

Summary of the first day of the EXPO KATOWICE 2024 International Trade Fair!

A press conference held on 4.09.2024 at the International Congress Center in Katowice, Poland, inaugurated the twentieth anniversary edition of the EXPO KATOWICE International Fair. The conference was attended by - as host - Iwona Gramatyka - President of the Management Board of EXPO Katowice S.A., and invited guests - Deputy Marshal of the Silesian Voivodeship - Bartłomiej Sabat, Director of the KOMAG Institute of Science and Research Prof. Dariusz Prostański and President of the Management Board of DAMEL S.A. - Leszek Stokłosa.

During the conference, President Gramatyka stressed that an anniversary always requires the organizer to prepare something extra, something special. - In fact, the fair, which has been held on a biennial basis for years, was primarily an exposition of machinery and equipment; previously mainly for the mining industry, and now for heavy industry. For the anniversary edition we prepared a great number of attractions and events, including conferences: "Where Industry Meets the Future"; 'Industry 5.0 - Transformation Challenges of the Industrial Sector'; and 'New Horizons of Cities'. There is also a one-day conference giving voice to women, „Contemporary Woman - Transformation and Strength", scheduled for the second day of the Fair," the President of EXPO Katowice S.A. added. - I think it is important that we have managed to reach beyond the borders of our country with information. Let's also emphasize that the fame of this Fair is a tradition of forty years. This obliges and pays off," stated Iwona Gramatyka.

Deputy Marshal Bartłomiej Sabat spoke about the special character of the Fair, how it is part of the regional landscape and can be a symbol of the transformation of Silesia: - The twentieth edition of the EXPO Katowice International Fair is a very important stage for the Silesian province. It is an event where you can exchange experiences and views, as well as to present the latest technologies concerning heavy industry, automotive and construction. We are glad that the Meeting Industry exists, because it is from these meetings that we will gain knowledge and learn about the latest technologies. The authorities of the Silesian Province support all kinds of conferences and exhibitions on energy transition and the transition to clean, green energy.

Dariusz Prostański, Ph.D., Director of the KOMAG Mining Institute, organizer of one of the conferences at the event, also encouraged participation in the Fair: - Both the Fair and KOMAG are constantly changing. We are changing to the same degree. Just look at our logo, where a green leaf has appeared. This signifies our new strategy, according to which we are making energy transition activities. We are involved in renewable energy sources, the use of proper energy, energy management and energy storage. All these technologies are also at KOMAG.

From the perspective of the exhibitors, Leszek Stokłosa, President of the Board of Directors of DAMEL S.A., also invited them to visit the Fair: - The EXPO KATOWICE

International Fair provides many opportunities for participating exhibitors. Firstly, the opportunity to show in which direction we are going, that is, to show the energy transformation, to show that we are making products that are also energy efficient. Second is, of course, the opportunity to meet with contractors, because we are able to attract contractors from all over the world to such fairs. It is worth noting that for a company like DAMEL more than 50% of production is for export, so this is an opportunity to meet, to show these customers our offer, what we do. Well, and the third important element, which is possible thanks to the fair, is to encourage young people, to show young people what we do, what we look like, what the work with us, what products we offer, to encourage them to direct their careers towards manufacturing in the industry.

Nearly 170 exhibitors representing several hundred companies from 17 countries, including, for the first time, Singapore, Taiwan, Norway or Hungary, are taking part in the EXPO KATOWICE International Trade Fair, which began today at the International Congress Center in Katowice. This is one of the largest events of this industry in the world. The inaugural press conference was followed by the opening ceremony of the EXPO KATOWICE International Trade Fair, which is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. The presenters of the event emphasized the value of the event, its rich history and tradition, as well as its importance as the “Meeting Industry,” a space for building business relationships and industry meetings, bringing together top exhibitors and representatives of companies from around the world. The ceremony was attended by both officers and organizers.

The ceremony was opened by Fair President Iwona Gramatyka, who warmly welcomed all guests and introduced the event's program, which included a number of business and industry conferences. She also noted that EXPO Katowice is a meeting of tradition and modernity.

The floor was then taken by Urszula Koszutska, MP, who emphasized the importance of international cooperation for economic development, referring to the recently signed strategic agreement between Prime Minister of the Republic of India, Narendra Modi, and Prime Minister Donald Tusk.

The Governor of Silesia, Marek Wojcik, welcomed the guests to the Silesian province, speaking of the region's full readiness for an energy transition based on a developed market, science and technology. He wished all participants inspiring debates and meetings.

The next speaker was Deputy Marshal of the Silesian Voivodeship, Bartłomiej Sabat, who pointed out that every innovation presented in the past is now part of people's daily lives, and every development opportunity should be defined as such. He invited all guests to visit the beautiful landscapes of mining Silesia while attending the fair.

The General Director of the Ministry of Industry, Kinga Okrzesik-Faruga, expressed her pleasure at participating in such an important event as the EXPO Katowice International Fair, hoping for fruitful cooperation between the participants of the fair.

The last speaker was the Mayor of the City of Katowice, Marcin Krupa, who, as the mayor of Katowice, emphasized how pleased he was that Katowice could host such an event, which makes the city modern with not only national, but also European significance.

The speeches were followed by the official opening of the fair, during which all the speakers symbolically cut the ribbon.

The 2024 EXPO KATOWICE International Trade Fair will last until Friday, September 6. This is a unique opportunity to look at the energy sector and all the changes that are taking place in it, as well as to establish cooperation between companies.