

## NEW BIOREFINERY IN STRÁŽSKE TO PROVIDE WORK FOR A HUNDRED PEOPLE

Strážske, dated 23.9.2014. Another more than one hundred million euro investment is headed for Eastern Slovakia. A biorefinery will be built at the Chemko, a.s. Slovakia site in Strážske. **It is being constructed by ENERGOCHEMICA TRADING a.s. to serve its customers.** The new biorefinery will be used to process biomass with high efficiency cogeneration of power and heat, combined with the production of ethanol, ethylene and ethylene oxide. Operations in the refinery will begin in 2017 and the planned investment should provide around 100 people with jobs.

A location at the border between the Prešov and Kosice regions was selected for the project thanks to its agricultural character and given the fact that this area was the home to a strongly concentrated chemical industry in the past that trained professionals and specialists in this field for many years. Therefore there is a presumption that there will be plenty of knowledgeable workers to work in the refinery. This will also support job creation in a region of Slovakia with high unemployment.

Significant funding is needed to complete the project. In order to ensure this investment is feasible, the project needs, among other things, good infrastructure. The existing infrastructure in Eastern Slovakia may be a limiting factor. If the government was to invest in the construction and modernization of roadways and corridors it would be a significant help towards ensuring the success of the project.

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ENERGOCHEMICA TRADING a.s. was established in 2012. Its primary activities include brokering sales of chemical products and purchases of raw materials, trading gas and electricity and securing shared information system infrastructure. It is a member of the ENERGOCHEMICA SE group, a holding company being built to compete with the leaders in chlorine chemistry in the countries of the Visegrád Four. The holding's core comprises chemical factories with long histories and heavy emphasis on product quality, environmental protection and occupational safety. Since July 2012 ENERGOCHEMICA SE has been listed on the Prague Stock Exchange. The holding's companies include FORTISCHEM a.s., Chemko, a.s. Slovakia, TP2, s.r.o, PTCHEM, s.r.o and Light Stabilizers, s.r.o. Approximately 1,850 people work in its companies.