

NEWS  
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## OFFICIAL OPENING OF THE NEW LUKOIL FILLING STATION ON THE KUMANOVO-SKOPJE MOTORWAY

The realization and the implementation of projects of this type serve as an additional incentive for us to keep up working. It is our job to keep up working even harder, to make it possible for anyone who wishes to invest in Macedonia to do so, and to make investment conditions even more favourable“ - said the Prime Minister.

He also added that Russia is an important partner and investor in Macedonia, and announced the forthcoming visit of a delegation of the Macedonian Government to Russia, which is planned to be organized as a road show aimed at presenting the possibilities of investing and doing business in the country.

Mr. Andrei Cucu, CEO of LUKOIL Makedonija, said that this is the 17th filling station in the country and that this filling station is the biggest and the most modern facility the company has built so far. The newest LUKOIL filling station sits on 6,000 m<sup>2</sup> of land. It has two levels: the first one can be accessed from the E-75 motorway, while the other one from the Romanovce-Kumanovo regional road. The entire complex practically houses 2 filling stations, a restaurant, market, big parking lot for trucks and busses, and children's playground. The complex employs staff of 30.

In his address in front of the guests, Mr. Cucu emphasized that the high quality of services and the introduction of modern technologies will prove worth of the trust consumers give to the company. He said that he is particularly thankful to the Minister of Transport and Communications, the employees at the Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Municipality of Kumanovo, the Public Enterprise for State Roads and all other authorities that have helped make this filling station a reality. The FILBIS Design Company, Agrobank, Beton Shtip and LTA EMO Vodno have participated in designing and constructing the filling station.

Mr. Cucu also announced several new projects, and said that a similar complex will also be constructed near Gevgelija.

He also announced that this year, three new filling stations would be opened in the

country.

The official opening ceremony was attended by Mr. Mile Janakieski, Minister of Transport and Communications, and H.E. Mr. Oleg Shcherbak, Ambassador of the Russian Federation in the Republic of Macedonia.

“We are happy that despite the adverse effects of the financial crisis, the commercial, economic, as well as investing relations between the two countries are still growing. In 2011, the volume of trade rose by 25% compared to 2010 and it amounted to 723 million US dollars. This year, we hope to go back to the same level we had before the crisis which amounted to 1 billion US dollars” - declared H.E. Mr. Shcherbak, the Russian Ambassador.

He added that the Russian Embassy in the Republic of Macedonia highly values and supports the work of LUKOIL which has managed to promote high standards of quality, has demonstrated great care for the environment and has helped create favourable business environment fostering the relations between the two countries.

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