

## TWIN CITIES AND BUSINESS

**The City of Kalmar is strengthening trade and industry contacts in Poland, the Baltic states, Germany, Hungary and USA. The network offers contact persons for enterprises. The work is based on twin city cooperation and business offices.**

### Twin city cooperation

Kalmar is effectively using twin city contacts for business cooperation. Twin city cooperation Kalmar-Panevėpys and Kristianstad-Điauliai is extended to business development in a common project of these four cities. The activities consist of SME business partneriats and training of SME leaders. A special point of interest is the business climate. This project named Four Cities is lead by the chambers of commerce, SME organisations and city business development departments.

In addition to the Four Cities project Kalmar is developing business contacts with other twin cities too. An interesting view is the possibility to create fruitful contacts between USA and Europe by using the contacts between Kalmar and the American twin city Wilmington.

### Business offices

Kalmar has opened business offices in Gdańsk and in Rostock. The offices make it easier for companies in Sweden, Poland and Germany to develop their contacts with companies in the other country. They help with translations, interpreting, advice, market analyses, bookings, meeting rooms, various arrangements and networking. The next office will be opened in Panevėpys - using the concept developed in Gdańsk and Rostock.



## FERRY TRAFFIC IS BOOMING IN THE PORT OF ROSTOCK

**The Port of Rostock expects to turn over more than 19 million tonnes of cargo in 1998.**

Top Rostock handler in 1997 remained ferry traffic. Six and a half million tonnes moved through the port, one million tonnes more than previously, while passenger totals rose by 228 000 to 1 735 000. Main connections with passenger traffic were Denmark and Sweden.

In 1997 altogether 7 720 ships called at the 41 berths in the port of Rostock. Cargo handling totalled 19 million tonnes. Ferries moved 34% of all cargo, second largest was bulk cargo like coal, ores and grain, and third on the list were liquid cargo imports/exports. Combined transport played a big part in the good ferry results.

The Port Administration Company invested DM 34 million in infrastructure improvements in 1997.

Examples are the construction of new berth to tankers, the completion of highway linking of the ferry terminal with the Rostock-Berlin motorway and a multi-functional berth facility for ro-ro and ferry ships.

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## TECHNOLOGY DRIVES TAMPERE

**Tampere has started an ambitious plan of developing Internet and medical technology.**

The city of Tampere has built an information highway on the Internet. The programme comprises public information, feedback facilities and 24h municipal services. The number of Internet users is booming: from 66,000 visits on website in December 1995 till 400,000 visits monthly two years later. In the city 380,000 computers are connected to the Internet and 10% of the population is using the Internet at least once a week.

Moreover, software companies are networking to arrange post-graduate training and IT businesses in the region are considering the possibility of establishing a joint media centre in Tampere.

As well as Internet technology the Finn-Medi medical technology centre is

growing fast. The extension of 45 mln FIM, which represents a 3% increase in the centre's current capacity, is scheduled for completion next year. The extension will house health technology businesses, a business incubator, development facilities for research and information systems for Tampere's university hospital.

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