Bulgaria is situated in a strategic geographical location as a natural conductor between the countries from the Western and Central Europe and the countries from the Near East. The membership of the country in the EU and NATO produces security for the investments and access to the free market of the EU. According to Eurostat, Bulgaria's government debt is the third lowest in the EU at 27, 6% of GDP, next only to Estonia's and Luxembourg's. The euro area's total public debt stands at about 92% of Eurozone's GDP.

Since 2003, the World Bank has prepared the Doing Business Report. It assesses regulations affecting domestic firms in 189 economies and ranks the economies in 10 areas of regulation. The report provides quantitative measures of regulations for starting a business, dealing with construction permits, getting electricity, registering property, getting credit, protecting investors, paying taxes, trading across borders, enforcing contracts and resolving insolvency. In the 2015 edition Bulgaria ranks 38th out of 189 countries. The best scores that Bulgaria receives are in "protecting investors" (14th), "getting credit" (23rd), and "resolving insolvency" (38th).

Since 2005, The World Economic Forum in Davos has based its competitiveness analysis on the Global Competitiveness Index (GCI), a comprehensive tool that measures the microeconomic and macroeconomic foundations of national competitiveness. In the 2015-2016 GSI Bulgaria ranks 54th overall (out of 140), a considerable improvement compared to the 62nd place in the 2012-2013 edition and the 74th place in the 2011-2012 edition. The best scores are in "technological readiness" (38th), and "health and primary education" (53rd).

Haskovo Municipality holds many logistic advantages. It is located in the central part of South Bulgaria, on the crossroad between Europe, near and Middle East, which offers a great opportunity for the development of international, trade and cultural exchange. Across the territory of the municipality pass the high-way and railway connections to the borders of Bulgaria, which determines the successful trade with Greece and Turkey. Near the city pass the two key motorways – Trakia and Maritza and four Pan- European core transport corridors -4, 8, 9, 10.



The climate is temperate continental with Mediterranean influence. This together with other natural characteristics creates great opportunities for growing wheat, rapeseed, sesame, corn, sunflower, cotton and tobacco – one of the finest in Bulgaria. The region is also famous with its vegetables and viticulture.

The stable and predictable policy with respect to tax rates and the municipality regulation for encouragement and facilitation of the investments produce good opportunities for starting a business undertaking in the region. For the successful growth of the enterprises contributes the skilled labor force who consists of well educated and adaptable to changes employees.

In this favorable business environment a lot of industrial enterprises develop their range of activities. The most important industries for Haskovo Municipality are food industry and the industry focused on building machinery for the food production. Also important share have the manufacturers of wine and beer. On the territory of the Municipality there are many private companies specialized mainly in building machinery for the food industry, manufacturers of bread, meat and dairy products, garments and many more.

Donido JSC was founded in 1990 in Haskovo. Through the years, with quick steps, the company is entering in all technological processes of the dairy industry, combining the best traditions of the old cheese makers with the newest technologies. The design departments are supplied with contemporary 3D computer design systems which allow them to take the correct decisions in the beginning phase of the planning and to create the best option for the client. Donido is the biggest producer of equipment and lines for the Dairy Industry in Bulgaria. Contacts of the company: phones +359 38 60 65 60, +359 38 66 40 02; e-mail donido@donido.com

PIM LTD was also established in 1990 as an enterprise working on designing, manufacturing and installation of equipment made of stainless steel. The company has strengthened its positions as a leader in the production of machinery, equipment and process lines for the food Industry with long lasting presence on the Bulgarian and international market. It is specialized in the construction of large wine production plants as well as of small wineries with a capacity of 100 t grapes per season and individual requirements to the equipment. PIM also produces modern production process lines and equipment for processing of milk, process lines and equipment for production and processing of meat – mobile or stationary, depending on the customer requirements, process lines and equipment for production of chocolate products, macaroni, ketchup and mayonnaise. Contacts of the company: phones +359 038/ 664601, +359 038/ 664604; e-mail pim@pimbg.com

Rodina Haskovo JSC was established in 1947. The company has executed many projects in the country and abroad and is owner of twelve first prizes at international fairs, such as Golden Leon and World Quality Commitment. The principal activity of the company is to design, manufacture, construct and maintenance machinery and equipment for the Food Industry. The production finds its use in the wine-making, brewing, milk and meat processing industries, as well as in other sectors, connected to food and beverages. Contacts of the company: phones +359 38 624 727, +359 38 622 111; e-mail www.rodinahaskovo.com

Hidroplastform LTD was registered in 1990 with basic activities including design, implementation, manufacture, installation and maintenance in Bulgaria and abroad of complex objects and installations for the food, chemical, biotechnological, energy and pharmaceutical industries as well as non-standard equipment in accordance with the client's requirements. The company designs, manufactures and installs equipment and pressure vessels, too. Contacts of the company: phones+359 038/ 66 13 47, +359 38 66 13 48; e-mail hidroplastform@abv.bg

Kalinovi Consult LTD was founded in 1995 in Haskovo. Its mission is to offer a solution for satisfying the needs of the market of high quality services connected with full engineering in the field of food industry and ventilation and air-conditioning systems as well as the company is one of the first to offer the construction of housing installations for radiant heating and cooling in the country. Contacts of the company: phones +359/38 664670, +359 88/8004844; e-mail ivank@escom.bg

Himmash JSC is manufacturer of devices and equipment made of stainless, carbon and bimetal steal for the chemical, petroleum, biotechnological, pharmaceutical and food industry, for energetics, metallurgy and civil construction. Himmash JSC was founded 25 years ago, as all the manufactured devices and equipment are accompanied with quality passport. Himmash JSC is authorized by the competent bodies to produce pressure vessels 4th,3rd and 2nd category and steam and hot water boilers with high pressure matching the BDS, GOST, ASME, DIN, ISO, ARI650 standards. Contacts of the company: phones +359 038 / 664574; e-mail : office@himmash.com

Ronis LTD was established in 1991 and from the very beginning it is specialized in designing, manufacturing, installation, launching and tuition of single items of equipment and complex lines for primary processing of tobacco – tobacco dryers, machines for manipulation and fermentation of tobacco and preparatory industrial units of big tobacco plants. Contacts of the company: phones +359 038 622694, +359 887 523755; yeb calify: <u>http://ronis-machinery.com</u>

Ekoterm Project JSC was founded in 2008 as an exploring and research company in the field of energy efficiency and usage of renewable energy sources (alternative, innovative and ecological products and systems using wood biomass). Ekoterm Project JSC manufactures and trades with large range of high effective pellet boilers (OEM solutions), wood boilers, wood pellets and chips, pellet stoves, combined boilers of wood and pellets. The company trades with heating and air conditioning equipment and all necessary components for heating. Contacts of the company: phones +359 60 30 44, +359 38 60 30 43; e-mail donido@donido.com

Stimex LTD is specialized in designing, manufacturing and installation of technological equipment for gas stations, petrol stations, methane stations, oil terminals, reservoirs, pressure vessels and special metal constructions. The company offers complex solutions for modular stations for light fuels and propane-butane. Contacts of the company: phones +359 38 60 65 60, +359 38 66 40 02; e-mail office haskovo@ecotherm.bg

Skymont LTD is a Bulgarian company established in 1991 which offers high-quality products, loyal customer support, implementation of innovative materials and technologies in the following fields: Parts fabrication, laser cutting, punching, machining; fabrication and assembly of wearing parts HARDOX wear resisting steel; steel structure fabrication; fabrication of industrial steel equipment; assembly of steel structures, equipment and installations. Contacts of the company: phones +359 38 622999, +359 38 601079; ye6 caŭr http://www.skymont.bg/

AREA LTD is a company with twenty years of experience in the fabrication of equipment for gaming infrastructure. The enterprise has a modern fabrication unit and uses advanced technologies and materials in order to create high quality equipment and to provide attractive, funny and safe environment for the children and their parents. The combination between good design, large range of colors and safety makes the products easily recognizable and desired. Contacts of the company: phones +359 038 665 795, +359 888 273 224; e-mail area@escom.bg

In Haskovo Municipality there are enterprises from the Food Industry, too. Their trademarks are well established on the market. **Kamenitza JSC** is a leading manufacturer of beer and a market leader with a market share of 32%. The portfolio of the company includes the local brands Kamenitza, Astika, Burgasko pivo, Slavena as well as the leading world brands Stella Artois, Beck's and Staropramen. In 2016 the company transferred all the production facilities in Haskovo, due to the favorable geographical location and therefore invested 30 000 000 Euro. Contacts of the company: yeb caŭr www.kamenitza.bg

Dairy Products Trakia LTD, part of **BMK JSC** was built in 1969. At the moment the plant has the ability to process 70-90 tons of raw materials per day as it is available a complete production equipment needed for the fabrication of milk, yoghurt, cheese, ayran, milky delicacy type "Dunavia", curd and butter. Contacts of the company: phone +359 334 653, e-mail <u>bmk_haskovo_ltd@yahoo.com</u>

Deroni LTD, founded in February 1991, today has the reputation of a leading company in its branch in Bulgaria and for the people it is a symbol of high quality, ecologically clear and tasty products. The company produces over 200 items, products of its own brands: ketchup, "lutenitza", sauces, puree, ready for consummation meals, canned vegetables (cucumbers, roasted peppers, eggplant, and salads), sterilized mushrooms, mayonnaise, mustard, soy sauce, and macaroni. Contacts of the company: phones +359 38 661 167, +359 38 661 168; e-mail <u>deroni@deroni.com</u>

One of the possibilities for investments in Haskovo Municipality is establishment of industrial zone on the territory of military airport "Uzundjovo" that is no longer in use. "Uzundjovo" industrial zone covers a territory of 3 600 acres. It is located 4 km away from the town of Haskovo and around 8 km away from the town of Dimitrovgrad, as well as 3 km away from Uzundjovo village. It features flat terrain with an excellent engineering infrastructure. There is a gas main nearby, 5 km away from "Uzundjovo" Industrial zone is "Maritza" highway (Transport corridor 4) as well as railway line. The zone is located 1 km away from Ruse-Kardzali main road, which is part of the track of transport corridor 9.

Haskovo Municipality is committed to cooperate with any potential investors and provide them with fast and reliable administrative services. Purchasing terrains within the zone is allowed for companies registered in Bulgaria, or with partially Bulgarian involvement.