

COMPETITION Manager of the Year – EVALUATION

Automotive industry is the leading branch within Czech economy. This became apparent in the fresh results of the prestigious competition Manager of 2006: representatives of companies related to cars occupied the first four places.

The chairman of the Board of Directors and General Manager of Škoda Auto, Detlef Wittig, was announced to be the Manager of 2006 at Prague Žofín yesterday. Therefore, now he ranks into the "winners' club" along with for example the General Manager of ČEZ, Martin Roman, or the former director of Czech Microsoft, Jan Mühlfeit.

Pavel Juříček, Chairman of Brano Group which produces car parts, was placed second.

The third was Miloslav Čermák, Chairman of Sněžka Cooperative. This cooperative sews head supports for car seats and beside these, they produce leather accessories. And Oldřich Svoboda, General Director and Executive Manager of Hella Autotechnik which produces headlights not only for Škoda Mladá Boleslav but also other car companies, was placed fourth.

The first woman in this year's competition – Petra Škopová, Director and Authorised Agent of Chovservis, which produces meat and meat products, was rated sixth. Škopová was also awarded the prize Woman-Manager of 2006.

Seventy-two managers from twenty-three industry branches got into the finals of the competition. But the number included only ten women. The youngest finalist was twenty-eight and the oldest sixty-seven.

The prize of the Economia Publishing House, the exclusive media partner of the competition, was awarded to Josef Blecha, the boss of Fezko Strakonice producing fabrics for vehicles.