

From Azerbaijan to Cyprus: ABA Supports 3,000th International Investment Company to Locate in Austria

Vienna, September 2015 – Austria's national investment promotion consultancy ABA-Invest in Austria supported the National Rating Agency (NRA), a private Russian rating agency, to set up business operations in Austria. NRA represents the 90th Russian investment project and the 3000th international company in ABA's history.

Vienna is its first foreign subsidiary

NRA International GmbH, Russia's second largest private rating agency, is located in the former location of the Vienna Stock Exchange and aims to expand to the markets of Eastern Europe from its base in Austria. "We decided in favor of Austria due to the fact that its central location, good infrastructure and unmatched Eastern European know-how are key factors for us. We want to target the European market from here", says Victor Chetverikov, CEO of the National Rating Agency. The company focuses on economic research, offering well-founded analyses for Russian regions and sectors carried out by its team of 30 research associates. At present ratings are only offered in Russia. NRA is preparing its application to the European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) for an EU-wide license for ratings.

From Azerbaijan to Cyprus – 3,000 companies from 72 countries

Since ABA was founded in the year 1982 (as ICD Austria), the number of annual investment projects in Austria rose from single-digits in the 1980s and early 1990s to surpass the 100 company threshold in 1999 and 276 in the record year of 2014. The companies originated in 72 countries, increasingly from exotic countries such as Azerbaijan, Venezuela, Kazakhstan and El Salvador. Germany is the top investor nation, with 1,151 companies, followed by Italy with 301 investment projects, Switzerland with 179 and the USA with 177* companies setting up business operations in Austria.

The 3,000 international companies locating in Austria which were provided with professional support by ABA-Invest in Austria involved total investments of EUR 7.38 billion, creating 51,500 jobs. On balance, 21,800 foreign firms are based in Austria**.

*) Status H1 2015

**) Source: Company register, Compass Verlag

Editorial note:

ABA-Invest in Austria is the national investment promotion company owned by the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy. It provides professional consulting services to interest companies free of charge, supporting them in selecting a business location, with labor and tax issues, identifying cooperation partners and dealing with public authorities.

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