Hoval inaugurates state-of-the-art ePlant in Istebné: €60 million investment in Europe's heat pump future

Istebné (Slovakia), **26 August 2025** – With the inauguration of the new ePlant in Istebné, which was planned and built over the past two years, Hoval is sending a strong signal for Europe's energy future. The investment of around €60 million strengthens the company's heat pump expertise, will create up to 600 jobs by 2030, and underlines its ambition to assume a technological leadership role in the European market.

A clear commitment to the energy transition

The ePlant is the largest production site of the Hoval Group. It is designed for an annual output of up to 32´000 heat pumps. This provides Hoval with the flexibility to adapt production capacities to market developments and actively contribute to the energy transition.

Sustainability as a standard

The new production hall has been built in line with Green Factory principles: a photovoltaic system (400 kWp), energy recovery with Hoval plate heat exchangers, green roofs and walls, rainwater harvesting, and a state-of-the-art smart building system. With this initiative, Hoval is setting new standards in sustainable industrial architecture, showcasing how ecological responsibility and economic success can be seamlessly combined."

European dimension

The participation of high-ranking representatives from politics and business at the inauguration underlines the importance of the project beyond the region itself. Among the guests were Slovak Prime Minister Robert Fico, his Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy Denisa Saková, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs Juraj Blanár, as well as Liechtenstein's Minister of Economy Hubert Büchel. Their presence highlights the international dimension of the project and demonstrates how companies, regions, and states can jointly provide answers to the central challenges of the energy transition.

Voices at the inauguration:

Richard Senti, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Hoval Group:

"With the ePlant in Istebné, we are making a clear commitment to the energy transition and to the responsibility that Hoval bears as an internationally active company. This investment strengthens our position in Europe, creates reliability for our employees, and opens up new perspectives for our customers."

Robert Fico, Prime Minister of Slovakia:

"The new plant in Istebné is an important project for our region. It brings innovative technologies to Slovakia and makes a valuable contribution to economic development."

Denisa Saková, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Economy of Slovakia:

"I am very pleased that Hoval has decided to invest in this site on such a scale. This project strengthens the region, creates prospects for our people, and supports Slovakia's strategy to further develop industry and renewable energy."

Press Release



Hubert Buechel, Minister of Economy of Liechtenstein:

"With the ePlant in Istebné, Hoval demonstrates how a Liechtenstein company can set international benchmarks – in technology, sustainability, and cooperation. This project is a strong signal for the innovative strength of our country and for the partnership between Liechtenstein and Slovakia."

Outlook

With the ePlant, Hoval is strengthening its presence in Europe, creating high-quality jobs, and making a significant contribution to a sustainable energy future. The project shows that responsibility for energy and the environment begins with investments that combine technological innovation and regional value creation.

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