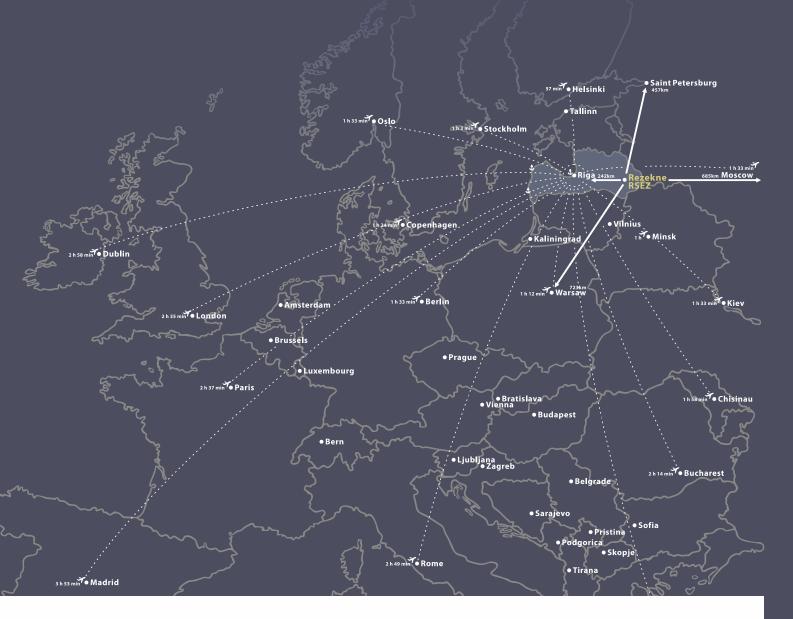
## RIGHT PLACE, RIGHT PEOPLE FOR YOUR BUSINESS





Europe/Latvia

www.rsez.lv



POPULATION: 1.9 million CAPITAL: RIGA AREA: 64,589 km² CURRENCY UNIT: EURO POLITICAL SYSTEM: Parliamentary Republic MEMBER OF: European Union (since 2004) Eurozone (since 2014) OECD (since 2016) WTO (since 1999) Schengen area (since 2007) LIFE EXPECTANCY AT BIRTH:
74.4 YEARS
LANGUAGES SPOKEN:
LATVIAN 86%
RUSSIAN 63%
ENGLISH 27%
GERMAN 11%

## PROFILE OF LATVIA VENSTPILS Saint Petersburg RĒZEKNE **RSEZ** LIEPAJA Moscow Fast growing Latvia is one of the fastest growing economies in the EU with positive FDI trends, liberal trade policies and open business environment **Growing ICT superpower** Warsaw that welcomes FDI

### Among the best in doing business

 Latvia is among 20 economies within the top scores in the Ease of <u>Doing Business Report 2017</u>

### **Cost efficient**

- Latvia has one of the most liberal corporate income tax policies in Europe with 0% tax rate on reinvested profit
- 4th lowest labour costs per hour in the EU
- 5 special economic zones (SEZ) and free ports provide significant tax incentives

- 6th fastest broadband internet connection in the world
- 3rd largest fin-tech cluster in Europe

#### **Productive**

 Latvia is among the leading European countries in regards to wage adjusted labour productivity

### Multilingual

- 95% being able to speak at least one more language other than mother tongue
- 54% being able to speak at least two more languages other than mother tongue

### **Innovative and Start-up friendly**

- Possibility to launch an enterprise in one day
- Start-up tax regime with flat startup tax rate
- €195.5 million support for innovation development

### **Green country**

- 45% of the area is covered by forests
- 20 000 m<sup>3</sup> of freshwater per person



### **DISTANCES TO MAJOR CITIES:**

RIGA – 242 km VILNIUS – 264 km TALLINN – 432 km WARSAW – 723 km MOSCOW – 685 km ST. PETERSBURG – 457 km

### **DISTANCES TO MAJOR PORTS:**

FREEPORT OF RIGA – 242 km FREEPORT OF VENTSPILS – 422 km PORT OF LIEPAJA – 448 km PORT OF KLAIPEDA – 495 km

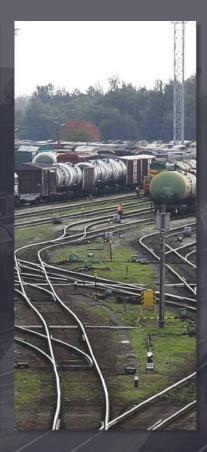
## DISTANCES TO MAJOR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS:

RIGA – 251 km VILNIUS – 281 km KAUNAS – 298 km

### STRATEGIC LOCATION







### **LOCATIONAL ADVANTAGE**

- Direct access to international markets with more than 500 million consumers in the European Union (EU) and 270 million consumers in Russia and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries
- Raw material resources and markets of Russia, the CIS and the Far East
- Excellent logistics and transportation connections to the EU, Russia and the CIS

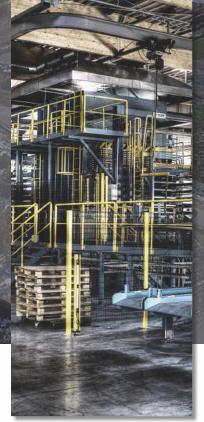
## TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE

- East-West transit corridor gateway to the East and the West
- Crossroads of the Trans-European Network motorways and railways Modern embarkation park at the railway station "Rēzekne-2"
- Railroad integrated into the railroad systems of Russia and the CIS
- Well-developed road infrastructure complying with the EU standards

### **ACCESS TO FREE TRADE**

- EU Customs Union single trading area with uniform customs policy and united system of customs duties on imports from outside the EU, in which all goods circulate freely
- European Economic Area with more than 31 countries and market size of 585 million consumers that provides for common external tariffs on all goods entering the area









### 1 LOCATION

Location in the crossroads of international transport corridors with direct access to international markets

### **4** TAX INCENTIVES

Tax incentives available in Rēzekne SEZ and other state aid measures

### 2 COSTS & RESOURCES

Competitive operating costs and availability of resources

### **5** OWNERSHIP OF LAND

Possibility to acquire land in ownership in the territory of Rēzekne SEZ

### **3** HUMAN RESOURCES

Skilled and well-educated labour force

### **6** RĒZEKNE SEZ AUTHORITY SERVICES

Tailor-made and aftercare services of Rēzekne SEZ Authority for zone enterprises



RĒZEKNE SEZ – PLACE THAT DEVELOPS IN STEP WITH TIME, FORWARD THINKING PEOPLE

### REMARKABLE GROWTH FOR RĒZEKNE SEZ ENTERPRISES

- 20,5 % annual increase of turnover
- 25,4 % annual increase of profit
- 16 % of international enterprises plan to expand their presence within next two years

## 1155 ha INVESTMENT AREAS

Rēzekne SEZ is the largest multisectoral industrial territory in Eastern Latvia, where business activity may be conducted under preferential terms of state aid provided by the Latvian government

- Existing industrial facilities
- Areas equipped with technical infrastructure, but without buildings
- Greenfield areas

## RĒZEKNE SEZ AUTHORITY SERVICES

Rezekne SEZ Authority provides support and personalized services to more than 100 enterprises per year based on its 20 years of experience in administration of state aid

- Consultations on state and regional business incentives
- Site selection and visits
- Connection to regional service providers
- Information on the business environment and incentives in Rēzekne SEZ

SUPPORT FOR INVESTORS

# INCENTIVES

Rēzekne SEZ offers a notable return of investment through a very favourable tax environment, competitive operating costs, diverse labour force and other preeminent benefits



Real estate tax relief up to 100%!



Corporate income tax relief of 80%!



Return of investment costs in tax incentives up to 55%!

### Taxation in Rēzekne SEZ:

Corporate Income Tax applicable on dividends **4**%\* Immovable Property Tax **0.3-0**%\*\*

### **Taxation in Latvia:**

Corporate Income Tax applicable on dividends **20%** Immovable Property Tax **1.5%** 

Since 2018 corporate income tax for reinvested profit in Latvia is 0%, while corporate income tax rate of 20% in Latvia and 4% in Rēzekne SEZ is applicable on dividends

80% immovable property tax is guaranteed by the law, additional 20% discount can be granted by the local municipality



### **RÉZEKNE CITY COUNCIL**

www.rezekne.lv

- Incentives of SEZ
- Immovable property tax incentives
- Projects for development of public infrastructure
- Public utilities for the inhabitants

### **RÉZEKNE MUNICIPALITY COUNCIL**

www.rezeknesnovads.lv

- · Incentives of SEZ
- Immovable property tax incentives
- Projects for development of public infrastructure
- Improvement of road infrastructure

## DEVELOPMENT FINANCE INSTITUTION "ALTUM"

www.altum.lv

- Loans
- Credit guarantees
- Export guarantees
- Venture capital

### RĒZEKNE BUSINES INCUBATOR OF LIAA

www.liaa.gov.lv

- Pre-incubation support
- · Grant program
- Innovation vouchers
- 50% support for external services

## STATE EMPLOYMENT AGENCY OF LATVIA

www.nva.gov.lv

- Support programs for training of employees
- · Assistance in staff recruitment



FOR INVESTORS



Population of Rēzekne: **30 810 (in 2017)** 

Population of Rēzekne Municipality: **27 848 (in 2017)** Population of the city and surrounding municipalities:

almost 85 000

Latgale region:

270 000 (in 2017)

## Competitive labour costs and productivity

Latvia has 4th lowest labour costs per hour in the EU, furthermore labour costs in Rēzekne are among the most competitive in Latvia

Latvia is among the leading European countries in regards to wage adjusted labour productivity (Eurostat, 2016)

### **Quality of labour**

95 % being able to speak at least one more language other than mother tongue

54 % being able to speak at least two more languages other than mother tongue

One of the highest university enrolment rate in the world (67%, gross enrolment rate)



### RĒZEKNE ACADEMY OF TECHNOLOGIES

- Bachelor, master and doctoral study programs
- 55 curriculas, 1900 students
- Particular specialisation in technical sciences – 36% of full time students study in engineering faculty
- One of the most modern study laboratories in Latvia and the Baltic states in areas of laser technologies and mechatronics

### **RÉZEKNE TECHNICAL SCHOOL**

- Vocational education
- 18 curriculas including wooden article manufacturing, motor transport, construction works, marketing, food product technology, catering services, IT systems, programming, energy industry and electrical engineering, administrative and secretary services, interior design, hotel services
- · Around 900 students

### LIFELONG LEARNING

- Rēzekne SEZ enterprises can take advantage of support, training and employment programs financed from European Union funds or state support programs of Latvia
- State Employment Agency and State Education Development Agency of Latvia provides educational programs and courses for adults in a variety of subject areas



### **NATURE IN FOUR SEASONS**

- With over 40 % of its territory covered by forests, a vast network of free-flowing rivers and thousands of lakes, Rēzekne Municipality is one of Europe's best-preserved havens for a wide variety of wildlife
- Pleasant climate with a pronounced change of seasons – blush of spring, blossom of summer, flame of autumn, sparkle of winter – yield succession of the delightfulness
- Lake Lubāns Wetland is a unique natural complex of European and global significance with many rarities, such as the black stork and lesser spotted eagle (more than 250 bird species)

### TOURISM CENTRE FOR THE LAND OF BLUE LAKES

- More than 1000 lakes are located in Latgale region
- The largest lake in Latvia Lake Lubāns (82,1 km²) and the second largest – Lake Rāzna often referred to as the Sea of Latgola, are the pride of the Latgalian land of blue lakes
- Water Tourism Centre Bāka in Lake Lubāns wetland – new and facilitated place for enjoying sports and culture activities such as tennis, volleyball, water skiing, kite surfing, fishing, swimming bird watching (6 bird watching towers) etc.
- Lake Rāzna and the third highest hill of Latvia – Lielais Liepukalns (289 m above sea level) are tourist attraction objects of the national scale with their stable position on the tourism map of Latvia



### RĒZEKNE CITY AND MUNICIPALITY – HEART OF LATGALIAN CULTURE

Longstanding traditions of craftsmanship, pottery, woodcarving, strong faith and diligence – these are the traditional values of our region

First acoustic concert hall in Latvia – the Embassy of Latgale "GORS", which is still considered the best by many world-known musicians

Centre of creative services "Zeimuļs" for children and youth activities with unique architecture and one of the largest green roofs in the Baltic States

Lūznava Manor – Art Nouveau gem of Latgale region offers permanent and temporary exhibitions, concerts for all tastes, space for creative workshops and guided tours for visitors

Latgale Pottery Days, the largest permanent exhibition of Latgalian ceramics in Latvia "The miracle created by clay and fire transformation", as well as more than 30 Latgalian pottery workshops recognised as European Tourism Destinations of Excellence (EDEN 2008)



## POWERFUL LATGALIAN IDENTITY



### "VEREMS"

Plywood mill "VEREMS" produces unique large format birch plywood in size 7' x 13', which is the largest birch plywood in the world. Birch plywood produced in "VEREMS" is exported to Europe, USA, Japan and many other countries of the world.

### "LEAX Rēzekne"

"LEAX Rēzekne" produces spare parts for automotive, mining and machine building industries. The main partners of the company are such world known brands as Volvo, MAN, Scania, Meritor, Atlas Copco, Sandvik Mining & Construction.

### "NewFuels"

Industrial pellet production company "NewFuels" – the largest producer of industrial wood pellets in the Baltic States with production capacity over 240 000 tonnes per year. In 2017 "NewFuels" has received Export and Innovation Award of Investment and Development Agency of Latvia.

### Rēzekne Special Economic **Zone Authority**

Atbrīvošanas aleja 93 Rēzekne, LV 4601 Telephone: (+371) 6462 5941, (+371) 2863 3550 Fax: (+371) 6462 5941

Email: info@rsez.lv www.rsez.lv



RSEZ

Information prepared by Joint Municipal Institution "Rēzekne Special Economic Zone Authority"

Graphic Illustrator: Daina Salmiņa

Photos by: Aleksandrs Lebeds Aleksandrs Tolopilo Jānis Staris Māris Justs Rēzekne City Council photo archive Rēzekne Municipality Council photo archive