



Press release

ORLEN honoured as the best Polish company in Germany

Elmshorn, 16 June 2011 – A great honour for ORLEN. The oil company, which owns the "star" petrol stations in Germany, was awarded two of the most coveted prizes in Danzig at the first ever "Eagles of Polish Business in Germany" awards. ORLEN achieved success in the "Trade" category and also won the overall "Grand Prix". The awards took place for the very first time and honoured the best Polish investors and entrepreneurs active abroad. The prizes were awarded by the Lech Walesa Foundation.

Along with its success in the "Trade" category, ORLEN also won the overall "Grand Prix". The jury's decision was based on the considerable contribution the Polish company has made towards a positive image of Poland in Germany. "We changed many things in order to adapt to the difficult German market – our structures, but also the brand itself", explains chairman of the board at PKN ORLEN, Dariusz Jacek Krawiec. "But at the end of the day the name of the "eagle" is secondary, what is important is that the brand is recognised by our customers".

As the first prize for trade was awarded, president of the management at ORLEN Deutschland GmbH, Dr. Josef Niedworok, thanked the management of the PKN Group for their many years of trust: "The employees of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH, the leaseholders and their employees show their gratitude for this trust with loyalty, hard work and enthusiasm for the "star" brand".

The "Eagles of Polish Business in Germany" awards were held for the first time this year. In the future, Polish companies deemed particularly deserving thanks to their involvement abroad are to be honoured every five years. The jury consisted of representatives from business and diplomacy. The occasion of this year's honours was the 20th anniversary of the treaty on good relations and friendly cooperation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Republic of



Poland, which was signed on 17 June 1991. It was signed by then Chancellor Helmut Kohl and the Polish prime minister at the time, Jan Krzysztof Bielecki.

The Lech Walesa Foundation, which launched the awards, has set itself the aim of promoting Poland's image and amicable relations worldwide. In doing so the Institute represents the ideals of solidarity and freedom that were constantly pursued by founder Lech Walesa – winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and former Polish President. "In the tradition of Lech Walesa we stand for a shared Europe and that is something we are committed to", said Wieslaw Milkiewicz, managing director of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH. "The award confirms for us that we are on the right path. We also see the prize as a calling card for Polish business in Germany".

star – a strong brand of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH

star is the petrol station brand of ORLEN Deutschland GmbH, which has operated more than 500 petrol stations in the northern half of Germany since 2003. The company, which has its headquarters in Elmshorn near Hamburg, belongs to the Polish oil and petrochemistry group PKN ORLEN SA, which is the largest Polish company with an annual turnover of 23 billion euros in 2010 and one of the largest Central European groups.

PKN ORLEN SA is listed on the stock exchanges in Warsaw and London and is represented on the petrol station market in Eastern and Central Europe with a total of 2,700 petrol stations in Germany, Lithuania, Poland and the Czech Republic. In recent years, large investments have been made in Lithuania and the Czech Republic to bring the group a step closer to its goal of becoming the leading oil company in Central Europe.

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