

Ladies and Gentlemen!

The following issue of our newsletter magazine will not be – as it usually does - covering on our achievements, successes and project implementations from the recent months. We are dedicating it exclusively to the report on the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary of METALPOL, which took place on July 31st 2015.

The celebration events kicked off the day before, i.e. July 30th. On that very day, as tradition dictates, we organized the meeting of METALPOL Friends, i.e. our top customers and suppliers. More than 60 people attended the meeting. The majority of the guests represented many national bodies and companies, but we were also honoured to host respected customers from Slovakia, Hungary, Germany and Russia. At dinner time, later followed by feasts and discos the employees of our Sales Department and members of the Board had the opportunity of making informal contacts and conducting conversations with our guests.

31st July at 11:00, right before the METALPOL headquarters, the celebrations of the 15th Anniversary began. We were truly honoured by the presence of numerous important personages, as well as by a large group of retired METALPOL workers or persons connected with the company.

After having welcomed the guests I - as President of the Board - delivered the following speech:

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Two years have already passed since the celebration of the 175th Anniversary of the Cast Iron Foundry in Węgierska Górka and I am once again honoured to announce the 15th Anniversary of METALPOL Węgierska Górka Company.

First of all I would like to say how honoured we feel to host such distinguished personalities coming from the world of politics, local governments and the world of business. We are particularly grateful to be hosting the following persons currently present at the celebration events:

- *Members of Parliament Mrs Mirosława Nykiel, Mrs. Małgorzata Pępek, Mrs. Aleksandra Trybuś and Mr. Sławomir Kowalski*
- *representatives of local governments, provincial and district authorities, in particular the Deputy Silesian Governor Mr. Mirosław Szemle, District Administrator of Żywiec Mr. Andrzej Kalata and the Mayor of Żywiec Mr. Antoni Szlagor;*
- *Municipality local government representatives of Węgierska Górka, i.e. the Mayor Mr. Piotr Tyrlik, the President of Municipal Council – Mr. Wojciech Sobel, as well as the Councillors and Village Leaders of Węgierska Górka, Cięcina, Cisiec and Żabnica;*
- *representatives of science and foundry industry, represented by: the Dean of AGH University of Science*

and Technology and Associate Professor (prof. dr. hab.) Józef Szczepan-Suchy, the Deputy Dean of Foundry Department at AGH University of Science and Technology and Associate Professor (prof. dr. hab.) Jerzy Zych, Assistant Professor (prof. dr) Józef Stanisław Dańko, Assistant Professor (prof. dr) Mariusz Holtzer, PhD Rafał Dańko of AGH University of Science and Technology, Mr. Tadeusz Franaszek – the President of Polish Foundry Technical Association, PhD Józef Turzyński - Deputy Director of Foundry Research Institute in Kraków and Mr. Andrzej Ryba – representative of the Foundry Chamber of Commerce;

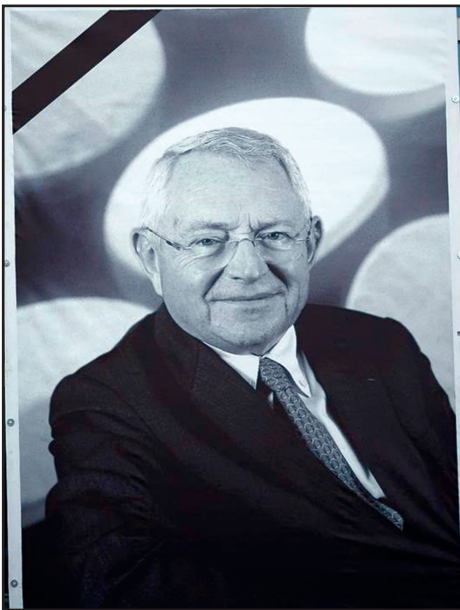
- *relatives of our legendary Director Professor Jerzy Buzek, i.e. his grandson Jerzy and great-grandson Paweł in particular;*
- *representatives of our customers, business partners and suppliers who have come to visit us not only from all across Poland, but from many European countries as well.*



Additionally, I am honoured to host numerous METALPOL Friends and people dearest to my heart, my family members in particular, to whom I would like to express my gratitude for all their support and understanding.

Last but not least, I would like to welcome those thanks to whom METALPOL has been thriving within the last couple of years, i.e. all the staff members, both performing their daily duties as well as the retired.

Unfortunately, the joy of the anniversary celebrations have been disturbed by the demise of METALPOL's "Father" – Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot passed away on 14th July and left us in grief... It was just a month ago when we were discussing the details concerning his presence and participation in today's ceremony...



It was Jean-Pierre Frot who in 1998 took a vital decision to purchase the Fittings Factory and Foundry in Węgierska Górka - a company which at the time was not able to handle the free-market economy problems. It took a European-scale vision to comprehend and grasp the oncoming trend shifting the future of cast iron founding towards Eastern Europe. It also took incredible courage to take a risk of investing money in a relatively unknown country, considering the reality in which Poland seemed an exotic location for the Western capital. Besides, it took trust to be put in the local team

delegated with the responsibility of conducting all the factory modernisation process.

The current shape of the company is reflecting the work of Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot, who along with his closest collaborator - Mr. Jean-Yves Lebonhomm set directions for its modernization. I would also like to remind the fact that the present name – METALPOL - the foundry owes to Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot.

I am convinced many of us can still recall how we welcomed the French team led by Mr. Jean Pierre Frot. We greeted them all with bread and salt on 29th February 2000. On that very day Mr. Frot also received the insignia of a true highlander – a hat and an alpenstock (called "ciupaga") that accompanied him and ornamented his French office over the last 15 years. Mr. Frot's son – Didier - was supposed to be with us today, but family issues prevented him from arriving for the ceremony. Nonetheless, he sent us a video material with a following message:

"I am turning to you today overwhelmed with emotions accompanying me in these truly special circumstances. It is today that you are celebrating the 15th METALPOL Anniversary, the company which was initiated by Jean-Pierre Frot. He got so happy when he received the invitation and he was so much looking forward to meeting you. However, as you already know, Jean-Pierre Frot left us on 14th July.



A few days earlier he asked me to represent him during the ceremony and to assure you how warm his memories of METALPOL had always been. He used to recall especially his arrival at METALPOL and the warmest reception you prepared for him on 29th February 2000. The events took place one year after overtaking the company by CF2M, which was finalised after

more than two years of efforts and culminated just in that very moment. You welcomed him with kindness, warmth, open hearts and respect, and in the following months and years to come you have shown that you are capable of actions resulting in current METALPOL full bloom.

Unfortunately, I cannot be with you today which is a shame, but I hope you understand that in the current circumstances it would be far too difficult for me. But I can promise you that I will gladly participate in all future events concerning METALPOL. I am particularly looking forward to admiring the implementation of all the projects that you have plans for within the months to come.

Thank you all once again and as a tribute to my father's memory I am offering my best wishes for METALPOL!" Before unveiling a commemorative plaque in tribute to Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot which I am going to make on behalf of his son, I would like to ask all the gathered for a moment of reflection. May it concern our former President, but also all the workers and friends to our company, who have left, but whose invaluable contribution to the development of the factory will forever remain a part of the METALPOL history and stays impressed in our hearts and souls. May they rest in peace!



Instead of a minute of silence let us listen to a song by VOŁOSI band, whose music both brings us joy in time of happiness, but also soothes our souls in time of sadness.

METALPOL Company is a heir and a result of the enterprise aimed at funding a Cast Iron Foundry taken up by Adam Wielopolski. The enterprise was eventually realized by the Archduke Habsbourg.

The company owed its further development to its most eminent leader and director - Professor Jerzy Buzek, who in the interwar years transformed the foundry into the leading European manufacturer of pipes and fittings for water supply systems. His work was continued by Mr. Władysław Adamiec – the director of the factory in the years 1955 – 1978, under whose leadership the foundry was provided with modern technologies, in particular the first Polish DISAMATIC moulding line.

Thanks to the CF2M Group, since 2000 we have been consistently implementing modern methods of production and management organisation and we have conducted the complete reorganization of the company.

The investments completed within the last 15 years have totalled at more than 50 million PLN!! The success of these enterpris is in fact a success of us all – the workers, technicians, technologists, engineers, traders, accountants, managers, directors - and partly also it's a success of a Board of Directors.

Thank you all both as a team and individually as particular workers for your personal contribution to what we have achieved, as the contribution of each individual adds up to the success of METALPOL as a whole. We can be proud of what we have done so far. It was 15 years ago when the company was facing the spectre of liquidation, and yet we managed to turn the situation to our profit transforming the company into the leading plant in the cast iron founding industry in Poland. What I am saying at the moments is not just idle flattery – but such are the bare facts. As an evidence for the following words one can mention that METALPOL is one of the 5 foundries in Europe for which Caterpillar - a world leader in the production of construction and mining machinery – admitted the “Global Provider” certificate.

As a result, we are exporting our pro-

ducts to such distant countries as the United States, Mexico and Brazil, or even to China!!

But let's leave the past behind as now is the time to look to the future. And the future is defined by “METALPOL in the XXI century” project. The project which will introduce our company to the premium league of European foundry industry. The project which will enable even further development of our company, which means not just working for today, but mainly for the future generations of Węgieńska Górka residents.

The ultra-modern DISAMATIC casting line, additional electric stoves, modern machining equipment, new halls, dressing rooms and baths, roads – these are only some of the elements of the greatest METALPOL investment program in the history. The project's framework is expected to have one hundred million PLN invested in the years to come!

During the celebration of 175-year-anniversary of the Company in 2013 the Prime Minister, professor Jerzy Buzek said - “If you have a passion and conviction about what you are doing, you can really change the surrounding reality”.

I am entirely certain that the METALPOL team shares the passion and conviction to what we are doing, which is why we have been changing the world around us for the last 15 years. Yet still, the following changes are picking up speed!

I am also convinced that our partners – the municipal bodies, district and province institutions, banks, Katowice Special Economic Zone, EU agendas supporting the development of Polish the economy and many of our friends are “cheering up” the development of METALPOL and they are all helping and supporting us on the way towards realization of our plans and goals.

Once the plans have been implemented, the foundry will again make a true role model. I also have a dream, in which - just like in the year 1938, when the participants of the International Foundry Congress in Warsaw arrived in Węgieńska Górka to behold one of the most modern foundries Europe at that time - 80 years later, i.e. in 2018, the participants of the International Foundry Congress to be held in Kraków will once again turn up in

METALPOL to witness how the history repeats itself.

Mr. Prime Minister professor Jerzy Buzek was supposed to participate in our celebrations, yet he was held up in Brussels by some important duties connected with his European Union responsibilities. However, he sent us a video material getting across the following message:

“Dear Mr. President, all METALPOL employees, Węgieńska Górka residents, dear gathered guests!

In this very special time, you are celebration the 15th Anniversary of the company. You have a pleasure to reveal the plaques commemorating Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot – the creator and initiator, as well as METALPOL's first President. It wasn't long ago when he expressed his joy at being among you... I still hope that his son – Didier – has made it to be there together with you. The celebration itself coincides with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone for the new investments. The work to be presented and initiated, i.e. “METALPOL in the XXI century”, is yet another big step towards the creation of jobs for future generations. It communicates a very important message, because this is exactly what we are thinking about while considering the development of Węgieńska Górka and Żywiec region, in which your company plays such a crucial role. That is so as your company is a place where all the young people and their talents can grow and built a better future.



I am personally connected with Węgieńska Górka and I share deep bonds with your company as well, by which I mean all my family ties from many decades back. I have not forgotten the fact that 100 years ago the facility was subject to the law of war services and was under the military supervision. We are all living in a free country today, we are living in the United Europe. You alone can decide which

way forward to choose. I am convinced that METALPOL of the XXI century, under the leadership of Marek Podgrodzki, who I would like to greet with special affection, will be a company to determine the development directions of the iron castings field for the next decades to come. It is going to be so since cast iron founding is your genuine passion. Anyway, it has always been the case in Węgierska Górka. You have always served as a role model to be followed by others. I wish I could be with you on

this special day. Best wishes and see you next year". The speeches were also delivered by the representatives of the Municipality of Węgierska Górka: the Mayor Piotr Tyrlik and the Chairman of the Municipal Council Wojciech Sobel. Afterwards, the speeches were delivered by the following guests invited: Mrs Małgorzata Pepek who spoke on behalf of the current MPs, the Deputy Governor of Silesia region Mr. Mirosław Szemle, the Mayor of Żywiec Mr. Antoni Szlagor, and Żywiec District Administrator Andrzej Kalata.



During the next stage of the ceremony the diplomas and commemorative plaques were given to the persons of particular merit for the METALPOL development. The title of "Meritorious for METALPOL" was handed in to the following persons: Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot, Mr. Jean-Yves Le Bonhomme, Mrs. Maria Kubica, Mrs. Halina Markiewicz Mr. Włodzimierz Wałaszek, Mr. Jan Jurasz, Mr. Władysław Płonka. The diplomas for a long-term work, contribution and commitment to the development of the company were given to the following: Mr. Andrzej Ja-

gła, Mr. Andrzej Rejman, Mr. Stanisław Biegun, Mr. Władysław Cader, Mr. Jan Cygon, Mr. Józef Hazuka, Mrs. Irena Kason, Mr. Janusz Kliś, Mrs. Krystyna Kos, Mr. Marek Kowalczyk, Mr. Stanisław Poloncarz, Mr. Stanisław Tyrlik, Mr. Wiesław Wisła, Mrs. Maria Wolna, Mrs. Genowefa Zawada and Mrs. Anna Żyrek. Below are the photos commemorating these beautiful and memorable moments: Genowefa ZAWADA, i Pani Anna ŻYREK. Below are the photos commemorating these beautiful and memorable moments:



Maria KUBICA



Halina MARKIEWICZ



Włodzimierz WALASZEK



Władysław PŁONKA



Jan JURASZ



Andrzej JAGŁA



Andrzej REJMAN



Stanisław POŁONCZAK



Genowefa ZAWADA



Jan CYGOŃ



Józef HAZUKA



Władysław CADER



Stanisław BIEGUN



Janusz KLIŚ

Once again, the Prof. Jerzy Buzek scholarships funded by METALPOL were awarded. Our company has been supporting the young and capable living in Węgierska Górka since 2013. This year the group of our grantees was enlarged by the following persons: Ms. Agnieszka Krzus, who is beginning her studies at the Hugo Kołłątaj Agricultural University in Krakow on the Department of Food Technology and Human Nutrition, and Mr Dariusz Borak who is studying metallurgy at Stanisław Staszic AGH University of Science and Technology in Kraków.



At the end of the ceremony, the investment Erection Act "METALPOL in the XXI Century" was read out. The aim of the investment is to continue Węgierska Górka traditions and cast iron founding passion initiated by Adam Wielowiejski in 1838 - the creator of the steelworks, further developed by Prof. Jerzy Buzek - the creator of the Foundry and its CEO in the years 1911 - 1939, later renewed by Mr. Jean-Pierre Frot - the initiator of the rise of METALPOL in 2000. The following document, including a complete list of METALPOL current employees, the opening pages of newspapers dated July 31, 2015, and several issues of the METALPOL Newsletter Magazine, was placed in a metal tube and built into a Foundation Stone.

I am convinced that the investment initiated during the celebration will provide the METALPOL company with continuous development and will secure its leading position in the foundry industry, both in Poland and across Europe.



Michel CANNY



Andrzej KALATA



Małgorzata PEPEK



After the official part of the ceremony had finished, the invited guests all went to continue the celebration in the Beskidian restaurant. After the concert performed by the band VOŁOSI, whose dynamism and musical artistry aroused the true enthusiasm among the audience, I was given ho-

norable diplomas and commemorative gifts handed in by the subsequent guests. Their photos can be seen on our website www.metalpol.com.

In the evening, as tradition dictates the METALPOL workers festival was held. The employees came in large

numbers and along with their families and friends they enjoyed the festival inside a tent put up next to the Sports Hall. The show performed by the band representing the Prof. Jerzy Buzek Vocational and General High School in Węgierska Górka was followed by merry feasting and singing until late at night.



This very day, so important and inspiring for our history and the development of the Company, will always remain in our and our guest's memory. The events will surely strengthen the sense of responsibility required for continuation of the glorious traditions connected with the Węgierska Górka Foundry.

I am certain that all the METALPOL members will fulfil all hopes and expectations!

I would like to wish the whole METALPOL team lots of perseverance in achieving their ambitious goals. I am convinced that by sharing all the hopes and commitment we can soon make our dreams come true.

Marek PODGRODZKI
Chairperson