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KYIV POST

http://www.kyivpost.com

MAY 18TH, 2006

Vol. 11, Issue 20

Mittal Steel, SPF bump heads

By ROMAN OLEARCHYK

Mittal Steel has refuted claims by Ukraine's State Property Fund, which allege that the international steel giant was not fulfilling investment obligations at the prized Ukrainian metallurgical plant that it acquired last fall for \$4.8 billion in a landmark privatization tender.

In a May 16 statement, the Ukrainian subsidiary of the London-headquartered steel group insisted that it had "fulfilled all investment and social requirements," contradicting the words of SPF chief Valentyna Semeniuk from a day earlier.

The conflict with the SPF centers on salaries at the Soviet-built Kryvorizhstal steel mill, which Mittal Steel renamed to Mittal Steel Kryvy Rih earlier this year. When Mittal won a tender for the mill last fall, outbidding archrival Arcelor in what has been dubbed as Ukraine's most transparent and successful tender, it agreed to raise salaries for the factory's 50,000-strong workforce and abide by other investment obligations.

Mittal claims that it has done so, but the SPF sees things otherwise.

"As of today, Mittal Steel and the SPF have reached common ground

see MITTAL, page 6

Sex charges against top expat doctor uncovered



Two medical clinics in Kyiv say they were unaware of sexual misconduct charges against Dr. Anthony Carbone, whom they employed for top posts. (Vasiliy Porokhnenko)

By VLAD LAVROV

Ukraine's cash-strapped medical-care system has enthusiastically received equipment and specialists from the West since the county became independent, but some foreign doctors may not deserve the high reputation they enjoy here.

An American physician who 'voluntarily' stopped practicing medicine in the U.S. State of Massachusetts following a charge of sexual misconduct with an underage girl ended up, a few years later, working for two up-market Kyiv medical clinics that boast Western professional standards.

Dr. Anthony Carbone, who until recently held top medical posts at Kyiv's

Eurolab medical laboratory and, prior to that, at the American Medical Centers (AMC) health clinic, was charged in 2000 with "inappropriate sexual contact with a 16-year-old female patient" by the Massachusetts Board of Medicine.

According to an August 2, 2000 statement published on the Massachusetts board's website, Carbone was charged with "hugging and kissing the patient, touching her body inappropriately and making sexual remarks during office visits."

According to Russell Aims, a spokesman for the Massachusetts State Board of Medicine, the investigation was closed and the charges against Carbone were dropped by the board due to the death of the alleged victim.

In an agreement reached with the board, Carbone agreed to stop practicing medicine and is no longer listed in the directory of physicians licensed to practice medicine in Massachusetts.

The statement also mentions Carbone's "inappropriate social relationship" with a 21-year-old patient in the State of Virginia. In June 1999, the Virginia Board of Medicine ordered Dr. Carbone to complete a course on professional boundaries.

Carbone, a 1990 graduate of the Georgetown University School of

see DOCTOR, page 5

State stakes to be sold on LSE

By ROMAN OLEARCHYK

Ukraine's State Property Fund chief Valentyna Semeniuk, a Socialist politician and longtime opponent of large-scale privatization, has announced that she will take the government's sale of state assets to a higher level.

Semeniuk told journalists earlier this week that the SPF planned on auctioning off minority to blocking state-owned stakes in around five companies on a foreign stock market, pointing to the London Stock Exchange (LSE) as one likely venue for the sales.

The bold idea was first floated in 2005 and signals continuing attempts by Ukraine's new leadership to improve the transparency and success of its privatization program. In previous years, much of the country's assets were privatized via non-transparent means to well-connected tycoons. The plan to conduct privatization tenders on Western exchanges, which seems to have been injected with fresh momentum in recent days, would serve as a precedent. SPF spokesperson Nina Yavorska told the *Post* on May 16 that Semeniuk was expected to meet with representatives of the London Stock Exchange in coming days.

see IPO, page 5

INSIDE

The Week:

Our Ukraine temporarily halts participation in coalition talks in protest against ultimatums from its would-be partners

Page 3

The Guide:

Welcome to Yalta! Find lots of ways to enjoy yourself at Crimea's most entertaining city

Page 19

WEATHER FORECAST

FRIDAY:
Mostly Cloudy
High 20, Low 10

SATURDAY:
AM Rain:
High 22, Low 13

SUNDAY:
Scattered Showers:
High 25, Low 12

Winner opens upscale automobile salon in Kyiv

By YULIANNNA VILKOS

American-based Winner, a company owned by Diasporan John Hynansky, who holds investments on the East Coast of the United States in the car dealership, construction and real estate sectors, has invested millions of dollars into a new, multi-brand auto salon, which officially opened in Kyiv last week.

The new auto salon, located near the Petrivka metro station, will now serve as home to the Winner Automotive car dealership, which operates in Kyiv selling and servicing Western brands like Ford, Volvo, Land Rover, Jaguar and Porsche. Automotive experts call the salon among the few of its kind in Kyiv.

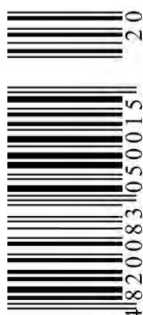
Petro Rodnyak, general director of Winner Automotive, said the opening of the salon is in line with the company's long-term development plans in Ukraine.

"The opening of the new center is a big milestone for us, as it marks the second phase of our development in the country," said Rodnyak. According to Rodnyak, the



see WINNER, page 5

Petro Rodnyak, General Director of Winner Automotive, which recently opened a new automobile showroom in Kyiv. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)



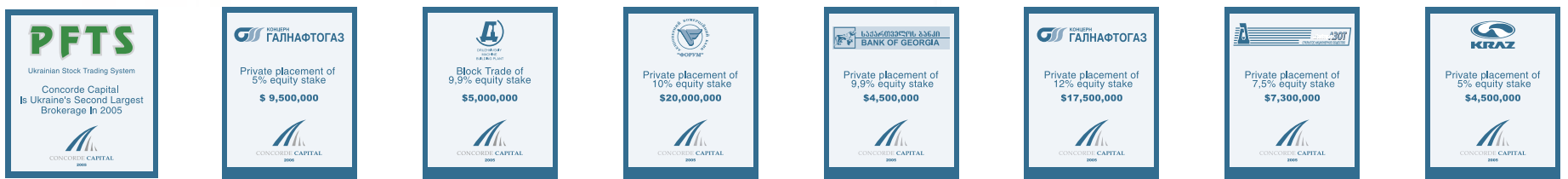


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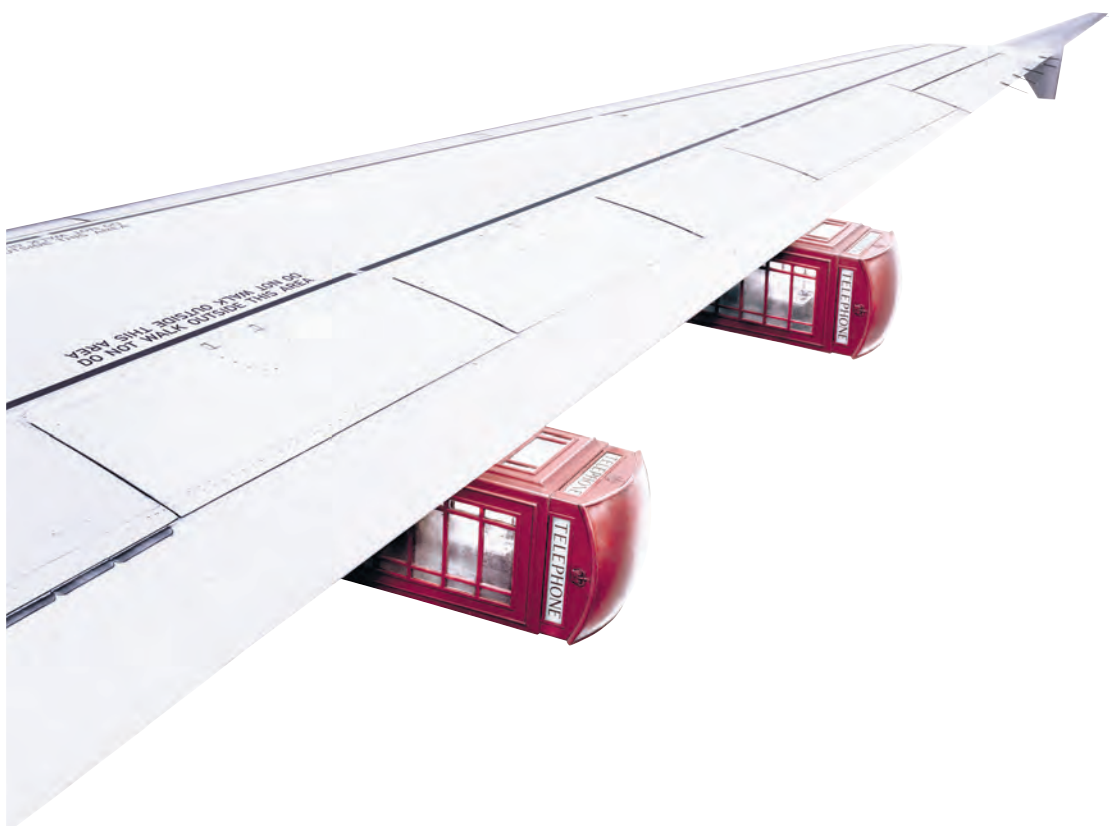
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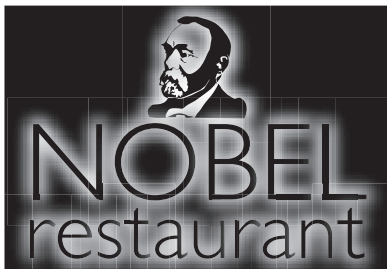
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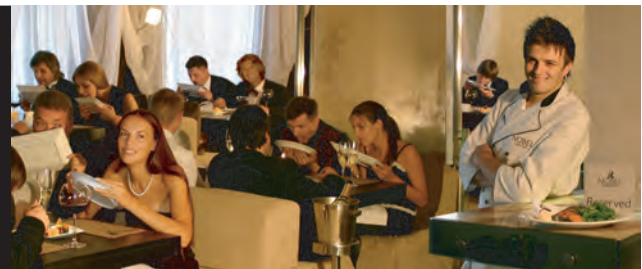


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KYIV POST The Week

Getting Connected:
ISP market grows steadily
in line with rising Internet activity
Page 8



MAY 18TH, 2006

Swiss hypnotist lives his work

By VLAD LAVROV

At first, the lecture of Dr. Patrick Noyer, a Swiss hypnotist, dentist and soccer coach who visited Kyiv in early May to teach a three-day seminar on hypnosis, seemed like nothing special.

In fact, it was easy to be almost bored by his lengthy discussion of the history of clinical hypnosis, of the theories and prominent apologists, delivered in French through a translator.

Then, something strange began to happen. As Noyer transitioned to talking about his hometown with the barely pronounceable name of La Chau-de-Fonds, and its inhabitants, its coarse farmers with swollen, blackened and cracked hands, who work during the summer on farms, and in winter have to survive by making famous Swiss watches, things got more interesting. The story took on a meaning of its own.

It somehow had a profound effect on the listener. The floor under the chairs appeared to float, the surrounding windowed walls slowly began to dissolve and a pleasantly elevated and relaxed state, where every cell in the body seemed to lose its weight, set in. At this point, your mind just doesn't care about anything. Then, suddenly, everything went back to normal, as if nothing had happened.

"I hope you noticed something unusual in the way you felt at the beginning when I talked about Swiss watchmakers," Noyet casually noted a few

see **HYPNOSIS**, page 7



Dr. Patrick Noyer, a Swiss hypnotist who visited Kyiv in early May, gave a three-day seminar testing his hypnotic talents on curious city residents. Noyer, who also practices dentistry and coaches soccer, revealed some of the tricks and methods of the hypnosis trade. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)

Yushchenko party calls for timeout

(AP) — President Viktor Yushchenko's party called a timeout on May 16 in coalition talks with its former Orange Revolution partners amid further disputes over who would get the top job in a new government.

The breakdown weakened hopes for an agreement before the new parliament's first session next week.

The announcement came after seven weeks of negotiations to put together a new government appeared to be making progress, with former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and the Socialists suggesting an agreement with Yushchenko's Our Ukraine could even be signed this week.

A revived Orange coalition would reunite the three parties that drew hundreds of thousands of people to the streets in 2004 to protest a rigged presidential election, helping prompt a new vote that Yushchenko won.

Yushchenko and Tymoshenko later had a major falling out, and the partnership between their parties disintegrated into mutual accusations. After the March 26 parliamentary elections, however, all three parties said they were committed to trying again to keep Ukraine on its reformist, pro-Western path.

But a senior Our Ukraine official, Roman Zvarych, on May 16 accused Tymoshenko and Socialist Party leader Oleksandr Moroz of issuing ultimatums over jobs in the new government. Tymoshenko, whose party won more votes than the other potential coalition partners, has demanded to be prime minister again.

The Socialist Party has supported her in exchange for her blessing for its leader, Oleksandr Moroz, to get the powerful parliamentary speaker job.

"Our Ukraine won't accept ultimatums," Zvarych said, announcing the suspension. Both Tymoshenko's bloc and the Socialists denied issuing an ultimatum, and Tymoshenko ally Oleksandr Turchynov accused Our Ukraine of "looking for reasons to drag out the negotiations."

Pressure is building on the parties to reach an agreement ahead of parliament's first scheduled session on May 25.

Lawmakers have one month after the first session to form a coalition, and another month to name the government. But Ukrainian politics has been effectively frozen for much of this year due to campaigning and then the coalition talks, leading to calls for the lawmakers to sort themselves out quickly.

The main stumbling block still appears to be the prime minister's job, with many in Yushchenko's circle extremely reluctant to see Tymoshenko return.

"All this is about the prime minister and Yulia Tymoshenko," said Inna Pidluska, an analyst with the Kyiv-based Europe Foundation. "There are many in Our Ukraine who do not want to see her be prime minister at this point."

Competition felt on fast-growing mobile market

By STEPHAN LADANAJ

Despite a snazzy advertisement campaign involving a sharp-looking beebstriped theme and brisk subscriptions, Beeline, a cell phone brand belonging to Russia's Vimpelcom, is unlikely to inch into a leading position on the Ukrainian mobile communications market, but does appear poised to significantly strengthen its currently weak position on that market by the end of this year.

Ukrainian sales of Beeline have shot skyward since the telecom giant introduced the brand in Ukraine on April 11 through its subsidiary, Ukrainian Radiosystems (URS), a small mobile communications operator offering services under the Wellcom name.

Sales of Beeline in Ukraine have pushed URS' customer base to 403,000 as of the end of April, a 44.8 percent increase in subscribers compared with March, and a 57 percent increase since the beginning of the year, giving URS a 1.2 percent share of the Ukrainian mobile communications market.

Aleksandr Izosimov, the general director of Vimpelcom, said that URS will

begin to see a profit in 2007 and continue "with moderate profitability" from there on in.

Dragon Capital, a Kyiv-based investment firm, has forecast that URS would boast over 1 million subscribers and a 2.5 percent share of the Ukrainian mobile communications market by the end of this year.

"THE COMPETITIVE LANDSCAPE IS CHANGING VERY FAST IN UKRAINE, WITH NEW INTERNATIONAL PLAYERS STAKING THEIR BIDS."

— Yaryna Klyuchkovska, UMC

According to Dragon, Vimpelcom plans to spend \$200 million this year to develop its business in Ukraine.

Beeline's success in Ukraine has raised some speculation in the industry that Ukrainian Mobile Communications (UMC), the country's second largest mobile communications operator in terms of subscribers, would consider re-branding itself in order to parry growing competition from Beeline.

On May 10, Russia's Sistema Telecom, which owns 100 percent of UMC through its mobile communications operator Mobile Telesystems (MTS), announced that it would be re-branding most of its divisions in Russia, with details of the plan becoming available in June, and the ultimate purpose being to drive up Sistema Telecom's market value,

according to Russian industry experts. Sistema Telecom did not mention UMC as being part of its re-branding plan.

MTS is Russia's biggest cell phone operator, with about a 35 percent share of the market. Vimpelcom is MTS' main competitor in Russia, and the two are nearly neck-and-neck in terms of subscriber numbers.

UMC's Head of External Affairs Yaryna Klyuchkovska told the *Post* on

May 16 that the question of changing UMC's name to MTS has been on the agenda of the management of both companies since MTS purchased UMC in 2003, adding that for 13 years UMC has successfully operated under its own name, "which is one of Ukraine's most recognizable brands."

"It [re-branding] is still a possibility, although we need to have a very good reason to give up our existing brand," Klyuchkovska said.

"We understand that the market is developing, and all brands require a facelift from time to time," she added. "As to a probable re-branding of UMC to whatever extent, the decision will be made in a few months."

Klyuchkovska said that UMC holds around 70 percent of Ukraine's corporate market and maintains market share leadership in the youth segment.

"The competitive landscape is changing very fast in Ukraine, with new international players staking their bid," she said.

"However, UMC operates according

see **MOBILE**, page 7

KYIV POST

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Living up to the American Dream – Ukrainian-style

By YULIANNNA VILKOS
Post Staff Writer

Imagine that you've graduated from a high school in a small provincial town in western Ukraine and dream of conquering the world. But the reality is that your father's an electrician, and your mother's a kindergarten teacher who can hardly back your ambitious dreams. What do you do?

"You set goals, and then you achieve them," Rodion Pryntsevsky, a stylish young man with a Western attitude, answered casually as we chatted recently one evening in a cafe overlooking Kyiv's central square.

What may sound like a trivial thing for Pryntsevsky to say is a simple truth that has been proven by his own life experience.

When Pryntsevsky's parents sold their car seven years ago to be able to send him to Kyiv for a higher education, they probably didn't imagine their son would turn into a TV star while still at university. And they certainly didn't expect him to buy them a new car after his graduation – with money he had earned himself.

By the age of 24, Pryntsevsky not only managed to graduate from Kyiv National Linguistics University with a double degree in English and German – something that would have already been good enough for any other young Ukrainian with Pryntsevsky's background – but also spent a year in the United States as an exchange student from Ukraine, created a website about his native town of Volochysk in Khmelnytsky region, and became the face of the country's leading television music channel.

"I have always wanted to get the most out of life and to be the best," Pryntsevsky said unpretentiously, revealing the individualistic mindset of those young Ukrainians who have been abroad and tend to project their possibilities on a global scale.

It must have been Pryntsevsky's leadership skills, intensified by his experience in the U.S. that persuaded the general producer of the M1 TV music channel to finance Pryntsevsky's project three years ago.

The project later turned into one of the most highly rated programs on the channel, making the ambitious young



Rodion Pryntsevsky, a young TV star on Ukraine's M1 music television channel, says that he is proof that hard work, a little bit of careful planning, friends and luck can bring a person a long way. Pryntsevsky, born in a provincial western Ukrainian town, claims that it worked for him. (Konstantin Klimentko)

man – then still a university student – a recognizable television personality and a respected TV journalist.

"The idea was to introduce Ukrainians to Western music and youth culture by showing them some of the most famous open-air festivals in Europe," said Pryntsevsky, describing his project.

"Basically, I came up to M1's general producer and told him I wanted to do it. Luckily for me, the producer was a progressive person and liked the idea," Pryntsevsky added.

who I met while studying in the States and by attending various student conferences while at my Ukrainian university that all I needed to do was send out emails," Pryntsevsky said with a smile.

Now, the 24-year-old says that his fluency in English and German, his travel experience, and many friends in foreign countries "have opened up the world" for him.

But Pryntsevsky said he was in no hurry to leave Ukraine for good.

"I've been to so many countries already and have seen so much that I'm not obsessed with getting out of Ukraine," Pryntsevsky said, adding that he tries to visit a new place every month.

Fortunately for Pryntsevsky, his job at M1 as a foreign reporter allows him to do just that. This month, for instance, Pryntsevsky will go to Switzerland to obtain footage for a documentary about coffee.

Pryntsevsky's next big goal is to organize an open-air music festival in Ukraine on a European scale, "with lots of stages, different genres represented and masses of guests from all over Europe."

And while looking for a sponsor, Pryntsevsky may get in some strategic communication classes as well.

"Strategic communication and communication policy fascinate me as tools to influence the masses and promote ideas," said Pryntsevsky, adding that he is always looking for ways to develop and educate himself.

"You know ... when I was in my native Volochysk, I dreamt of Kyiv. And when I got to Kyiv, I dreamt of New York," he said.

"Now that I've been to New York, and Washington, DC, and four times to London, and to other places, I feel it's time for the next level – to start doing something substantial to really make a difference."

And while Pryntsevsky is discreet about his short-term plans, he has no inhibitions revealing his greatest personal ambition.

"My biggest dream in life would probably be to get all of Ukraine to speak Ukrainian," said Pryntsevsky, born in western Ukraine, where most of the population speaks Ukrainian rather than Russian.

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Winner opens new auto salon in Kyiv

WINNER, cont'd from page 1

company has invested \$8 million into the construction of the two-floor center and \$2 million into purchasing equipment for servicing cars, including electronic equipment for car diagnostics and special tools for fixing upscale Jaguars and Land Rovers.

The Winner Group was one of the first companies to begin importing Western car brands to Ukraine in 1992, with its business growing from some 20 Fords sold in the first year to 4,000 that the company expects to sell this year, said Rodnyak. The company now has 13 dealerships across Ukraine and two other showrooms in Kyiv, he said.

According to Rodnyak, the company's market share in Ukraine has increased from just 2.5 percent for sales of Fords four years ago to 6.5 percent last year. He said the company expects to capture about 13.5 percent of the market of premium car brands this year thanks to its sales of Volvo, Jaguar, Land Rover and Porsche vehicles.

Winner Automotive offers cars ranging from the Ford Fiesta, for a little more than \$10,000, to the luxurious Porsche 911 Turbo Coupe for almost \$180,000, said Rodnyak.

Oleh Omelnytsky, director of AUTO-Consulting, a Kyiv-based consultancy that specializes in the Ukrainian car market, said a new Winner Automotive salon has only two analogues in Kyiv when it comes to size and services offered.

The modern, two-floor complex features four showrooms displaying 20 automobiles, a warehouse and a service center, as well as cafes for customers and employees, a children's room, and a fitness center for the company's employees.

"Out of some 300 auto salons in Kyiv, only 50 correspond to the corporate standards of the brands they sell, and only few of them are multi-brand salons, like Winner Automotive," said Omelnytsky.

According to Omelnytsky, 30 percent of all cars sold in Ukraine last year were imported from the West, with the most popular Western brands of 2005 being Mitsubishi, Toyota and Volkswagen. He said first-quarter figures for 2006 show an increase in Ford sales, placing Ford in the top three or four bestselling brands in Ukraine.

"The share of Western imported cars is increasing proportionally to the growth of the overall automotive market in Ukraine, which is growing by approximately 30 percent every year,"



Kyiv car dealer Winner Automotive's new, two-floor auto complex near Petrivka metro station cost \$8 million to build and features four showrooms, a warehouse and service center, as well as cafes for customers, a children's room, and a fitness center for the company's employees. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)

noted Omelnytsky, adding that about half of all cars sold in the country are being made in Ukraine or CIS countries.

Commenting on market trends, Rodnyak predicted that the overall car market in Ukraine this year will amount to some 350,000 cars and will continue to grow.

"I am not an economist, but I do see that that our sales keep climbing, and we keep growing our objectives," said Rodnyak, who hopes that political developments in the country will not affect the market's positive trends.

"This is Ukraine, and we don't know what impact it will have once the government decides what it's going to do,"

Rodnyak said. He added, however, that recent elections did not interrupt the company's sales, "while in prior times they did."

As for the company's nearest development plans, Rodnyak said the Winner Group will also build a new center for Porsche cars in Kyiv, planning to invest some 2 million euros into the project.

Analyst: selling state assets on Ukrainian exchange less expensive

IPO, cont'd from page 1

Yavorska, who could not identify which companies the SPF hoped to sell, said other foreign exchanges were also being considered.

"We can't say which companies yet, but we are talking about state-owned stakes in companies of 25 percent and below," Yavorska said.

"We are considering the London Stock Exchange, but the stakes could also be sold on exchanges in Moscow and Tokyo, for example. Semeniuk thinks that the Fund will be able to sell these stakes for much higher prices on these exchanges than if we privatize them through a tender here in Ukraine," she added.

Andriy Dmytrenko, an analyst at Kyiv-based investment bank Dragon Capital, said that conducting privatization on a Western market would be a first sign of growing investor confidence should it

prove successful. However, he cautioned that it is difficult to say whether such share placements would work, particularly since it was not clear yet which companies will be offered and whether investors would be interested in them at all.

"I don't know of examples of this kind of privatization of state assets, but it could be possible to conduct one given adherence to regulations and compliance with rules," Dmytrenko said.

"Technically, it's possible to do as a placement through depository receipts of these shares, but the program should first be registered for the company. It could be more expensive compared with domestic placement of shares due to the additional costs of depository receipt program registration and the fees associated with conducting a road show," he added.

According to Dmytrenko, interest in the Ukrainian market has risen markedly

since the fall 2004 presidential elections, when Viktor Yushchenko rose to Ukraine's presidency.

Many companies have improved their corporate governance and are showing more profits by cutting down on tax optimization schemes, through which profits were funneled offshore. A handful of Ukrainian companies have successfully completed their first Ukrainian IPO listings on Western markets, while others have listed their shares abroad as depository receipts or warrants, he said.

Dmytrenko questioned the need for the state to list its shares abroad, adding that it could be easier and less expensive to list them on the Ukrainian market.

"A lot depends on which companies the SPF will be offering, but I don't see an advantage to listing the shares in London rather than in Ukraine, where the fees for listing are less expensive. Any big

Ukrainian broker can act on the local market on behalf of foreign investors," Dmytrenko said.

Since Ukraine declared independence, the government has tried various means to privatize state assets, ranging from the issuance of vouchers to employees working at the companies, to controversial tenders in which Ukraine's business elite was granted priority rights to acquire assets.

Last year, the government conducted what has been dubbed as the country's most transparent large-scale privatization sale, auctioning off the country's largest steel mill to the highest bidder.

In the tender, Mittal Steel, the world's largest steel company, outbid competitor Arcelor, paying a whopping \$4.8 billion for the steel mill, about six times more than Ukrainian business groups paid for the mill in a 2004 tender, which was subsequently reversed through court rulings.

The SPF has raised just over \$10 million through privatizations since the beginning of the year, a small fraction of the more than \$4 billion generated in 2005. The sale of large strategic assets were put off ahead of the highly politicized March 26 parliamentary elections.

The government has considered privatizing a handful of large strategic assets this year, including state fixed-line telephone company Ukrtelecom.

The government has also expressed plans to resell a majority stake in the prized Nikopol Ferroalloy Plant. The stake was privatized in 2002-2003 through controversial means for under \$100 million to Ukrainian tycoon Viktor Pinchuk, but the government is currently attempting through lawsuits to renationalize the stake, valued close to \$1 billion according to some sources.

Medical establishments fail to see doctor's questionable past

DOCTOR, cont'd from page 1

Medicine, is an internist who has held licenses in Massachusetts, Virginia, New Hampshire and North Carolina.

On Feb. 23, Eurolab advertised in the *Post* its appointment of Carbone as "the new Chief Medical Officer for Eurolab, the largest and most sophisticated medical lab in Ukraine."

"Dr. Carbone is well-known among the diplomatic, VIP and charitable communities in Kyiv, as well as Ukraine's best clinical and academic institutions," the half-page advertisement reads.

The management at Eurolab, which was launched over a year ago, and has already received upwards of \$24 million in investment, acknowledged that it didn't check very deeply into Carbone's past.

"We didn't know. By the time Mr. Carbone was leaving, we knew nothing. We did not know that his license was suspended," said Eurolab General Director Andriy Palchevsky.

According to Palchevsky, Carbone was hired on a three-month trial basis and dismissed "because he didn't deliver."

"We are in business. He wasn't a good specialist," Palchevsky said.

In hiring the American doctor, Palchevsky said that Eurolab was satisfied

"I KNOW THAT MR. CARBONE WAS KEEPING FILES OF HIS (YUSHCHENKO'S) KIDS."

— **Andriy Palchevsky, Eurolab**

fied by the fact that Carbone had worked for American Medical Centers.

And, he added, "to the best of my

knowledge ... he [Carbone] wasn't supposed to" treat patients directly.

Carbone was originally recruited from Massachusetts to Ukraine by American Medical Centers, said Alex Sokol, managing director of AMC, where Carbone worked as Chief Medical Doctor from August of 2004 until his employment at Eurolab in Feb 2006.

Sokol said that all of Carbone's credentials, including board certification, education, references and possible criminal records, were thoroughly checked.

Sokol said he couldn't recall exactly which certification AMC verified.

The American Board of Internal Medicine includes Carbone on its website, but lists him as "not certified."

The Feb. 23 Eurolab advertisement mentions Carbone's 1997 certification in family medicine from the American Board of Family Practice (ABFM), a Kentucky-based medical board that evaluates physicians' training and experience.

A verification letter provided by the ABFM on May 16 states that Carbone is not currently certified by this organization, as his certificate expired in 2004.

"At the time that we brought him on ... we knew that his [Massachusetts] license was re-pending, reissuing," said Sokol, who attributed this to Carbone's academic hiatus at Harvard.

Sokol, who called the American doctor's work "excellent," said Carbone regularly 'consulted' with patients.

Sokol said that since American physicians often move from State to State, he saw nothing suspicious in Carbone's paperwork, adding: "I was not aware of any disciplinary action."

Carbone's consulting fees at AMC were between \$65 and \$165 per patient, said Sokol. Eurolab's Palchevsky suggested that Carbone's patients might be more than just wealthy.

"All I know about Carbone ... is that he was taking care of President [Viktor]

Yushchenko's family, because they were members of AMC."

"I know that Mr. Carbone was keeping files of his [Yushchenko's] kids ... All I know [is] that when he was working for us, he said that before, when he was a member of AMC - whether he was treating or not treating, I do not know - but he was keeping records, medical records of Mr. Yushchenko's kids."

Palchevsky underlined that he had no written proof of Carbone's claims. Sokol could neither confirm nor deny whether Yushchenko's children were patients, citing patient confidentiality. Yushchenko's spokesperson declined to reveal "personal" details of the president's life.

According to Eurolab's advertisement in the *Post*, Carbone was hired to ensure Eurolab maintains the highest level of "international standards of health care."

The *Post* has been unable to contact Carbone. His attorney did not respond to inquiries before the *Post* went to press.

SPF accuses Mittal of falling short on investment obligations

MITTAL, continued from page 1 with regard to financial compensation for the 2005 period," reads a statement released on May 16 by Mittal.

In the statement, however, Mittal said that it differed with the SPF on specific salary requirements for this year for specific categories of employees, adding that consultations were ongoing.

Mittal insisted it had not violated its investment obligations, which pegged salaries at the factory to the minimum wage set by the government.

"At the moment, the minimum salary at the enterprise is 22 percent higher than the minimum living standard and 54 percent higher than the minimum wage set by law," the statement reads, adding that the company aims to improve the competitiveness of the factory and boost salaries further in the future.

Earlier, on May 15, the SPF's Semeniuk set a deadline for Mittal to fulfill its obligations to raise salaries by early June, threatening to file a lawsuit against the investors if they failed to do so.

Semeniuk also threatened to strip the Ukrainian metallurgical plant from the hands of the investors should they fail to fulfill their obligations, adding that other companies have offered to buy the factory for more money.

"If the obligations are not fulfilled by June 6, they will face a trial on June 7," she said.

Privatization expert Oleksandr Ryabchenko, who serves as director of the Kyiv-based International Institute for Privatization, Asset Management and Investments, said the conflict lies in whether Mittal should pay salaries in line with the minimum living standard set by legislation last year, when Mittal acquired

the plant, or follow the new standard, which was raised this year.

"The conflict lies in whether Mittal should abide by the new minimum living standard, or last year's," Ryabchenko said.

"One problem is that the full text of the sale condition has not been made public, so all we see right now is a public discussion between both sides, with each side arguing that they are right in their argument," he added.

Earlier this year, Volodymyr Kozachenko, head of the Central Committee for the Union of Metallurgy and Mining Industry Workers, told the *Post* that the steel mill's new investors have failed to fulfill promises to raise wages for plant employees.

When Mittal bought 93.02 percent of Kryvorizhstal's shares in a resale last October, they signed a contract requiring it to "establish wage rates for workers with seniority not lower than the minimum living standard for able-bodied employees."

On Jan. 17, the SPF issued a statement requesting that Mittal Steel stick to its part of the purchase agreement.

"We are trying to fulfill our goal, and we plan to raise the salary for leading industrial workers up to \$1,000 [a month] by 2009," Kozachenko said in January.

Based on his committee's data, as of last November, the average monthly salary in the industry was Hr 896 (\$175). According to the same data, Azovstal, another major Ukrainian metallurgical plant controlled by Donetsk tycoon Rinat Akhmetov, pays the highest average worker salaries in the country - Hr 2,085 (\$408) a month - while Kryvorizhstal is fifth, paying its workers Hr 1,523 (\$298).

Ryabchenko also criticized Semeniuk's

harsh threats to reverse Mittal's acquisition of Mittal, saying that they could further harm Ukraine's image in the eyes of investors, who were spooked last year by alleged weak property rights in Ukraine after news reports alleged that the government planned to review dozens of thousands of privatization deals conducted in the past.

"To demand the fulfillment of investment obligations is fine, but threats to reverse the sale of this plant is a bad strategy. There will always be buyers available willing to pay more, but overall, this will be very negative for Ukraine's investment climate," Ryabchenko said.

Through court proceedings last year, the government of then-Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko managed to nationalize the 93 percent share in Kryvorizhstal that was sold in 2004 to companies controlled by tycoons Rinat Akhmetov and Viktor Pinchuk. The latter is former President Leonid Kuchma's son-in-law.

The Pinchuk- and Akhmetov-controlled companies acquired the mill for \$800 million after bids nearly double in size were disqualified due to controversial sale conditions. Mittal offered \$1.5 billion to buy the plant in the earlier tender.

Mittal Steel has operations in 16 countries on four continents. In 2004, the company shipped 42.1 million tons of steel and generated revenues of \$22.2 billion. Kryvorizhstal controls 20 percent of the metallurgy market in Ukraine, and is ranked as the world's seventh largest steel-producing country.

Ukraine also boasts large reserves of ore and coal, key raw materials used in steel production. Ukraine's steel industry is largely dominated by Ukrainian and Russian business groups.



State Property Fund chief Valentyna Semeniuk. (Andriy Porokhnenko)

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Ukrainians look for answers in a trance

HYPNOSIS, cont'd from page 3
hours later. This sensation was achieved by careful phrasing, changing the rhythm of speech, as well as a precise word choice, he said.

Nearly 20 people gathered for Noyer's seminar, entitled "Clinical Hypnosis. Working with Pain and Suffering," a debut event organized by the Kyiv-based Institute of Hypnosis and Psychotherapy, which included managers and business men, the majority of whom worked in advertising or PR. There also were practicing psychologists, forensic experts and even a teacher of Tora from Jerusalem.

Each of the participants had to introduce himself, state his reason for coming and what expectations he had of the course. Then, each of them had to name their real reasons for coming and their true expectations, this time standing on a chair, "to take off the mask," as Noyer put it.

Masked or not, the reasons were diverse. One middle-aged man, a manager of 100 people, wanted to learn how to manage his employees more efficiently. A young woman working in PR was simply tired of working with so many people at her job. Some came out of pure curiosity, while others desired to work with their own patients. One girl con-

fessed, while standing on a chair, that she wanted to learn nothing less than how to love. To achieve all this, each participant paid \$300 for a three-day session.

Breathe!

As soon as everyone was back in their seats, they were expected to learn the cornerstone principle of hypnosis, which is all based on breathing. To be able to hypnotize someone, it is necessary to listen to that person's breathing rhythm, and then begin breathing in the same way. Later, seminar participants learned to speak in coordination with their subjects' exhalations, using the verbal patterns of that person.

Soon everybody in the room was practicing. They checked each other's breathing patterns first through touching, then only by listening, and finally went on to learn to make an "AAH" sound when their experimental subject exhaled.

The session lasted nearly nine hours, by the end of which some of the more gifted students were confidently able to put their colleagues into a trancelike state.

"Only children, academicians and profoundly insane people are prone to being hypnotized," said Noyer at a din-

ner when the first day of the seminar was over.

He has been using the techniques he knows from practicing hypnosis for the last 18 years. Once, he admits, he used the techniques for his own personal benefit – when he needed to sell his old house that no one wanted. He said that

tions should always motivate the use of hypnosis. But how does he know that everyone at the seminar had good intentions?

"I have no way to check how they will use it [the knowledge], but I am old-fashioned enough to trust people," he replied.

"I HAVE TO CHECK HOW THEY WILL USE IT [THE KNOWLEDGE], BUT I AM OLD-FASHIONED ENOUGH TO TRUST PEOPLE."

– Patrick Noyer,
Swiss hypnotist

A hypnotist for life

The 48-year-old Noyer began studying hypnosis while working as a dentist, as a way to cope with the personal stress of "having to deal with people who are afraid of you and who don't want to be with you." Later, he discovered that it could actually be beneficial for the patients themselves. He claims he can stop bleeding or even put a person into a state where he can be operated on without anesthesia.

Noyer frequently uses hypnosis on patients who are simply so afraid of the dentist that they could not bring themselves to sit in the dentist's chair, much less be ready to open their mouths for the procedure.

Having used hypnosis for the last 18 years in his practice, he says his methods have become quite popular in Switzerland, and the waiting list is often four months long.

Just as a writer never really stops being a writer, a hypnotist continues dealing with trance beyond his office hours. "I am now trying to put myself into trance to answer these questions," jokes Noyer.

He says that his application of hypnosis extends even into his coaching activities, and he says trance helps him communicate better with his team of teenage boys. Their parents also don't seem to mind: "They know we have a very respectful relationship."

His family, wife and two children, however, appear to be the only exception. "They are too close," he admits.

Strangely enough, Noyer says that even he can sometimes be hypnotized or manipulated by others.

"Sometimes, I am quite a naive person... It's impossible to be on the defense all the time."

UMC, Kyivstar maintain large lead in race for subscribers

MOBILE, cont'd from page 3
to its strategy. We are not planning to enter a reactive mode and to base our business purely on the competitors' activities."

Running down the numbers

The number of mobile phone subscribers in Ukraine continued to grow in April, reaching 33.8 million, with penetration of 72.1 percent, an 11.6 percent gain since the beginning of the year.

Dragon Capital has forecast that mobile phone subscribers in Ukraine

will number 40.8 million, implying penetration of 87.5 percent, by the end of this year.

At the end of April, Kyivstar, the country's leading mobile phone services company by number of subscribers, maintained its market lead with 15.1 million subscribers, a month-on-month increase of 1.2 percent and a 9 percent increase since the beginning of the year. Kyivstar controls 44.9 percent of the Ukrainian mobile phone services market in terms of subscribers.

UMC reported a 1 percent increase in the number of its subscribers in

April compared with March to 14.6 million, a 10 percent increase since the beginning of the year. UMC controls 43.2 percent of the market.

The number of subscribers to Astelit, the fifth, and newest provider of mobile phone services on the Ukrainian market, totaled 3.55 million at the end of April, a 9.2 percent increase since March and a year-to-date increase of 32 percent, giving Astelit a 10.5 percent share of the market.

Astelit began providing mobile communication services in Ukraine under its life:) brand in January 2005.

Turkish telecom giant Turkcell indirectly owns 54.4 percent of Astelit, while System Capital Management, a portfolio of multi-billion-dollar business interests controlled by Donetsk magnate Rinat Akhmetov, owns the remaining 45.6 percent.

Together, Kyivstar, UMC and Astelit currently control 98.6 percent of the mobile communications market in Ukraine.

Dragon Capital reported in its May 12 newsletter that Kyivstar plans to invest \$600 million into the expansion of its network in 2006, a 5.4 percent

increase in spending compared with last year.

UMC expects to invest \$500 million in its development this year, a 26 percent drop from last year, while Astelit plans to spend \$200 million on itself in 2006, also 26 percent less compared with year before.

Ukraine's smallest cell phone services company by subscriber base, Golden Telecom, had 68,000 mobile subscribers at the end of April, and a 0.2 percent share of the Ukrainian mobile communications market, Dragon Capital reported.

ISP market developing in line with rising Internet activity

By **ORYSIA KULICK**

The Ukrainian Internet service providers (ISP) market is not only becoming more competitive, but as the network and infrastructure expands and becomes increasingly diversified, the price of Internet access continues to fall.

What's more, the Ukrainian government's recent decision to raise phone tariffs for intra-city calls could shake up the market a bit. By raising the price of intra-city telephone calls, the government could encourage a growing number of Internet surfers using dialup access, which is dependent on telephone lines for a connection, to switch to higher-speed connections.

As it stands, Ukraine has just over 2 million unique Internet users, or those who have visited a website at least once regularly in a fixed period of time, according to statistics gathered by Internet portal Bigmir.net, founded in 1999 by the publisher of the *Post*.

Sites often calculate unique visitors based on the IP address information found in log files and sometimes through cookies, although many factors can skew the results.

Industry experts and ISP providers are in agreement that the number of Internet users in Ukraine is growing fast, at a minimum of 20 percent annually over the last few years, according to Tetyana Popova, the Chairman of the Board of the Ukrainian Internet Association, a group founded to consolidate efforts to develop the Internet in Ukraine.

But it is difficult to accurately assess

how many Internet users there are, Popova added.

"According to Bigmir's figures, the number of unique Internet users in 2005 was on average around 2 million a month," Popova said.

"The State Statistics Committee puts the figure at around 600,000, while Spylog [an Internet statistics service] estimates that Ukraine's number of [active] Internet users could be around 2.3-2.8 million. Bigmir reported 2.4 million [users] for December 2005 and approximately 2.8 million for the month of April 2006, although the core was around 600,000," she added.

The number of ISPs is also challenging to determine. In its annual report for 2005, Ukraine's National Communications Regulation Committee (UCRC) cited two figures, suggesting that there could be as many as 4,500 ISP providers, but only 544 that are registered, said Popova, adding that it all depends "on who we are counting."

"Theoretically," Popova said, "one network means one provider. However, that provider might be the size of Utel [a large subsidiary of state-owned fixed-line telephone company Ukrtelecom], or a smaller one that provides services for a single bloc of flats."

Previous impediments to Internet growth in Ukraine, such as high prices for Internet service, an insufficiently developed infrastructure, and Ukrtelecom's monopoly on telecommunications, are not as prevalent in 2006.

Volia Cable, one of Ukraine's largest cable Internet providers, noted growth of about 20-25 percent year-on-year in 2006, said Andriy Pastuhov, Volia's leading marketing expert.

Svitlana Katkova, director of a telecommunications service department at state-owned, fixed-line telephone company Ukrtelecom, says that the planned increase in phone rates for intra-city calls will lead to a general increase in the cost of dialup Internet access. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)



Volia Cable is part of a portfolio managed by American investment firm SigmaBleyzer. Volia's 1,200 employees serve over 50,000 customers in Kyiv, Lviv, Alchamsk and Chernivtsi with broadband cable lines that operate independently. Most of Volia's clients, however, are in Kyiv, where the company holds a majority share of the cable market.

Telecommunications giant Ukrtele-

com continues to provide the backbone for a large percentage of Ukraine's ISP providers, as it controls roughly 60 percent of Ukraine's telecommunications network by its own estimates. This includes a significant percentage of the fixed broadband market, still largely dominated by cable and DSL connections, but also the analogue phone lines used by most dialup ISPs. Ukrtelecom

also has plans to expand its broadband clientele.

At an April 27 press conference, Ukrtelecom Board Chairman Heorhiy Dzekon said that he expected the number of broadband ADSL customers to grow by a factor of 4 from roughly 25,000 to 100,000 by the end of 2006. To facilitate

see **ISP**, page 9

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Rising cost for intra-city calls could raise dialup service prices

ISP, continued from page 8
 this growth, Ukrtelecom and Intel, the world's largest chipmaker and a leading manufacturer of computer, networking and communications products, announced plans to introduce a program earmarked for the third quarter of 2006. It envisions the sale of three-four kinds of personal computers to private individuals – on credit if necessary – which will be equipped with multi-media packages for Ukrtelecom's ADSL-broadband Internet service "OHO," increasing the number of home computers and widening their network at a range of prices.

Ukrtelecom, together with its subsidiaries, controls 60 percent of the Ukrainian telecommunications market.

However, a number of privately held telecommunications companies are catching up by expanding their own network backbone within Ukraine. Popova said, pointing to companies such as Evrotranstelecom, Datacom, UMC and Kyivstar.

Volia Cable also operates its own cable lines, which are independent of Ukrtelecom's network.

The number of ISPs offering high-speed Internet options has increased over the last few years, including the United Networks of Kharkiv (founded in 2004), which offers high speed Internet access by leased lines; Superweb and SurfMax (2004), which offer ADSL in addition to dial-up services; and Stella and skyDSL, founded in 2005 and 2006, respectively, which offer satellite Internet.

In addition, there has also been a consolidation over the last three years on the dial-up ISP market, beginning with Optima Telecom's purchase of a 50 percent stake in IP telecom in 2003, a com-

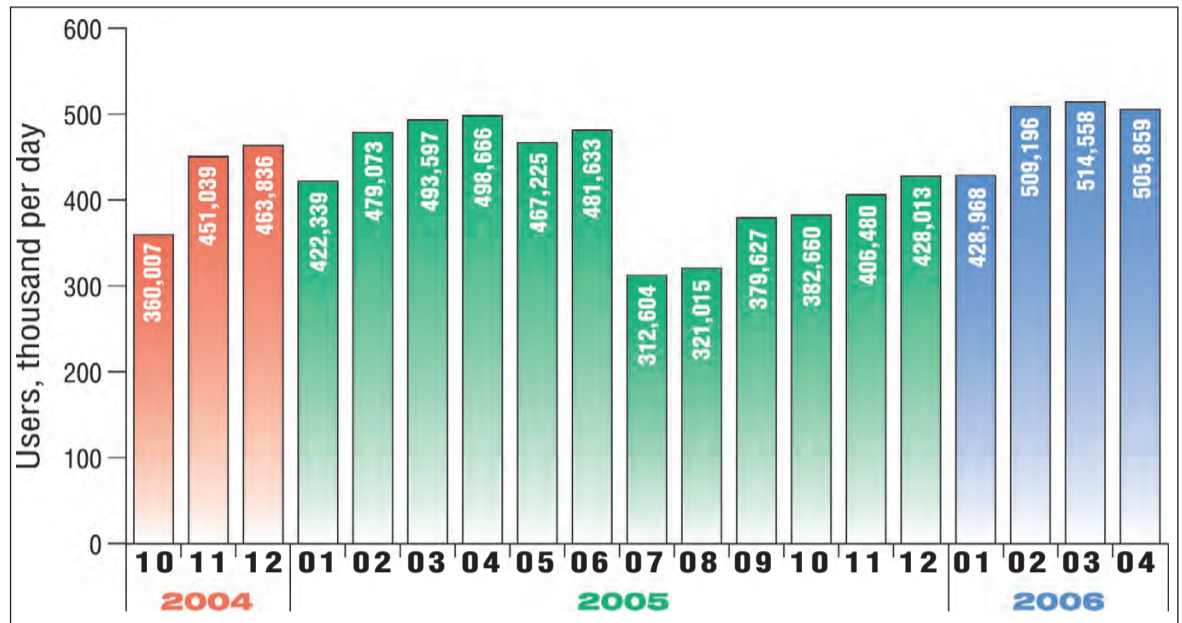
pany founded in 1998 that now also offers leased line options. The company System Capital Management (SCM), 90 percent owned by Donetsk tycoon Rinat Akhmetov, recently bought a controlling stake in Optima Telecom and Farlep-Invest, a fixed communications provider.

Ukrtelecom's own statistics illustrate how much of the market is still controlled by dialup providers. Svitlana Katkova, director of the telecommunications service department at Ukrtelecom, noted that in addition to its 25,000 ADSL users under its trademark "OHO", Ukrtelecom also has 5,000 xDSL clients and over 300,000 password free and regular dialup users through its ISP provider Svitonline and other brands.

Overall, dialup Internet continues to dominate the industry, especially outside Ukraine's major cities. SputnikMedia.net reported that in February, 48.76 percent of all Internet activity took place in the Kyiv region, where broadband controls about 20 percent of the market, according to Volia's Pastuhov. After Kyiv, seven regions account for approximately 39.76 percent of Internet usage: Dnipropetrovsk, Odessa, Donetsk, Kharkiv, Lviv, Crimea and Zaporizhya.

This geographic breakdown has changed little in the last year, and the trend is likely to continue for at least the next two years, "until newly arrived large ISP providers begin establishing a developed infrastructure not only in large cities, but also in the regions," Popova said, adding that in the last two years, dialup ISPs' share of the market has shrunk because of decreasing prices for leased-line Internet, the spread of DSL-access and the appearance of cable Internet.

NUMBER OF UKRAINIAN INTERNET USERS Monthly Average



Statistics provided by Bigmir.net

Furthermore, the National Electricity Regulation Commission's decision to increase the price for local, or intra-city calls by 30-35 percent will likely affect at least some dialup Internet users, even though others will continue to find dialup Internet more affordable, because broadband Internet providers often charge subscribers relatively high fees for traffic in excess of a base amount.

For most Internet users, "these changes will simply accelerate their ongoing search for higher-quality

Internet access," Pastuhov said.

"This price increase will likely stimulate them to more actively search for other alternatives for accessing the Internet," he added.

Because dialup customers effectively pay for both their use of the Internet and also of the telephone line, "the planned increase in phone rates for intra-city calls will lead to a general increase in the cost of dialup Internet access," Katkova said.

But, said Popova, telecommunications services become more affordable

with each year, adding that "five years ago, for a 64KB line you'd pay \$1,000, but today for that money an end user can buy 20 such lines."

On the other hand, for providers of telecommunications services (including Internet) the most important thing is the so-called "last mile" issue.

"It doesn't matter what exactly it is – telephone line, TV cable or radio connection. The one who provides affordable services with the best quality will be the winner," according to Popova.

SURFING THE WEB

Listed by year of establishment

COMPANY NAME ADDRESS E-MAIL WEB SITE	PHONE FAX	TOP EXECUTIVE	YEAR ESTABLISHED IN UKRAINE	NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES	OWNERSHIP UKRAINIAN / FOREIGN (%)	SERVICES PROVIDED	REGIONS / CITIES SERVED	DATA TRANSMISSION SPEED	DIAL-UP COST: MONTH / HOUR / UNLIMITED	LEASED LINE COST PER MONTH: 56 / 64 / 128 / 256 (Kbps)	INTERNET CARDS HOURLY / NIGHTLY* / DAILY* / MONTHLY*	REVENUES IN 2004 / 2005 FIRST HALF-YEAR
Infocom 8 Volodymyrska infocom@infocom.ua www.infocom.ua	230-5215 230-5206	Vasiliy Polishchuk	1991	201	57 / 43	All kind of telecom services: Data transmission, Internet, data center, complex network solutions	Nationwide	Up to 100 Mbps	N/A / from \$ 0.2 / from \$4.8	N/A / \$50 / \$95 / \$180	From \$0.12 / \$4.8 / N/A / \$30	Hr 29 million (without VAT) Q1-2 2005
Adamant 51A Kharkivske shosse manager@adamant.ua www.adamant.ua	566-7722 563-0563	Tetyana Doroshenko	1992	63	100 / 0	Individual system design, corporate networks, VPN, system integration, fiber- optic channels, domains, hosting, collocation, Internet broadcasting consulting	Nationwide	150 Mbps -total outer channels capacity, 10 Gbps- parity channels	Hr 12.85 - Hr 43.9 / Hr 0.8 / Hr 168	N/A / Hr 300 / Hr 1,200 / Hr 2,160	10, 25, 50, 100, 150 INET cards	WND
Astral-Kiev 37 Zhylyanska admin@astral-on.net www.astral-on.net	490-5708 490-5730	WND	1992	50	Ukrainian- Austrian venture	Internet, LAN, hosting, collocation, domain registration	Kyiv	128Kbps - 100Mbps	From \$0.4	From \$40	N/A	WND
Global Ukraine 27, P. Myrnoho info@gu.net www.gu.net	284-53-66 284-53-67	V. Kotorobay	1993	62	100 / 0	ISP	Kyiv	64-2,048 Kbps and faster	N/A / Hr 0.5 / Hr 59	Hr 270-Hr 550 / Hr 420- Hr 980 / Hr 550-Hr 1,870	Hr 10-Hr 15, Hr 39, Hr 59	WND
Relcom* 111/113 Chervonoarmiyska info@relc.com relcom.ua	247-4011	Olga Rechkina	1993	21	100 / 0	Internet	Kyiv, Chernihiv	From 64 Kbps to 2 Mbps	From \$0.60 / from \$0.42 / from \$18	N/A / from \$60 / from \$60 / from \$60	\$0.42 - \$0.60 / N/A / \$5 / \$6 - \$19	WND
Ukrtelecom 18 T. Shevchenko Blvd. ukrtelecom@ukrtelecom.net www.ukrtelecom.ua	230-9011 234-3957	Georgiy Dzekon	1993	About 120,000	100 / 0	Local, trunk and international telephony services, Internet, ADSL and xDSL connection, virtual private network, traffic exchange, leased lines, ISDN, Frame Relay	Nationwide	Total bus network capacity - 40 Gbps, ADSL2+ - 24 Mbps, outer channel capacity - 2 Gbps	Hr 25 / Hr 1.2 / Hr 75	Hr 52.5 / Hr 61.44 (256- 512) / Hr 92.16 (512- 2,048) - ADSL: Hr 255 / Hr 399 / Hr 799 / Hr 1,499 (512) / Hr 3,299 (2,048)	N/A	Hr 1 billion
Lucky.Net 55 Chervonoarmiyska admin@lucky.net www.lucky.net	205-4455	Artur Gabovich	1994	103	100 / 0	Leased lines, dial-up, satellite channels, radio access, collocation, Web hosting, Web design, systems integration	Nationwide	Up to 1Gbps	N/A / Hr 1.2 - Hr 2.4 / Hr 180	N/A / Hr 27 - Hr 36 / Hr 39 - Hr 75 / Hr 75 - Hr 150	N/A / unlimited weekly for Hr 36 / Hr 132	WND
Faust* 39 Predslavynska manager@faust.net.ua www.faust.net.ua	521-6833 521-6834	WND	1995	WND	100 / 0	Internet, dial-up (callback), leased lines, LAN	Kyiv	WND	N/A	From Hr 30 / month	From Hr 0.48 / hour	WND
Inter-Telecom 8 Lysenko info@cyfra.ua www.cyfra.ua	206-7733 206-7720	Taras Kolesnik	1995	50 - 100	100 / 0	Broadband Internet, hosting, domain registration, VPN	Kyiv and Kyiv oblast	64 - 2,048 Kbps	N/A	Hr 64 - Hr 255 / Hr 128 - Hr 362 / Hr 256 -Hr 556	N/A	WND
SpecAutomatica 38 Danilevskoho (Kharkiv) sy@sa.net.ua www.sa.net.ua	(057) 714-3727 717-9611	Vyacheslav Yepishin	1995	25	100 / 0	Internet, wireless networks integrator	Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast	From 36 Kbps to 100 Mbps	N/A	N/A / N/A / Hr 1,500 / Hr 2,500 (unlimited)	N/A	Hr 2.5 million
Academy of Pedagogical Science of Ukraine 52 Artema, #204 admin@edu-ua.net www.edu-ua.net	483-8286 486-6559	Natalya Zadorozhna	1996	15	100 / 0	Dial up with Callback, leased lines, mail, ftp	Kyiv	128 Kbps	\$15	N/A	N/A	WND
BitterNet 2 Medova (Ternopil) info@bit.te.ua www.bit.te.ua/	(3522) 430913	Roman Tkachuk	1996	35	100 / 0	MAN, LL, dialup, Radio Ethernet	Ternopil oblast	30 Mbps	Hr 2 per hour, Hr 6 per day	N/A	N/A	WND

Source: Companies, public information and Kyiv Post staff. The chart is not meant to be all-inclusive. WND means *Would Not Disclose*. N/A means *Not Applicable*. *Unlimited. **As of Dec. 2005

MAY 18TH, 2006

SURFING THE WEB

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Golden Telecom 19A Khreshchatyk info@goldentele.com www.goldentele.com	490-0000	Andrey Dronuyk	1996	More than 600	0 / 100	Local, trunk and int'l telephony, digital network, ISDN (BRI, PRI), call center, corporate networks (leased lines with MPLS, Frame Relay, SDH /TDM, X.25))	Nationwide	155 Mbps (intercity); 2.5 Gbps (int'l); 5 Gbps (basic network)	N/A / \$0.09- \$0.70 / N/A	Individually	Svit 20, 50 (SvitOnline cards), Smaylyk and Minus cards	WND
S_V_R www.unet.net.ua	(800) 500-0800	WND	1996	WND	100 / 0	Dial-up Internet access	Nationwide	Up to 56 Kbps	Hr 72 / Hr 2.88 / Hr 180	N/A	Hr 25, 50, 100 cards	WND
VTV 4 Bohomoltsya, #109 sales@vtr.kiev.ua www.vtr.kiev.ua	256-2096 253-6619	Viacheslav Shkarupin	1997	WND	100 / 0	Internet access via leased lines and dial-up, e-mail, ftp, web design/hosting, VPN, soft/hard ware installation	Kyiv	Varies	Hr 50 / Hr 1 / Hr 100	N/A / N/A / Hr 700 / Hr 1,300	N/A	WND
Data-Express 197B Artema (Donetsk) office@dataxp.net www.donbasstele.com	(062) 3328-201 3328-202	V. Ivanov	1998	WND	WND	Telephony, Internet, data transmission	Donetsk and Donetsk oblast	WND	N/A / Hr 0.58 / Hr 160.61	From Hr 24	Cards for 2, 4, 5, 10, 20 and 40 hours	WND
IP Telecom* 34 Lesi Ukrainky, #208 managers@iptelecom.ua www.iptelecom.ua	502-5252 502-2025	Mikhail Semenov	1998	WND	WND	Dial-up, leased lines, Web hosting, Web design	Nationwide	56Kbps - 8 Mbps	\$42 / \$0.19 - \$0.69 / \$42	N/A / \$84 - \$240 / \$84 - \$420 / \$84 - \$840	N/A	WND
Navigator-Online* 13 Vasylevskoyi, Building 1 info@naverex.net www.naverex.net	243-5344 243-5396	Alexander Dyachenko	1998	WND	100 / 0	Leased lines, dial-up, collocation, Web hosting, domain registration	Kyiv	WND	N/A / Hr 450 / Hr 300 - Hr 1,200 / Hr 800 - Hr 2,300	Hr 1,250	N/A	WND
SilverCom 15/23 Shulyavska, #103 www.silvercom.net	236-4935 486-4660 486-3353 238-9384	Oleksandr Kapshuk	1998	WND	WND	Leased lines, dial-up, hosting, collocation, VPN	Kyiv	Up to 6 Mbps	\$5 / from \$0.1 / \$25	From \$39	Hr 25 (100 Mb)	WND
Spacegate 67 Peremohy Ave., #320 info@itelsat.com.ua www.spacegate.com.ua	205-3717 205-3718	WND	1998	WND	100 / 0	Satellite Internet all over Ukraine	Nationwide	Up to 45 Mbps	N/A	\$12 - \$4,400	N/A	WND
Technological systems 9 Leontovycha, build. #3 sales@tsua.net www.tsua.net	235-2563 235-2567 235-2571 537-2237	Tatiana Popova	1998	WND	WND	Leased lines, collocation, web hosting	Kyiv	Up to 2 Mbps	N/A	\$120 / \$240 / \$499	N/A	WND
UCT # 32 Saksahanskoho, # 8 office@uct.ua www.uct.ua	284-3094 287-2044 284-3130	Dmitriy Pavlov	1998	WND	100 / 0	SHDSL leased lines, Ethernet leased lines, Wi-Fi IEEE 802.11g leased lines, fiber-optic channels, collocation, hosting, VPN, OpenVPN, dial-up	Kyiv	310 Mbps (total channel), 1 Gbps (transport connection)	Individually	N/A / N/A / Hr 600 / Hr 1,000 / Hr 1,600 (512) / \$500-\$1,500 (1-5 Mbps); transportation in Kyiv - \$100-\$600 (512 Kbps- 100 Mbps)	Super45 prepaid cards for Hr 45	WND
UKRNET 26 40-rychya Zhovtnya sales@ukr.net www.ukr.net	258-0302	V. Rudiy	1998	About 150	WND	Dial-up, SHDSL, VPN, corporate telephony, hosting, domain registration and service, collocation, banner ads	Nationwide	64-2,048 Kbps	Hr 49 / From Hr 1 / Hr 149	N/A / Hr 505 / Hr 605 / Hr 860	Hr 0.5 - Hr 1.5 / Hr 9 / Hr 49 / Hr 149	WND
Zeos 30/1 Hrushevskeho, #320 support@zeos.net www.zeos.net	254-0030	Denis Gagarin	1998	20	100 / 0	Dial-up, leased lines, home networks, Wi-Fi, free e-mail, web-mail, domains, hosting, web-design	Kyiv	102,400 Kbps	\$22 / \$0.22 / \$11 - home or office unlimited	N/A / \$139 / \$89 / \$119 / \$169 (512) / \$279 (1,024)	\$0.22 / \$3.5 / \$0.8 / \$22 / \$11 (home or office unlimited)	WND
Wnet ISP 20 Esplanadna, #302 info@wnet.ua wnet.ua	590-0800 289-2817	Alexey Kleschevnikov	1999	50	100 / 0	Internet, collocation, virtual ISP, VoIP Phone, Virtual IP PBX, Virtual Office, IPTV, Media-on-Demand, Conference, Customer VPN, IP/MPLS, VPLS	Nationwide	Up to 100 Mbps	N/A	From \$200	N/A	WND
Colocall 52-58 Turhenevska info@colocall.net www.colocall.net	461-7988	Boris Borisov	2000	30	100 / 0	Hosting, collocation, dedicated services, leased lines, domains	Kyiv	2,300 Kbps	N/A	From \$200 / Mbps	N/A	WND
Goodwin Online* 74 Chervonoarmiyska info@g.com.ua www.g.com.ua	248-7738	Nikolay Kyanitsa	2000	34	100 / 0	Dial-up, leased lines, radio channels, collocation	Kyiv and Kyiv oblast	56Kbps	N/A / Hr 0.57 - Hr 2.28 / Hr 142	N/A / Hr 625 / Hr 1,035 / Hr 1,999	N/A	WND
Int'l Communications Bank 14 Kosmichna, #14 (Kharkiv) info@bigline.net; www.bigline.net	(057) 731-9261	Kostyantyn Zivenko	2000	25	100 / 0	All kinds of Internet services	Nationwide	WND	Hr 39 - Hr 99 / Hr 0.4 - Hr 1.4 / Hr 199	Individually	Varies	WND
Mirolink.net 3 Sholudenko, #104 info@mirolink.net mirolink.net	494-0350 494-0351	Vladislav Mashkara	2000	20	100 / 0	DSL service, Wi-Fi, telephony, hosting, collocation	Kyiv	Up to 8 Mbps	N/A	N/A / N/A / N/A / \$99 / \$199 (512) / \$299 (1,024)	N/A	WND
PolesyeNet 3 Kyivska, #505 (Zhytomyr) isp@polesye.net www.polesye.net	(0412) 418-400 470-560	Roman Feshchuk	2000	15	100 / 0	Internet, data transmission networks	Zhytomyr and Zhytomyr oblast (partially)	5 Mbps (outer channels), 100 Mbps (parity channels)	N/A / From Hr 1.5 / from Hr 95	N/A / Hr 300 / Hr 870 / Hr 1,770	N/A	WND
Silver Telecom 4 I. Lepse Blvd. info@silvertel.com www.silvertel.com	201-4400	V. Galich	2000	10	100 / 0	Fixed telephone lines and Internet	Kyiv	2 - 4 - 10 Mbps	N/A	N/A / N/A / Hr 228 (1 Gb Ukr. plus 0.5 Gb int'l) / Hr 375 ((1 Gb Ukr. plus 1 Gb int'l)	N/A	Hr 1.8 million
Sitel 4/6 P. Lumumby, #304 www.sitel.ua www.plus.sitel.com.ua	206-1206 206-1910	Grigoriy Chekhun	2000	WND	100 / 0	Telephony, Internet, leased lines, dial-up, Ethernet	Kyiv, Brovary	64 Kbps - 1,000 Mbps	N/A / from Hr 0.7 / Hr 60	N/A / N/A / Hr 320 / Hr 580 / Hr 960 (512)	Hr 10 - Hr 50 / Hr 30 / Hr 60	WND
SkyVision Ukraine* 10A Vozdvizhenska sales@skyvision.net.ua skyvision.net.ua	235-4603 235-4490 234-5368	Evsey Shvartsman	2000	11	10 / 90	Private and corporate, satellite Internet, corporate networks, video conference, remote education	Nationwide	47Mbps	N/A	Depends on speed and traffic	N/A	WND
Starcom 5 Sklyarenka info@starcom.net.ua www.starcom.net.ua	467-5505 467-5705	Yevgeniy Rimek	2000	20	100 / 0	Telephone stations, Internet, system integration, LAN, Internet-telephony	Nationwide	100 Mbps	Varies	\$200 (256)	Varies	WND
BINET* 31A Vorovskoho, #10 info@binet.ua www.binet.ua	531-3055 531-3056	WND	2001	WND	100 / 0	Modem access, leased lines, radio internet, Web hosting, domains registration, collocation, Web design, computer sales	Kyiv	WND	\$11 / \$0.12- \$0.36 / \$22	Depends on speed and traffic	\$0.12 - \$0.24 / \$6 / No / \$18	WND
PlanetSky 35 Dubinina, Kerch info@planetisky.net.ua http://planetisky.net.ua	(06561) 210-11	Egor Slutskiy	2001	5	0 / 100	Satellite Internet	Nationwide	Up to 5 Mbps	N/A	WND	N/A	WND
Ukrlink* 4A Elektrotekhnichna sales@ukrlink.ua www.ukrlink.com	451-7750 548-2262	WND	2001	WND	100 / 0	Data transmission (fiberoptic, G.SHDSL, radio Ethernet), cable installation and rental	Kyiv and Kyiv oblast	Up to 100 Mbps	Hr 15 - Hr 50 / N/A / Hr 80	From \$10	N/A	WND
Alternative Commercial Networks 257 Moskovskiy Ave., #901 (Kharkiv) info@acn.net.ua www.acn.net.ua	(38057) 757-0352 757-1318	Aleksey Avramenko	2002	12	100 / 0	Internet, VoIP, multi-level local networks, leased lines	Kharkiv and Kharkiv oblast	Total capacity - up to 10 Mbps	N/A	Individually	N/A	WND
Infoprostr-Poznyaky 23-25 Klinichna info@ip-elite.net www.ip-elite.net	569-1823 461-9744	Artur Torosyan	2002	22	100 / 0	Communication channels, Internet and all kinds of IT-services	Kyiv	From 2,048 Kbps	N/A	From Hr 57	N/A	WND

Source: Companies, public information and Kyiv Post staff. The chart is not meant to be all-inclusive. WND means *Would Not Disclose*. N/A means *Not Applicable*. *Unlimited. **As of Dec. 2005

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Ukr-Inter.net 1 Malyskko, #201 www.ukr-inter.net	234-5075	WND	2002	WND	WND	Leased lines, VPN, dial-up	Kyiv	33.6 Kbps - 8 Mbps	N/A / from Hr 0.5 / Hr 123	Hr 533 / Hr 1,600 / Hr 2,230 / Hr 5,430	Cards for Hr 10, Hr 30, Hr 60	WND
Volia 27 Raduzhna info@volia.com www.volia.com	540-0262 207-3570 541-9040	Vladimir Fedorchuk, Sergey Boyko	2002	1,200	100 / 0	Internet, cable TV	Kyiv, Lviv, Chernivtsi, Alchevsk	Up to 2 Mbps	N/A	From Hr 25 / month	N/A	More than Hr 10 million
YaltaInfo 1/6 Moskovska, Yalta of@yalta.us yaltainfo.com	(0654) 231-094 (0652) 525-585	Sergey Netreba	2002	37	100 / 0	Organization and servicing Bankomzvyozok lines, Internet access through leased radio-channels	Crimea	64 Kbps - 4,096 Kbps	N/A / Hr 1 - Hr 1.8 / Hr 160	N/A / Hr 250 / Hr 400 / Hr 680	Hourly cards	Hr 2.5 million
IMC 21 V. Hvoyki info@imc.org.ua www.imc.org.ua	592-8739 599-0446	Nikolay Moroz	2003	20	WND	Internet, system integration	Kyiv, Kyiv and Chernihiv oblasts	Up to 1 Gbps	N/A	N/A / \$50 / \$99 / \$180 (unlimited)	N/A	WND
Transtelecom 139 Chervonoarmiyska office@ttc.net.ua www.ttc.net.ua	230-5750 529-4102	Dmitriy Shevchenko	2003	15	100 / 0	Internet, telephony	Kyiv and Kyiv oblast	Up to 8 Mbps	Hr 50 - Hr 150 / Hr 0.45 - Hr 1.25 / Hr 240	From Hr 175	N/A	WND
Superweb 4/6 Lumumby, Build. B, #607 info@superweb.com.ua www.superweb.com.ua	206-0090 461-0111 206-0060	P. Samoylenko	2004	30	0 / 100	Dial-up, ADSL, Internet without prepay (Superweb EasyConnect)	Nationwide	Dial-up - 56 Kbps, DSL - 8 Mbps	N/A / Hr 0.79 - Hr 1.99 / Hr 75	DSL - Hr 600; N/A / N/A / 1,400 / Hr 1,700 / Hr 2,300 (\$12) / Hr 2,300 (1000) / Hr 5,500 (2000)	Superweb10, 25+1, 50+2	WND
SurfMax 4/6 Lumumby, Build. B, #607 www.surfmax.com.ua	206-0090 206-0060 461-0111	P. Samoylenko	2004	30	0 / 100	Dial-up, ADSL	Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk	Dial-up - 56 Kbps, DSL - 8 Mb/s	From Hr 0.5	From Hr 0.01 / Mb; Hr 1,200 (connection for 20 days); Hr 300 (fee payment including 1 Gb)	Surfmax15 - Hr 15, Surfmax30+2 - Hr 30	WND
United Networks of Ukraine - Kharkiv 13/6 Gogol, #2 (Kharkiv) info@united.kharkov.ua www.united.kharkov.ua	(057) 700-9177	A. Pashkov	2004	6	100 / 0	High speed Internet access by leased line, hosting services, web design	Kharkiv	Up to 5 Mbps	N/A	\$ 60 / \$100 / \$140 / \$250 with CIR bandwidth 50% or limited tariff	N/A	WND
D-Net 36B Lesi Ukrainsky Blvd. info@d-net.com.ua www.d-net.com.ua	331-1061	Dmytro Sheludko	2005	WND	100 / 0	Leased lines, local networks, IP-telephony, computer service	Kyiv	15 Mbps for Internet, 100 Mbps for local network	N/A	N/A / Hr 300 / Hr 400 / Hr 600 / Hr 1,000 (512)	N/A	N/A
Expat 4/6 Lumumby, Build. B, #607 vip.superweb.com.ua	206-0090 206-0060 461-0111	P. Samoylenko	2005	30	0 / 100	Dial-up, Internet without prepay (Superweb EasyConnect)	Kyiv	56 Kbps	Single tariff - 0.5 \$/hour	N/A	\$10 (Expat10)	WND
Pepper 4/6 Lumumby, Build. B, #607 www.i-pepper.com.ua	206-0090 206-0060 461-0111	P. Samoylenko	2005	30	0 / 100	Dial-up	Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odessa	56 Kbps	From Hr 1.3 per hour	N/A	Pepper5, 20, 50	WND
Podol.Net 25 Obolonska, #39 info@podol.net www.podol.net	592-9060	Evgeniy Iowa	2005	7	100 / 0	Internet/LAN/domain name registration/hosting	Kyiv	10,000 Kbps	WND	\$29 / \$51 / \$89	WND	N/A
Stella 89 Travnava (Inqulka vil.) Mykolayiv oblast serish@mail.ru sergshchechenko@meta.ua www.satellit-internet.com.ua	(258) 97-457 (050) 493-7326 399-7432	Sergey Shevchenko	2005	10	100 / 0	Satellite Internet and TV	Nationwide	128-8,000 Kbps	Varies	From \$2 per Gb (traffic)	N/A	WND
skyDSL http://skydsl.lviv.ua	097 909-4064	Yaroslav Brukh	2006	Less than 10	WND	Satellite Internet	Nationwide	Up to 4,000 Kbps	N/A	From Hr 39	N/A	WND

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KYIV BUSINESS DIRECTORY

МІСЯЦЬ ДОДА

March 1, 2006

Pre-IPO Bond Placement

10% exchangeable bonds
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Financial adviser



ABD Capital Ukraine

Kyiv, Ukraine

Financial adviser

Dragon Capital

Kyiv, Ukraine

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Economy

Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin said Ukraine would not benefit from quitting the CIS. He said that Ukraine has every right to take such a step, although doing so would seriously affect Ukrainian-Russian relations. Ukraine has said through its foreign ministry that it is considering leaving the CIS because the latter is ineffective and because the money it pays into the CIS budget could be better spent at home.

Ukraine's gross domestic product grew by 2.7% year-on-year in the first four months of 2006, accelerating from 2.4% growth in the first quarter thanks to a 3.5% year-on-year increase in April, the State Statistics Committee reported. GDP totaled Hr 93 billion (\$18.6 billion) in the first quarter of this year and 424.7 billion (\$84.9 billion) for all of 2005, a 2.6% increase over 2004. The Economy Ministry has forecast GDP growth of 2.8% this year and 4.2% in 2007.

The consumer price index declined by 0.4% month-on-month in April following 0.3% deflation in March, bringing year-on-year inflation to 7.4%, down from 8.6% in March, the State Statistics Committee reported. Inflation reached 10.3% in 2005 and 12.3% in 2004 in 2004. The government has projected worst-case-scenario inflation of 11.4% year-on-year in 2006 and 9.4% next year. The 2006 national budget is based on projected inflation of 8.7% and GDP growth of 7%.

Real industrial output rose by 0.5% year-on-year in April, but fell by 4.6% compared with March, the State Statistics Committee reported. That brings industrial output growth in the first four months of this year to 0.4% year-on-year, up from 0.2% year-on-year in the first quarter of 2006. In 2005, industrial output rose by 3.1% compared with 2004. The Economy Ministry has forecast industrial output growth of 9.5% for this year.

Producer prices rose by 1.4% month-on-month in April, accelerating from 0.4% growth in March and bringing the year-on-year producer price index to 5.4%.

Personal nominal income in Ukraine grew by 33.9% year-on-year in the first quarter of this year to Hr 90.9 billion (\$18 billion), the State Statistics Committee reported. In nominal terms, disposable income increased by 37% to Hr 68.7 billion (\$13.6 billion) and by 24.2% in real terms. In March, per capita nominal disposable income reached Hr 515.8 (\$102.1), up from Hr 487.4 (\$95.5) in February.

The Economy Ministry has forecast a current account deficit of \$1.2 billion (1.3% of GDP) in 2006 and \$2.5 billion (2.2% of GDP) in 2007. Nevertheless, according to Kyiv-based investment firm Dragon Capital, the National Bank of Ukraine's international reserves are expected to grow by \$2.5 billion this year and \$1.3 billion in 2007 thanks to stronger inflows of foreign capital.

Ukraine's first quarter consolidated budget revenues grew by 29% year-on-year to Hr 32.9 billion (\$6.5 billion), or 35.3% of first quarter GDP, while expenditures advanced by 45% year-on-year to Hr 32.4 billion (\$6.5 billion). The consolidated budget balance, calculated on a cash basis, ran a small surplus of Hr 400 million (\$80 million), or 0.4% of first quarter GDP, considerably down from the Hr 2.5 billion, or \$500 million (4.1% of GDP) surplus recorded in the first two months of 2006, and significantly lower

than the Hr 3.1 billion, or \$620 million (3.8% of GDP) surplus in the first quarter of 2005. According to Kyiv-based investment firm Dragon Capital, the deterioration was due to the state budget, which posted a deficit of Hr 1.6 billion, or \$320 million (1.8% of GDP) as compared with a surplus of Hr 2.1 billion, or \$20 million (2.6% of GDP) in the first quarter of 2005.

Agriculture

Ukraine's farmers have sown 14.8 million hectares to spring crops, or 82% of the planned 17.9 million hectares as of May 12, the Agriculture Ministry reported. The ministry said that farmers continue sowing buckwheat, millet, rapeseed, sugar beet, sunflower, maize, soybeans and flax. It also said that nearly all of the 4.95 million hectares of winter crops have been receiving additional nutrition. Farmers sowed more than 18.5 million hectares of spring crops last year.

Ukraine exported 12.6 million tons of grain from the nation's 2005 harvest since the start of the 2005/2006 marketing year as of May 1, including 3.3 million tons of bread grain. Ukraine also exported 3.5 million tons of barley, 2.3 million tons of corn and 1.4 million tons of bean and oil-bearing crops in the same period.

Chemicals

The Agricultural Ministry wants to introduce a preferential tax on imported energy-saving equipment for Ukraine's chemical industry. Deputy Agriculture Minister Valeriy Tretyakov said that his ministry has prepared a draft bill that would allow the importation of equipment not produced in Ukraine without encumbering it with taxes and customs duties. He said that such imports would not be directly financed from the state budget. He also said that businesses require \$180-300 million to introduce energy-saving technologies.

The Cabinet intends to set quotas on the import of Russian fertilizer. Deputy Agriculture Minister Valeriy Tretyakov said that the Union of Chemical Workers of Ukraine is in charge of this issue and that the union will likely take a decision in the fall to set the quota. Tretyakov said that it was difficult to take antidumping measures against Russia, which is Ukraine's main competitor on the mineral fertilizers market. "Our enterprises are offering saltpeter at Hr 950 per ton, while the Russians are offering it at Hr 940. In other words, it is almost impossible to prove that this amounts to dumping," Tretyakov said in a recent interview with the daily Russian-language newspaper Delo. Meanwhile, he said, Ukrainian chemical enterprises are unable to lower their prices because of the increase in the price of natural gas, which is used in the production of fertilizers.

Ukrainian producers of nitrogen-based fertilizers maintained their year-on-year ammonia output flat at 1.3 million tons in the first quarter of this year. Producers reduced their urea production by 6% to 900,000 tons, and ammonium nitrate output by 2% to 600,000 tons in the same period.

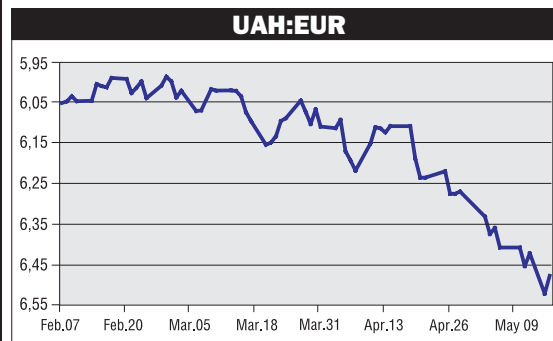
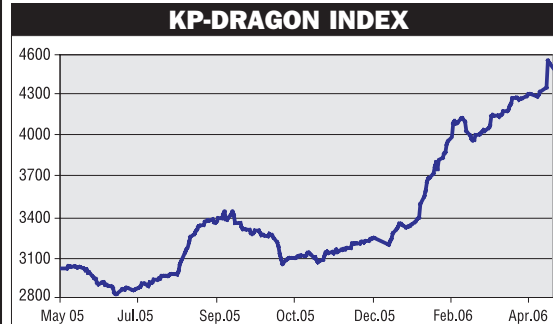
Energy

President Viktor Yushchenko said he was certain that the price of gas imported from Russia to Ukraine will remain at \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters until 2011. Yushchenko told the weekly magazine Kontrakt that a possible increase in the price of gas to \$230 per 1,000 cubic meters was unrealistic, given the gas agreement signed by Russia and Ukraine at the beginning of this

Dragon Capital Market Watch

MARKET COMMENTARY

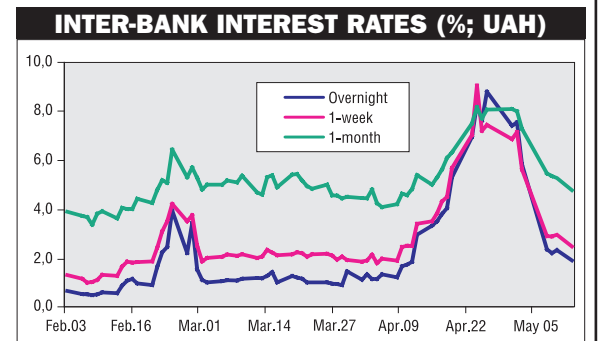
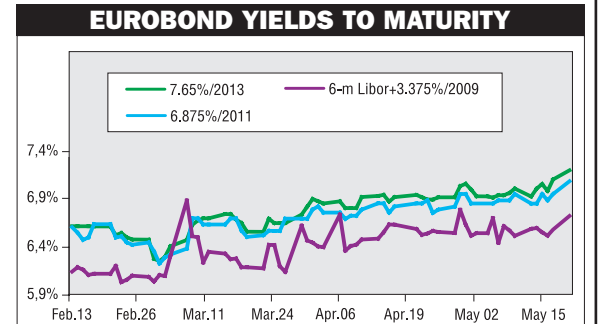
Ukraine followed in the footsteps of global equity markets on May 15 as the KP-Dragon index dropped by nearly 1% on a turnover of USD 6.8 mil. The feeling on the floor, however, was of a more significant slide as bids were scarce in the afternoon and activity declined noticeably. Zaporizhstal was Monday's biggest loser, down 8%, still under pressure from fears over a possible share capital increase. Large cap stocks, Ukrtelecom and Ukrnafta, lost 3.7% and 1.4%, respectively, on profit taking. We expect weakness to continue in the coming days due to negative sentiment. Investors' attention may shift again to politics as two of the three Orange parties (Tymoshenko Bloc and Socialists) have said coalition talks are already in the final stage.



Notes: 1) Total capitalization of 10 component stocks of KP-Dragon Index: Azovstal, Bank Aval, Centrenergo, Dniiproenergo, Dniiprooblenergo, Dniiproshyna, Donbasenergo, Kyivenergo, LuAZ, MZVM, Nyzhnyodniprovskiy Pipe, Poltavskiy HOK, Stiroi, Ukrnafta, Ukrsootsbank, Ukrtelecom, Zakhidenergo, Zaporizhskok, Zaporizhstal, Zhytomyroblenergo; 2) official NBU rates; positive value indicates hryvnia depreciation; 3) yield change in basis points; 4) change in percentage points.

Dragon Capital Market Watch is a business feature of the Kyiv Post.

MARKET INDICATORS	May 15	Chg 1w	Chg YTD
KP-Dragon Index	4 504	3.3%	38.9%
Market Capitalization ¹⁾	\$18.4 bil.		
PFTS Stock Trading Volume	\$18.0 mil. (May 10-15)		
UAH/USD ²⁾	5.050	0.0%	0.0%
UAH/EUR ²⁾	6.522	1.8%	9.5%
Ukrainian Eurobond Yields to Maturity³⁾			
Ukraine (11/6.875% USD)	7.00%	12	87
Ukraine (13/7.65% USD)	7.10%	13	82
Ukraine (09/6-m Lib.+3.375%)	6.66%	16	90
Inter-bank Market Interest Rates⁴⁾			
Overnight Bid	1.9%	-0.5%	1.2%
1-month Bid	4.8%	-0.7%	-0.2%



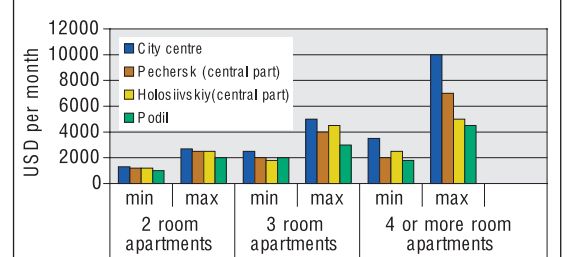
NAI Pickard

Commercial Real Estate Services, Worldwide.

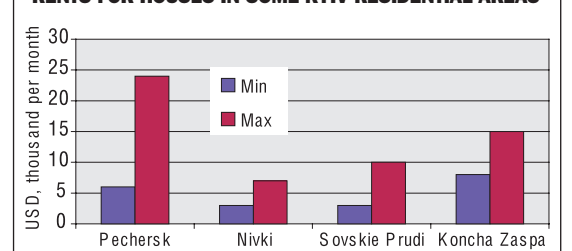
MARKET COMMENTARY

NAI Pickard's residential database of apartments for long-term rent in the city center and central Kyiv (Pechersk District - central part, Holosivskiy District - central part and Podil - historical part) is categorized by 2-room (1 bedroom), 3-room (2 bedrooms) and 4-room and more (3 and more bedrooms) apartments. As a rule all apartments are renovated to the so-called "Euro" standard and offered for rent fully, partially, or unfurnished but with fully-equipped kitchens and bathrooms. However, in many cases, these "Euro" standard renovations do not meet Western standards. High quality 2-room apts. priced at \$1,200-2,000 per month in central Kyiv are in high demand now. The segment of 3-room apts. is a bit oversupplied and, therefore, landlords are ready to give some "discounts" for potential tenants. The supply of 4-plus room apts. is limited. The rent for 4-plus room apts., depending on the location and the condition of the apt. can be more than \$10,000 per month. Usually, such apartments are offered for rent unfurnished with landlords ready to furnish according to tenants' requirements. Now, there is a growing demand for apartments located in newly-built developments with a "modern" style of decor. In response to this, the number of apts. in modern buildings purchased specifically for the purpose of leasing out is increasing. The segment of the residential rental market for houses renovated to a Western standard within the city limits and the suburbs (30 km. zone) is totally undeveloped. Due to this fact, the supply of residential houses available for rent is very limited. Mainly, the demand for such houses comes from top managers of big international companies. Rents range from \$6,000 up to \$24,000 per month depending on the location and condition of the houses.

RENT FOR APARTMENTS IN THE CITY CENTER AND CENTRAL KYIV



RENTS FOR HOUSES IN SOME KYIV RESIDENTIAL AREAS



year, which nearly doubled the price of gas that Ukraine was paying prior to the increase. Yushchenko said that the announced increase in domestic energy prices for the Ukrainian population was unavoidable. "If we pay \$95 to the Russians, then the price on the domestic market cannot be \$37. Therefore, when we spoke about liberalization of the gas price, the government set itself the task of shoring up the price until the end of the heating season. Today, we have no other choice but to gradually raise the gas price toward the beginning of the new heating season," he said.

Ukraine's Economy Ministry has forecast that prices for petroleum products would remain stable until the end of May, as well as in June. According to Economy Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk, the government has taken non-administrative measures to stabilize prices on the petroleum products market. "In

Ukraine, wholesale prices have risen by 24% in the past month, and retail prices, by only 7%. Essentially, we have reduced the incomes of oil companies and not allowed them to raise retail prices accordingly," he said. Yatsenyuk said prices for petroleum products will remain unchanged in Kyiv until the end of May and increase slightly in the regions without exceeding prices in the capital. The Economy Ministry believes a moderate increase in prices is possible in June because of Russia's decision to increase its oil export duty from \$186 to \$200.

Metallurgy

Crude steel output decreased by 3% year-on-year to 9.4 million tons in the first quarter of this year. Ukrainian steel companies decreased pig iron production by 3.4% to 7.7 million and posted flat steel products output of 8.1 million tons in the same period.

Transportation

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is considering providing Ukraine with a loan of 150-200 million euros to reconstruct a 400-kilometer stretch of the Kyiv-Chop highway. The total cost of the reconstruction has been estimated at 366-486 million euros. In addition to the EBRD loan, the European Investment Bank may allot another 150-200 million euros for the required works. The EBRD's board of directors will consider the loan at the end of July.

Travel & Tourism

Passenger air traffic in Ukraine rose by 16.8% to 311,300 people in April compared with the month before, the State Statistics Committee reported. Passenger air traffic increased by 11.6% to 1.084 million in the first four months of this year compared with the same period one year ago. In 2005, traffic rose by 21.3% to 3.796 million people compared with 2004.

COMPANY BRIEFS

Aviation

Kharkiv State Aircraft Manufacturing Plant plans to build 12 airplanes of the An-74 series within the next two years. The plant will build two of the light transport, multi-purpose aircraft for domestic airlines, two for delivery to Egypt, three for Libya, and five for Sudan. The plant is also currently considering separate orders for nine additional planes for Egypt, five more for Middle East countries, and one more for a domestic client. Last month, the plant announced its intentions to purchase assembly units for its An-74 series aircraft from the Federal State Unitary Enterprise Polet Production Association in Omsk, Russia. The decision to buy aircraft parts from Russia was prompted by the rising number of contracts in the company's portfolio, in particular, for An-74 aircraft. Around 200 An-72 and An-74 planes are currently in operation.

Banking & Finance

Austria's Raiffeisen International has postponed its decision on whether to sell Raiffeisenbank Ukraine until the end of May. Earlier the banking giant said it would make that decision within the first 10 tens of this month. If the bank holding decides not to sell its Ukrainian banking arm, it will continue with its merger of Aval Bank, which it swallowed last October by paying just over \$1 billion for 93.5% of its shares.

Kyiv-based Forum Bank, one of Ukraine's largest banks, intends to open a representative office in the Czech Republic in 2006 to establish business in that country. Forum Bank has 110 structural subdivisions in Ukraine, including 25 affiliates and 85 branches, but no structural divisions abroad. The bank has also voiced plans to open offices in Slovakia before the end of this year.

The Black Sea Trade and Development Bank (BSTDB) announced it will make available a second medium-term micro and small and medium-sized loan facility for \$12.5 million to ProCredit Bank Ukraine (PBU). The three-year facility is intended to finance sub-loans offered by ProCredit Ukraine to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in Ukraine. This new facility comes in addition to previous credit lines extended by BSTDB to PBU in 2003 and 2004 for a total loan amount of \$7.5 million. Founded in early 2001, ProCredit Bank Ukraine forms part of the global ProCredit group of 19 banks set up by the EBRD, IFC, KfW (Germany) and other private and public sector investors to provide financing to micro and SME customers in developing countries. BSTDB is an international financial institution established by Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Romania, Russia, Turkey and Ukraine.

Home Entertainment, Appliances

The Electron plant, a subsidiary of Lviv-based television manufacturing company Electron, has launched production of liquid crystal display (LCD) TV sets with 20-, 26- and 32-inch screens. Prices for the sets will range from Hr 3,000 to Hr 6,000 (\$600-1,200). Electron General Director Orest Yaremchuk said the LCD TV sets will account for 30% of the factory's production this year. The plant also plans to start production of DVD players. Last year, Electron produced 34,000 TV sets and finished the year with a net profit of Hr 1.5 million (\$300,000) on revenues of Hr 25.8 million (\$5.2 million), a three-fold increase on revenues in 2004.

The Ukrainian representative office of Snaige, a Lithuanian refrigerator manufacturer, said that the company plans to increase refrigerator sales in Ukraine by 20% to 180,000 units this year, increasing

its share of the country's refrigerator market from 16% to 20% in the Hr 1,300-2,500 (\$260-500) price range. The company said that it also plans to expand its distribution network in Ukraine by 30% within the next two years and improve client services. Snaige, which reported pre-tax profits of \$6.9 million in 2005, exports 90% of its production to Western, Eastern and Central Europe.

Garment Industry

Ukraine's Antimonopoly Committee has authorized the company Gloria Jeans, based in Rostov-on-Don, Russia, to buy more than 50% of the shares in the Luhansk-based firm Style, a large producer of women's clothing. Gloria Jeans produces and sells jeans wear. Style finished 2004 with net profits of Hr 4.48 million (\$900,000) on revenues of 40.6 million (\$8 million), a more than 18% increase in revenues compared with 2003.

Information Technologies

Donetsk-based computer manufacturer AMI and Foxtrot IT, one of the largest distributors of computer equipment in Ukraine, have decided to jointly develop AMI's New Electronics retail computer and digital devices sales network with the goal of creating among the largest sales networks on the Ukrainian retail computer market. The agreement between the two companies makes Foxtrot a joint owner of the network, which is currently better known in the eastern part of the country and numbers 20 stores in Ukraine. Last year, AMI began raising money through a Hr 7.5 million (\$1.5 million) bond issue to modernize and develop its computer production and retail business. In addition to developing the New Electronics network, AMI is currently creating an AMI Computers franchise network of shops.

Metallurgy

Azovstal metallurgical plant plans to consolidate its trading house, Torhovy Dim Azovstal, and will raise the issue of the consolidation at a shareholders' meeting on May 19. Torhovy Dim Azovstal owns nearly 45% of the shares in the metallurgical plant together with the Markokhim coke and chemical plant following Markokhim's merger with the Azovstal plant last December. All three enterprises are based in Mariupol. Donetsk-based System Capital Management (SCM), which is 100%-owned by Ukrainian tycoon Rinat Akhmetov and his wife, owns more than 25% of the Azovstal plant, while SCM-controlled Lehman Commodities S.A. (Switzerland) and SCM Limited (Cyprus) own more than 15% and 11% of the plant, respectively. Akhmetov's SCM owns nearly 96% of Torhovy Dim Azovstal.

Real Estate and Construction

Kyiv's city planning council has recommended that Kyiv-based real estate developer Forum-Invest build a hotel complex rather than an earlier planned residential and office complex at 4 Hospitalna Street in Kyiv's central Pechersky district. The complex, which had been planned as a 56-58-story building with two underground levels, has been criticized by city architects as unsustainable due to the lack of a communal services infrastructure capable of maintaining the viability of such a complex.

Prominvestbank, one of the 10 largest banks in Ukraine by net assets, has proposed that Kyiv's city planning council approve a project for the construction of the bank's business center at 11 Provulok Shevchenka in Kyiv's central Shevchenkivsky district. According to the building's blueprint, the business center would occupy an area of 0.3 hectares and include more than 6,600 square meters of office space and underground parking for 184 automobiles.



Ernst & Young launched the Entrepreneur of the Year Program on May 12, marking Ukraine's first-ever participation in the World Entrepreneur of the Year Award, which culminates in Monte Carlo in June 2007. Pictured above are Ernst & Young Managing Partner Oleksiy Kredisov (left), Stirol General Director Mykola Yankovsky and Ernst & Young Partner Oleksandr Svystych. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)

Best entrepreneur



The International Finance Corporation is providing a \$3.5-million loan to Biocon, a leading pharmaceutical warehousing company in Ukraine. Pictured above at the deal-signing ceremony in Kyiv on May 15 are, from left, Biocon President Oleksandr Yavorsky, Olena Voloshina, head of IFC's operations in Ukraine, and Guy Elena, IFC's Director for Health and Education. (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)

Healthy dose of financing

Kharkiv-based construction firm Investor Elite Bud plans to erect an eight-story, 6,000-square-meter business center by the end of this year. Shops and cafes will occupy the first two floors of the center, while offices will occupy the building's third and fourth floors. According to market specialists associated with the project, the price per square meter of commercial space in central Kharkiv will jump from \$1,400 to \$2,000 by the time the business center is built. Investor Elite Bud constructs elite residences, administrative and office complexes commercial centers and industrial facilities.

Restaurant Groups

The restaurant network Myrovaya Karta, VABank and the VISA international payment system in mid-April launched a new, VISA "VABank-Myrovaya Karta" international payment card. VABank's board chairman said at a press conference at Myrovaya Karta's Lypskiy Osobnyak restaurant on April 19 that the new card is a universal payment card which also provides its holders with a discount and bonuses at Myrovaya Karta network restaurants. Myrovaya Karta cofounder Gennadiy Medvedev

said that the main advantage of the co-brand project is the unique possibility for Myrovaya Karta customers to fill out the application documentation for a VISA international payment card at any Myrovaya Karta restaurant, which, he said, immensely simplifies standard VISA application procedures.

Telecommunications

Russia's Vimpelcom mobile phone services operator said that there is a deficit of Beeline SIM-cards in Ukraine due to intensive subscription to services under the Beeline brand. Vimpelcom began provided services under its Beeline brand in Ukraine in April through its Ukrainian subsidiary, Ukrainian Radio Systems (URS), which forms part of the WellCOM network. The company said that more than 100,000 subscribers joined the network in less than three weeks since the launch of the Beeline brand on the Ukrainian market. In less than two weeks since the brand was launched, the number of activated Beeline SIM-cards topped 9,000. Prior to the launch of the brand, about 200 WellCOM SIM-cards were activated daily. This has brought the per capita number of subscriptions to the

Beeline network in Ukraine above that of Russia or Kazakhstan, according to Vimpelcom. URS has concluded an agreement with Germany's Sagem Orga to supply additional SIM cards to cover the Beeline shortage.

Travel & Tourism

AeroSvit, the largest passenger airline company in Ukraine, announced May 11 that it has introduced a new service involving free rail transportation of passengers arriving on Kyiv-Hamburg flights to their final destinations in Germany and free rail transportation in Germany for AeroSvit passengers flying back to Kyiv under the Fly & Rail and Rail & Fly programs. Passengers will be transported by Germany's Deutsch Bahn railroad. AeroSvit is covering the cost of rail transportation in both directions. The service covers all the major population centers in Germany.

Company News is prepared by Kyiv Post editorial staff. The Kyiv Post does not accept payment for news items and photographs included on these pages. Send news via e-mail to companynews@kyivpost.com, or call 496-1111.

ON THE MOVE



Vyacheslav Karpus has been appointed director of sales and marketing for Franzavto, the company with the exclusive rights to import Citroen automobiles. From October 2004 through April 2006, Karpus worked as the general manager of the sales department at "Niko-Trade House," the official importer of Mitsubishi Motors to Ukraine. Prior to that, he worked as general manager of DP "AutoAlliance," the official dealer for Nissan in Ukraine. Karpus received his International MBA in 2006 from the International Institute of Business at the University of Brunswick in Canada. He also received his Masters in economics from Chernivtsi State University in 1995.



Vadym Pyroh has been appointed as the director of the dealer network development department at Franzavto's, the company with the exclusive rights to import Citroen automobiles in Ukraine. From June 2001 through March 2006, Pyroh worked in a similar position for AVT Bavaria GmbH, the official importer of BMW to Ukraine, as the head of its dealer network development department. Prior to that, he worked as the general manager for "Winner Ford Rivne," the official dealer of Ford automobiles in Rivne. Pyroh received his Masters degree in physics from Kyiv's Taras Shevchenko University in 1979.



Dan Fenech has been appointed as Country Sales Manager and General Representative for Delta Air Lines' operations in Ukraine. Fenech is a 20-year airline industry veteran who has been with Delta Air Lines since 1991, when he joined the airline's internal accounting office in Frankfurt, Germany. After two years in Germany, he moved to Delta's general office in Atlanta, Georgia, where he worked in sales and marketing for 12 years before being selected to represent the airline in Ukraine. Before joining Delta, he worked for Pan American World Airways. Fenech is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin.



Anatoliy Veres has been appointed as general director of Kvarzar-Micro in Ukraine. Veres has worked at Kvarzar-Micro since the beginning of 1998, and has been the director of the company's "Techno-Center" department, head of the department for business development in the state sector, as well as the director of its corporate sales board. Previously, Veres worked as the head of the information systems design department for Bartek from 1995 to 1997. In 1994, Veres graduated from Kyiv's Taras Shevchenko University with a degree in chemistry and a specialization in inorganic compounds and superconductors chemistry.



Alexander Panas has been appointed as managing director of Foyil Corporate Finance, the investment banking arm for Foyil Securities New Europe. Previously, Panas was chairman of the supervisory board and deputy CFO in charge of mergers & acquisitions at Perekrystok-Ukraine, Russia's leading supermarket chain. Earlier, Panas represented The Carlyle Group as head of corporate finance for Apteka Holding, a pharmaceutical distribution company. Panas holds a B.A. in mathematics from Moscow State Lomonosov University, a certificate in banking and finance from The London School of Economics, and an MBA from The Anderson School at University of California at Los Angeles.

On the Move is prepared by the Kyiv Post editorial staff. The Kyiv Post does not accept payment for news items and photographs included in this section. Send news via e-mail to kulick@kppublications.com, or contact Orysia Kulick at 496-1111.

Former Russian PM blames Kremlin, EU for energy worries

MOSCOW (AP) – Former Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Kasyanov said in a commentary published May 17 that Russia and the European Union were both to blame for a climate of mistrust over energy supplies since a New Year's price fight with Ukraine that temporarily decreased Russian gas deliveries to Europe.

Kasyanov, a harsh critic of President Vladimir Putin, said that while a growing

state role in his country's energy sector could make the country a less efficient energy supplier at a time of soaring world demand, the EU's overall energy policy was harmfully unclear.

"Unfortunately in its energy relations with Russia, the EU's approach has been one-sided, ignoring any Russian concerns including some absolutely sensible and well-founded ones," Kasyanov wrote in the business daily Kommersant.

"For instance, no one troubled themselves to explain the logic and effects of changes in the course of liberalizing and integrating the European energy market," he wrote. As a result, Russia has had to tie up bilateral energy deals at the level of individual countries or state companies, he said. "This seriously devalues the energy dialogue with the EU and subordinates it to the bilateral agreements with all their possible minuses."

The dispute with Ukraine shook Russia's reputation as a reliable supplier and led to calls for Europe to diversify its energy sources away from Russia, which supplies a quarter of the gas Europe consumes.

In addition, British officials in April suggested legislative changes that would block Russia's powerful state-controlled gas monopoly Gazprom from making acquisitions in Britain. British Prime

Minister Tony Blair later said there were no barriers to the company, however.

The apparent lack of trust provoked warnings from Putin last month that Russia could favor Asia over Europe for its future long-term energy projects.

Kasyanov said Russia should play a role in the development of a unified European energy policy and needed to be kept in the loop about any diversification of supplies.

ФОРУМЫ



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EDITORIALS

Healthy due diligence

Ukrainians have been led to believe that everything is better in the West since long before the country gained Independence in 1991.

The superiority of Western medicine was no exception, with its emphasis on service, financed by insurance policies and guaranteed by a legal system that protected the rights of individuals. This kind of treatment costs money, but Ukrainians are not alone in putting a premium on their health.

That's why when Western pharmaceuticals, diagnostic equipment and clinics began to appear in the country, they found no shortage of customers, at least among those who could afford their relatively steep rates.

Even the nation's leaders have made no attempt to hide their preference for Western medical care over domestic treatment. Former President Leonid Kuchma had surgery in Germany, while current head of state Viktor Yushchenko went to Austria after he'd been poisoned.

This is not unusual and even beneficial, as Ukraine is developing its own private health industry, sometimes combining the best of imported high technology with the homegrown personal touch. While the industry is growing, foreign specialists as well as equipment have a role to play on the market, alongside their Ukrainian counterparts. However, modeling one's company as Western is not enough. Medical care, like most services, is about trust, standards and a code of ethics enforced by law as well as the industry itself.

So now that the Kyiv-based Western-style clinics Eurolab and American Medical Centers hired American physician Anthony Carbone, who'd been implicated twice in cases of sexual misconduct by state boards, and the information was readily available on the Internet, this is clearly a sign that something is wrong with both the system and the public's perception of it.

Doctors from the United States are reputable not because of their high moral standards, but because the system they work in makes sure they are. And if clinics like Eurolab and the American Medical Centers are less than diligent in checking the backgrounds of physicians they hire here in Kyiv, which appears to be the case this week's front page article in the Post, they are not only doing their patients a disservice, but themselves and the industry as a whole.

A coalition on condition

It's been almost two months since Ukrainians elected a parliament. But the authorities can't seem to convene lawmakers and produce a coalition government.

Ukraine's economic and geopolitical future is at stake, while the five parties elected to make laws continue to battle for allies, power and time. The grand prize is the Prime Minister's seat, coveted by former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, the team of President Viktor Yushchenko, who fired Tymoshenko last fall, and the Regions party, whose leader, Viktor Yanukovich, was Tymoshenko's predecessor.

The other two parliament players, the Communists and Socialists, are leftist and didn't garner enough votes to lead the way in coalition talks.

This last fact may be indicative of a solution to the political impasse. Our Ukraine, Byut and Regions may be political enemies. What's more, Regions may be tainted from its role in the fraudulent 2004 presidential vote, but they, like Our Ukraine and Byut, are driven and backed by business interests which are increasingly reaching out West to expand and tap into Western capital markets to modernize their factories. The Socialists, considered a partner along with Byut and Our Ukraine, have consistently pushed leftist policies and blocked free market reforms.

A grand coalition including Byut, Our Ukraine and Regions would ensure a constitutional majority and thus provide the unity to keep the country on the road to reform. The alternative is five more years of sabotaged economic reforms.

Some have called for the renewal of the Orange Coalition. This is possible too, but the Regions, popular in the nation's industrial east, would definitely have to get some top posts. Yushchenko would still hold sway in foreign policy. Others are worried by Tymoshenko's populist tendencies, which are said to scare away foreign investors. The chances of this are minimal, with the other two parties on board.

Tymoshenko's populism is based on the kind of energy and commitment that is needed to get things done. Moreover, having taken the moral high ground, the braided femme fatal would be forced to play it straight.

Conflict seems inevitable for the foreseeable future, which like the recent past must be built on a sound economy. But a grand coalition with Tymoshenko as premier might be the fight in which Ukraine has the best chance of winning.

But for this to happen, Tymoshenko needs to drop her populist, harsh and uncompromising opposition to enter into a coalition including Regions.

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National idol in motion



AC Milan forward and longtime Chelsea target Andriy Shevchenko of Ukraine said May 12 he may leave AC Milan. The Ukrainian striker, who joined the Milan club in 1999, said his recent meeting with Silvio Berlusconi, Italy's outgoing premier and AC Milan owner, was intended to discuss the possibility of a transfer. (AP)

A pledge to work with Ukraine

A statement by Ambassador-Designate to Ukraine William B. Taylor Jr. to the United States Senate Foreign Relations Committee on May 12, 2006

Mr. Chairman and members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before you today to discuss my nomination as the United States Ambassador to Ukraine.

I deeply appreciate the confidence that President Bush and Secretary Rice have placed in me. If confirmed by the Senate, I pledge to work closely with this Committee and your Congressional colleagues to advance U.S. interests in Ukraine and the region.

My experience coordinating the assistance Congress made available to support nascent democracy and market economics in the former Soviet states will prove useful in Ukraine. I first visited Ukraine in the early 1990s, when the newly independent country was experiencing freedom for the first time since World War I. I returned many times during the next decade, working to advance political and economic reform. If confirmed, I look forward to returning yet again to help solidify the gains made to date and to support the Ukrainian people in their continuing efforts to transform their country.

Following free and fair parliamentary elections this March, Ukraine is striving to redefine itself as a stable and prosperous European democracy.

Ukraine has become a good partner to the United States on matters of national security, free trade, human rights and other key issues.

If confirmed, I will work to strengthen and broaden our cooperation.

Ukraine has made significant progress since gaining freedom in 1991. To be sure, this progress has been uneven and opportunities have been missed.

Ukraine, like other countries making the transition from communism to democracy and a free market, has had to overcome major hurdles and has suffered setbacks. But Ukraine has made notable advances. These have been most significant since the winter 2004 Orange Revolution, which radically transformed the political dynamic in Ukraine. The media is now unquestionably freer, respect for basic rights of citizens has improved, a vibrant civil society has grown even stronger and Ukraine is a more constructive and energetic player in the region and worldwide.

Ukraine's recent parliamentary election is proof of its progress. This election was a critical test of Ukraine's commitment to democracy and Ukraine passed

convincingly. The campaign and vote met OSCE and international standards for democratic elections and were the most democratic in Ukraine's history.

The Orange Revolution also put our bilateral relations on a new trajectory. Scandals and corruption limited our engagement with earlier Ukrainian administrations, but our relations with the post-Orange Revolution administration and governments have been characterized by close cooperation.

Over the last year-and-a-half, with strong support from the U.S. Congress, the Administration has worked with our allies to offer Ukraine an Intensified Dialogue with NATO, restored generalized system of preferences (GSP) trade benefits to Ukraine, recognized Ukraine as a market economy, concluded a bilateral market access agreement - a key step to WTO accession for Ukraine - and lifted Jackson-Vanik Amendment restrictions.

These steps were taken in response to Ukraine's own positive actions and reforms. The Administration has also worked closely with Ukraine to halt the proliferation of arms and potentially dangerous materials and technology, and to advance democracy and security in the region.

Ukraine's new coalition government will face a daunting but vital challenge: to consolidate the gains to date of the Orange Revolution, and to further Ukraine's democratization, economic development and integration with Europe, Euro-Atlantic institutions and the international community. The U.S. Government will continue to help.

The Administration strongly supports Ukraine's NATO aspirations, and, if confirmed, I will do all I can to assist Ukraine in implementing the political, economic, defense and security reforms necessary for possible membership in NATO's community of shared values. If confirmed, I would look forward to continuing the already strong cooperation with Ukraine to combat global threats, such as trafficking in persons, avian influenza, HIV/AIDS and TB. If confirmed, I would work with the government of Ukraine on effective implementation of an improved export control system as part of our non-proliferation policy.

On the economic side, if confirmed, I will strongly support Ukraine's efforts to join the WTO and integrate its markets into international structures, strengthen its - and Europe's - energy security, and improve energy efficiency and conservation. If confirmed, I will also do all that I can to help Ukraine strengthen rule of law, combat corruption and money laun-

dering, and improve its investment climate.

Among the tasks ahead for Ukraine are developing domestic financial markets, further improving protection of intellectual property rights, and simplifying the regulatory environment and increasing access to credit for small and medium-sized entrepreneurs, who form the backbone of developed economies. Given Ukraine's agricultural endowments, helping private farmers play an increasing role in the economy is another key to a prosperous, sustainable future.

Ukraine's good and growing ties with the United States and with Euro-Atlantic institutions are entirely compatible with Ukraine's having good neighborly relations with Russia. If confirmed, I will join Ambassador Burns and my colleagues in encouraging both countries to continue to build their bilateral relations on the basis of mutual respect for each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity and other principles of human rights to which Ukraine, Russia and the United States have subscribed in the United Nations and in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

As you know, Mr. Chairman, there is a terrific group of people on the ground at Embassy Kyiv working toward these goals. I look forward, if confirmed, to leading them as we work to deepen cooperation with Ukraine and pursue the interests of the American people. Mr. Chairman, I appreciate the opportunity to share my initial thoughts about Ukraine and its relations with the United States. If confirmed, I will look forward to working with you closely. We all appreciate your personal interest and leadership, not just in the area of weapons security, but in Ukraine in particular. I would welcome the opportunity to host you and other interested members of Congress in Kyiv.

Ambassador Taylor headed the Iraqi Reconstruction Management Office in 2004-2005. In mid-2003, Taylor was appointed the new Afghanistan Coordinator at the U.S. Department of State, before which he served in Afghanistan as the Special Representative for Donor Assistance to Afghanistan. Prior to his work on Afghanistan, Ambassador Taylor served as Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to Europe and Eurasia in the U.S. Department of State. Taylor had previously served as the Special Deputy Defense Advisor to the U.S. Ambassador to NATO, William Taft. He also directed an in-house Defense Department think tank at Fort McNair in Washington, D.C.

Ukraine needs to get word out on NATO

In a dying Ukrainian village, a fragile grandmother turns to her visiting adult granddaughter a few weeks before last March's parliamentary elections and asks: "Tell me child, what is NATO?" Surprised by the question, the young woman inquires, "why Grandmother?" The elderly woman responds: "You live in the big city, dear. President [Viktor] Yushchenko says NATO is good, while former President [Leonid] Kravchuk and his Ne Tak political party says it is bad. Tell me please, who is right?"

This testimonial, recounted on April 28 in Kyiv during the Third Assembly of the Ukraine-NATO Civic League, an umbrella organization for nearly 40 Ukrainian NGOs, underscores a serious problem on Ukraine's road to NATO membership. Put simply, more than 80 percent of Ukrainians remain in the dark about NATO, according to a recent survey conducted by the highly respected Democratic Initiatives Foundation. To anyone who even casually follows the NATO scene in Ukraine, low public support for NATO, and Ukrainian membership in it, comes as no surprise. Earlier reliable surveys also reveal that few Ukrainians understand what NATO is and why it is worth joining. Moreover, this low public support has dropped even further as a result of the fierce anti-NATO campaign launched by several political parties just months before the recent parliamentary elections. Significantly, the attack upon NATO was more vitriolic than any conducted by Soviet leaders, according to Ukrainian officials and NGO activists who participated in the recent Ukraine-NATO Civic League Assembly.

What is surprising, however, is that no systematic effort has been made by the Ukrainian government to harness the power of Ukrainian television and other media to dramatically increase Ukrainian understanding of and support for NATO prior to a possible future national referendum on the subject of Ukrainian membership in NATO. Nor is such an effort even on the horizon.

This situation is curious for several reasons. First, President Yushchenko's commitment to NATO membership seems unquestionable. His intense desire to join the alliance is reflected in the country's impressive defense reform strategy and his many bold declarations. For example, in his speech at the "Common Vision for Common Neighborhood" summit in Vilnius on May 4, the president stressed that NATO is "one of the strategic targets of Ukraine's state policy" and that "guaranteeing Europe's enlargement is one of the most serious challenges of the day." That same day, in an interview with Lithuanian television, Yushchenko asserted that there is "no greater challenge" today for the country's political elite than NATO and EU membership. He also made a very important admission in Vilnius. He stated categorically that dramatic steps such as NATO membership require the overwhelming support of Ukrainian society.

The absence of a far-reaching information campaign is also very odd because reliable, detailed information about NATO and the advantages of membership is available in Ukraine. The information seminars and round tables conducted by NATO throughout the country in recent years, with the assistance of respected Ukrainian NGOs, have produced much useful literature and are an essential instrument for facilitating informed public debate here in Ukraine. Ideally, this effort, which includes Euro-clubs and summer camps for members of the younger generation, should be expanded and intensified. However, as surveys show, the impact of these seminars and clubs on the wider population is still very limited. And, not surprisingly, these seminars often attract individuals who already support NATO membership for Ukraine. These are true believers seeking more detailed information, or simply the moral support of like-minded individuals.

Finally, the failure of the Ukrainian government to disseminate widely accurate information about NATO is

curious because significant funding for this effort is available. The State Committee for TV and Radio Broadcasting, which is responsible for coordinating and disseminating information about NATO and Euro-integration issues, has been allocated more than Hr 5 million this year to implement special projects that promise to better inform citizens about European and Euro-Atlantic integration. And yet, amazingly, one would have searched Ukrainian television in vain during the past year for a single information-commercial about NATO, which could help dispel negative stereotypes of the alliance and provide useful information. Similarly, even in the country's capital, a city where one passes countless meter-high glass-covered billboards every few steps, receptacles that displayed a wide variety of political posters during the recent pre-election campaign in addition to conventional advertising, incredibly, one will not find a single eye-catching, thought-provoking NATO image or information poster, neither in these glass-covered containers on streets, nor on public transport.

How can we better understand the government's failure to launch a systematic, multi-media NATO information campaign that targets the masses in cities and villages throughout the country, and not just the sympathetic Ukrainian elite?

One Ukrainian NGO activist who spoke at the Third Assembly of the Ukraine-NATO League offered the following insight. He said this egregious official failure is not primarily about money. Rather, the problem lies with the "information politics" of the government. In his words, "It's not that we can't give the needed important information, we don't want to. Today, there is insufficient political will." Moreover, he stressed, "today society doesn't know about NATO and therefore doesn't support it," observing that information about NATO appears rarely, mostly on television news broadcasts, and only for a few seconds.

But the problem, unfortunately, runs much deeper than a lack of sufficient political will and is profoundly sys-

temic. Today there is no clear understanding in the Ukrainian government about what needs to be done to effectively inform Ukraine's masses about NATO and the advantages of membership, no description of short-term and strategic priorities, no breakdown of resources required, and no detailed action plan for implementing a far-reaching information campaign.

Instead, there is complacency, wishful thinking and a false sense of security within the Ukrainian government about NATO membership. There is also the apparent belief in the presidential administration that Ukrainians, left to their own devices, will gradually see the wisdom of joining NATO and that massive public support for Ukrainian membership will slowly but steadily grow over the next few years on its own. This is a very unrealistic assumption that ignores several key facts: the recent decrease in Ukrainian public support for NATO, unwavering Russian opposition to Ukraine's NATO push, and continuing public anti-NATO protests in Ukraine (for example, on May 9 in Sevastopol).

What needs to be done?

NATO seminars and round tables in Ukraine are very important, indeed, but the NATO discussion must move beyond the seminar room. It must catch the attention of millions of Ukrainians who instinctively turn away from any talk of NATO, individuals who are either indifferent or hostile to NATO and unlikely ever to attend a NATO information seminar.

The Ukrainian government can play a crucial role in disseminating widely reliable information and more accurate, nuanced images of NATO. The State Committee for TV and Radio Broadcasting can be a beacon of light and understanding for the vast majority of Ukrainians still in the dark about NATO. It can let citizens near and far know that NATO membership is a big plus for the country: an important bridge to the European Union and a guarantee that a professional, didovshchina (brutal hazing)-free army will develop here in the foreseeable future. It can do this by supporting

bold information projects which are homegrown, imaginative and even employ humor. The disarming power of humor should not be underestimated, nor its very special role in Ukrainian culture.

The State Committee for TV and Radio Broadcasting must not shy away from employing television, the most watched medium, which reaches even inquisitive grannies in distant villages. Its failure to do so, to date, is inexcusable. Importantly, Ukraine has 14 million pensioners, individuals more likely to vote in any future national referendum on NATO membership than many members of the country's MTV generation.

Given the conspicuous, institutional incapacity of the Ukrainian government to implement important programs – the NATO information campaign is but one example – one thing is clear. President Yushchenko must be the catalyst for action in the government's NATO information campaign.

All the good news in Ukraine's NATO picture, and there is a great deal indeed, should not blind him to the daunting NATO information challenge at home. The president will need to play a very active role on the domestic front if significant progress is to be made during the next few years. More specifically, he will need to act as a whip or enforcer and personally oversee the development of an action plan with specific and achievable benchmarks, appointing officials who will be held accountable for the implementation of this plan.

Unless this is done, the president should expect business as usual from the government's entrenched, largely unresponsive bureaucracy. And in a few years time, he may be unpleasantly surprised to learn that overwhelming public support for NATO membership, an essential requirement by his own admission, has not miraculously materialized on its own.

Walter Parchomenko, a Ph.D. and Senior Fellow with the Atlantic Council of the United States, is currently based in Ukraine. The views expressed above are purely his own.

Ukrainian firms prove to be more efficient in the short run

There is a common perception in Ukrainian society that foreign companies are usually more efficient or more productive than their local competitors. Is that true?

Clearly, a company that can sustain itself in a foreign country must be productive enough to do so for a long period of time. On the other hand, if foreign companies were more productive than their local competitors, why do the latter continue to exist and not get taken over by foreigners? The question is not as trivial as it might seem at first, and in fact, requires a careful empirical analysis.

Using modern economic methods of productivity measurement in a recent study on the efficiency of various industries in Ukraine, my colleagues and I found some interesting evidence that sheds light on this issue.

First of all, we found that local private companies are, on average, more efficient – all other things being equal – while, not surprisingly, state ownership was positively and significantly correlated to inefficiency.

Somewhat unexpectedly, however, we also found that the level of foreign ownership is also positively correlated to the level of inefficiency. This last result is quite intriguing and contradicts the common perception (which we also shared) that foreign companies are likely to be superior to local ones.

There is, however, a good explanation for why this perception is more myth than reality, at least in the case of Ukraine (although similar results were discovered during a study in China).

Simply put, the main reason is that, despite having more advanced technology, some foreign companies might not be as efficient as local companies in dealing with all of the hidden risks of doing business in a country with a transitional economy, especially when they haven't completely absorbed and adopted the local culture. This is because the strategy of "When in Rome, do as the Romans do" might not always be consistent with what some foreign companies can or want to do.

Often, the corporate code of a multi-

national company with a good reputation might hamper it from handling issues in the quick, but not always legal, ways that some local competitors are accustomed to employing. Indeed, many local competitors might not have the high reputation-capital built up over many years that multinationals are afraid of losing. And so they are likelier to be quicker and more efficient in many

"WHAT REALLY MATTERS IS THE EXISTENCE OF FAIR AND HIGH COMPETITION IN EVERY INDUSTRY, WHICH SHOULD LEAD TO THE HIGHEST POSSIBLE BENEFIT FOR SOCIETY."

– Valentin Zelenyuk,
economist and professor

operations in the short run. What will result in the long run for such firms, however, is more questionable.

As a result, what we currently observe is predominantly the more short-run oriented actions of local firms and the mostly long-run-oriented – and therefore usually less aggressive – strategies

of foreign firms. Although the foreign firms will often have a smaller rate of return than their local competitors, it is still higher than what they would have in their home country, so they will remain satisfied with their performance.

Local firms, playing aggressive strategies, sometimes even as severe as replacing a goalie with a forward during the last minutes of an important hockey

game, often results in higher profits in the short run. But what happens in the long run?

Most industries are known to go through so-called industry-shakeout periods, which are filled with bankruptcies, mergers and acquisitions. After these shakeouts of thousands of firms,

just a few remain to supply most of the market. Most industries in the United States are good examples of this scenario.

Will those few that remain after an industry shakeout be foreign or local firms? They could be either, and most likely, both in various proportions, but should it really matter? As John Maynard Keynes said, "In the long run we are all dead."

But seriously, what really matters is the existence of fair and high competition in every industry, which in most cases, according to modern economic theory, should lead to the highest possible benefit for society, especially consumers. The entrance of foreign firms onto local markets normally helps boost such competition, and so the government in Ukraine, if it cares about benefiting society, should apply various ways to encourage this.

Valentin Zelenyuk is a Senior Economist at Kyiv's Economics Institute (KEI) and a visiting professor at the Economics Education and Research Consortium at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

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HAS RECENTLY OPENED THE NEW UNIQUE MULTI-BRANDS AUTOMOBILE CENTER FORD, JAGUAR, LAND ROVER AND VOLVO.

We are seeking highly motivated, self-starting, experienced professionals to develop these exciting brands and help us become the # 1 automotive company in Ukraine. We have the following openings:

- PORSCHE SALES MANAGER •
- PRE-DELIVERY INSPECTION (PDI) MANAGER •
- PORSCHE SALES SPECIALIST •
- LAND ROVER SALES SPECIALIST •
- JAGUAR SALES SPECIALIST •
- FORD SALES SPECIALIST •
- MANAGEMENT TRAINEE •

Requirements:

- Minimum 2-years experience in business-to-business prospecting and sales
- Excellent negotiation and presentation skills
- Automotive Sales experience is preferred but not required
- University degree
- Excellent Ukrainian/good English (preferred)
- PC literate (Excel, Word, Power Point, Visio, Internet, e-mail)
- Driver's license (minimum 2-years driving experience)
- Hard-working and responsible team-player

Experienced professionals are requested to submit their CVs in English or Ukrainian by fax: **(044) 246-2054** or by e-mail: tshavykina@winnerauto.kiev.ua

ERICSSON EXCELLERATE GLOBAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

This exclusive program is being launched to attract, develop and retain talented people from across the world, with a view to grooming future leaders in Ericsson. We are looking for a candidate in Ukraine who has:

- Two degrees; one of them a master's degree in either business or international marketing or economics.
- Relevant work experience of 2-4 years in, for example, the telecoms, IT, media or management consulting sectors.
- A global perspective, having lived in at least two countries and being fluent in preferably two or more languages.

The two-year program is planned to begin in October 2006 and will be a mix of job rotation, project work, theory, literature studies, personal development, and networking.

For this recruitment, Ericsson is working with Adecco. Candidates are encouraged to apply early as the selection process is ongoing. For more information, or to apply, visit:

http://www.ericsson.com/ericsson/careers/global_management.shtml

ERICSSON
TAKING YOU FORWARD

STAFF GOLDEN

Staff search ■ Training and develop.
Assessment ■ Language center

HEAD OF AUTOCENTER Higher education Experience in sales managing (autobusiness) Managareal experience 3+ years	MANAGER FOR MEDICINE REGISTRATION Medical higher education 2+ relevant work experience in the foreign company Advanced PC skills	HR DIRECTOR Higher education 2+ work experience in the building of HR department in the group of companies Experienced in all the complex of HR policies and procedures
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Please send your CV to: lp@staff.com.ua

tel/fax: 289 3803/04 www.staff.com.ua

" TURNING GOOD INTO GREAT "

Well-known national company. Leader in its sphere. is looking for:

DEPUTY MARKETING DIRECTOR (Specialist in strategizing)

- Higher education;
 - 30-45 y.o.;
 - 5+ work experience in marketing key positions in large national or foreign companies;
 - Proved fluent English;
- The Company is looking for the brilliant candidate. Please, apply with your CV: ts@brain-source.com

Leading telecommunication company is looking for:

MARKETING MANAGER

- 5+ years of relevant experience (sales/marketing/consulting);
- higher education (business/marketing/economic);
- skills of business analysis and forecasting;

SENIOR BRAND MANAGER

- 3+ years of brand management experience (CIM/MBA);
- Higher education (marketing);
- Brands launch/re-launch;

BUSINESS DEPARTMENT COORDINATOR

- 2+ years of relevant experience (consulting/marketing);
- Higher education (business/marketing/economic);
- Project management skills;

TRADE CHANNELS COORDINATOR

- Relevant experience (trade marketing/marketing);
- Higher education (business/marketing/economic);
- Project management skills;
- Understanding of a design/POS materials/printing trades;

RETENTION MANAGER

- 2+ years of experience (marketing/sales);
 - Higher education (marketing/economic);
 - Launch of the loyalty programs;
- Please, apply with your CV: it@brain-source.com

CONTENT DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

- University degree in economic field;
 - Practical marketing experience from 3 years (Telecom, FMCG);
 - Fluent English, Russian, Ukrainian;
 - Advanced PC user (MS Word, Excel and Power Point);
- Please, apply with your CV to: vt@brain-source.com

HEAD OF INTERNAL CONTROL

- University degree in Economics/Finance (MBA is an advantage);
 - 3+ experience in internal audit in big holdings/companies;
 - Experience in project management, business-process optimization, financial controlling;
 - Fluent English;
- Please, apply with your CV: ks@brain-source.com

For all vacancies English is a must!

GR & PR SPECIALIST IN KYIV

- Higher education;
- Relevant work experience 2+;
- Special trainings passed;
- High level of English;

Please, send your detailed CV: ts@brain-source.com

HEAD OF SETTLEMENTS DEPARTMENT

- University degree in Finance;
- Minimum 2 years of relevant professional experience;
- Fluent English.

Please, apply with your CV: ad@brain-source.com

CALL CENTER AND IVR GROUP ENGINEER (Dnepropetrovsk)

- +2 years work experience;
- General knowledge of Windows 2000/XP, Unix like operation systems, VoIP technology, network infrastructure;

Please, apply with Your CV: od@acumen.com.ua

The leading foreign bank is looking for:

ACCOUNTANTS (for NBU reports and Payroll operations)

- Knowledge of the Ukrainian Principles (Standards) of Accounting Reporting is preferable;
 - Knowledge of the NBU Regulations is preferable.
 - University degree in Economics/Finance;
 - 2-3 years experience in a relevant filed is a must;
- Please, send your CV to: ts@brain-source.com

Foreign insurance company is looking for:

SALES DIRECTOR (INSURANCE)

- Higher Financial education;
- Experience in distribution of financial products;
- Banking processes knowledge;
- Fluent English;

Please, apply with your CV: oy@brain-source.com

Chemical Trading Company is looking for:

SALES MANAGER

- 3+ years experience in B2B sales of raw materials;
- University degree in Chemistry is a plus;
- Fluent English;

Please, apply with your CV: ks@brain-source.com

A well-known European technical company is looking for:

SALES MANAGER

- University degree (preferably in Engineering);
- Experience in B2B sales;
- Excellent communication skills;
- Fluent English or German;

Please, send your CV to: ym@brain-source.com

The one of the largest suppliers company is looking for:

SALES ENGINEER (L'viv, Dnepropetrovsk, Donetsk)

- Track record of sales results within fork lift truck industry or similar industry)
 - Knowledge MS Office
 - English is preferable
 - Higher technical education
 - Team oriented and communicative, hard working
- Please send your CV to e-mail: mo@brain-source.com

Leading FMCG Company is looking for:

REGIONAL SALES MANAGER (Kyiv, Lviv, Odessa, Kharkiv)

- Strong FMCG sales experience +3 years;
- Team work & leadership skills;
- Mature and pleasant person;
- Advanced in communication and presentation;

Please apply with your CV: kr@brain-source.com

An International Technical company is looking for:

AFTERSALES & SERVICE MANAGER

- University degree in Engineering;
- Managerial experience within a service department;
- Dynamic, excellent communication skills, team player;
- Fluent English or German;

Please, send your CV to nm@brain-source.com

Large Production Enterprise is looking for:

DEVELOPMENT PROJECT FINANCIAL MANAGER & FINANCIAL CONTROLLER

- 3+ years of relevant experience;
- Experience in budgeting, business-planning, accounting, finance strategy, analysis and controlling;
- Previous exposure to GAAP reporting and budget actualization;
- Experience in accounting policy and reporting standards implementation.

Please, apply with your CV: ks@brain-source.com

The international FMCG Company is looking for:

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT

- Excellent knowledge of local accounting standards and tax legislation;
- Practical knowledge of IFRS;
- Experience in implementation and use of ERP systems would be a plus;
- 5-10 years Accounting/Finance experience (within a western company is a plus);

Please, send your CV to e-mail: vi@brain-source.com

A European machine-building company is looking for:

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

- University degree in Finance or Economic;
- Minimum 2-3 years of relevant accounting position;
- Fluent German or English, German is a plus

Please, apply with your CV: ae@brain-source.com

Leading Investment Bank in Kiev is looking for:

HEAD OF CORPORATE FINANCE HEAD OF SALES

- Experience in origination, execution of corporate finance deals (HCF)
 - Excellent knowledge of equity and debt products (HS)
 - Fluent English; foreign MBA is a plus
- The client offers attractive competitive salary and a bonus

Please, apply with your CV: aa@brain-source.com

Investment company is looking for:

INVESTMENT ANALYST

- Higher Financial education;
- 2+ years of experience in financial sphere
- Experience in equity research/ investment analysis;

Please, apply with your CV: oy@brain-source.com

International Payment Organization is looking for:

BRAND / PR MANAGER

- University degree;
- Experience in similar position 3+ (financial institutions are preferable);

Please, apply with your CV: ts@brain-source.com

Famous Law Firm is currently looking for:

PR MANAGER

- Higher Education in Journalism/PR/Law;
- Related Experience 3+ (experience in juridical field will be an advantage);
- Good command of English.

Please, apply with your CV: nsg@brain-source.com

International Investment Company is looking for:

HEAD OF PR DEPARTMENT

- Higher education, fluent English;
- Work experience as PR-director, PR-manager in companies (financial market, investment market);
- Knowledge of mass media market;
- Experience in creation and development of PR strategy, PR-events;
- Experience in preparation of PR-materials (articles, press-releases, etc);

Please, apply with your CV: fs@brain-source.com

International advertising agency is looking for:

HoReCa CHANNEL EXECUTIVE

- Higher education;
- 3+ years experience in a FMCG company in a sales and marketing environment; or
- 3+ years senior management role with BTL agency with strong HoReCa portfolio of multi-brand experiences (tobacco, premium alcohol, beer);
- Significant experience of launching and developing brands in the HoReCa environment;
- High level of English;

Please, send your detailed CV: fs@brain-source.com

International FMCG company is looking for:

LOGISTICS MANAGER

- Higher education;
- 3+ years experience in logistics, customer service;
- Fluent English;
- Good communication skills;

MEDICAL MARKETING MANAGER

- University degree in medicine;
- 5+ years experience within strong pharmaceutical company; at least 3+ on marketing position;
- Strategic planning skills;

Please, apply with your CV: om@brain-source.com

Leading Law Company is looking for:

HEAD OF REPRESENTATIVE OFFICE

- Higher Law Education from a recognized university;
 - 5+ years of successful experience in finance, investments and corporate law;
 - Strong leadership skills;
- The company offers highly competitive compensation package.

Please, apply with Your CV: oy@brain-source.com

Famous full service advertising agency is looking for:

ACCOUNT MEDIA MANAGER (KP)

- University degree (preferably in Marketing);
- Successful experience in the advertising sphere (media department) 2+;
- Fluent English;

Please, apply with your CV to: of@brain-source.com

A famous European company is looking for:

STORE MANAGER

- 2+ years of retail work experience in a leading position;
- Funded knowledge in business management;
- Analytical and communication skills;
- German or English language knowledge;

Please, apply with your CV: am@brain-source.com

A large construction company is looking for:

CONSTRUCTION MANAGER

- Higher education (preferably Technical)
- Experience 1 year or more on the similar position
- Good managerial and communicative skills, proactive.
- Strong PC user (MsProject)

Please, apply with Your CV: yp@brain-source.com

Real Estate company is looking for:

PROPERTY MANAGER

- Professional economical/financial qualification;
- 4+ years property management experience;
- Provided contact base in related bodies including Government regulatory bodies;
- Excellent knowledge of English;

Please, send your CV to: vl@brain-source.com

Famous Company, leader in its field, is looking for:

SMB SEGMENT LEADER

- University Degree
- (Business/Marketing/Management/Economics)
- Experience in Marketing and Sales 5+
- Managerial Experience 3+
- Excellent skills of long-term planning
- Fluent English

Please, apply with your CV to: nsg@brain-source.com

For all vacancies English is a must!

www.brain-source.com Kyiv 8 (044) 390-5010; Lviv 8 (032) 242-1211; Dnipropetrovsk 8(056) 721-9345; Donetsk 8(062) 348 84 90; Kharkiv 8(057) 720-42-22. info@brain-source.com


CAREER IN SALANS

Salans - a leading multinational law firm with over 450 lawyers in 16 offices worldwide.

We are pleased to announce the following vacancies to be based in Kyiv:

- ◆ **Mid-Level Lawyers (banking/finance)**
 - At least 4-5 years of relevant professional experience in Ukraine with a leading law firm, bank or major financial institution;
 - University degree in law (specialist or higher) or equivalent;
 - Excellent English language skills (including legal drafting);
 - Analytical, communication and organization skills;
 - Microsoft Office, law data bases proficient.
- ◆ **Mid-Level Lawyers (real estate)**
 - At least 4-5 years of relevant professional experience in Ukraine with a leading law firm, international real estate agency or major specialised financial institution;
 - University degree in law (specialist or higher) or equivalent;
 - Excellent English language skills (including legal drafting);
 - Analytical, communication and organization skills;
 - Microsoft Office, law data bases proficient.
- ◆ **Mid-Level Lawyer (tax law)**
 - At least 4-5 years of relevant professional experience in Ukraine with a leading law or audit firm;
 - University degree in law (specialist or higher) or equivalent;
 - Excellent English language skills;
 - Analytical, communication and organization skills;
 - Microsoft Office, law data bases proficient.
- ◆ **Junior Lawyers (corporate/commercial)**
 - At least 2-3 years of professional experience in Ukraine;
 - University degree in law (specialist or higher) or equivalent;
 - Excellent English language skills;
 - Microsoft Office, law data bases proficient.
- ◆ **Junior Lawyers (banking/finance)**
 - At least 2-3 years of professional experience in Ukraine with a leading law firm, bank or major financial institutions;
 - University degree in law (specialist or higher) or equivalent;
 - Excellent English language skills;
 - Microsoft Office, law data bases proficient.

To apply for any of the positions, please send your detailed resume/CV along with a cover letter outlining your suitability, to kyiv-vacancies@salans.com Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



SALANS
www.salans.com



Our clients, well-established western companies are looking for:

CHIEF ACCOUNTANT (European Production Company)
Min 3 years of successful working experience as a Chief Accountant
Local and international accounting standards, tax regulation, experience with different accounting software. Good command of English. Willingness to frequent business trips is essential (Code CA-L)

SENIOR LEGAL ADVISOR (European Production Company - leader of the building materials industry)
Min 4 years experience with multinational company on managerial position in legal department. Excellent knowledge of corporate, natural resources and land law, experienced in dealing with authorities. Fluent English. Willingness to extensive traveling. (Code SLA_1805)

HEAD OF CUSTOMER SERVICE (Western cosmetics company)
About 3 years of managerial experience. Strong team leader with excellent administrative and influencing skills
Experience in client service with big company is a plus
Good command of English (Code CS_M)

Please submit your CV with the reference code kop@kop.com.ua

Analyst in M&A department, The AES Corporation
An analyst position in M&A department in S&P 500 global power company based in Kiev. A candidate will work on various M&A transactions in Central and Eastern Europe.

Job description:

- Market research and screening of potential targets, industry and company analysis
- Equity valuation and preparation of investment memos
- Assistance in financial due diligences and update of valuation models
- Assistance in post-merger integrations

Requirements:

- Proactive, exceptional individuals, ready for challenges and hard work
- Fluent English (written and spoken)
- Degree in Finance/Economics, Applied Mathematics/Physics is a strong plus

Please send your CV and cover letter to Svetlana.Ostapchuk@AES.com



Due to expansion of business, official representative in Ukraine of Swiss Pharmaceutical Research, Development and Manufacture Company Mepha is looking for the

PRODUCT MANAGER

(located in Kiev)

Main responsibilities:

- Managing marketing campaigns for our existing core OTC and Rx (with and without prescription) products in Ukraine, as well as managing full marketing mix for new launches
- Supporting sales team with product knowledge and involving the team in fulfillment of marketing programs
- Cooperation with media and creative agencies
- Performing market analysis

Requirements:

- Experience in marketing minimum 2 years
- Medical education will be considered as an advantage
- Excellent leadership and presentation skills
- Customer-orientated, creative and energetic person
- Fluent in Ukrainian, Russian, English
- Computer skills

Please send your motivation letter and CV in English by **May 23rd, 2006** to the e-mail address: personnel@mephabaltic.com or fax **+371 7325 790**



BWT Polska Sp. z o.o. representative of BWT AG the European leader in water treatment and swimming pool technology is looking for a candidate for:

CHIEF OF REPRESENTATION OFFICE

REQUIREMENTS:

- Technical University degree with specialisation concerning water treatment technology
- Management and organizational skills
- Experienced on similar post
- Fluent English or German
- Disposable for many business trips
- Knowledge of duty regulations
- Computer skills, driving licence

DUTIES:

- Organisation of representative office in Kiev
- Organisation of the sale: new customers (wholesalers, companies), ordering goods, import
- Development of marketing strategy
- Participation in fairs, branch events
- Looking for investments

We offer long-term career, attractive salary, bonuses and opportunities of development.
If you are interested in organisation of BWT office in Kiev please send your CV in English by e-mail: praca@bwt.pl or fax: +48 22 666 01 95. Visit also our web site www.bwt.pl

ERNST & YOUNG Quality In Everything We Do

The Professional Education Center in Ukraine is looking to fill in a position of Instructor-Consultant to join its team of proven professionals

The Instructor-Consultant will design, develop and deliver intensive seminars for clients in following areas

- IFRS/GAAP
- FINANCIAL ANALYSIS
- CORPORATE FINANCE

The right candidate will have:

- 3+ years experience in the IFRS and Ukrainian accounting environment
- University degree in Finance, Accounting, or related subjects
- Strong communication and presentation skills
- Fluent English
- Preferable prior experience as a teacher/trainer
- Commitment to professional development

For immediate consideration, please submit your CV and covering letter with reference to desirable position to the Human Resources department, **Ernst & Young, 19-A, Khreschatyk Street, Kyiv, 01001 Ukraine**; fax (044) 490-3030 or email: Volodymyr.Bilavka@ua.ey.com quoting the Ref. #: **Instructor-Consultant** Please visit our website at www.ey.com/ukraine



KVAZAR-Micro
ALWAYS A STEP AHEAD

Kvazar-Micro, is the leading IT company in Ukraine and is expanding rapidly in the CIS/CEE regions. Our growth has created an opening for an experienced **DIRECTOR OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT** who will become a key player in our continuing expansion. Required skills include M+A, analytical and negotiation skills and a good knowledge of the IT/telecoms industries. International experience, higher education preferably with an MBA and fluency in English will be a distinct benefit.

We welcome you to join our team of 1300 professionals!

Contacts
resume@kvazar-micro.com
tel. **239 9952**
Svetlana Zvjagintseva

Leading Ukrainian IT company Kvazar-Micro with international business activities in 10 countries announces vacancies for the positions in dynamically developing team of professionals with unlimited career and professional development possibilities.

SALES MANAGER, EASTERN EUROPEAN REGION

- Higher national diploma in field of IT (internal course only)
- Fluent English is a must
- 2+ years experience in sales or purchase of IT components.
- Experience of work with key customer accounts.
- Under 32 years old
- Negotiations, sales, communication and social skill
- Ability to travel a lot
- advanced PC user (MS applications, DBs)

VENDOR MANAGER

- Higher education in field of IT or foreign economy (internal course)
- Fluent English is a must
- 2+ years experience in IT field. Experience of negotiations with international vendors is preferable.

- Under 32 years old
- Negotiations, sales, communication and social skill
- Ability to travel a lot.
- Advanced PC user (MS applications, DBs)

MARKETING MANAGER

- Higher education (PR/marketing/economic/linguistic)
- Fluent English is a must
- 2+ years experience in marketing field
- Under 36 years old
- advanced PC user (MS applications, DBs)

ADMIN (SECRETARY)

- Higher education
- English is near native
- Active and cheerful character
- Accurate in paperwork
- Good computer skills

Please send your CV to E-mail:
disti.km@kvazar-micro.com



Chief Accountant

Immediate opening:

- Minimum 4 years of experience
- Knowledge in IAS, GAAP and Ukrainian accounting standards
- Fluent in English
- Manage a team of 2-3 people
- Report directly to the Director of the company

Please send your resume in English to oksanag@galaradio.com

AstraZeneca UK Limited Representative office in Ukraine is opening a vacancy of

MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Main Responsibilities:

To support and actively take part in medical or regulatory activities for "AstraZeneca" products in Ukraine.

Requirements:

- medical university degree
- successful experience (at least 2 years) in medical director position
- fluent English
- high level of self-discipline and self-organization
- PC literate
- driving license

We offer an interesting dynamic and responsible work. Stable and competitive reward, training and professional growth.

CV and motivational letter are to be sent by fax: (044)531 43 14 or e-mail: Ukraine@astrazeneca.com



is an international provider of food, agricultural and risk management products and services. With 142,000 employees in 61 countries, the company is committed to using its knowledge and experience to collaborate with customers to help them succeed.

With near \$200 million invested in the Ukrainian agricultural and food processing sector, Cargill is one of the leading foreign investors in Ukraine. Cargill Ukraine currently employs over 800 people in various locations.

We are currently looking for:

Grain Elevators Business Development Manager

Position is based in Kyiv.

Description

Commercial management and business development of Cargill grain elevators in Ukraine.

Principal Accountabilities:

- Manage commercial activities of Cargill grain elevators in Ukraine.
- Develop and implement elevator growth strategies.
- Monitor business performance and industry developments.

Qualifications:

- University degree in Business Administration / Economics / Marketing.
- Minimum 3 years of successful experience in commercial asset management, preferably in agricultural sector.
- Proven experience in investment projects or new acquisitions.
- Excellent communication, leadership and team working skills.
- Strong problem solving and analytical skills.
- Proven coordination and planning skills.
- Fluent English, Ukrainian and Russian.
- Strong computer skills (Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook).
- Valid driving license.
- Position is based in Kiev, but intensive traveling is required.

Agricultural Commodity Trader

Position is based in Kyiv.

Description

Being a member of successful local and international teams the Trader is primarily responsible for developing and executing agricultural commodity trading strategies.

Principal Accountabilities:

- Develop and maintain relationships with agricultural market participants.
- Collect and analyze market data to develop trading and risk management strategies.
- Coordinate commodity position and related strategies with national and global trading teams.
- Actively manage contracts execution and follow administrative requirements.

Qualifications:

- University degree in Business Management / Agronomy / Economics.
- Minimum 3 years experience in trading, preferably in agricultural sector.
- Ability to think independently and creatively.
- Proven communication and strong teamwork skills.
- Proven problem solving and analytical skills.
- Fluent English, Ukrainian and Russian.
- Strong computer skills (Word, Excel, Power Point, Outlook).

Please, send your CVs to the recruitment company **PowerPact HR Consulting** by May 29, 2006 with Ref: Cargill
Fax +38 044 278 2059, E-mail finance@powerpact.com.ua
Tel. +38 044 278 7101, 278 7103



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine

The office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine is seeking a qualified and motivated person to fill the position of:

INTERPRETER AND ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

TASKS:

- Simultaneous translation;
- Translation and proof-reading of written documentation;
- Clerical and administrative duties in the office;
- Maintaining the schedule of the Project Co-ordinator;
- Arrangement of appointments for the Project Co-ordinator, receiving visitors, organizing conference facilities etc.;
- Preparation and conduct of activities such as meetings, seminars, press-conferences;
- Placement and screening of telephone calls;
- Reception and screening of Project Co-ordinator's correspondence, and preparation of outgoing correspondence;
- Making travel arrangements for the Project Co-ordinator including accommodation and visas;
- Performing other tasks that may be assigned.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Professional knowledge of written and spoken Ukrainian, English, and Russian;
- Work experience in international organizations/diplomatic institutions a merit;
- Experience on related positions;
- Office administration skills.

The position will commence from June 2006. Please send your CV via email to Victoria.Ladygina@osce.org or by fax: + 380 44 492 03 84 to the attention of Ms. Victoria Ladygina, or send it to the OSCE Project Coordinator in Ukraine, Striletska 16, 01034 Kyiv as soon as possible, but not later than 1 June, 2006. Please indicate the title of the position in your application.

Model Agency

MANAGER/ DIRECTOR

The corporate world not for you?
Work in a fun creative atmosphere!

Applicants should have:

- Strong communication and organization skills
- Out going personality with good people skills
- Be able to perform basic bookkeeping
- Sales, development and promotion abilities
- Computer skills including Word, Excel, photo processing, web site work
- Fluent in English, Russian, Ukrainian
- Knowledge of fashion, styles and cosmetics
- Knowledge of photography preferred
- Model experience preferred

Will train for the right person. Salary \$300/month with generous bonuses based on programs.
Female preferred.

Call today 8 - 067 - 300 - 4145 or email your resume in English to modelUA@yahoo.com

FMCG company
is looking for
Junior Trade Marketing Specialist

The candidate should have
minimum 1 year experience
in trade marketing.

Pls contact:
Country Manager -
8 067 242 02 03

A leading Ukrainian pharmaceutical company is looking for Production Maintenance Manager.

We strive to become a Number One in the Ukrainian pharmaceutical industry, so we are looking for professionals who share our views and ambitions and plan to gain success in their career!

Production Maintenance Manager

EMPLOYER: ARTERIUM Corp., Kyiv.

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Implementation of the Production Help Desk Service, developing standards and its key performance indicators,
- Management of the twenty-four-hour service of all technical equipment, working out prompt response procedures to emergency conditions,
- Spare part management process based upon analytical system,
- Negotiation and contract management process for outsourced material and services,
- Creation of the goal-oriented innovative team in accordance to the company values.

AN APPROPRIATE CANDIDATE SHOULD POSSESS THE FOLLOWING QUALIFICATIONS:

- Higher technical education,
- Experience in production area or in the consulting area such as developing and integrating the complex technical systems for production,
- General knowledge of the pharmaceutical market,
- Basic skills in the operations management, general management, project management, quality assurance,
- Eager to improve skills and knowledge, good analytical and communicative skills, team player,
- Advanced PC user (MS Office, MS Project, MS Visio, AutoCAD),
- Intermediate in English

Please send your CV to hr@arterium.ua





Компания «Квазар-Микро» - ведущий системный интегратор Восточной Европы и стран СНГ, сообщает об открытии позиции вице-президента по финансам.

Основные задачи должности:

- Формирование, внедрение и управление корпоративной политики финансового учета
- Организация контроля использования денежных средств, управление денежными потоками компании
- Управление кредитными ресурсами компании
- Обеспечение внешнего финансового аудита, управление взаимоотношениями с аудиторскими компаниями.
- Подготовка регулярной отчетности для акционеров и менеджмента компании, оценка финансовой эффективности деятельности компании
- Финансовый анализ приобретаемых активов и компаний

Основные требования к претенденту:

- Опыт работы на аналогичной должности не менее 5 лет
- Опыт работы в международных компаниях, желателен опыт работы на международных фондовых биржах
- Свободное владение английским языком
- Знание налогового законодательства EU, Украины, России; знание стандарта GAAP
- Желательно - наличие образования, полученного в ведущих бизнес школах мира
- Готовность к командировкам

Подробная информация о компании на сайте www.kvazar-micro.com
Резюме направляйте по адресу resume@kvazar-micro.com
Тел. 239-99-99
Контактное лицо: Варвара Терновая

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Major independent Ukrainian agriculture company seeks highly qualified operations managers, to be based in Mykolaiv and Kirovohrad regions and reporting to the Head of Operations in Kyiv.

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Position Description:

- Develop and implement cropping plans for the regional group farms
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- Profit responsibility for the regional group farms
- Assure regional farms security
- Use and support company's agricultural models and management software
- Participate in the evaluation of potential acquisitions.
- Participate in company strategy development.

A competitive remuneration package with performance bonuses.

Applications should be submitted on email to:
ukr.ag.hr@btinternet.com

RTI International, a contractor for USAID,
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SENIOR INTERPRETER

To assist local governments in introducing modern budget techniques

Qualifications necessary:

- Higher Education
- Excellent written and spoken English, Ukrainian and Russian
- Minimum 7 years experience in interpretation/translation preferably with international projects
- Ability in translation editing and coordination
- Knowledge of finance/budget terminology is preferred
- Strong communication and presentation skills (ready to interpret for top management)
- Experience in working with central and/or local governments is preferred
- Excellent computer skills

Qualified candidates should send electronic CV's in English to info@ukr.rti.org by **June 2, 2006**.

Only finalists will be contacted.

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With its head office in Ireland the Quinn Group is a multinational organisation with substantial interests in a range of diverse industry sectors including financial services, Hotel and Property management, cement production and the manufacture of related concrete products. It is a market leader in Ireland and the UK in the production of container glass products for the drinks and food trade and is a major provider of building insulation products. It is also a market leader on a European wide basis in the supply of heating radiators and also for the production of industrial and domestic plastics.

Within the Property sector the Group is now embarking on a major property and investment programme in the Ukraine, targeting office blocks, hotels, retail parks, logistics and greenfield sites. This is an outstanding opportunity to become involved with an international group with a history of success as it begins this exciting new phase of development in Central and Eastern Europe.

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The successful candidate will demonstrate 5 years previous management experience, coupled with strong negotiation and communication skills. Previous experience of working in a similar role is essential.

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Reporting to the General Manager you will have responsibility for setting up, maintaining and managing effective relationships between the tenant and the company. You will ensure that all tenants are adequately accommodated inline with the tenancy agreement, complete check-in inspections, investigate, respond and take corrective action with regard to any complaints.

The successful candidate must have knowledge of European and local legislation and health & Safety regulations. Previous experience in a similar role is essential coupled with strong communication skills.

If you wish to apply for the above position cv's should be forwarded to:-
Ms Natalya Reshetov, C/o The Leonardo Business Centre, 17/52 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho St. Kyiv, Ukraine. Closing date for CV's is Friday 26th May 2006.



RTI International, a contractor for USAID,
is seeking highly qualified professionals for position

PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST

To assist local governments in introducing modern budget techniques

Qualifications necessary:

- Higher Education (preferably in Finance/Economics)
- Property management experience
- Knowledge of procurement procedures
- Skills of procurement control
- VAT Exemption experience is preferred
- Minimum 5 years of relevant experience with international projects
- Fluent English
- Excellent computer skills

Qualified candidates should send electronic CV's in English to **info@ukr.rti.org** by **June 2, 2006**.

Only finalists will be contacted.

The International Company -supplier of equipment and technical solutions for industrial automation, invites candidates on position of DIRECTOR of the Company, Ukraine.

Job responsibilities:

- management of enterprise activity (distribution of equipment of industrial automation, engineering, consultation and service);
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 - experience in distribution, logistic and project management;
 - fluent English.

Please send your CV to the
E-mail: info@controltech.com.ua
or call tel. / fax (044) 417-40-07, 494-48-22

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ТРЕБОВАНИЯ К КАНДИДАТАМ: ВО; свободный английский язык (желательно второй – немецкий), ОР ассистентом руководителя, секретарем от 1 года. ПК – продвинутый пользователь.

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- Английский свободный;
- Продвинутый пользователь ПК;
- Аналитические способности, целеустремленность, активная жизненная позиция.

Свои резюме присылайте по адресу:

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указав в теме письма код вакансии (AssD)

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- отличный русский и хороший английский язык
- коммуникабельность, инициативность, умение работать в сжатые сроки

Свои резюме присылайте по адресу:

korresp@bigmir.net, указав в теме письма код вакансии (Журналист Жизнь)

3D-ДИЗАЙНЕР

для создания трехмерных элементов инфографики.

Требования:

- опыт работы в программах: 3d-max, Cinema 4d, Bryce, Poser, или других, позволяющих моделировать трехмерные объекты и ландшафты.
- Сотрудничество происходит на гонорарной, удаленной основе. В дальнейшем возможна постоянная работа в офисе на ставку.

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- Умение работать в сжатые сроки.

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- заключение договоров
- проведение сверок с клиентами
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Резюме без указания кода вакансии рассматриваться не будут.

Head Of Rep. Office/Manag.

RESUME MINI B.S., electrical engineering, M.A., linguistics. 5-year experience as head of rep. office of a US consulting firm in Ukraine. Native Ukrainian, Russian, fluent English, basic German, Turkish and Urdu. Advanced PC user. Valid multiple visa to USA. For detailed CV please call +38-050-962-5746 or e-mail: artkot7@yahoo.com

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RESUME MINI F, 24. University degree in Marketing and relevant experience within Western companies. Fluent English, good German. Looking for a challenging position in Marketing/Sales/Development. Strong analytical skills, highly creative. CV upon request. Inga. E-mail: nuee@ukr.net, tel.: 8-067-796-6599

Personal Assistant

RESUME MINI Lady, 26 y.o. is looking for a job of personal assistant. M.D. in Culture, fluent English, little French, 7 years experience as interpreter. Please, call 8 (066) 735-9025. References and CV on request, e-mail: oranges@bigmir.net Anna

Supply Chain Manager

RESUME MINI Alexey, 37. University degree, 12+ years of experience with multinational companies as Head of Logistics Dept. Import/Transportation/Warehousing Operations/Distribution. Team player, strong communication and organizational skills. Advanced PC user. Driving license. Please contact: 8-066-760-74-47, e-mail: wg@gala.net

Admin./Consulting/Manag.

RESUME MINI Male, 28 y.o. Degree from Ukrainian and from European Universities. 3+ years of international legal, organizational, administrative and negotiations experience in Ukraine and Western Europe. Bright business and official contact's network. Fluent English, French, German, Russian and Ukrainian. E-mail: just_a_lawyer@yahoo.com

Head of Rep. Office/Manager

RESUME MINI UF.35. Looking for a job in company which is opening its business in Ukraine. University degree in law. 12 years of experience in foreign companies (trading, production, consulting), excellent presentation, negotiation and problem-solving skills. Result-oriented, strong organizational skills. I am open for a new challenge. Fluent German, good English, native Russian and Ukrainian, PC user, Driver's license Victoria. Tel.: 8-097-682-9778, e-mail: vwr@bigmir.net

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PAYMENT

Pre-payment is required in all cases.



KYIV POST The Guide

Fresh and delicious:
Try out tuna carpaccio and other
tasty treats at the renovated Concord
Page 27



MAY 18TH, 2006

Got some ideas you'd like to share? Want to promote your next big event?
Contact **Editor Alexandra Matoshko**
at matoshko@kyivpost.com, or call 496-1111!

ENJOY YALTA!

Star rapper to hit Kyiv



By **ALEXANDRA MATOSHKO**

This summer concert season is certainly full of surprises. If only a short time ago the appearance of a real Western musical star sounded like an extraordinary event here, it certainly won't anymore. Not after The Black Eyed Peas and Jamiroquai announced their concerts, and The Cardigans promised to give an open-air show on Europe Day – and all this during over little more than a month. Frankly, I didn't expect any more surprises of this kind, but then I went to music.com.ua this weekend and felt my jaw drop. 50 Cent is coming? Are you kidding? I really found it hard to believe. Please, don't get me wrong – it was not because I thought he was too big and great to come to Kyiv, but it just seemed so hard to imagine someone like that hitting Kyiv's grounds with his million-dollar sneakers. Just imagine him strolling along Khreshchatyk – all showy and shiny with all those golden chains, diamonds, a bullet in the head and an indispensable gang of fellow rappers. It just didn't seem to make sense. And yet he's coming June 3.

As living proof of the wonder of show biz, Curtis James Jackson (aka 50 Cent), has jumped to fame in no time at all. After being discovered by Dr. Dre and Eminem, he released his debut album "Get Rich or Die Trying" in 2003 and sold 90,000 copies of it in the first week. His hits such as "Candy Shop" and "In Da Club", are known even to those who have no interest for rap at all (such as myself). Since then 50 Cent has released his second successful album, "The Massacre," and has also become an actor, starring in a movie based on his own biography – much like his patron Eminem. In fact, he's already filming another movie, "Home of the Brave."

Unlike the other American hitmakers coming to Kyiv this summer, 50 Cent will perform not at Palats Sportu, but at the Arena entertainment center – and he certainly will look much more at home there, doing his rap for an audiences that – though perhaps not quite as "gold-plated" as himself – are nonetheless ready to pay \$100 for the cheapest tickets available. Apparently, they've taken his famous motto "get rich or die trying" much to heart.



Night Out suggests: Go partying at Wenzel and don't forget your friends
Page 25

A Word with ... inspiring organizer and family man Alexander Kuzma
Page 26

Discover Yalta: Take a trip to Ukraine's own Riviera
Page 28

(Natalia Kravchuk)

GALLERY

FRIDAY 19

Paintings by Lev Markosyan

Depicting people, things and nature, Kyiv artist Lev Markosyan sometimes spends over a year working on a single painting, but despite the seemingly slow pace of work Markosyan has created a great number of works to date and gained authority in artistic circles. At the upcoming exhibition Lev Markosyan will exhibit his works that combine reality and dreams and reflect the artist's rather dramatic views on life.

Tryptikh (34 Andriivsky Uzviz, 279-8385). Through May 31.



(Courtesy Image)

"Finland-Posterland"

The main idea of the exhibition called "Finland-Posterland" is to prove that Finnish posters, particularly those created between 1960 and 2005, are real works of art. Five famous Finnish graphic-designers, Tapani Aartomaa, Martti Mykkanen, Kari Piippo, Kyosti Varis and Jukka Veistol, known far beyond the bounds of their native country, will bring their best works to three Ukrainian cities: Kyiv, Kharkiv and Lviv.

Maysternya (1-5 Artema, 272-0542). Through June 2.

FRIDAY 19



(www.sofiaa.com)

"Fedir Pryymachenko's Signs of Polissya"

Artist Fedir Pryymachenko, whose works were once highly estimated by President of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko himself, presents his new exhibition "Fedir Pryymachenko's Signs of Polissya." The son of the world-famous Ukrainian artist Maria Pryymachenko, Fedir spent his whole life in the country not far from Kyiv working as a forester. Therefore, the beauty of nature around him has served as the main inspiration for these works.

Arena-Kolo (Arena-City, 2A Baseyna, 286-6978). Exhibition opening at 7 p.m. Through May 31.

THURSDAY 25

FILMS

SATURDAY 20



(www.outnow.ch)

"The Da Vinci Code"

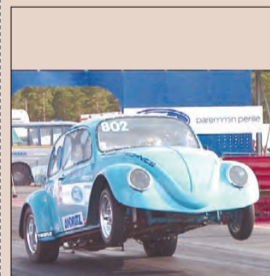
The provocative novel "The Da Vinci Code" was bound to become a movie from the start, and whether it will become a blockbuster as well, we'll be able to find out already this week when the flick finally hits the big screens throughout the world, including Ukraine. Skillfully mixing actual facts with conjectures and pure fiction and dressing it all up as a mystical thriller, Dan Brown was knowingly creating a best-seller – easy to read and even easier to watch. And while the Catholic Church is still working hard to sabotage the movie, this has only succeeded in adding to its popularity.

Various cinemas.

Please, see movie listings on p. 30 for more information.

SPORT

SATURDAY 20



(www.phnet.fi)

Drag Racing Cup of Ukraine

The Drag Racing Committee and the Ukrainian Automobile Federation have organized the first Ukrainian Drag Racing Cup with the participation of professional auto pilots from the biggest cities in the country. Some teams of racers will also come from neighboring countries, such as Belarus. The racers will compete in both qualification and final rounds in one day.

Chayka (motor-racing circuit; Svyatoshino metro station). 11 a.m. For more information call 240-1340.

SUNDAY 21



(news.yahoo.com)

The Final of the Hockey World Championship

The 2006 Hockey World Championship is coming to its end and Sunday will define the teams that will win third, second and first prizes in Riga, Latvia. The country-favorites of this year's championship won't surprise any sports fan, because countries such as Canada and Russia are the usual leaders in the tour tables. Last year's Olympic champion Sweden and last year's hockey champion the Czech Republic are also ranked among the leaders. Therefore, the battle for the prizes is going to be hot and dramatic until the end.

TV Channel Inter and various sport bars.

CLUBS

SATURDAY 20

Sex in Dallas

French trio Sex in Dallas, which lives and works in Germany, will come to Kyiv without its soloist Mia von Matt a.k.a. Billadoll, but will still play the band's trademark electro-pop music. The other two members of the trio actually coming are Adrien Walter and David Ducaruge, who prefer to work with a laptop instead of a 4-track recorder, using samples rather than live guitars. And this very approach to music has just brought them success and popularity, leading them to work with Miss Kittin and some other prominent musicians.

Kayf (20 Artema, 482-0001). 11 p.m. Please, call for ticket information.

SPECIAL EVENT

SATURDAY 20

Europe Day

The celebration of Europe Day in Kyiv will offer another opportunity for Kyivans to feel like real Europeans at least for a day and learn more about being European by visiting the so-called European town at Maydan Nezalezhnosti, where they'll be able to meet up with representatives of 26 countries and receive information on each of them. Among other entertainment of the day is the concert of Ukrainian and German jazz that will start at 5 p.m. The official opening of the European festival will take place at 6 p.m. at the main stage, while the main event of the day – the concert featuring Ukrainian stars VV and TNMK and special guests Swedish band Cardigans – will start at 6:30 p.m.

Maydan Nezalezhnosti and Khreshchatyk. Free admission.

SATURDAY 20



(www.docudays.org.ua)

Human Rights Documentary Festival

The Ukrainian Human Rights Helsinki Group and the Public Organization "Contemporary Information Technologies and Visual Arts Center" will hold the third festival of documentaries united by the topic of human rights in order to demonstrate burning problems connected with this issue in Ukraine. The program of the festival will include about 80 films from 20 countries in original languages with Ukrainian subtitles. After each show the viewers will be offered to participate in a discussion on the problems brought up in the movies. For detailed program and more information go to <http://docudays.org.ua>.

Budynok Kino (6 Saksahanskohe, 417-4118). Free admission. Through May 25.

FRIDAY 19 – SUNDAY 21

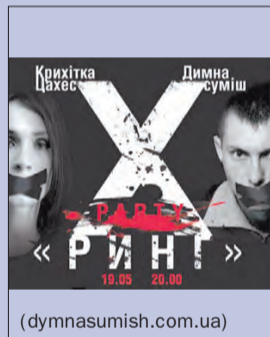
The 4th International Kyiv Photo Fair

According to the program of The International Photo Fair, it will be interesting not only for professional photographers, but also amateurs and regular photography fans. In the course of the Photo Fair, the organizers from Ukraine, Russia and Great Britain are planning to conduct "Profoto 2006" – an exhibition of professional Ukrainian photos, an advertisement photo exhibition, "Master", a festival of various national photo competitions, an exhibition by Pope's personal photographer Grzegorz Galazka, and many other personal exhibitions and contests sponsored by leading photo companies, such as Canon, Epson and others.

International Exhibition Center (15 Brovarsky Prospekt, 451-4160). Tickets Hr 10.

LIVE MUSIC

FRIDAY 19



(dymnasumish.com.ua)

Krykhitka Tsakhes and Dymna Sumish

In spite of differences in music styles, the bands Krykhitka Tsakhes (Tiny Tsakhes) and Dymna Sumish (Smoky Mix) will hold a common concert called "sXe party" during which they will play one song of each other's repertoire and also perform a song called "No" aimed at urging joining vegetarianism. In fact, the main idea of the event is to promote two lifestyle trends the leaders of both bands are following – vegetarianism and "Straight Edge" – a subculture that appeared in the U.S. advocating rejection of drugs, alcohol, nicotine and disorderly sexual contacts in favor of self-control and monogamy.

Ring (8 Nauky Prospekt, 524-2209).

8 p.m. Please, call for ticket information.

FRIDAY 19

Concert of Classical Music

Before the main festivities of the Europe Day celebration begin, the festival will open with a concert of classical music that takes place at the Opera House and is organized by Kyiv City Administration.

National Opera and Ballet Theatre (50 Volodymyrska, 234-7165).

7 p.m. Call for ticket information.

SATURDAY 20

5'Nizza

Ukrainian duo 5'nizza, presently signed to Moscow label "Vdokh", will come to perform a concert in Kyiv after a very long break. Since the concert is taking place at such a small venue as Baboon, the tickets to this mini-concert will cost no less than Hr 200, but even such a high cost will not drive away most of Kyiv fans of 5'nizza, so don't hesitate to order your tickets right away. Kharkiv-born members of 5'nizza Andriy Zaporozhets and Serhiy Babkin are presently seen at the parties and concerts in Russia much more often than in their homeland, where their unique style, which combines reggae, hip-hop and the unusual vocals of Zaporozhets, wasn't appreciated by local producers and record companies until they became really big in neighboring Russia.

Baboon (39 Khmelnytskoho, 234-1503).

8 p.m. Call for ticket information.

SUNDAY 21



(www.zvuki.ru)

Mumiy Troll

Though no more quite as madly popular as they were just a few years ago, the Russian band Mumiy Troll has still retained a certain number of its fans, who remained faithful to the band despite the noticeable changes in style and mood. However, Mumiy Troll can still easily attract big crowds of fans to their concerts, and they'll try to prove it by performing at Kyiv's biggest concert venue, Palats Sportu. The songs from Troll's new album, "Fusion and Absorbition", may sound a little too clever and wise, however, the main Mumiy Troll trademark, the mewing voice of the charismatic band leader Ilya Lagutenko, has remained the same.

Palats Sportu (1 Sportyvna Ploshcha, 246-7405).

7 p.m. Tickets Hr 50 to 100.

WEDNESDAY 24

ManSound

Ukrainian jazz band ManSound will present their new solo program "Razzsolnik" at a concert that will consist of two parts. The first part will include world-famous jazz pieces, Gospel, Italian hits and some Beatles' songs arranged by the Ukrainian band while the second part will be devoted to Ukrainian, Russian and Jewish folklore. The organizers promise to provide the audience not only with the sound of high quality, but also with different special visual effects. In spite of the performance being labeled "solo," singer and ex-minister Oksana Bilozir, opera diva Valentyna Stepova and step-dancer Volodymyr Shpudeiko will make guest appearances in the concert.

Zhovtnevy Palats (1 Instytutaska, 279-7482).

7 p.m. Tickets Hr 20 to 200.

Party with your own people at Wenzel



Partying at Wenzel: go dancing with your friends among the brick walls and scary gargoyles. (Vitaliy Pavlenko)

By ALEXANDRA MATOSHKO

The notion that, when it comes to going out, what matters most is not the place or the music but the company you're with was not exactly new to me. However, it was probably the first time this idea was really driven home due to an experience I had at a relatively fresh Kyiv club, Wenzel. When I visited Wenzel the first time I liked it a lot – in fact, I had a particularly great time there that night. However, my next visit turned out to be a much shorter stay even though the club itself and the atmosphere remained the same. It was still a lot of fun but something was missing – my cool party.

I must say I liked Wenzel from the start. Perhaps the main reason for this was the fact that it turned out so different from what I expected after I walked through the glass doors and up the long flight of stairs through a corridor to face the security guard at the end. He looked as serious and tough as the guards at any of those “fancy” spots, which I tend to avoid. He looked at me and my buddies in such a critical way that I felt relieved we had an invitation and he had no right to tell us to go back to where we came from. But after we got inside, instead of obnoxiously fancy outfits and a cooler-than-you clientele, my friends and I found ourselves in a somehow cozy and relaxed environment, surrounded with brick walls and a partying crowd of people who were simply enjoying themselves – it was certainly a good start.

By the time we arrived, the party was already up and running and the place was pretty cramped, so we decided to look for our other friends that were supposed to be there. And, like the righteous clubbers we are, we first headed to the bar. The bar at Wenzel is something to speak about – it runs the length of two separate halls, serving drinks at quite mild prices, though my two male friends were rather

bemused with the fact that their vodkas arrived in thin glasses without any ice – but, what can I say: it's the Ukrainian style of serving the national drink. The whole spacious area by the bar was pretty full so, having gotten our drinks, we retreated to the wide corridor. As it turned out, this is the place where all the main action was taking place – people were talking, dancing, making new acquaintances or simply hanging out, standing with their backs to brick walls.

Wenzel turned out to be a great example of a place that, though being divided into many different “zones,” comfortably felt like an organic whole no matter where you stood. Anyplace in the club still gave you a feeling of being “in the mix.” Indeed, there were a lot of spots to choose from. Apart from the above-mentioned two bar halls, Wenzel also contains a few lounge areas. The first one right by the entrance, supplied with comfortable couches and padded stools, was a great place to have a conversation – you could hear the music just fine but you're also able to talk without having to scream. Further down the hall, I found more lounges – a small V.I.P. room and a big room with couches and tables that stood closest to the stage and therefore suited those who didn't care about the noise.

One of the things I also really liked about Wenzel was that it was the kind of place without a strictly outlined dance floor – it could be anywhere you wanted it to be, though quite noticeably the main dancing area was the corridor that led from the entrance to the stage with the DJ. The design of the stage is another interesting feature – it has stairs lit up from beneath leading up to it and a mirror behind the turntables which reflects the corridor in front and makes it look even longer in perspective. However, the most remarkable feature of the club's interior is the gargoyles – odd-faced creatures placed on the walls holding TV screens. The screens usually showed some pornography-related pictures or

something even less comprehensible, but it didn't matter because gargoyles themselves are more interesting anyway.

The bathroom at Wenzel is something to speak of too – placed in a separate room behind the glass doors, I found a large dome shaped like an onion or a pumpkin with several bathrooms inside. And it's not divided into girls' and boys' rooms, so you'll most likely stand in line with both – a certain boost for the flirt-factor.

Indeed, there are plenty of features at Wenzel that make it an attractive clubbing spot whether you're alone or with a large party of friends. After all, there are plenty of “cool” clubs that are often no fun at all – whether you're by yourself or not. However, based on my own experiences I'd say Wenzel is a great place for friendly partying. Though of course music is a major factor too, and when I first visited Wenzel, the music was really fun. But I didn't manage to do much dancing that night – I just hung around and talked until much later, after one of my friends had gotten me a real knock-out drink – Red Bull mixed with vodka (no more of these for me!). After that I did some dizzying dancing. My next time at the club I didn't have any crazy drinks and no crazy fun either – the DJ playing that night was an electronica star from Germany but had no ear for “high-grade” techno as far as I could tell. So neither me nor my girlfriends were able to enjoy ourselves and dance to his beats. For a while we sat on the comfortable couches in the lounge room, “talked of memories past” and then headed home.

Either way, though, I do keep an eye out for Wenzel, and as soon as I hear about DJs coming to play music that would appeal to me I'll certainly head back. And if a number of my fellow clubbers want to join me in that – so much the better.

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Inspiring organizer and energetic father Alexander Kuzma



By LARISSA BABIJ

I meet Alexander Kuzma, executive director of the Children of Chernobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF), in his office on Saturday morning. Dressed in a blazer and jeans, he is eager to share how, the previous evening, while walking through Holosievsky Park with his three daughters, they spotted a nightingale. The avid birdwatcher explains how elusive these small birds with big voices are, and he is clearly delighted at the sighting.

Like many from the diaspora who live a two-layered Ukrainian-American life, Kuzma peppers his animated, precise English with Ukrainian words for emphasis. At 50, he looks nearly 20 years younger, although his composed demeanor and easy articulateness betray many years of practice in interpersonal communication.

For the children

For several years, Kuzma and his wife Irene had been considering moving to Kyiv from Connecticut with their three daughters (aged 11, 9, and 3). After visiting Ukraine with Alina, his oldest, in the fall of 2004, and then meeting charismatic new Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko in Washington D.C. in 2005, Kuzma convinced his family that the time was right.

It was also right for CCRDF to have Kuzma, who has helped the organization

develop for 15 years, fill the vacancy left by their departing Ukraine country director. CCRDF works to provide state-of-the-art medical aid to Ukrainian children who suffer from health problems caused by environmental pollution. The organization currently assists 22 hospitals and two orphanages throughout Ukraine by providing for medical equipment and training; it also continues to expand the scope of its aid projects.

Accustomed to traveling to Ukraine only twice a year for two-three weeks at a time, Kuzma sees many benefits to being based in Kyiv. He stresses the importance of having "direct access to local sponsors and local companies that are very familiar with the Chernobyl aftermath" rather than having to first explain the significance of the 1986 nuclear disaster before approaching potential sponsors. With more direct involvement with partner hospitals, Kuzma has gained better appreciation for their day-to-day struggles. Through talking to doctors and administrators personally and witnessing the implementation of contributions firsthand, Kuzma explains, "I can better understand how to tailor our campaign to their needs."

Kuzma also helps "local partner hospitals understand how they can develop their own fundraising and development capabilities." Over the past five-six years, he has noticed a "can-do" attitude in more of his Ukrainian associates, as

well as a greater realization of local resources. For example, he cites a partner hospital in Lutsk that in 1999 began approaching local business for aid. Remarkably well received, the hospital was able to build a new laboratory and outfit it with contemporary equipment with the help of local firms. It now serves as a model for the development of a "local culture of philanthropy."

For Kuzma, adapting to the slower pace of life in Ukraine has been challenging. Within CCRDF, projects advance at a brisk pace, but sometimes conflicts arise with certain Ukrainian organizations over varying ideas of urgency.

Family Circus

Kuzma admits that adjusting to life in Ukraine was tough for his entire family. He recounts with a wry smile when Teren, 9, said after six weeks in Kyiv, "Dad, I never want to hear the word 'adventure' again!"

Even though they live near Holosiyivsky Park, where Kuzma goes jogging and looks at the birds, the bustle of city life was a shock after suburban Connecticut. The girls were also initially stunned by the predominance of the unfamiliar Russian language in the Ukrainian capital.

But after nearly a year, everyone has adapted. Kuzma notes that his daughters "are developing much greater interest in history and politics at a much

younger age." Through immersion in the daily Ukrainian life so different from what they knew back home, they are "becoming world citizens, understanding how decisions that are made can affect people's lives."

To stimulate the girls' interest in Ukrainian culture and history, the family has taken many trips. Last fall in Crimea, they visited Bakhchisarai, the monument to the battle of Sevastopol, and went horseback riding in the mountains.

The Kuzmas recently returned from visiting relatives in the Carpathian Mountains. The girls were happy they could comfortably communicate in Ukrainian there, and above all, thrilled by the natural beauty and peace of the mountains. They advised: "Dad, get rich so we can buy some land in the Carpathians, build a kolyba (Carpathian-style bar), and get a horse!"

Singing the praises of Ukrainian culture

Noting the ease with which they simply rented a car and drove 500 km to visit relatives in a village, Kuzma is awed by how much Ukraine has changed since his first trip to the country in 1977, as director of the Yale Russian Chorus. These same relatives, who traveled from the Carpathians to see him give a concert in Kyiv, were brutally interrogated for having contact with a foreigner.

But even under the dark shadow of the Brezhnev era, Kuzma saw a spark

of hope in the public expression of the Ukrainian spirit. At the end of the Kyiv concert, risking deportation, he led the chorus in "Zirvalasya Khurtovyna," an anthem of the underground Ukrainian resistance. Surprisingly, the song drew cheers and impassioned applause from the audience. Kuzma saw this reaction as a visible sign of the "chance that Ukraine would gain its independence someday."

Kuzma still sings, joining the Pokrovska Church Choir in Podil for Sunday mass as often as he can. In addition to being inspired by the high level of musicianship among his fellow conservatory-trained choir members, he is eager to learn new music and directing techniques to share with Yevshan, the amateur community choir he has directed for 10 years in Connecticut.

Kuzma takes full advantage of the accessibility of the arts in Kyiv, frequently attending opera, ballet, and puppet theater performances with his family.

While everyone in the family looks forward to returning to the U.S. in the summer and seeing family and friends, Kuzma muses about how nice it would be to return to Kyiv for another year. He plans to come back in the fall to continue his work for CCRDF and may even convince the rest of the family to return with him.

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Fine dining with a fine view at the newly furnished Concord

By **JESSE SCHWARTZ**

Dining at Concord was to have a three-fold function: 1. As I was leaving for Odessa for a month, this would be my last meal in the capital for a while, and I wanted to end on a note that I knew would be extravagant; 2. a good friend of mine was celebrating her birthday that week and, at the very least, she deserved a nice meal (she'd eaten there only once before and her eyes glazed dreamily at the prospect of a return), and; 3. this very same friend had endured nearly a month of hassle with an obnoxiously persistent suitor and needed the kind of cheering up only a great meal can engender.

I was feeling flush that night so I decided to order as much of whatever I wanted, and admonished my guest to do the same. You must understand: that's the effect a nice restaurant can have on people – as if simply by entering you become as wealthy as your surroundings. A dangerous response, I know. But it's hard not to in Concord. The place itself is sumptuous. And by that I don't mean overwrought with decadent gaudiness the way many high-end Kyiv establishments tend to lean. No, Concord is tasteful from the entrance to the dessert.

Run by the elite Carte Blanche consortium that also controls such exclusive "krutoy" establishments as Marokana and Decadence House, Concord is nothing if not central. Located on the 8th floor of the Kiev-Donbass Center on Ploshcha Lva Tolstoho, the first thing that greets you upon entering the reception area is a stunning view of central Kyiv. Having just undergone an extensive renovation, the main dining room is tastefully appointed with dozens of relaxing candles and large brooding sepia toned photographs of Native American heroes (Sitting Bull's perpetual frown looks as if he's daring you to dislike the food).

But, as relaxing as the dining room may be, if weather permits, make sure to eat on the terrace, whose wide tables, high-backed chairs and unadulterated view will charm even the hardest of hearts. And one of the high points of comedy for the evening was, indeed, watching the waiters roll the

small number of moveable heatlamps back and forth from table to table in the hopes of democratically spreading some warmth.

This raises another crucial aspect of restaurant dining at this level of expense: service. Unfortunately, in many places around the world this often translates as a half-dozen servers hovering like stinging summer insects, their insipid smiles frozen as they pluck away your napkin an instant after you've returned it to the table only to give you another they'll snatch back again just as fast. I don't consider cloying overattention to be good service – and I'm happy to report that neither does Concord. In fact, our experience was near perfection: a team of sedulous young servers waiting hidden just out of sight until the moment our menus closed or our wine glasses neared empty. They were warm, helpful and took the time to answer our questions in English, or, if that proved impossible, to find somebody who could.

Of course, decor and service are only two parts of the trident of fine dining, and these merely the outer tines. Food is the reason to go to restaurants, and the dishes here truly don't depart from the quality displayed in the more ephemeral categories. Calling itself a fusion restaurant (of course), those who've dined before at Concord may be interested to know they've overhauled the menu as well as their interior. And one of the new additions is a truly wonderful tuna carpaccio (Hr 85), a generous portion of red raw strips of fish covered in a dense forest of fresh soy sprouts and dotted with flecks of velvety cream cheese. The tuna was of the highest quality and the fresh snap of the sprouts provided the perfect counterpoint to the soft consistency of the cheese. Our only complaint – and this is minor – was that the morsels of cream cheese were so rare that we were offered only a few bites of all three ingredients together. We're not asking for a bagel's worth: just a few more gobs.

We also ordered the salmon carpaccio (Hr 54) because, after our wonderful sushi at Nobu, we've been a bit obsessed with raw fish. But it's the word "raw" that seems to be exactly

the problem in Kyiv. Raw, as I understand it, means not cooked. And not cooked means not cooked at all. It doesn't mean just a second in the pan. Raw, especially for carpaccio, means raw. The citrus in the fresh wedge of lemon you squeeze over the plate – that's as "cooked" as the dish should ever be. Besides, serving something raw is a way to showcase the quality of your ingredients. It takes guts to say "our meat is so tender and fresh that we can leave it untouched on a plate and you'll still think it was delicious." A place like Concord should be willing to take that wager. Our salmon was still certainly "good" and the quality was still high, but the dish tasted more like gravlax than raw fish. Room for improvement.

Considering that tomatoes are just getting into season, I also took a gamble on a simple plate of mozzarella, tomato and basil with "Balsamico" sauce (Hr 54). If you catch this dish at the right time and with the best ingredients, it can change the way you look at food. While ours was not so life-altering, it was certainly survivable.

The same could be said for our first entree: steamed zander fillet with mashed potatoes, shitake mushrooms and foie gras (Hr 94). For a country as obsessed as Ukraine is with putting "sauce" on everything, most restaurants become oddly reverent when it comes to dressing pieces of fresh fish, often leaving them shockingly bland. Indeed, ours too had little flavor, letting the delightfully prepared accompaniments – particularly the foie gras and the potatoes – too easily outshine the main event.

However, the grilled veal medallions in cherry sauce served with potato pancakes and fried vegetables (Hr 81) made up whatever ground had been lost by the fish. Not only were we asked how we wanted it prepared (a rarity in a city that usually cooks all its meat well done), but they actually delivered medium-rare as we'd ordered (a rarity, sadly, anywhere). What's more, the sauce itself delivered a mellow shock of tart citrus rather than overwhelming the whole dish with the saccharine sweetness cherry sauces can often lean toward. Sop it up greedily with one of the four kinds of



One of the most high-end eateries in the city, Concord finally reopened after renovation, offering a still more exquisite interior, a great view of the city and savory dishes. (Andriy Porokhnenko)

bread delivered gratis to the table, but make sure you try the complimentary chive butter as well. And also make sure to take advantage of one of the most varied and extensive wine lists in town. For Hr 280 we had a wonderful Sauvignon Blanc from Argentina, but if you're feeling really decadent you can easily drop over \$1,000 on one of their incredibly choice vintages. Luckily, I displayed a bit more self-control.

Either way, for impressing important business clients or an inevitably

romantic evening, few places in Kyiv can show you and your guests a better time than Concord.

CONCORD
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Yalta getaway: season's greetings from the Soviet Riviera

By **JESSE SCHWARTZ**

Okay, first of all, don't tell anyone you're going to Crimea. This being my first trip to the revered peninsula, I innocently asked a few people for advice before I left. And more than any other place in Ukraine, everyone seems to have very strong opinions as to where exactly the best place to go is (they're almost fanatical, too, about what to see, practically threatening your welfare if you dare to miss whatever castle or mountain peak they prefer. Just nod a lot and say, "Oh, definitely. I mean, I'll totally check that out."). What's more, the advice I was given almost always contradicted itself. A rather accurate recreation: "Novy Svet? Don't be stupid. Sudak's much more beautiful..." "Sudak? What are you, an idiot? Everyone knows Novy Svet is the best place in all of Krym..."

No one, though, recommended Yalta. And I have to now disagree with them heartily. Sure, there are more out-of-the-way destinations, ones that are quieter, cheaper, less developed. Sure, Yalta is a bit hectic on the boardwalk and more expensive than almost all the other towns on the coast. Sure, it's kitschy, too. However, if it's your first time in Crimea – especially if you're from the West – Yalta is a place that must be experienced, a fascinating blend of Cold War mentalities and decadent Western-style tourism, and all of it located on the shore of one of the most beautiful seas in the world. So get out your sunscreen and grab a few trashy novels, you're going south – and you're even going to let yourself enjoy it.

First of all, Simferopol is all but unavoidable. Whether you fly, take a bus or a train, your journey to Crimea will

almost inevitably pause in this town that holds precious little interest for visitors. If you've got the time, spend an evening in Sevastopol (take a cab from the airport), but if you're heading straight to Yalta, here's where the haggling comes in: The exit gates of the Simferopol airport are a rogue's gallery of screaming scheming taxi drivers. If you're good at bargaining (like I immodestly am), you can get a cab to Yalta for about Hr 175 or even less if you're real adept at the language and want to spend some time yelling at people. If you're a naive foreigner, plan on paying at least Hr 250 or even upwards of 300. Either way, though, it's worth it: the buses and marshrutkas are slow and overcrowded, and the trolley – though, yes, at 96 kilometers certainly runs the world's longest route – moves at such a painfully sluggish pace that you'll soon begin to forget the novelty of the ride and the beauty of your surroundings due to screaming children and ambient body odor.

So get a cab. Relax, splurge a bit: you're on vacation. And the drive itself is a spectacular reminder of exactly that – a country famous for its fields and forests gives way to vast landscapes of brush and rocky outcroppings that slope precipitously down from cliffs of wind-carved and glacier-hewed stone. Caves dug into the sides of the mountain yawn ominously, while churches perch like flightless birds on the tips of small peaks, and the hills grow larger and more confident until they tower above as you wind your way to the sea. Many Ukrainians consider Crimea to be the most magical place on earth. On the drive it will occur to you more than once that they might be exactly right.

Yalta itself arises like an oasis – albeit one strewn with ubiquitous socialist high-

rises skewering the ground. But the streets curve with enough narrow charm and the Black Sea roils its rich blue surface against the walls of the boardwalk with enough joie de vivre to undo any damage caused by Soviet architecture.

I had a friend in town from the U.S. and we'd had far too much fun in Kyiv to remember to make hotel reservations. So arriving in Yalta on a Thursday, we consulted our guidebook and made our way to the Bristol Hotel (10 Ruzvelta, 80 65 427-1609), a lovely three-star affair that actually deserves its stars. And, well, this being a relatively classy place, the clerk took one look at us and promptly gave us the worse room in the house even though we paid \$80 for a night. Situated right in between the two main wings, our front door opened onto a separate staircase leading to the exit, as if the front desk was trying to say: "Listen, we'll let you stay because of your passports, but please use the back entrance and don't tell anyone you're sleeping here." With its central location, however, we were willing to accept the slight. After a quick nap and a champion's dinner of chocolate bars, we were ready for a night on the town. And, in Yalta, that means the boardwalk.

The Lenin statue at the beginning of the boardwalk (logically known officially as "naberezhna Lenina") must have once cut an imposing figure leaning into the howling wind rushing off the sea. But now it just looks like he's determined to lurch at the McDonald's that now faces him. Though you don't have to stoop quite so low to get a little food, most of the restaurants on the boardwalk are overpriced and underwhelming. One place, however, that manages to provide good fare is Cafe Pirosmeni, a Georgian restaurant tucked



Take a ride in Yalta's famous chairlift and enjoy great views of the city underneath. (Jesse Schwartz)

behind endless kiosks selling gum and beer. Near nab. Lenina 23a, you'll see the sign for it and a few young women trying to shepherd eaters towards the entrance. Let them. For reasonable tourist-trap prices, feast on khachapuri,

stewed mutton and some of the most accomplished and peppery khinkhali in town. It's the best you'll get without really dropping some cash at K. Walter's

see **YALTA**, page 30

First Ukrainian restaurant and museum "Monastery Refectory"

The Ukraine's first restaurant and museum is located on the territory of Vydubitsky monastery, near the famous belfry, the monument of the architecture of Ukrainian baroque.

Passing the main entrance, decorated with the restaurant's emblem, we are immersing into the atmosphere XXI century, when monastery was established. Walls are decorated with Old-Russian ornaments. Arcades of cloister corridors are reflected in the enormous mirror and the radiance of candles in the forged candelabrae raise the spirit of the departed times.

The restaurant has two halls. The interior of the Princely hall transfers visitors in the days of Kyivska Rus. Monumental panel shows the ancient capital. In the niches on the walls is the image of Yaroslav Mudry and his son Vsevolod, the founder of Mikhailovky church, which is the earliest masonry construction of the Vydubitsky monastery.

It is not a coincidence that here also is a portrait of Danila Galitskiy, who stayed in Vydubitskiy monastery during his visit in Kyiv.

The images of the hetman Danila Apostol and Colonel Mikhail Miklashevskiy, the partons of the monastery, who built the excellent construction of Georgievskiy temple, monastery refectory and belfry, resemble the times of the Cossacks.

Going up by the marble steps of whimsical stairs to the Zlatoverkhiy banquet hall, there is a feeling as if we are transferred from the princely epoch to the hetman times. The wall-painting panorama of Vydubitskiy monastery is surrounded by the amphitheatre of the famous Kyiv templ-

es. The atmosphere is especially solemn because of gold and deep green colors, which are mostly used while painting Kyiv and personified in the refined materials of interior and furniture.

Monastery Refectory restaurant is not only a traditional monastery cuisine and original interiors. It also has a rich museum collection, placed in the shop windows with the up-to-date complex system of glass and mirrors. The exhibits of the collection look as the icons from different centuries. Ancient books, church utensils, unique archaeological findings as tripolsky ceramics, things made by Scythian and Old-Russian masters, antique amphora, small plastics and sculpture. The pride of collection is the Cossack tubes, which were the inherent attributes of everyday life of Dniپر Cossacks. Candlesticks, crosses used for enthronement ceremonies and ritual dishes demonstrate the domestic art of casting from the bronze and enamel paintings.

The information stand of the restaurant introduces the history of exhibits. Their detailed descriptions are stored in the computer, which has many interesting information about these unique objects.

Periodically museum arranges the charitable auctions of the ancient art and archaeological findings. Money from the auctions used to revive the Vydubitskiy monastery.

The visitors of restaurant can try dishes of the ancient Ukrainian cuisine as old seasoned wine, kept in the doister basements, herb extracts, and various dishes, which are prepared using the ancient prescriptions. Honey is delivered directly from the cloister apiary. All food and beverages, proposed to the visitors, are blessed every

day and for those, who strictly keeping the fast the restaurant has a special Lenten menu.

Ancient culinary prescriptions find their new life because of the skillful cooks of the restaurant. For example, the tartar is added in dough and in other dishes to be tasty and tender. Such nuances add the cuisine a special scent.

For each day of the year, especially for the religious holidays, our ancestors had special dishes. Keeping the traditions of orthodox cuisine, the restaurant always proposes something new to its visitors. Guests are welcomed with the glass of varenuhka, the special liqueur, made of the dried fruit and honey.

In the menu of the restaurant there are other liqueurs, prepared using the ancient prescriptions as Spotykach, infused on mint and sugar syrup; Kusaka (vodka with ginger, black pepper, cardamon and carnation).

The restaurant has a lot of cold and hot snacks. "Cossack Rada", big dish made of homemade sausage, "Kovbyk" from pig head, hen and beef meat loaf, cold boiled pork and fat, decorated with verdure and clusters of guelder rose is the authentic Cossack feast. "Baked Krasen" made of carp, stuffed by chicken and walnuts.

Certainly order the dumplings with meat, cabbage, potatoes, fungi, crane cracklings or fresh berries. Also, the orthodox cuisine always was famous for the fish dishes, which substituted meat dishes in the periods of feast.

The price of the main fish or meat dish is about Hr. 30.

The banquet menu is very popular. Here you can find stuffed dairy suckling-pig, with hen sirloin, bacon, pancakes with dried apricots and



rice, hunting sausages. Most delicious dish is cat-fish with salmon, shrimps, olives and forest nuts.

All events as birthdays, christenings, weddings or religious holidays in "Monastery Refectory" can be celebrated here using ancient traditions and music, played on ancient musical instruments. Our restaurant is a place also for family holidays, corporate parties and for government receptions.

The terrace with the excellent view of the architectural ensemble of monastery and botanical garden is opened in the warm season. After the city noise it is pleasant to dip into the silence, which it disrupts only by singing of birds and rustle of leaves. The nature, picturesque Dniپر steeps and refined ancient architecture literally cast a spell and it is hard to believe that we are in ten minutes of ride from the Kyiv's center.

Restaurant and museum "Monastery Refectory"
40 Vydubidka street (Vydubitskiy monastery)
tel. 501-2717, 451-4256



A reception of the Israeli Embassy that took place on May 16 gathered a lot of famous and influential guests. First Lady of Ukraine Kateryna Yushchenko met with the consul general of Israel Udi Ben-Ami (1), Ambassador of Finland Laura Reinila shared some secrets with businessman Viktor Pinchuk (2), while the charming Ambassador of Israel Naomi Ben-Ami had a drink with Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk (3). (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)



At the celebration of the Queen of the Netherlands' birthday at the Netherlands Embassy on April 28, some guests had a really good time (4), while the Netherlands Ambassador Ron Keller (5) gave a festive speech. "Hayivky na Mamayeviy Slobodi" open-air folk party, aimed at welcoming the spring, which took place on May 2, went off really well: It's main ideologist-musician Oleh Skrypka (6) made sure everything went fine, while children had their first real springtime fun (7). (Serhiy Zavalnyuk)

MAY 18TH, 2006

PREMIERES

THE DA VINCI CODE

Mystery Thriller, USA (2006), 149 min.

Directed by Ron Howard.

Starring Tom Hanks, Audrey Tautou, Jean Reno, Ian McKellen and Alfred Molina.

While in Paris on business, Harvard expert in symbolic script Robert Langdon receives an urgent late-night phone call: the elderly curator of the Louvre has been murdered inside the museum. Near the body, police have found a baffling cipher. Solving the enigmatic riddle, Langdon finds out that it leads to a trail of clues hidden in the works of Da Vinci – clues visible for all to see, and yet ingeniously disguised by the painter. Langdon joins forces with a gifted French cryptologist, Sophie Neveu, and discovers the late curator was hiding dangerous secrets.

ONGOING FILMS

TRISTAN & ISOLDE

Romantic Drama, USA/Germany/UK (2006), 125 min.

Directed by Kevin Reynolds.

Starring James Franco, Sophia Myles, Rufus Sewell, David O'Hara and Mark Strong.

Lord Marke seeks to unite the English tribes to form one strong nation to rule itself. His greatest knight Tristan is wounded and left for dead after battle, but nursed back to life by mysterious Irish beauty Isolde. When King Donnchadh announces he would give away his daughter as the prize in a tournament between all the champions of England, Tristan wins her hand for Lord Marke, before he discovers it's not one else but Isolde herself.

SILENT HILL

Horror, USA/France/Japan (2006), 127 min.

Directed by Christophe Gans.

Starring Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Laurie Holden, Deborah Kara Unger and Kim Coates.

Over the protests of her husband, a woman named Rose flees with her daughter Sharon, heading for an abandoned town called Silent Hill to which the child seems drawn. Sharon disappears in the mysterious town while Rose finds herself trapped in an alternate dimension as she searches for her daughter in a world of decay inhabited by strange beings.

PRORYV (BREAKTHROUGH)

Drama, Russia (2006), 90 min.

Directed by Vitaliy Lukin.

Starring Ihor Litanov, Oleksandr Peskov, Maryna Mogilevska, Anatolij Kotenev and Oleksandr Klyukvin.

Russian president sends his military councilor, colonel-general Oleksiy Selivanov to settle the disturbing situation in the North of Caucasus. Having participated in the war in Afghanistan and previous campaigns in Chechnya, Selivanov finds out that his new task is to neutralize a group of terrorists headed by the field commander Murad and it has to be done only with one battalion. The film is based on the true story of the sixth battalion fighting in Chechnya in 2000.

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE III

Adventure Action, USA (2006), 126 min.

Directed by J.J. Abrams.

Starring Tom Cruise, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ving Rhames, Billy Crudup and Michelle Monaghan.

Super-spy Ethan Hunt (Tom Cruise) has retired from active duty to train new IMF agents. But he is called back into action to confront the toughest villain he's ever faced – Owen Davian (Philip Seymour Hoffman), an international weapons and information provider with no remorse and

no conscience. Hunt assembles his team, his old friends, to travel the globe pursuing Davian and rescue Hunt's love, Julia (Michelle Monaghan).

SHEITAN (SHAITAN)

Comedy Horror, France (2006), 94 min.

Directed by Kim Chapiron.

Starring Vincent Cassel, Roxane Mesquida, Olivier Barthelemy, Nico Le Phat Tan and Leila Bekhti.

Sheitan tells the story of a group of youngsters – for boys and a girl who leave a disco late one night and accidentally run into a shepherd who has prepared himself for a night of Satanic worship, portrayed by a genuinely diabolic actor Vincent Cassel.

CRUSTACES ET COQUILLAGES (CRUSTACEAS AND MUSSELS)

Musical Comedy, France (2005), 93 min.

Directed by Olivier Ducastel, Jacques Martineau.

Starring Valeria Bruni Tedeschi, Gilbert Melki, Jean-Marc Barr and Jacques Bonnaffe.

For summer vacation, Marc takes his wife Beatrix and their two children to the seaside house of his youth. Their daughter Laura has a rendezvous with her biker boyfriend, and their son Charly roams with his best friend Martin. Beatrix is sensitive to the undisclosed relationship of the boys, and imagines that her son is gay. Things get still more complicated when Beatrix's lover Mathieu shows up, and Marc's old flame appears.

THE WILD

Animation, USA (2006), 94 min.

Directed by Steve 'Spaz' Williams.

After all the visitors and staff leave, the animals at the zoo come out and engage in all kinds of strange mayhem. However when Ryan, a teenage lion cub, harmlessly chases some gazelles, he gets into a fight with his father, Samson. Ryan goes off and sulks in a crate and accidentally gets himself shipped off to Africa leaving Samson and a ragtag group from the zoo to rescue him.

CHOSSES SECRETES (SECRET THINGS)

Fantastic Drama, France (2002), 115 min.

Directed by Jean-Claude Brisseau.

Starring Coralie Revel, Sabrina Seyvecou, Roger Mirmont and Fabrice Deville.

Two young women find themselves struggling to survive in Paris, street-wise Nathalie, a stripper, and naive Sandrine, a barmaid. Together, they discover that sex can be used to their advantage, and pleasure. Both find positions in the office of a large bank. After making their way through several layers of executives, they approach Christophe, scion to the bank director. What they don't know is that Christophe is a manipulative voyeur, whose last two lovers set themselves on fire when he rejected them.

PETER FM

Comedy, Russia (2006), 85 min.

Directed by Oksana Bychkova.

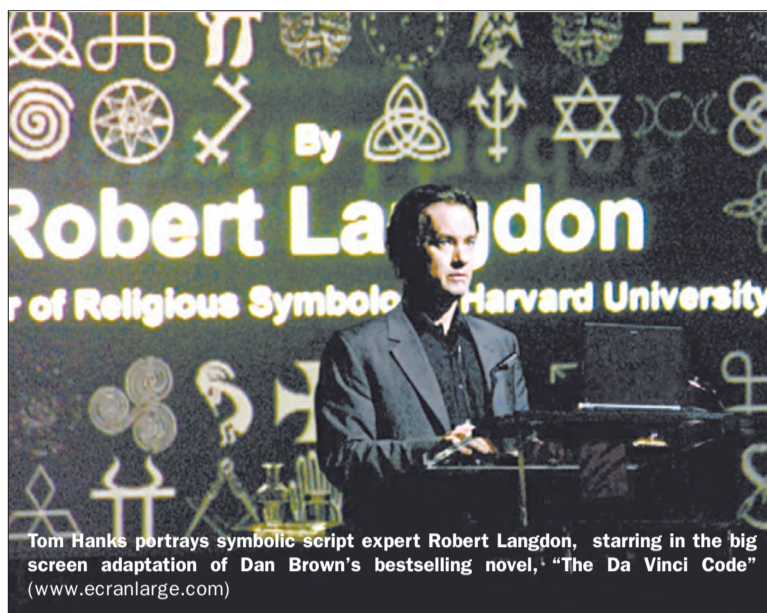
Starring Yevheniy Tsyganov, Yekateryna Fedulova and Iryna Rakhmanova.

Masha is a DJ at the popular Petersburg's radio and Maxim is a young architect. She is supposed to marry an old friend of hers and he is going to Germany after winning an architects contest. Finally an incident bring them together.

SCARY MOVIE 4

Comedy Horror, USA (2006), 83 min.

Directed by David Zucker.



Starring Anna Faris, Regina Hall, Craig Bierko, Leslie Nielsen and Carmen Electra.

This time Zucker is making fun of such hits as War of the Worlds, The Grudge, The Village, Saw and Saw II, Million Dollar Baby and Tom Cruise's memorable interview at the Oprah's Show. The ever-naive Cindy Campbell finds work with a creepy old lady in an old house and faces the threat of aliens' intent on global domination.

*Note: Most movie reviews have been adapted from www.imdb.com.

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Tel. 531-3977, 536-0484.

www.kino-butterfly.com.ua

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Tristan & Isolde - Daily at 12:20 p.m., 5 p.m., 7:20 p.m., 11:30 p.m.

Sheitan - Daily at 9:40 p.m.

Mission: Impossible III - Daily at 10 a.m., 2:40 p.m.

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Sheitan - Daily at 9:40 p.m.

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Tristan & Isolde - Daily at 10 a.m., 2:20 p.m., 6:40 p.m., 9 p.m., 11:20 p.m.

Sheitan - Daily at 9 p.m., 10:50 p.m.

Mission: Impossible III - Daily at 4 p.m., 6:25 p.m., 8:50 p.m., 11:15 p.m.

Peter FM - Daily at 10 a.m., noon, 2 p.m., 4 p.m.

Crustaces et Coquillages - Daily at 10 a.m., 11:50 a.m., 1:40 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 7:10 p.m.

Proryv - Daily at 12:20 p.m., 4:40 p.m.

Silent Hill - Daily at 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m., 11 p.m.

The Wild - Daily at 10:30 a.m., 12:20 p.m., 2:10 p.m.

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Scary Movie 4 - Daily at 10 a.m., 1:50 p.m., 5:40 p.m.

Bumer 2 - Daily at 1:40 p.m., 5:20 p.m., 9 p.m.

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Tel. 234-7381, 234-3380, 251-2199.

www.kievkino.com.ua

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Tristan & Isolde - Daily at 5 p.m., 9:40 p.m.

Silent Hill - Daily at noon, 7:20 p.m.

Proryv - Daily at 10:10 a.m.

Mission: Impossible III - Daily at 2:30 p.m.

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Silent Hill - Daily at 6 p.m., 8:20 p.m.

Sheitan - Daily at 10:30 p.m.

Tristan & Isolde - Daily at 10:50 a.m., 1:10 p.m., 3:30 p.m.

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INFORMATION

SEALED-BID AUCTION

U.S. Embassy in Ukraine will conduct a sealed-bid auction at the Embassy's warehouse at 37 Dovbusha on Saturday, May 20, 2006 from 10:00 to 2:00 PM. Items for sale will include used household appliances, furniture, expendable supplies, maintenance/repair parts and miscellaneous equipment.

Travelling doctor, 30, French/Turkish roots, handsome, stays in SA, seeks good Muslim woman with light eyes, fair hair for marriage and a happy life together. Travelling to Ukraine and Russia soon. Send photo to J. Eff, PO Box 13172, Mowbray, 7705 South Africa or email: m998@lycos.com

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("Bratislava" Hotel, near metro "Darnitsa"),
Tel.: 543-4986
- ▶ "Uliks" Agency,
metro L.Tolstogo Sq., 21, Tereschenkivska St.,
Tel. 235-2173

MAY 18TH, 2006

PIANO COMPETITION

The External Relations Ministry of Brazil is promoting the Villa-Lobos International Piano Competition, to take place from Aug. 13-20, 2006. The competition will be directed by the Sao Paulo State Symphony Orchestra and sponsored by Brazilian enterprises. Details regarding participation, registration, competition rules, repertoire and prizes are available online in English at www.cipvl.org. Note: Fluency in English is not a requirement for entry.

BUSINESS CLUBS

Individual "dreams can come true" and "123 dreams" online programs at www.123pr.kiev.ua. Online seminars, presentations and training sessions. Consultations for success, execution of dreams and attraction of material riches are discussed. See www.123pr.kiev.ua, email t123@mail.ru, or call Taras at 8-097-960-4330.

The Ukraine-Scandinavia Institute invites the public to take part in organizing a Scandinavian club in Kyiv. It will be a place for Scandinavians and those interested in Nordic culture, history and languages to exchange business information and contacts. Call 592-9906/07, or email: info@scandinaviancenter.kiev.ua.

International Business Club meets Tuesdays, Thursdays from 19:30 – 21:30 and Saturdays from 14 to 16. An Internationally known professor is now conducting seminars on International Business Management. There are places for a limited number of students of advanced-level English. Hr. 30 per session. Tel: 8-067-960-9875

Individual "dreams can come true" and "123 dreams" online programs by www.123pr.kiev.ua. Online seminars, presentations and training sessions. Consultations of success, execution of dreams and attractions of material riches are discussed. See www.123pr.kiev.ua, e-mail: t123@mail.ru, or call Taras at 8-097-606-4330.

For university students wanting to improve life skills and be successful, we offer a 2-month (8 meeting) LifeZone project. A native English speaker will present themes and help facilitate discussions. Russian speakers will have groups too. 15 Hr per meeting. First meeting, March 19, 5pm, Popudrenko St., 52, BEARS Center (Chernigovskaya metro). Call 559-6365

For University students wanting to improve life skills and be successful, we offer a two-month (eight-meeting) LifeZone project. Native English speaker will present themes and help facilitate discussions. Russian speakers will have groups, too. 15 Hr per meeting. 4 p.m. every Sunday, Banketnyj zal, Detskij Mir, Metro Darnitsa. Call 331-1785

The Expat Ukraine Web site (expatua.com or expat.com.ua) is a leading expatriate resource for international community of Ukraine since 2003. All services, including an online discussion forum, classifieds and business directory, are free. Share your interests, experience and knowledge. Publish your news, events and links.

The Business-English Center meets at 7:00 p.m. on Thursdays and at 11:00 a.m. on Sundays for a series of business English skills workshops; Discussions are led by experienced native teachers of English. Hr 20 for a two-hour session. For more information, call Alex at 234-0871, e-mail: english@i.com.ua or visit www.etcentre.com.ua.

ENGLISH CLUBS

Australian English speaking club. Every Tuesday from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. to improve English speaking with a native English teacher. All topics are discussed in a friendly and relaxed atmosphere. All levels of English speakers are welcome. Admission Hr 20. Private lessons are also available. Call William at 517-2332 or 8-096-224-5354, or email surferbest2004@hotmail.com.

European Business Association Toastmasters Club gathers enthusiastic people determined to improve their communication and leadership skills in a friendly learning environment. The membership is open for employees of companies-members of EBA. We meet Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (1A Andriyivskiy Uzviz, EBA premises). For details see www.eba.com.ua/activities/toastmasters or contact Nadiya Bilyk at N_Bilyk@yahoo.com

Phoenix Language School Conversation Club meets daily at 6:15 pm. Improve your communication skills with Americans and other native English speakers. Price: Hr. 10 per session. Also Business English & Childrens Lessons. For more info, phone 599-6800 or 067-139-3706 or E-mail: Phoenix7@ukr.net

FUN & ENGLISH in Little America-2006 Summer camp in Ukraine. For children from 6 till 14. Participate in meaningful activities, make new friends and enjoy a new experience. Daily activities will be run by ILP teachers (USA). Location: Boyarka, 12 km from Kiev. More information at www.ilp.org.ua. Tel: 248-6742, 8-050-353-2831/30

*Free English Discussions about Internet-marketing. Bold Endeavours, a UK marketing and Web-development company, welcomes senior marketing managers/directors to an English-language discussion group about search engines and internet marketing at noon on the first Saturday of each month. Call 536-11-01, or register on-line at www.bold.com.ua

The Little America Program run by native speakers (www.ilp.org.ua) invites kids from 3 to 8 years old to acquire English at a level of mother tongue in an atmosphere of joy and creativity. Successfully run by The International Language Programs (USA) across the world for over 13 years. Call 248-6742 or 8-050-353-2830.

International playgroup, all instructions in English. Arts, handicrafts, dances, games, videos, fun from 9 a.m. till 1 p.m. Canadian instructor. Age group 4-6 y.o. Small groups. Call SERGE at 484 3425 after 8p.m. or 80675033531.

The Eagle Courses invite you to join our English club on weekends. According to your personal interests and to improve your communication skills we meet on Saturdays for discussions and on Sundays to watch films. The cost is Hr 25 per visit (3 hours). For details, please call Solomia at 550-2998 or 8-050-355-6016.

Canadian English speaking Club. English-language lessons taught by Canadian teacher from Nova Scotia. Age group 12 y.o. to adults, conversation classes for adults.

Small groups. Admission Hr 20. Call BLAINE at 4860716 or 8096-8102541.

Klovsky Uzviz: English Conversation Group meets 7:00 pm Wednesday evenings. Hr 25 for 90 minutes with TESOL qualified native speaker. Free tea/coffee. Teenagers Video Club meets noon Sundays, Hr 25 includes movie and discussion. Free juice, tea/coffee and snack. Bookings essential. Contact russell@kyivenglish.com or 8067-402-23-84 or 539-36-11 to reserve a place.

The Green Forest Speaking Club invites students learning English for intensive training in communicative English that's led by an American native speaker. Join us every Friday at 6:15 p.m. (2 Hospitalna, office #63). The cost is Hr 14 per visit. For more information, call 235-2672, 235-0641 or email greenforest@ukr.net.

OTHER LANGUAGE CLUBS

Ukrainian/Russian lessons for English speakers. Educational programs for kids (3-12 y.o.) Translation of technical/economic documents, tour guiding and interpreting. For more information, please call 8-097-154-3476, 253-3598 or 5665216, or email nastasia@fastmail.fm.

Russian/Ukrainian language lessons for English-, German- or Italian-speaking foreigners. Interpreting, tour guiding. Call Tatiana at 8-068-711-5717.

Biete deutsche Sprachpraxis in Austausch fuer Russisch. Spreche Deutsch, Englisch und etwas Russisch. Bin 34/m. Tel./SMS 8-097-947-0991; email: Ahrens@ukr.net.

The Center of Serbo-Croatian Language and Culture offers courses in Serbo-Croatian language with native teachers. Serbo-Croatian language library with videotapes and conversation club. For more information call Stefan at 80633845028.

Russian language lessons in exchange for Spanish language practice and tutoring with 14-year-old Ukrainian girl. Phone 401-0143, or SMS to 8-067-335-2494.

The Essential Russian Club meets at 4:30 p.m. on Sundays for a series of discussions on cultural differences, intercultural interaction and the particularities of doing business in Ukraine. Discussions are run by an English-Russian interpreter – Hr 20 for a 90-minute session. For more information call Alex at 234-0871, 8067 391-7662, or e-mail ess_russian@ukr.net.

The Spanish Club offers Flamenco and Salsa dancing courses, a Saturday Spanish language conversation club and we also maintain a Spanish-language library with videotapes and CDs. Visit us at the Intercultural Center 28th Parallel, School No. 64, 32 Ushynskoho. Take marshrutka #8 from Ploshcha Lva Tolstoho. Call 243-1681, email hispano@iptelecom.net.ua or see www.spanish-center.kiev.ua.

Chinese language lessons, in both Cantonese and Mandarin, in exchange for Russian lessons. I am a Chinese-American and have taught Chinese Studies at an international school in Kyiv. Please email chinese4@gmail.com for more info.

Spanish for foreigners and Ukrainians: any level, individual approach, conversation practice. Advice, consultations, recommendations, Spanish books, films and CDs. For more information, call Dmitry at 8-067-507-4392, or email gerero@ukr.net.

Institute Ukraine-Scandinavia invites everyone who is interested to take part in organizing Scandinavian Club in Kiev. It will be a place for Scandinavians and those who are interested in Nordic culture and history, languages, exchange of business information and contacts. Call at 592 99 07, 592 99 06 or email at scand@gpm.kiev.ua

The Novamova International Language School offers Italian and Spanish language courses and conversational clubs with native teachers at 47 Shota Rustaveli, #109. For more information, call us at 237-7750, 561-9802, or email info@ils.kiev.ua.

The Center of Spanish Language and Culture offers courses of Spanish language with native teachers, Spanish-language library and videotapes. For more information please call 239-2418, 7 Obolonska (Tarasa Shevchenka metro), email info@chispa.com.ua, or see www.chispa.com.ua.

CONVERSATION PRACTICE

Polish conversation practice in exchange for Russian or English. Please contact Agnieszka Bazhytnov at aganel@poczta.fm, or call 8-066-409-5625.

Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice from the beginner level for foreigners, and English lessons from a certificated English teacher. For more information call 8-050-913-8279.

Free Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice/Kyiv sight-seeing in exchange for English language practice (preferably with a person older than 30). Free time schedule: weekends and weekdays evenings. Please contact Liuba by e-mail: Lgrin@insat.org.ua

Host Families Club: Learn conversational English at home. When you host young American volunteers you have all the possibility to improve your English and learn more. We help Ukrainian families and American volunteers find each other. Call 248-6742 or 8-050-353-2830.

Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice in exchange for English/German conversation practice with all-rounder and pretty girl. Please contact Kate by email at katherine@mail.ru or call/sms at 8-050-384-6064.*

Free Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice in exchange for English conversation practice. Please contact Irina by e-mail at ryskal11@yahoo.com or call 8-067-507-30-98.

English lessons and conversation practice with native English speaker. Call 401-0143 or SMS 8-067-335-2494 for a free time schedule.

Russian/Ukrainian conversational practice in exchange for English/Japanese conversational practice. Call/SMS Irina at 8-067-290-32-03. Enjoy Russian/English (or German) conversation practice

with all-rounder and beautiful girl. Sphere of my interests is broad, so we'll certainly find a lot of things to talk about. SMS/call Ira at 8-095-333-4582, or email ecelente@mail.ru.

Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice (preferably with person older 40). Free time schedule. Please contact Irina by e-mailing: k_jirina90@mail.ru

Free Russian conversation practice in return for English. Please call Lena at 410-9268.

Free Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice in return for English conversation practice. Please contact Yevgenia by email at yevgenia27@yandex.ru.

English conversation practice with certified English teacher. Flexible fee, or will exchange services for Russian practice. Please send your name and free time schedule to eddie@uskiev@gmail.com.

Free Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice in return for English or French. I also know a little German. Please call Lena 8-067-234-19-91, e-mail: lo_ahhead@yahoo.com

Russian conversation practice in exchange for English conversation practice. Please contact Julia by email at Juliak@gmail.ru.

Contact Liol at 8-097-700-0008, or email flyflewswj@gmail.com for free English and Mandarin practice in exchange for Russian language lessons.

Have Russian/Ukrainian conversation practice with an interesting and beautiful girl in exchange for English conversation practice. Please send your name and free time schedule to dolina2000@bk.ru or SMS/call Julia at 8-050-442-6162.

English speech training in exchange for Russian speech lessons. A very qualified English teacher with many years of experience teaching English as a second language. Specializes in English speech pronouncing and accent reduction. Please email Allan at smartline555@yahoo.com or SMS at 067-368-0244.

Free Russian/Ukrainian/Polish conversation practice or lessons in exchange for English conversation practice. Please contact Marta by e-mail at martapopowicz@simplunet.pl or call 095-409-7250

English speech training in exchange for Russian speech lessons. A very qualified English teacher with many years experience teaching English as a second language, specializing in English speech pronouncing and accent reduction. Please email Allan at smartline555@yahoo.com or SMS at 067-368-0244.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

Those interested in improving their communication skills and creative abilities are invited to the Art-Talkers Toastmasters Club on Sundays at 4 p.m., National Art Museum, 6 Hrushevskoho (look for "Lectorium" on the right side of the building if facing Muzeyny Lane). Call 8-067-220-62-96 or email at usova57@yahoo.com.

The American Chamber of Commerce Toastmasters Club invites English-speaking professionals to advance their communication and presentation skills in a supportive environment. The membership is open for employees of companies-members of American Chamber of Commerce. We meet Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m. at 10 Voloska (Kontraktova Ploshcha metro). For further information, contact Alyona Sereida at asereida@gallaherukraine.com.

Top Talkers Toastmasters Club welcomes everybody who wants to learn strong public speaking, communication and leadership skills. Toastmasters: Friends helping Friends Succeed. We meet at 7:30 p.m. on Wednesdays at Kyiv Mohyla Business School, 8/5 Voloska, Building 4, 4th fl. For more information see <http://topstalkers.free-toasthost.com> or contact Tetyana Verbytska at enchante_e@hotmail.com.

Kyiv Toastcrackers Club, a part of Toastmasters International, is a worldwide organization that helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking through effective oral communication. We invite new people to benefit from the meetings on Wednesdays, at 7 p.m. at the House of Scientists, 45a Volodymyrska St. For more information see www.toastcrackers.kiev.ua or email Olga Pogorelova at toastcrackers@mail.ru.

Dnipro Hills Toastmasters Club invites success-oriented people to learn or develop public speaking, presentation and leadership skills that will foster self-confidence and personal growth. Join us Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the International Institute of Business at 51 Dehtyarska. For detailed information, please contact Vera Viter at viter_vera@yahoo.com.

European Business Association Toastmasters Club gathers enthusiastic people determined to improve their communication and leadership skills in a friendly learning environment. The membership is open for employees of companies-members of EBA. We meet Mondays at 7:00 p.m. (1A Andriyivskiy Uzviz, EBA premises). For details see www.eba.com.ua/activities/toastmasters or contact Nadiya Bilyk at N_Bilyk@ukr.net

INTERNATIONAL CLUBS

The Kyiv Rotaract Club Center meets on Tuesdays at 7:30 p.m. For more information please visit our web site www.rotaract.kiev.ua or contact Olga Voitovych by phone at +380 (67) 332 30 39 or by e-mail: olga.voitovych@rotaract.kiev.ua.

The Kyiv Rotary Club Center meets on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. at 7 Trehsvyatitska in the Premiere Cafe. For more information, please contact either Valentina Burebello at 244-2565 or by email: burebello@yahoo.com, or Mominul Hoque 8-039-459-4921 or email: rc_kyiv_centre@yahoo.com.

Amnesty International English Speaking Group. Meetings are being held every other Tuesday of the month at 7pm. Become informed, get involved and brush up on your English. Meetings are held at the German Lutheran Church, Vul. Luteranska 22. Call/email for more details. 8066 247 4099. amnestykyiv@yahoo.com.

Democrats Abroad Ukraine is the official organization of the Democratic Party in Ukraine; connecting Americans with U.S. politics and the Democratic Party; registering,

informing, and motivating voters; supporting U.S. candidates, holding events, and fundraising. To be on our mailing list and receive invitations for our events, email info@democratsabroad.org.ua.

The Kyiv Multinational Rotary Club welcomes all Rotarians who are in Kyiv and new potential Rotarians. Our meeting are conducted in English every Wednesday evening. For more information regarding our meeting-place please e-mail rotary.multinational@gmail.com

The International Women's Club of Kyiv (IWCK) welcomes members from around the world to join our international support network and participate in our extensive charity programs. We offer members regular social events, more than 20 interest groups and networking opportunities. Call Julia at 234-3180 or email iwck@in.ua. Address: 39 Pushkinska, #51, entrance 5, door code 048.

Kiev American Club meets Sundays at 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. We discuss a wide range of subjects. Qualified U.S. & other native English teachers conduct meetings. New Location: St. Sophia Square. Admission: Hr.10. (Free coffee.) Also daily English and Russian courses, (Business & Conversational) all levels. Phone 599-6080 / 067-1393706, e-mail: kivamericanclub@yahoo.com

Kiev American Kids Club meets every Saturday from noon to 1:45 p.m. Ages 6 & up. Have fun speaking English, playing games, and watching films and cartoons. Enjoy foreign atmosphere. Communicate with native speakers. Friendly environment. Tel: 599-6080 / 067-139-3706, e-mail: kivamericanclub@yahoo.com

The International Women Together Gathering holds its meetings on the first Saturday morning of every month. We gather for fellowship, friendship, and to discuss topics of interest to ladies. Please contact Jennifer Ragsdell at 8-050-352-4539. You are welcome to join us.

The Kyiv Lions Club is an international volunteer organization that raises funds and provides services to help those in need, including orphans, invalids and ill children. Meetings held on the 2nd Monday of the month in the Botny bar of Golden Gate Irish Pub at 6:30 p.m. until 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Inna Gaiduk at 537-7444, or email: kyivlion@i.com.ua.

The Kyiv Rotaract Club meets at 7 p.m. on Wednesdays at the Stoned Baboon, 39 B. Khmelnytskoho. For more information, please contact Oleg Lukashik at 8-050-643-2802, or email victoria.e@mail.ru, or lucas41@mail.ru.

MUSIC/ARTS/DANCE CLUBS

Now ex-pats can enjoy high-quality Latin dance instruction in English from a Californian champion teacher! Ukrainians wanting to learn Latin dance in English also welcome. Please email kiev.salsa@gmail.com for info.

Are you interested in Kyiv? Would you like to now others' opinions about the capital of Ukraine? The French are ready to share their view on Ukraine in exciting, original photos at <http://foto.mail.ru/mail/in16/265/>. Also: KievLife through the eyes of locals is available at <http://foto.mail.ru/mail/in16/99/?page=1>.

The Cubano Boom club studio invites you to its Latin dance classes. Our dance teacher from Cuba, Ernesto Perez, presents lessons in salsa, cha-cha-cha, merengue and bachata. For more information call 8-067-798-36-92, e-mail: ernestoperezcu@yahoo.com www.cubanoboom.com.ua

Dance Lessons in English by Californian Champion Teacher. Please email kiev.salsa@gmail.com for info.

Amateur English Theatre invites all those who are interested in practicing communicative and performing skills in English. Open rehearsals are held in School #128, Room 204, Raisy Okipnoi street 6, 5 minute walk from "Levoberezhnaya" Metro Station on Saturdays 1 to 3 pm. Contact us: sirgee@com.ua or 5107287, 5178342, 8(050)410538

Kiev Swing Dance Club invites you to swing dance parties every Sunday at 18:00 in Mamont Club. Entrance is Hr 5. More information about lessons and parties: tel: +380 44 2038773, +380 50 312 5687, <http://www.swingdance.kiev.ua> email: info@swingdance.kiev.ua

Fidelio Dance Club invites you for lessons: Latin-American, European (waltz, foxtrot), Modern (jazz, street-dance), Salsa, Argentinean tango, Belly dance, Aerobic mix dance, Yoga. Lessons are held in the very center of Kiev. Contacts: tel.209 35 69, web-site: www.fidelio.com.ua, e-mail: fidelio_club@ukr.net.

Forbidden Art (underground) – An artist who refuses to take part in farce, which is performed by post-communist officials and so-called government galleries, invites you to visit his underground art exhibition on the Internet at www.kolyada.com.

RELIGION

International Baptist Church, English Language, invites you to join us Sundays. Adult and Children's Bible Study, 1 p.m. Worship service 2 p.m. Come to Central Baptist Church, 2/8 Shchekavitska, near Kontraktova Square. Informative Bible study, joyful music and friendly fellowship await you. Check our website: www.ibckiev.org.ua.

Christ Church (Anglican) meets Sundays at 3 p.m. at St. Catherine's Lutheran Church, 22 Lyuteranska (near Khreshchatik metro). Contact 425-2310 or Christ.ch.kiev@mail.ru.

Word of God Church invites you to celebrate Easter, Sunday, April 23 at 2:00 p.m. for a special Easter program and concert. We have nursery and Sunday school for children. Fellowship and refreshments follow the service. For more information, call 517-5193.

The Evangelic Presbyterian Church of the Holy Trinity invites you to our worship service, held in Ukrainian and Russian with simultaneous English translation. We meet each Sunday at 50/52 T. Shevchenko, #402 (4th floor). Worship begins at 9:45 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Sunday School begins at 11:20 a.m. Pastor Ivan Bepalov (tel. 246-7576). Email: ibespalov@mail.ru.

Kiev International Bible Church, an English-language evangelical non-denominational church meeting at 10:30 am Sundays at 34A Popudrinka, between Darnytsya and Chernihivska metro stops, is a Bible-

centered "church for the nations" and place of joy for people wanting growth, fellowship, enthusiastic worship, and a place to belong. Contact: 501-80-82 or kievBC@gmail.com.

Embassy Of God(Fountain Of God Church) invites all to weekly services, Wednesdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 10 a.m. (except the first Sunday of each month) in Kyiv, Sevastopolyskaya Plosha, 15/7, Chervonozaoryanny Avenue, Vusiska Bus stop, Zhek Building. Call: 455-33-35, Lydmila (Russian), 80673161708 Alina (Russian/English), 80672796639 Pastor George (English).

International Christian Assembly meets on Sundays at Holisivska 57 near the MIR hotel on the first floor. English Fellowship gathers at 10:30 a.m. and Korean Fellowship gathers at 1 p.m. Please call Tom (8050-858-8833) or Olga (8050-695-9205). Visit us at the web at www.ica-kiev.com. You are always welcome at ICA.

The Word of God church invites you to visit our Sunday services at 2 p.m. We have nursery and Sunday school for children. Bible study program – Wednesdays at 7 p.m. For more information, please call 516-8205.

St. Catherine's German Evangelical Lutheran Parish – All are invited to services Sundays at 10 a.m. and Monday-Saturday at 6 p.m. at 22 Lyuteranska. The children's choir meets Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. with the children's service following at 4 p.m. All activities (including the choir, women's group, Bible discussion and children's dance group) are in German and Russian. For more information, call 253-6319.

St. Alexander's Catholic Parish – Holy mass in English is held every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. and Sacred Scripture every Friday at 7 p.m. Bible study held every Sunday of the month except the last at 9:30 a.m. English-speaking priest available. Tel.: 295-0947.

SIGHTSEEING, TOURS, OTHER

City tours (Kyiv and other Ukrainian cities), interpreting service, sight-seeing guide, tours tailored to individual needs. Please visit www.traveloset.com, or call Igor at 8-067-507-2090.

Tour guide will conduct sightseeing tours of Kyiv for leisure or business. I can also help you as an interpreter or personal assistant. Please call Natasha at 518-3781 or 8-067-991-0316, or email nata-g@svtonline.com.

Support for those foreigners who need help in Ukraine, but don't know where to find it. For more info see www.welcometoua.com, or call Alex at 8-097-94-00-187.

City tours, translation and interpreting services, personal assistance/sight-seeing guide. Please call Katya at 8-067-946-8226.

If you want to know the most interesting places to go sightseeing in our beautiful city with a professional interpreter, contact Maria: 8(067)294-8886. I also know Spanish.

Interested in traveling around Kiev and other places with your own driver and interpreter? Please contact Kostya: 8(067)728-4063

City tours conducted in English, German or Italian. Enjoy your trips around Kiev as well as other towns of Ukraine! Personal assistance. Interpreting services. Call Tatiana at 8-068-711-57-17

I am a professional interpreter willing to help newcomers in Kyiv sightseeing, shopping, running errands and generally assisting in adjusting to life here. I also speak German. Contact Tanya at 8-096-737-5066

All services associated with Russian, Polish and English: translations, tutoring, personal assistance and conversation practice. Native-speakers of Italian and German are

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18 years old. My height 172 cm, weight 52 kg, sexy blonde with breasts 75C. I am a highly confident young model. I have girlfriends.
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