

**Sportisimo will build a giant and technologically advanced warehouse in Ostrava**

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**The largest retailer of sporting goods on the domestic market will move its logistics base from Rudná near Prague to Ostrava. The lease of the Sportisimo warehouse in Contera Park Ostrava D1, with a built-up area of ​​over 90,000 square metres, has become the largest lease contract on the industrial real estate market in 2020. The gradual move to the new technology centre will start this year.**

The Czech sports chain describes the Ostrava warehouse headquarters as a new generation of own logistics. The warehouse building with an area of approximately 90,000 square metres will be one of the largest in the Czech Republic after its completion in July 2022. It will also be quite high by traditional standards. Some parts will be built to a height of five floors and a special feature will be the above-standard clear height of the part of the hall called High Bay, which will reach up to 23 metres. With regard to the environment, this will save the size of the total built-up area. The new warehouse will be built for Sportisimo by the Czech developer Contera on the Ostrava brownfield as part of urban development.

*“The warehouse will not only be atypical from the point of view of the building's architecture. In addition to height and adaptation we can mention, for example, a relatively large glazed section, which is not usual. The technological equipment is important and interesting, where new technologies which thus far can only be found within the Czech Republic in a few cases will be used. Examples include the automated stackers (ASRS MiniLoad, editor's note), which are simply devices that automatically store and then prepare items for picking, so the warehouses function completely autonomously and the handler only waits at the picking station, to where the system transports boxes or cartons”,* explains **Aliaksei Siparau, Director of Logistics at Sportisimo.** *"The new premises will be managed by modern software, thanks to which we can reduce operating costs or improve the service level, such as the speed and quality of goods delivery to stores and directly to customers. However, technological improvement will also be more attractive in terms of work, for example, from the point of view of an employee who does not have to travel to get to the goods, but the goods will instead travel through the warehouse to the employee”,* adds Siparau.

In addition to technological and logistical elements, the new central warehouse will also offer above-standard comfort to employees. They can look forward to an innovative environment, modern cloakrooms that visually mimic the sporty design look of the Sportisimo administrative headquarters in Prague, air-conditioned and partially glazed halls and a modern dining room.

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About Sportisimo

The largest sporting goods chain, Sportisimo grew from a small company founded in 1999. The company currently has a total of 185 stores, of which 105 are in the Czech Republic; the others are in Slovakia, Romania, Hungary, Poland and Bulgaria. In addition to stores and e-shops, the holding also covers the exclusive distribution of several brands such as Umbro, O’Neill and Lotto. The current owners of the sports giant are Thai Ngoc Nguyen, Do Hong Son, Martin Kúšik and Pavel Vajskebr. Under their leadership, Sportisimo increased their sales of goods by almost 11% to CZK 8.4 billion in the financial year 2018/2019.

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*“The structure we are preparing for Sportisimo is unique and ground-breaking in many respects. It is a structure tailored to the client, full of modern technology, with an attractive working environment and an emphasis on elements of sustainability and development. It is also the largest building we have worked on so far. We like interesting challenges, we have the experience for that"*, says **Dušan Kastl**, **partner and Executive Director of Contera.**

The hall for Sportisimo will be the largest building in the upcoming Contera Park Ostrava D1, which is being created via a demanding and costly brownfield revitalisation. Contera has been specialising in such halls for a long time. Contera acquired the 35-hectare plot of land, which first had to be rehabilitated and decontaminated, at auction from the city of Ostrava. By 2023, a modern industrial park with perfect transport accessibility will be built here. *“There is confirmation that there is significant interest in this location. We are also preparing structures for other clients and the Contera Park Ostrava D1 project is thus being filled very quickly*”, adds Kastl.

Sportisimo will start moving to Ostrava this year, when it hires the first key employees to build a quality facility. The company should move into the first part of the building in January 2022, and the entire hall will be available about half a year later. “*I believe that the new investment and layout of the warehouses will ensure the necessary capacity for many years to come and will also improve the customer experience, as we will be faster and will be able to offer a wider range of goods. From a logistical point of view, we will reach the peak of technology, which not every Czech company is able to achieve. Very high-quality conditions for warehouse employees also go hand in hand with this"*, says **Pavel Vajskebr, co-owner and CEO of Sportisimo**.

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About Contera

Founded in 2009, Contera owns and operates industrial parks in prime locations in the Czech Republic (Brno, Ostrava, Prague, Teplice) and Slovakia (Bratislava, Prešov). Contera's portfolio provides clients with leasing opportunities and built-to-suit solutions. The Company specialises in the renovation and revitalisation of unused premises (brownfields) in locations with good infrastructure, whilst placing emphasis on harmony between its parks and the surrounding environment. Contera's portfolio includes approximately 354,000 m2 of existing properties and 245,200 m2 of planned industrial properties. In 2019, Contera established a joint venture with TPG Real Estate Partners, a specialised property investment platform owned by the global alternative asset company TPG. Contera entered the Slovak market in the same year.

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