

## PRESS RELEASE

## The National Quality Award is on its way to Velká Bíteš. PBS won the competition

Velká Bíteš, 28 November 2018 – PBS Velká Bíteš, which ranks among the leading European manufacturers of propulsion units and other equipment for the aerospace and energy industry, won in the National Quality Award competition. The award is presented every year in the Spanish Hall of Prague Castle in the presence of the highest state officials.

PBS Velká Bíteš triumphed in the highest category, Excellence. "For us, the National Quality Award is the highest award that we, as a company, can reach in the Czech Republic. It confirms our conviction that, as a company, we are heading in the right direction and our systematic approach to quality as a whole is helping us achieve the goals set by our company strategy," said the CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors at PBS Velká Bíteš, Milan Macholán. "Our pursuit hasn't come to an end with this prize, however. It is just beginning. We will continue to strive to reach excellence, even in those areas where we still see room for additional improvement," he added.

As part of the evaluation, the jury appreciated the high expertise of the workers and the sophisticated system of agile management, which allows a quick reaction to threats and opportunities. The long-term development of the organisation's abilities and the proven economic growth were also mentioned in favour of the company from Vysočina.

PBS Velká Bíteš wasn't taking part in the competition for the first time. In 2015, it won in the Start Plus model, which is the first category in the evaluation of quality and is the notional step before the Excellence model. Over time, however, PBS Velká Bíteš has made a leap in the field of quality. "We've invested, for example, in 3D optical contactless measuring of castings, in a device for the measuring of front sprockets with outer involute gearing, in laboratory equipment for destructive and non-destructive testing for ensuring inter-operation, and in the output inspection of our products," explains the Quality Director, Luděk Švenda. "Also, increasing the efficiency of our information technology and digitization was very important for us. We've implemented the Document Management System, which is greatly helping us move towards the digitization of all of our approval workflows," he adds.

An indispensable part of our success is also the activities in education and in the area of social responsibility. The company operates the PBS Velká Bíteš Centre for practical education and is actively working with high schools and universities, thereby developing employees' professional competence. In

the area of Corporate Social Responsibility, it supports a number of non-profit organisations and associations in the field of culture, education and sports with a focus on the Vysočina region.

The National Quality Award has been awarded every year since 1995 by the Ministry of Industry and Trade based on the government's strategy for the national quality policy. The programme is based on the meticulous and objective verification of efficiency and quality of all of the activities within an organisation. The basis of the evaluation is the internationally recognized EFQM Excellence Model from the European Foundation of Quality Management, which is widespread in many European countries. The award is announced in multiple categories and is intended for entities in the business and public sectors.

**První brněnská strojírna Velká Bíteš, a.s.** engages in the development, production and testing of high-speed turbines for the aviation, power engineering and transportation industries. It is also a leading European foundry for precision casting, a supplier of galvanic surface treatments and high-precision machining. It offers top-quality products and services with high reliability and with an added value which takes into account the needs and specifics of its individual customers.

PBS Velká Bíteš is part of the PBS GROUP holding, which governs one of the longest standing engineering brands on the world market – První brněnská strojírna. It has been a synonym for innovation and quality for more than 200 years.

## **Contact details for questions**

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