



ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY INVESTMENT BRIEF



2014.



WELCOME TO ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY

Žepče Municipality is located in Central Bosnia, in Zenica-Doboj Canton, on the most important route linking Eastern Europe and the Adriatic (E73 or M17: Bos. Šamac-Sarajevo-Mostar).



Position of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) in the region



Position of Žepče Municipality in BiH and Zenica-Doboj Canton

ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY – YOUR FUTURE INVESTMENT DESTINATION



- Žepče is a part of the BEAR (Business Excellence Area) development initiative in Bosnia and Herzegovina. **FDI Magazine (Financial Times Group) chose the BEAR region as one of 10 top investment destinations in Europe, by the cost-effectiveness for investors (2014/15).**
- Žepče Municipality is becoming a destination of increasing interest for new investors. Žepče is situated on one of the crucial transportation routes in Central Bosnia that connects Eastern Europe and the Adriatic. With minimal administrative procedures and simple access to land plots equipped with basic infrastructure in the Polja Industrial Zone, 100% owned by Žepče Municipality, we offer excellent opportunities for greenfield investment.
- Dynamic and well-trained labor force is educated according to company needs and the business environment demand.
- Significant potential of Žepče Municipality in the metal and wood processing, and textile and agriculture sectors has already been recognized by domestic and foreign investors exporting over 80% of their output to European markets.
- The Mayor and the Mayor's Team are dedicated to facilitation of investments and to creation of modern business environment for development of business and of high standards for living and progress in the municipality. At your disposal are the Žepče Development Agency (RAŽ), with a one-stop-shop for investors and the Local Development Forum for networking and cooperation with the public and private sectors. Existing investors receive the support through the aftercare program.



BASIC INFORMATION ABOUT ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY

- Location: Central Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Territory: 282 km², 16% of agriculture land, 62.7% of forests, 21.3% of roads and other
- Population: 31,582 (year 2013)
- Administrative organization (canton, entity): Zenica-Doboj Canton, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Closest administrative center: Zenica
- Climate: Moderate continental
- Time zone: GMT +1

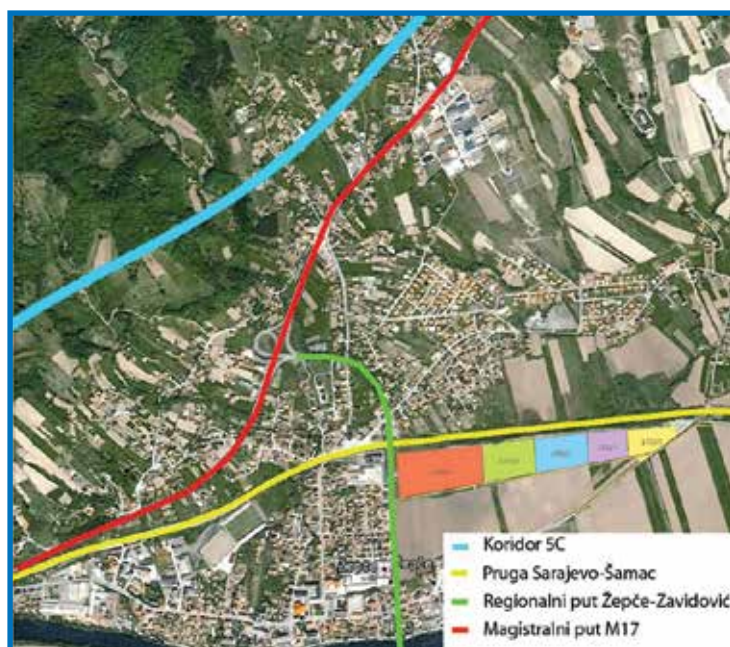
Žepče Municipality Contact Information:

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Investor Contact Point(s) in Žepče Municipality

Contact Point: Žepče Development Agency,
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GEOSTRATEGIC POSITION AND LOGISTICS



- Žepče is situated on one of the vital routes in Central Bosnia linking Eastern Europe and the Adriatic (M-17 road Bos. Šamac-Sarajevo-Mostar and Ploče-Sarajevo-Šamac-Budapest railway line) and by the regional road R-465 Žepče-Zavidovići.
- Operating in Žepče Municipality provides possibility for exports to a duty-free market with almost 600 million consumers (due to free-trade agreements signed by BiH: Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA): Albania, Serbia, Moldavia, Macedonia, Montenegro, UNMIK/Kosovo; Turkey; Stabilization and Accession Agreement; European Free Trade Agreement (EFTA): Norway, Switzerland, Iceland, Lichtenstein).
- Delivery times from Žepče to main European markets in days/hours are calculated in the table below:

Overview of delivery times from Žepče to main European destinations

Destination	Hours by cargo truck	Numbers of breaks envisaged by EU legislation	Total days/hours to destination
Rotterdam (Netherlands)	23 hrs	2 x 11 hrs	2 days, 7 hrs
Munchen (Germany)	13 hrs	1 x 11 hrs	1 day
Berlin (Germany)	18 hrs	2 x 11 hrs	1.5 days
Vienna (Austria)	12 hrs	1 x 11 hrs	1 day
Budapest (Hungary)	9 hrs	1 x 11 hrs	1 day
Brussels (Belgium)	23 hrs	2 x 11 hrs	2 days
Milan (Italy)	14 hrs	1 x 11 hrs	1 day

- Excellent transport links to major regional centers (Zenica 40 km, Doboj 53 km, Sarajevo 114 km, Banja Luka 160 km, Tuzla 76 km, Zagreb, Croatia/EU 385 km, Belgrade, Serbia 310 km).
- The planned routes of the VC highway corridor (Ploče Port-Budapest) linking Central Europe with the Adriatic and of the Tuzla regional road pass through Žepče Municipality and near the 'Polja' Industrial Zone.



HUMAN RESOURCES

Žepče Municipality follows needs of the labor market and investors' demand for specific types of workers. We are the only municipality in BiH authorized to develop own secondary school curriculum. It enables us to educate the human resources in line with needs of investor' business processes.

- The public and private sectors in Žepče Municipality support the education of productive and professional workforce tailored to modern business processes.
- Three secondary schools operating in Žepče Municipality train human resources as per requirements of the priority sectors, labor market and investors. The offer includes technical programs and various three-year programs for trade occupations.

Overview of curriculum in the secondary schools in Žepče Municipality area (School Year 2014/2015)

Occupation/Title	Occupation/Title
Four-year curriculum	Three-year curriculum
Construction technician Textiles technician – Garment industry Agrotourism technician Agriculture technician – phytopharmacist Forest technician Mechanotronics technician Economic technician Hotel tourism technician Operator of motor vehicles Road transport technician Medical technician – Nurse Salesperson – a new curriculum introduced in 2014/15	Automechanic /gas fittings and plumbing Locksmith /gas fittings and plumbing Locksmith /fitter for central heating and air conditioning Fitter for heating and air conditioning /Automechanic Welder/locksmith Electrician/electromechanic Tailor for ready-to-wear textiles CNC operator - a new curriculum introduced in 2014/2015 Autoelectrician-electromechanic - a new curriculum since 2014/2015 Hair and wig stylist Waiter/cook

- Two universities in the immediate vicinity of Žepče (Doboj: www.slobomir.com and Zenica: www.unze.ba) offer programs in information technology, economics, management, philology, law, tax academy and the arts academy, and transport and communications.

Data on Žepče labor market

Average N° of employees in 2013	4,048
Average N° of unemployed in 2013	5,235
Employment rate	31.7%
Unemployment rate	48.2%

2013 Report of Žepče Employment Office

Average wages – Žepče and FBiH (2014)

Average net wage in Žepče Municipality	574.00 KM
Average gross wage in Žepče Municipality	831.88 KM
Average net wage in FBiH	840.00 KM
Average gross wage in FBiH	1,282.00 KM

Federal Statistics Bureau, 2014

Number of unemployed with secondary and high education degree – for metal, wood processing and textile sectors

Secondary school	Total unemployed
Metal processing and mechanical engineering	76
Electric engineering	50
Textiles	117
Wood processing	48
Construction technicians	58
Metal processing	1
Other technical specialties	16
Forestry	32
Economic	262
Agricultural	10
Forestry schools	32
Veterinary schools	1
High education (Faculty)	
Metallurgy	1
Mechanical engineering	6
Electrical engineering	7
Technology	3
Forestry	4
Agriculture	1
Veterinary	1
Biotechnical	2

Source: Monthly Report of Žepče Employment Office for 08/ 2014



BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT IN ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY

The economic power of Žepče Municipality lies in 295 small and medium enterprises mostly active in construction, wood, metal and textiles industries, and in 300 trade shops where catering and trade are predominant sectors.

Most significant economic activities are metal, wood processing, textile and construction industry with a constant rise of export of these sectors, and transport and trade, which generate 70% of total revenues. Agriculture is also a significant sector.

Priority sectors

In metal sector there are 18 firms and 5 trade shops, employing a total of 300 workers. Most companies in the metal sector are export-oriented, and they operate in the following subsectors:

1. Manufacture of transportation equipment (trailer tanks) and parts for transportation equipment
2. Construction and equipping of gas stations
3. Manufacture of basic building materials
4. Manufacture of parts for food processing facilities
5. Manufacture of metal fittings (fences, furniture, shelves, swings etc.)

40-80% of total output in the metal processing industry is exported to the following markets: Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, EU (Italy, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Netherlands). In 2013, the exports from this sector in Žepče Municipality reached 3,560,791.83 KM (1,820,603.53 EUR).

The metal processing sector offers significant investment opportunities in opening centers for accreditation, testing and certification of welders and the welding process. The metal processing companies from Žepče are interested to find intermediaries for products and services of micro and small firms for foreign markets and for establishing strategic partnerships.

Wood processing sector - 34 companies and 6 trade shops operate in the wood processing sector in Žepče Municipality, employing around 500 people. The local wood processing companies are active in the following subsectors:

1. Manufacture of timber
2. Manufacture of furniture
3. Manufacture of furniture parts
4. Manufacture of pellets from biomass – wood shavings and sawdust

All wood processing companies are export-oriented with 40-90% of the total output of the Žepče wood processing industry going to foreign markets. Italy, France, Slovenia, Germany and Czech Republic are the major markets, where the wood sector companies exported their finished and semi-finished products worth 6,362,750.72 KM (3,560,791.00 EUR) in 2013.

Investment prospects are reflected in the availability of considerable biomass from wood shavings and chips in the Žepče area, which may be used to develop the production of briquets and high-value white eco-pellets. It is estimated that 35,000-40,000 tons of wood shavings remains unutilized every year on the territory of Žepče. The combination of rich forestry resources and experienced labor force points to a favorable opportunity to produce wooden floors, furniture and furniture components. Local wood processing companies are interested in access to more modern production technologies and to final product design services.

Textile industry - There are 10 textile industry companies in Žepče, employing a total of 900 workers. The subsectors in which these companies are active are:

1. Manufacture of car seat covers
2. Manufacture of occupational safety equipment
3. Manufacture of suits
4. Manufacture of footwear

The companies are export-oriented and 85% of the textile products are exported to the markets of Germany, Sweden, Croatia, Czech Republic, Montenegro. The total exports of textile industry products in 2013 were as much as 12,609,998.18 KM (6,447,478.60 EUR), i.e. 31% of the total exports from Žepče.

The textile sector offers opportunities for investment through development of strategic partnerships and through assistance in the design and marketing of own production lines abroad.

Agriculture - The agriculture sector of Žepče Municipality comprises 670 family farms and over 2,000 individual farmers who operate through 10 agricultural associations and cooperatives. The agriculture is based on small family farms. By the number of registered family farms in Žepče Municipality (in the year 2013), orchards and vineyards comprise 393.66 ha or 24.7% of agricultural land, cereals are on 370.11 ha or 23%, forage crops on 330.28 ha or 21%, vegetables on 133.14 ha or 8.35%, and medicinal/aromatic herbs on 2.3 ha or 0.14%.

Alongside the Srebrenica-Bratunac area, Žepče Municipality is a leading region in BiH by total quantity of raspberries grown and sold. The total land surface planted with raspberries in the area of Žepče is 81 ha with the annual production of 480 tons. The entire produced quantity is exported through bulk buyers to the Scandinavian market.

Žepče Municipality is among the leading areas in BiH by total quantity of raspberries grown and sold, while BiH is 10th largest raspberry producer in the world, with a total production of 8,000 tons (FAOSTAT).

Owing to a continuous trend of rising demand for raspberries in the EU markets, there is a considerable potential for increasing production and for new investments in growing, construction of processing capacities and distribution centers, as well as for construction of refrigeration plants.

Bee-keeping is another significant agricultural activity. Because of the quality of local honey and favorable climate conditions, Žepče is ranked among the healthiest and highest-quality areas in BiH. The annual production of honey is 80 tons, i.e. 3.2% of the total annual honey production in BiH.

New trends in nourishment, health preservation and cosmetics favor honey and bee products and cause increased market demand. This sector offers significant investment prospects in the form of building of a honey packing plant and procurement of additional bee-keeping equipment that would assist in more effective collection of other high-value bee products (such as bee pollen, royal jelly, propolis).



Business zones

In Žepče Municipality there are two business incubators and six business zones, of which two are situated on municipal, and four on private land.

'Polja' Greenfield Industrial Zone (IZ)



Location: 'Polja' Greenfield Industrial Zone covers 11.2 hectares, the zone is situated in the immediate vicinity of Žepče Municipality along the M-17 expressway Bosanski Šamac-Žepče-Sarajevo, regional road Žepče-Zavidovići-Tuzla and the Budapest-Šamac-Sarajevo railway. Accessibility is one of the major advantages of the 'Polja' Business Zone, as nearly all goods can be transported to any part of Europe within a maximum of two days, including customs procedures.

Infrastructure: Transportation infrastructure in the zone includes the access road from the regional road and access road to every plot. Power, (potable/industrial) water, telephone and sewage connections and solid waste disposal are provided in the zone. The zone also has access to a waste water scrubber.

Existing investors in the zone are: CarTrim (Germany) in the textile sector, announced construction of another 12,000 m² production facility in the spring 2015, and a new investor in the zone: the Teknotherm Engineering (Norway), company from the metal sector with business in engineering and production of assorted machinery in the naval and offshore sector in Norway and globally.

Regulations: Žepče Municipality is 100% owner of the 'Polja' Industrial/Business Zone and the construction in the zone is planned in accordance with the Municipal Regulatory Plan. Pursuant to a decision of the Žepče Municipal Council, a prerequisite for construction in this area is that the production programs do not emit pollutants that might negatively affect the environment.

Priority sectors: Textile, metal, food processing and IT sector.

How to access the zone: The option to acquire the land in the zone is available through an inquiry with Žepče Municipality.

Time from land acquisition to the start of investment: The municipal administration ensures fast and simple procedures of issuance of mandatory licences and approvals for investors (locational requirements-urban permit, construction permit, use permit).

Example of a project of construction of a textile production plant in the 'Polja' IZ

The following calculation of the costs of charges, fees and approvals was prepared on the example of an investment in the textile sector. It is assumed that the planned acquisition is for a land plot of **10,000 m²** in the 'Polja' Industrial Zone, with the land development coefficient of **1**, i.e. with **5,000 m²** of the surface area of the buildings.

Costs of charges, fees and approvals until issuance of the urban permit for construction of a production facility	New facility – estimated costs (amount of charges)
Administrative fee for the Approval	200 KM
Copy of cadaster plan listing the user of the plot in question and of the adjacent plots, title deed or land registry excerpt	20 KM
Costs until issuance of the construction permit	
Development of construction land and the rent	Zone VI – Production facilities 6 KM per m ² x 5,000 m ² of useful space = 30,000 KM
Administrative fee for the construction permit	0.3-0.6% of the facility cost, depending on intended facility purpose
Charge for funding cadaster properties	No charge
Utility fee	Type of activity: Other, Zone VI, 75% of total value = 450 KM
Charge for preparation of zoning documentation	No charge
Transformation of agricultural into construction land	No charge, the rent is paid
Fire safety and other approvals	PTT suglasnost: HT Mostar PJ Žepče/BH Telecom Žepče
Utility approval	http://www.komunalno-žepče.com/attachments/article/17/Cjenik%20usluga.pdf
Environmental permit – Ministry for Spatial Planning, Transport and Communications and Environment of the Zenica-Doboj Canton	http://80.65.74.245:10080/eregistar/egfvwOdlukaWebview.aspx?Sifra=MPIK.9
Power connection approval	http://www.elektroprivreda.ba/stranica/zahtjevi http://www.ephzba.ba/kupci/dokumenti/
Costs until issuance of the use permit	
Administrative fee for the use permit	200 KM
Land survey sheet of the building and land plot on the cadaster background, in analog or digital format prepared by a registered surveyor	Market price of surveyor services is between 300 and 500 KM/m ²
Technical Inspection Committee	3.500 - 4.000 KM



Overview of other industrial/business zones in Žepče Municipality

Name	'Ljeskovica' Industrial/Business Zone	'Begov Han' Industrial/Business Zone	'XP Žepče' Industrial/Business Zone	'Donja Golubinja' Industrial/Business Zone	'Goliješnica – Brankovići' Industrial/Business Zone
Type of zone	Entrepreneurial greenfield zone	Entrepreneurial greenfield zone	Entrepreneurial brownfield zone	Entrepreneurial greenfield zone	Entrepreneurial greenfield zone
Surface area	6,55 ha	2,5 ha	6,62 ha	2,6 ha	1 ha
Location	Ljeskovica, alongside Žepče-Zavidovići regional road	Begov Han, alongside M-17 expressway towards Zenica	Luke, alongside M-17 expressway towards Dobož	Donja Golubinja, alongside M-17 expressway towards Zenica	Goliješnica, alongside M-17 expressway towards Dobož
Ownership	Private	Private	Municipal and private	Private	Private
Modes of cooperation	Acquisition or leasing of land from private owners. Acquisition or leasing of business facilities from private owners. Contact information for private owners available on request from the Žepče Development Agency (ražepče@gmail.com ; ++387 (0) 32 880 273)				

Advantageous production and business costs. Investment incentives.

According to the choice of the fDI Magazine (Financial Times Group) in 2014/2015 the production and company upkeep costs are very competitive and among lowest in Europe.

The best benefits are in the 'Polja' zone, which had been recategorized as Zone VI, although it is situated next to Žepče Municipality to offer the investors lower charges.

Operating costs in 'POLJA' IZ – Category VI zone

Type of costs	Measurement unit	Price (in KM)	Price (in EUR)	Charging
Charge for utilization of construction land	m ²	0.288 KM x net surface area of the production facility and parking area	0.147 EUR x net surface area of the production facility and parking area	Annually
Utility fee	m ²	For a closed building: 0.004 KM x 3 x 12 months x gross building surface For warehouses, canopies and parking: 0.002 KM x 3 x 12 months	For a closed building: 0.002 EUR x 3 x 12 months x gross building surface For warehouses, canopies and parking: 0.001 EUR x 3 x 12 months	Annually
Firefighting charge	Depending on the categorization	25 - 500 KM	13 - 256 EUR	Annually
Utility charge (for signs)	Type of activity (Other, zone VI, 75% of total value)	450 KM	230 EUR	Annually
Rent	m ²	Production facilities 6 KM x m ² of useful space	Production facilities 3 EUR x m ² of useful space	Single payment – prior to receiving the urban permit

Žepče Municipality provides subsidies for initial investments into production and business facilities constructed on the territory of Žepče Municipality

- amount of rent per m² of utilized area of the facility, and
- amount of fee for developing construction land per m² of utilized area of the facility that will be built on city construction land in the Industrial zone "Polja" **are reduced for 75% of the billed amount**
- amount of rent per m² of utilized area of the production facility, and
- amount of fee for developing construction land per m² of utilized area of the facility that will be built on city and other construction land in the municipality of Žepče **are reduced from the billed amount as follows:**
 - 75% for companies employing more than 200 workers
 - 60% for companies employing 100-200 workers
 - 50% for companies employing 50-100 workers
 - 40% for companies employing 30-50 workers
 - 30% for companies employing up to 30 workers

Within two years from obtaining the certificate of occupancy, an investor is required to prove employment of workers. Otherwise an investor is obliged to make the payment of compensation for rent and land development in the full amount, as specified in Article 38 and 49 of the Decision on Construction Land (Official Gazette of Žepče Municipality, 7/10).



Infrastructure/utility connection costs in Žepče Municipality

Type of cost	Measurement unit	Price (in KM)	Price (in EUR)	Charging period
Connection to the power grid	kWh	1,125.10 KM – 5,247.45 KM (depending on the power limiter)	575.30 – 2,683.00 EUR (depending on the power limiter)	Single charge
Connection to the water supply system	Diameter of pipes	350 – 8,000 KM (depending on the diameter of pipes)	179 – 4,000 EUR (depending on the diameter of pipes)	Single charge
Connection to the sewer system		50% of the cost of connection to the water supply system	50% of the cost of connection to the water supply system	Single charge
Telephone connection		30 KM	15EUR	Single charge

Energy and service costs for BUSINESS USERS (Žepče Municipality, FBiH)

Type of cost	Measurement unit	Price (in KM)	Price (in EUR)	Charging period
Electric power	kWh	20 KM /+22 kw 5.20 KM / -22 kw	10 EUR /+22 kw 2.66 EUR / -22 kw	Monthly
Potable water	m ³	2.40 KM/1 m ³ of water	1.23 EUR/1 m ³ of water	Monthly
Sewerage services	m ³	25% of the price of 1 m ³ of water	25% of the price of 1 m ³ of water	Monthly
Waste disposal services	m ²	0.60 KM/m ³ of business premises	0.31 EUR/m ³ of business premises	Monthly
Land line phone services	min.	Average: 0.035 KM (depending on the operator and the package)	0.018 EUR (depending on the operator and the package)	Monthly
Mobile phone services	min.	Average: 0.20 KM (depending on the operator and the package)	0.10 EUR (depending on the operator and the package)	Monthly
Internet provider services		20 - 50 KM (depending on the operator and the package)	10 - 25 EUR (depending on the operator and the package)	Monthly
Freight forwarding services		40 - 100 KM	20 - 50 KM	Per each service
Fast courier services		10 - 299 KM	5 - 150 KM	Per each service

SUPPORT PROVIDED TO INVESTORS BY ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY

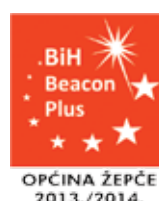
Reforms/measures implemented by the municipality to enhance the business environment



Žepče is among the first municipalities in BiH that established a **Local Economic Forum** – a public body comprised of members from both the private and public sector, which acts to advance local economic development through dialogue.

Žepče Municipality adopted the following documents:

1. Žepče Municipal Spatial Plan 2007-2027
2. Žepče Municipal Development Strategy 2007-2011
3. Žepče Municipal Development Strategy 2011-2018
4. Žepče Municipality Capital Investments Plan 2011-2014
5. Žepče Municipality Local Environmental Action Plan (LEAP) 2012-2017
6. Žepče Municipality Gender Action Plan 2011-2013



In 2013, Žepče Municipality received the Beacon Plus Award in the environmental protection category. This award is presented every year by the BiH Association of Municipalities and Cities for best practices in the local governance in BiH.

Žepče Development Agency (RAŽ)

Žepče Development Agency (RAŽ) was founded by the municipality in order to provide support to small and medium enterprises, and it offers professional and expert support to potential and active investors in all stages of their operations.



Services provided by RAŽ to investors within the One-Stop-Shop Investor Center:

- Information about the business environment in Žepče Municipality, Zenica-Doboj Canton and Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Technical support in the investment process
- Drafting of investment projects
- Linkages with partner institutions that provide start-up and job creation support
- Aftercare services for existing investors, implemented by the collaborative network of all government levels in BiH
- Information about investor support programs provided by other government levels and international institutions
- Information about procedures for issuance of the urban, construction and use permits.

The link to the Guide for the Urban, Construction and Use Permit procedures available at:

http://www.opcina-Žepče.com/images/pdf/gradj_uporab.pdf

Additional information about RAŽ services and investor support in Žepče Municipality are available at the following link: www.ražepče.com.

Other investor services provided by the municipality

Service	N° of companies providing these services in Žepče Municipality
Banks	5
Insurance companies	7
Notaries-public	2
Book-keeping agencies	10

Electronic registries with detailed overviews of permits and licences that investors in BiH, FBiH and Žepče Municipality need, together with the accompanying costs, are found on the following Internet pages:

Zenica-Doboj Canton	http://80.65.74.245:10080/eregistar/egfvwOdlukaJedinice.aspx
Federation of BiH	http://fbihvlada.gov.ba/bosanski/index.php
BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER)	http://rap.mvteo.gov.ba/egfvwOdlukaJedinice.aspx

Fiscal and non-fiscal investment incentives provided to investors on all levels of government in BiH. The list of fiscal and non-fiscal investment incentives on the level of BiH is available on the following Internet sites:

BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER)	http://www.mvteo.gov.ba/izvjestaji_publikacije/izvjestaji/default.aspx?id=6175&langTag=en-US
Foreign Investment Promotion Agency (FIPA)	http://www.fipa.gov.ba/informacije/povlastice/strani_investitori/default.aspx?id=141&langTag=en-US



MAJOR EXISTING COMPANIES



Textiles industry

- **CarTrim d.o.o** – this German investor is the greatest exporter in Žepče and the greatest employer (employing 17% of all employees in Žepče). The success of the investment by the German company CarTrim GmbH is an additional indicator of potentials of textile sector and the automotive parts and equipment sector. The plant for manufacturing leather and textile car seat covers for original installation of seats into Audi and VW passenger cars currently employs 688 workers. The current production capacity utilization is 100%, and the investment plan for 2015 envisages an expansion of the total number of employees to 1,400 and opening of another production plant in the 'Polja' Industrial Zone.
- **Bositex d.o.o. Žepče** is a rare and successful example of the transfer of ownership from a foreign investor to a local entrepreneur who continued to develop the company and today employs 50 workers in a newly constructed production plant. The company produces medical wear which is nearly 100% exported to the Swedish market.



Metal industry



- **Sliško d.o.o** is the only BiH producer of tank trailers and semi-trailers for petroleum products for the markets of BiH, Croatia and Serbia. The company also provides services (manufacturing parts and vessels) for companies in Germany, Slovenia and the Netherlands.



- **Profil-Isolation d.o.o** built a production plant for installation panels, employing 50 workers, in 2013. The major activity of the Profil-Isolation Company is manufacturing conduits and spiral pipes for ventilation, air conditioning and heating out of preinsulated poliurethan panels. The company also manufactures and installs pipeline insulation, and with the opening new plant they entered the business of installing panels and other external plastering works.



- **Elmont d.o.o** builds, equips and services gas stations, builds steel structures and performs final construction works. With around 70 employees they build gas stations for all major chains in BiH (Hifa Group) and Montenegro (Lukoil), and design steel structures for production and exhibition plants, mainly in the countries of former Yugoslavia, Austria and Germany. They represent a range of Slovenian, German, French and Italian firms, whose products they install or sell.



- **Velbos d.o.o.** located in Begov Han in Žepče Municipality, with a branch office in Sarajevo, manufactures tunnel supports, reinforcement nets, processing of ribbed reinforcement steel, and it also operates its own concrete batching plant. The decision about investing in Žepče was proven justified by major construction projects that the Velbos Company participated in, among which we would like to highlight the Republika Srpska Government Building, 'Mostarsko blato' Hydro Power Plant, BBI Center in Sarajevo. Also, there are few tunnels in Bosnia and Herzegovina or Croatia where Velbos's tunnel supports have not been installed. The company employs 70 workers.

Wood industry



- **Prograd d.o.o. Žepče** has for many years manufactured wooden fittings of highest quality, which is confirmed by quality certificates of prestigious European institutes, including the TUV NORD Group and the Italian Certification Institute CSI S.p.A, as well as by the CE marking. The state-of-the-art production plant spread over more than 6,000 m² produces wood fittings, furniture, kitchens and other wood products, which are for the most part exported to the markets of European countries, such as Italy, Germany, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro.

Useful links:

Žepče Municipality: <http://www.opcina-Žepče.com/> - Section INVEST
Žepče Development Agency: www.raŽepče.com
BEAR Microregion: www.bear.ba



STATEMENTS OF INVESTORS IN ŽEPČE MUNICIPALITY

Ivo Klarić, Manager of Teknotherm Engineering d.o.o. Žepče

„I am personally glad that the owners of the Teknotherm Group AS decided on this investment in Žepče Municipality. We are convinced that we made a good decision, both for the company and for the citizens of Žepče. It is also significant that some of the most advanced machinery in the off-shore sector will be produced here. In that way, Žepče will have a small contribution in the development of new technologies. I would also like to thank the Mayor and the municipal administration for their support during this process and I hope that our cooperation will continue to be excellent.“

Himzo Husić, Manager and Co-Owner, Tisakomerc Co, Žepče

„The Tisakomerc d.o.o. is connected with renowned German partners. The business philosophy of Tisakomerc is simple: One needs to want and to know how to do the work, and to gather the specialists who know the business, market and language. Tisakomerc has existed for 13 years and it has been successful in the wood industry.“ Manager Husić also stresses the good cooperation with the municipality: „If there is a problem, I am fortunate to know who to call, knowing that each problem will receive due attention“.

Ferid Ajan, Owner, Bositex d.o.o. Žepče

For twelve years the company manufactured medical textile products, workwear for medical professionals, hospital sheets and other textile products intended for health care institutions. Bositex sells its entire output on the Swedish market. It employs 50 workers. A new production plant was built, predominantly with the funding from own sources. Owner Ferid Ajan points out that he is satisfied with operations in Žepče Municipality and with the speed of issuance of all permits for the new plant.

**“SEIZE THE
OPPORUTNITY,
BECOME A
PARTNER OF ŽEPČE
MUNICIPALITY”**

**Investment brief developed by Žepče Development Agency (RAŽ) with a technical assistance
by BiH Investment Climate Project of the World Bank Group**