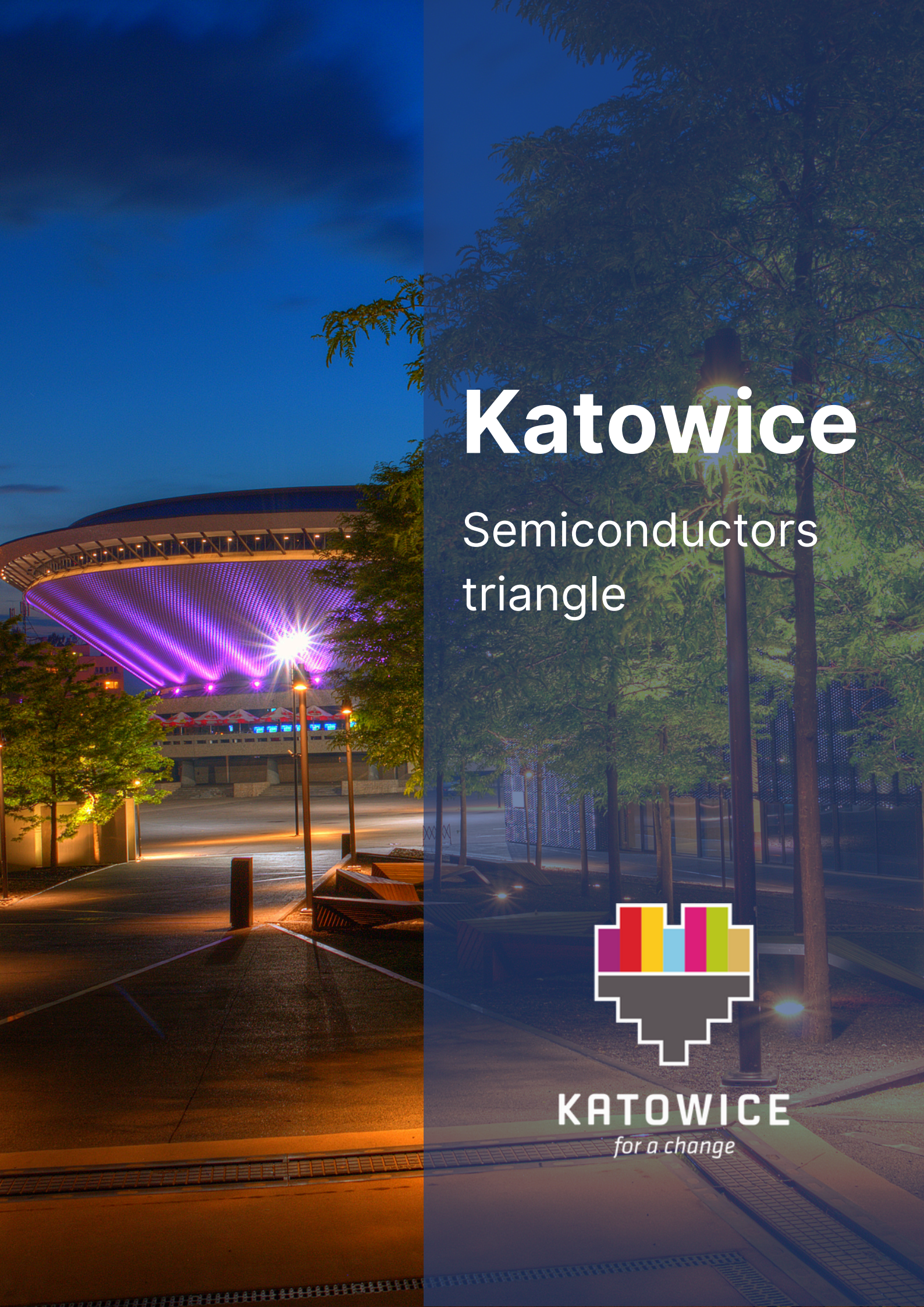

Katowice

Semiconductors triangle

KATOWICE

for a change

INTRODUCTION

The Silesia Region located in the southern part of Poland is one of the most attractive investment regions in the country. Katowice, as the capital of the region, is a strategic location for the companies from the ICT, electronics and semiconductors sectors. Together with the Katowice Special Economic Zone (KSEZ), which is recognized as the best in Europe by the Financial Times, they create a comprehensive ecosystem supporting the development of modern technologies.

A location that offers investment incentives to investors, developed infrastructure and access to a skilled workforce, making it a strategic entry point for Taiwanese manufacturers - TEEMA (the Taiwan Electrical and Electronic Manufacturers' Association), 04.2025

Business ecosystem

- More than **0,5 million enterprises** – 3rd place in Poland in terms of the number of enterprises per 1,000 inhabitants.
- Over **34k people employed in 156 service centers** in the BPO, SSC/GBS, IT, R&D sectors
- Nearly **1 500 ha.** of available investment area within the Katowice Special Economic Zone – fully developed, with access to main communication routes.
- Tax reliefs – possibility to benefit from tax exemptions amounting up to **60%** of incurred investment costs and financial grants.
- Approx. **700 companies operating in KSEZ**, over 13 billion USD in investments and more than 100k jobs created.
- **2** international airports within a 100 km radius from Katowice with over 270 flight connections.

Photo: Piotr Adamczyk KTW Airport

Human potential

- **1st place** in Poland in terms of population density and urbanization rate, **2nd place in** terms of population.
- **2.1 million inhabitants** within a 25 km radius of Katowice; 8.5M in the radius of 100km; more than 220M in the radius of 1 thousand kilometers.
- Skilled and experienced workforce with unique and highly developed technical and engineering competences.
- **90%** of students proficient in English; **38 languages** actively used in business activities

Industrial and innovative capacity

- **2nd place** among regions in terms of contribution to GDP
- Regional Smart Specializations: medicine, IT/ICT, energy, green economy and emerging industries, including eco-industries and mobile services
- **2nd place** in Poland in terms of the number of operating research and development units
- Over **20 active innovation facilities – including technology parks, business incubators, and centers for technology transfer**

Business friendliness

- Stability, long-term relationships, and transparency – values supported by local institutions
- „One-stop-shop" for investor
- Investment attractiveness of the Silesia Region, Katowice City and Katowice Special Economic Zone confirmed by annual awards granted by fDi Intelligence from the Financial Times group

Strong Scientific Base

- **31 universities,** with more than 111k students at the faculties of i.e.: computer science, robotics, electronics, mechatronics and related fields
- **Silesian University of Technology** – one of the leading research centers in Poland, participating in projects supporting the development of the electronics industry, with experienced staff, interdisciplinary research teams, and modern laboratory facilities
- Collaboration with enterprises in research, technological development, education, and staff training and development tailored to investor needs

Photo: FCA Poland, Tychy, R. Kaźmierczak

EDUCATION OF THE FUTURE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH BUSINESS AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS

As a part of the emerging European semiconductors triangle, the Silesia Region has a strategic location, which enables to attract investments from the high-tech sector, especially of Asian manufacturers, looking to shorten their supply chains and relocate their production to the European Union. Thanks to the access to skilled workforce and world class universities, Silesia is becoming the preferred base in the EU for the technology leaders seeking long-term and stable growth, especially in sectors such as microelectronics, semiconductors and advanced automation. An outstanding example confirming this potential is the first European investment project of a leading Taiwanese manufacturer of electronics: Compal, which has been implemented with the support of the Katowice Special Economic Zone.

Katowice offers a unique educational ecosystem for semiconductors and electronics sector, developing local technical talents starting from secondary school to the university level. Katowice City provides institutional support and investors present in the city, such as Fujitsu, Kyndryl, EY, ING Hubs and Accenture - develop original initiatives that respond to the needs of the modern economy.

Examples of business cooperation programs:

- **Corporate Readiness Certificate (CRC)** - a flagship program aimed at university students and graduates. It equips young people with practical knowledge essential for developing technical and engineering skills related to IT, cloud computing, databases, artificial intelligence, and systems management. Examples include Microsoft Azure, Oracle databases, Data & AI Fundamentals, Mainframe Academy, microservices architecture, machine learning algorithms, and cybersecurity.
- **Fujitsu-Tech** - an advanced educational and career-oriented program for secondary school students. Participants gain knowledge in areas such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, cybersecurity, programming languages (Python, PHP, HTML, CSS, JS), ERP systems, DevOps, and virtualization.
- **Kyndryl Future Achievers** - focuses exclusively on technology-related content. Students learn about topics such as mainframe infrastructure, Microsoft 365, cybersecurity, IT incident management (ITIL), software quality, and cloud systems
- **SILESIA SMART SYSTEMS** a collaboration platform for business and academic institutions, supporting industry in its digital transformation. It offers training, consulting, and demonstrations in three specialized areas: automation and robotics (including AI and machine learning), cybersecurity, 3D printing and new materials

Photo: Tomasz Smogulski skyvision.pl

Examples of cooperation programs with educational institutions implemented by KSEZ:

- **Dual studies** - a collaboration between the Katowice Special Economic Zone, the Silesian University of Technology and the Silesia Automotive & Advanced Manufacturing cluster. These studies represent a modern form of education, combining theoretical learning with practical professional experience. The program is conducted at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, in the fields of Mechanical Engineering and Machine Design, as well as Production Engineering and Management.
- **Śląskie. Zawodowcy 2*** - a significant initiative aimed at strengthening the connection between education and the labor market in the Silesia region. Through career counseling, specialized internships, targeted training programs, and a network-based collaborative approach, the project seeks to prepare young people for successful professional careers while providing employers with a qualified, job-ready workforce.

*Project co-funded by the European Social Fund Plus under the European Funds for Silesia 2021–2027.

European Funds | Republic of Poland | Co-funded by the European Union | Silesian Voivodeship

An attractive environment for investors is additionally created by the **Katowice Gaming and Technology Hub (KGTH)**.** This flagship project of Katowice City worth almost USD 160 mln, transforms the historical industrial complex of 32k sqm into cutting – edge center dedicated to the development of innovation, education and technology. On one hand, KGTH will provide modern infrastructure for tech companies, but what is more important, it will be a place integrating business, startups and universities. AI Knowledge Exchange, Digital Bridge and Network Acceleration are among the strategic areas of KGTH, that are key for investors. They will create the following opportunities:

- Knowledge transfer and the use of the latest methods in AI development
- Launching development initiatives including paths for the development of technical competencies that respond to current market needs.
- Enhancing cooperation among startups, public institutions, academia, and industry

Katowice Gaming and Technology Hub will be opened in 2028.

**The project "District of New Technologies – Katowice Gaming and Technology Hub" is co-financed by the European Union under the European Funds for Silesia 2021–2027 program

European Funds | Republic of Poland | Co-funded by the European Union | Silesian Voivodeship

Photo: UMK

JAWORZNO INDUSTRIAL INVESTMENT AREA – PERFECT PLACE FOR **SEMICONDUCTORS INVESTMENTS**

- **Total area: 88.2 ha (2 x 44.1 ha)**
- **Location focusing on hi-tech, innovative technologies**

Location

- **National road DK 79:** 1 km
- **S1 express road:** 2 km
- **A4 motorway:** 5 km
- **Railway line:** next to the investment area
- **Railway siding:** next to the investment area
- **Sławków Transhipment Terminal located only 18 km away** allowing railway transportation between Asia and Europe
- **Nearest sea and river port:** 53 km (Gliwice)
- **Nearest airport:** 40 km (Katowice Airport)

AIUT

AIUT, established in 1991, is a global provider of automation and robotics systems and the largest integrator of industrial solutions in Poland. With a workforce of over 1,000 employees, including nearly 700 engineers, AIUT operates through 6 subsidiaries in the US, Canada, China, India, Germany, and Romania.

- As an experienced integrator and supplier of automation and robotics systems, we see tremendous potential in collaborating with the microelectronics sector. Semiconductors have become essential in today's global economy. Our participation in ***SEMICON® TAIWAN*** *will allow us to better understand the needs of this fast-evolving industry and tailor our services accordingly. We're focused on showing Asian and American investors that they have a reliable, local technology partner right here – in the heart of Central Europe'. Taiwan has declared its intention to collaborate with Central European countries in the semiconductor sector, and Poland is exceptionally well-prepared for this cooperation. We understand that the semiconductor industry requires a complete ecosystem: facilities, suppliers, contractors, talented professionals, and experienced engineering partners* - **Marek Gabryś, President, AIUT**

Goodram

Goodram is a Polish memory brand of Wilk Elektronik SA – the only European manufacturer of memory products. Since 2003 it has offered solutions for consumers, enthusiasts, and industrial or server applications. Made in Poland with advanced R&D and strict quality control, Goodram products are recognized worldwide for innovation, reliability, and top performance

- Silesia is one of the most promising regions for the development of high-tech industry in Europe. As the only manufacturer of computer memory in Europe and a key player in the semiconductor supply chain, Wilk Elektronik has deliberately chosen this region not only for its industrial heritage, but above all for its forward-looking, dynamic business ecosystem. The region offers a unique combination of strategic advantages: access to a highly qualified workforce, strong cooperation with renowned universities, modern industrial infrastructure, and a well-developed logistics network connecting Silesia with key markets across Europe. The local investment environment is stable, efficient, and innovation friendly. The emerging ICT Triangle – with Katowice as one of its pillars – is not just an ambitious vision, but a specific development plan for modern industry - **Monika Wilk, Head of Strategy and Development, Wilk Elektronik S.A.**

Łukasiewicz-AI

The Katowice-based institute is an integral part of one of the largest research networks in Europe, with 7,000 employees and 22 research institutes located in 12 cities across Poland. The Institute is a leader in international R&D projects and, following the "Science is Business" approach, collaborates with companies to create innovative technologies

Łukasiewicz Research Network – Institute of Artificial Intelligence and Cybersecurity (Łukasiewicz – AI) carries out its mission by developing and implementing innovative solutions in the areas of artificial intelligence, data analytics, automation, robotics, and cybersecurity. The Institute is equipped with modern laboratory facilities and interdisciplinary research teams, enabling the execution of projects from the proof-of-concept stage to full implementation. Examples of projects that may be particularly interesting for the IT, semiconductor, and electronics industries include:

- **SPINET** – development of a tool dedicated to the protection of users, systems, and Internet of Things devices, based on machine learning and behavioral analysis.
- **OPENIoTBC** – an innovative digital signal transmitter built using SoC technology, aligned with the concept of open hardware and the Internet of Things.
- **Mining Mobile Inspection Robot (GMRI)** – a robot designed to operate in extreme conditions, a compelling example of industrial robotics, autonomous systems, and sensors.

The Łukasiewicz – AI team operates using specialized infrastructure, including a power supply and research station with a 666 VDC / 66 kWh electrochemical storage unit and an active cooling system, an ETV test platform, and SEE Electrical and MATLAB engineering software. Łukasiewicz – AI is a partner that guarantees the development of technological competencies. It offers a deployment-ready team, infrastructure and experience in international projects – everything needed to support the development of technologies for the electronics, IT, and semiconductor industries in the Silesia region.

DCD - SEMI

The life of every semiconductor begins with... an IP Core. Since 1999, DCD-SEMI has been continuously supporting the development of the semiconductor sector by designing innovative IP Cores essential for integrated circuit design.

From the very beginning, the company has been associated with the Silesia Region, where its headquarters and design offices are located. DCD-SEMI has designed hundreds of holistic integrated circuit architectures, which have been used in at least **1 billion electronic devices worldwide.** Among them are, for example, **the world's fastest industrial 8051 processor** and Poland's first-ever commercial 32-bit processor. Only in recent years, DCD-SEMI has introduced **innovations such as the CAN XL communication interface** designed for the automotive industry, as well as **RISC-V processors with peripherals and extensions**. Building on nearly three decades of experience in the semiconductor market and billions of devices designed by the company, DCD-SEMI plans to take further steps in the coming years to bring semiconductor production closer to the Silesia Region and Poland as a whole. International experience, a holistic portfolio, talented engineers, and collaboration with outstanding scientists form a unique mix that enables DCD-SEMI to advance the development of the semiconductor industry in Poland - emphasizes Tomasz Ćwienk, PhD, Business Development Director at DCD-SEMI. I am convinced that just like in the permanent exhibition at the Silesian Museum, where the culmination is the region's future symbolized by a processor bearing the DCD logo, the launch of semiconductor production in Silesia will be a defining moment for all of us.

Compal

Compal Electronics, founded in 1984 and headquartered in Taipei, Taiwan, is a Fortune Global 500 company. As a leading original design manufacturer (ODM) worldwide, Compal produces a wide range of electronics, including notebooks, smartphones, tablets, TVs, wearable devices, servers, and automotive electronics. In line with its European expansion strategy, Compal has established a state-of-the-art automotive electronics manufacturing facility in Czeladź, to provide global support to its clients.

- We chose the Silesia region for its strategic access to European automotive markets, strong local supplier base, and availability of engineering talent. The long-term support offered through the Katowice Special Economic Zone (KSSE) also give us confidence in our continued investment and growth in Poland. The KSSE is one of the most successful zones in Poland and is particularly supportive of the automotive and electronics industries! - **Arthur Wang, Senior Vice President, Compal Electronics, Inc.**

Photo: Compal

PARTNERS/AUTHORS

CITY OF **KATOWICE**

KATOWICE
for a change

KATOWICE SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE

KSSE
Katowice
Special
Economic Zone

THE **SILESIA** REGION

Silesian
Voivodeship

BUSINESS
inSilesia