



Ostrava, the third largest city in the Czech Republic, is situated in the northeast of the country and forms the heart of the Moravian-Silesian region. The first written documentation about the city originates from 1267. The city was established along the so-called Amber Trail, used by traders as the main route connecting the Baltic Sea to the Mediterranean Sea. The discovery of coal in the 2nd half of the 18th century was to be a turning point in the history of the area, which would

become an important European centre for the production of steel. Ostrava lost its heavy industrial appearance long ago. Coal mining in the city came to an end in 1994. Even though there are still several heavy industry companies operating within the vicinity of the city, Ostrava and the Moravian-Silesian region are now focusing on new strategic opportunities in the area of ICT and automotive industry.

The higher education in technical and economic fields of study in the region was traditionally provided by **VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava** that was founded in 1849. Since then the university has grown into a modern institution offering the highest levels of education. Study and research at VŠB-TUO are historically formed by close ties with major international companies, as well as by joint research and mobility programmes with university partners from all over the world. VŠB-TUO is the fourth largest university in Czech Republic with over 20,000 students studying in bachelor, master and doctoral degree programs in seven faculties and four all-university study programmes.



In order to keep up with the trends in ICT the **IT4Innovations National Supercomputing Centre** was founded as



one of the research institutes of the VŠB – Technical University of Ostrava. The centre was established mainly thanks to European funds, namely the Operational Programme Research and Development for Innovation. It operates the most powerful HPC infrastructure in the Czech Republic. The first system Anselm was installed into temporary mobile units on the university grounds in spring 2013 and a petaflop-class system named Salomon was installed in the first half of 2015. With its theoretical peak performance of 2 PETAFLOPS Salomon surpasses Anselm almost twentyfold. Computational resources of the centre are primarily dedicated to academic and research institutions. Open access

competition is announced regularly three times a year for employees of all research institutions, scientific and educational organizations. Part of the capacity is dedicated for development of collaboration between academia and industry, or for industry itself. In addition to operating the HPC infrastructure, the centre is conducting research in the field of HPC (High Performance Computing) and embedded systems. Since its establishment the centre is a member of the European research infrastructure PRACE.

