content/cz/vyroby/ostravar>), **Radegast** (SAB Miller - RSA) (<http://www.radegast.cz/>).

Research Institutions, located in the region:

Nová huť, a.s. e.g. steel production technologies, non-destructive testing methods (<http://www.novahut.cz>)

Třinecké železářny, a.s. e.g. R&D in production of coke, pig iron, steel and rolled materials (<http://www.trz.cz>).

VÍTKOVICE - R&D, spol. s r.o. e.g. R&D in steel making, material research (<http://www.vitkovice.cz>)

VÚHŽ, a.s. e.g. R&D in iron- & steel making, metallurgical products, foundry (<http://www.vuhz.cz>)

Coal and Mining R&D Institute (VVUÚ, a.s.) e.g. R&D in the field of mine technology (<http://www.vvuu.cz>)

Institute of geonics e.g. R&D of processes in the Earth's crust (geonics) (<http://www.ugn.cas.cz/>)

Science & Technology Park Ostrava (under construction, not a real R&D institute, space for innovative and R&D oriented SMEs) (<http://www.vtpo.cz>)

Education (universities and colleges):

VSB – Technical University of Ostrava (<http://www.vsb.cz/en/>)

University of Ostrava (http://www.osu.cz/ou_1e.htm)

Silesian University (<http://www.slu.cz/indexen.htm>)

Business School of Ostrava (<http://www.eco.cz/vsp/eng/index.htm>)

North Moravia and Silesia Region cluster profile

There isn't any official Structure of Clusters in the Region. Feasibility study is in process of elaboration. The objective is to identify potential clusters and conditions to establish them, as well as to suppose the state support system in the Czech republic. Preliminary results of the Analyse of the regional potential recommend focusing on two basic clusters. (Which are conjoint)

- Metallurgy and mechanical engineering
- Automotive (as part of national automotive cluster)

There are over 1.900 companies with over 89.000 employees in this two region clusters

Following Preliminary development intentions of mechanical engineering cluster have been identified: the support of SMEs, the support of innovation processes, precision engineering, the produce of particular alloys, lightweight materials, and components for automotives

Possible areas of the potential clusters are:

Textile industry, food industry, civil engineering, wood and furniture industry, SW development, electronics and electrical engineering.