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Record investments are heading to PBS Velká Bíteš. The target is a significant increase in production capacity.

This year, PBS GROUP will make a record investment in its PBS Velká Bíteš production plant. In total, the company will invest more than CZK 700 million. The aim is to significantly increase the production capacity of the plant. The quality of PBS GROUP's products is driving a sharp increase in demand.

"PBS Velká Bíteš is the flagship production plant of the PBS GROUP. We are investing and will continue to invest in the plant to increase the production capacity of primarily jet engines to meet the demand of our customers from all over the world. Our investments will also go into development so that as a leading global manufacturer of aerospace equipment and an industry leader we can continue to meet the expectations and needs of our customers," says Petr Kádner, CEO of PBS GROUP.

The PBS GROUP is experiencing high demand especially for jet engines. They are designed for modern unmanned aerial vehicles and light aircraft. There are interested parties from dozens of foreign markets. The volume of units produced this year has therefore already increased by more than 200 percent compared to last year. In the last three years, it is even up 800 percent.

The production plant in Velké Bíteš celebrates 75 years since its opening this year. Part of the long-term modernization of the site this year are also the upcoming investments in its architectural design. Not only the condition of some buildings will be improved, but also the environment for employees. In addition to increasing production and business growth, the company's need for more qualified professionals is also growing. Their number has increased from 600 to 700 people between last year and this year alone.

"The extensive investments are good news not only for our customers, but also for all our employees, that they are assured of meaningful and interesting work and stability in our group and in the plant in Velké Bíteš for many years to come," says Pavel Čechal, Executive Director of PBS GROUP.

PBS GROUP announced at the beginning of the year that it will invest over CZK 300 million in the expansion of production technologies in Velké Bíteš to modernize and increase production capacity. These investments are for the production of high quality castings of superalloy parts mainly for aerospace and marine applications. The investments are also related to the increase of capacity for the F-35 programme. A further 130 million crowns are being invested in new product development. This year's new product will be the TJ 200 engine, which is in the final testing phase and will be presented by the Group at the Paris Air Show in June.

PBS GROUP will also start the production of jet engines in the USA in the US state of Georgia in April this year. In autumn last year, the first engines assembled from parts supplied from the plant in Velké Bíteš

were successfully tested in the state of Florida. This is the Group's second production capacity in the U.S. The company plans to invest nearly half a billion crowns in localizing and expanding production here. "Investing in cutting-edge technologies will ensure our global position at the forefront of aerospace and defence innovation," adds Pavel Čechal.

In addition to jet engines, Velká Bíteš also produces auxiliary power units (APU) for aircraft and helicopters and other advanced aviation technologies. For example, it is involved in the development of components for Lockheed Martin's F-35 aircraft and cooperates with other global players such as the American aircraft engine manufacturer Pratt & Whitney. In addition to aviation, the company also manufactures for sectors such as transport and energy, such as auxiliary power conditioning systems or turbines. PBS Velká Bíteš is also Europe's leading precision foundry, supplier of electroplating and high-precision machining.

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