



Benzina opens first filling station in Slovakia

Benzina, the largest network of filling stations in the Czech Republic, has opened its first outlet in Slovakia.

At the Benzina station in Malacky, Slovak drivers can now refuel additivated and purifying fuels Efecta 95 and Efecta Diesel, as well as premium fuels Verva 100 and Verva Diesel.

The newly opened Benzina station in Malacky is a refurbished site taken over from its previous operator. It should not remain alone for long because it is Benzina's strategic objective to build as wide a network of filling stations in Slovakia as possible. Expansion will primarily include cooperation with minor filling station operators, but the company is also open to acquisitions of larger chains.

"Our investment in Slovakia will be implemented on a long-term basis. We will proceed step by step and we are convinced that we will become one of the major players on the Slovak market. Having ten outlets by the end of the year would be a great success, but for us, compliance with the designed business model is more important than a high pace of development," says Tomasz Wiatrak, Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Unipetrol Group who is in charge of the retail segment.

The refurbishment of the newly opened facility in Malacky included the renovation of the entire technological facilities, including tanks, pipes and façade of the shop. Brand new pumps were installed as well as a modern information pole in the typical Benzina design.

Benzina is re-entering Slovakia after 15 years. The brand alone was born in the then Czechoslovakia in 1953 when the Ministry of Chemical Industry used this brand to replace the original name, Benzinol, used for filling stations since 1949 when nationalisation took place, creating a single state-controlled network.