

Strong rise in international technology investment in Germany

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As of December 31, 2011, non-German technology companies maintained 3987 subsidiaries in Germany, up 12% over December 31, 2006's figure of 3555.

This rise is nearly entirely attributable to an unprecedented expansion of the networks operated by providers of technological services headquartered in such neighboring and nearby countries as France, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Finland, Sweden, Denmark and Austria.

This trend has most strongly benefited eastern Germany, Lower Saxony, Baden-Württemberg, and North Rhine-Westphalia; and, on the metropolitan level, greater Cologne, Berlin and the Ruhr region. Most successful cities in Germany in attracting international tech investment are Hamburg, Nuremberg and Stuttgart.

The USA remains, by far, the major investor in Germany, with more than four times as many companies as runners-up Japan and France. Powered by a large influx of providers of corporate application development services, IT retains its number one position among the sectors of investment. Fastest growing sector is high-tech services.

Prime victim of the record amount of disinvestments experienced in 2006 – 2011 in the IT sector has been Munich, traditionally Europe's engine of economic achievement and technological innovation. Munich's last place finish in the rankings obscured an otherwise acceptable performance by its metropolitan area and by its state of Bavaria. Also hit by this trend is the state of Hesse, the perennial runner-up to Bavaria in the growth tables, and its hub – the Rhine-Main region.

For further information:

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