

We hope that this edition of the Malaga Open For Business Newsletter inspires you.



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Newsletter

for Business and Investment in Malaga, Spain



Malaga at a Glance

1st Spanish national Digital Content Hub officially opened in Malaga on June 6. This Center for Excellence, called "Polo de Contenidos Digitales" in Spanish, is equipped with the latest technologies in 3D animation, virtual reality and graphic design. It has more than 6,000 m2 on 2 floors divided into recording studios, eSports video gaming stadiums, animation and graphic design centers, virtual reality experimentation rooms, 3D-printer laboratory, demonstration showrooms, training rooms, a Fablab, coworking spaces, business accelerators and offices. It designed for animation & graphic designers, sound technicians, videogame enthusiasts, filmmakers, photographers, entrepreneurs, researchers, companies and students. 60 projects & 200 people are already working there. Training institutions such as Genera Games, Animun, Ozone / Versus, Medina Media, the University of Malaga and the School of Industrial Organization (EOI) are involved & have a capacity to train 2,000 people per year.



 **Grant Thornton**
An instinct for growth


new balance


Sundor
SUSTAINABLE ECONOMY


HUAWEI

 **rindus**

Latest Arrivals

Chinese mobile phone company **Huawei**, one of the leading brands in the world, opened a customer service center in Malaga. It is the second of its kind in Spain and the fifth in European along with Berlin, Madrid, Milan and Rome. In this new center, expert staff will resolve software and hardware issues while at the same time users will be able to participate in workshops, to learn about new technologies and to get the most out of their Huawei products.

Grant Thornton's audit, consulting, tax and financial services company inaugurated its Andalusian headquarters in Malaga. This office marks the beginning of a new stage in the company and demonstrates the continued growth that the company has experienced in the last 15 years. Grant Thornton Malaga has evolved into a full multidisciplinary firm that has incorporated audit, financial, business and technological consulting services.

rindus GmbH from Hamburg, Germany recently opened an office in Malaga. The company provides software developers, product managers, project managers & quality assurance experts to clients seeking to accelerate development and growth.

The U.S brand of sportswear and footwear **New Balance** opens its first store in Andalusia in Malaga which is only its 3rd store in Spain.

engineers, architects and software developers form companies such as Google, Microsoft, Oracle, Valo and Twitter where in Malaga May 17-19 for A Big Data Conference. During the various workshops, topics included the new programming paradigms and languages of the JVM and .Net, distributed computing systems, the Internet of Things, streaming platforms and databases. New this year, there was a collaborative software development challenge that consisted of hacking the event itself with information collected through sensors that were installed in the different rooms and spaces.



Malaga Innovation Festival (MIF) - This first edition of [MIF](#) brought together over 8,000 participants from around the world during the week of June 5-11 in which more than 30 events, congresses, fairs and meetings were held around the city. Innovation being the unifying theme, the different events focused on topics such as smart cities, drones, 3D virtual reality digital content, entrepreneurship, electric mobility, gaming, social innovation and business angel investing.

8th Green Cities: [Forum Urban Intelligence and Sustainability](#) - brought together more than 3,400 participants, 900 speakers and 489 exhibiting companies from 38 countries June 7-8 in Malaga to discuss current urban challenges. Experts presented best practices, new solutions and innovative tools to help municipal leaders more efficiently provide services, manage their resources and create a Smart City.

Hi!Drone: [1st Drone Technology Fair of Andalusia](#) – June 7-8 more than 2,900 visitors participated in this unique fair dedicated to the latest innovations in the drone or unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV)

operating a direct flight between Tel Aviv, Israel and Malaga on May 28.

Promotional Trips

Manchester, UK - We participated in the 17th edition of the European Shared Services and Outsourcing Conference (SSOW 2017) on May 15-18. Topics discussed included outsourcing services, site selection, continuous process improvement, data analysis and automated robotics processes. The congress registered over 650 delegates representing multinational companies as AIG, BASF, BNP Paribas, Bosch, Coca Cola, Dropbox, Google, Honeywell, Levis-Strauss, Lloyds, Kraft-Heinz, Philips, Rolls Royce, Shell, Siemens, Swarovski, Thyssenkrupp, Twitter, Unilever, Vodafone and Walmart. Apart from attending visitors in our stand, we maintained a busy agenda of professional meetings with executives from multinational companies and presented the benefits of doing business in Malaga.



Kenitra, Morocco – The Mayor of Malaga presented his urban model to Kenitra authorities, a city located 40 kms north of Rabat & one of the fastest growing in Morocco. Along with him, the Chancellor of the University of Malaga, the head of the foreign trade department at the Malaga Chamber of Commerce and 12 Malaga business people from various sectors such as construction, distribution, cleaning, lighting, environmental studies, sports or consulting traveled to Kenitra. The Mayors of Malaga & Kenitra signed a "Strategic Alliance" agreement between the two cities to build institutional and business relationship.

presentations and success stories of emerging companies. In addition, it held 300 networking meetings and practical activities such as live drone flights and workshops.



The **European Business Angels Network (EBAN)** Annual Congress was held in Malaga June 7-9. Renowned experts participated in lectures, workshops and round tables for investors and entrepreneurs. More than 130 startups had the opportunity to present their projects and commercial ideas to 300 business angel investors. Some won prizes, others obtained investments and everyone received excellent advice.

'The Financial Times' ranked local startup **Freepik** as the fastest growing European company in the media sector and number 23 out of 1,000 across all sectors, according to its recently published global ranking. Freepik provides royalty free graphic resources, vectors, PSD, icons and photos through a subscription based model. They are partnered with stock photography giant, Shutterstock. The company was founded in 2012 and currently employs 60 professionals in Malaga and collaborates with 260 designers in remote locations around the world. Last year, Freepik had revenue of 8 million dollars and is projected to have 12 million in revenue this year.

Interesting Reads

[Foreign direct investment in Spain grew by 36% in 2016](#)

[Two friends living in Newcastle and Birmingham met up in Malaga](#)

Visitors

We had business people visit us from Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, China, Denmark, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Morocco, Netherlands, Poland,



London, UK - We participated in the Gartner Sourcing & Strategic Vendor Relationships Summit May 22-23. It is one of the main events for the ICT outsourcing sector. 300 executives from large multinational companies attended sessions on best practices for outsourcing and continuous process improvement. During the inaugural speech, a Gartner expert explained how it will be important for medium-sized cities to position themselves in the new economy. He then highlighted the international big data and Java event "J on the Beach" that recently took place in Malaga and how that helps to improve the attractiveness of Malaga as a "cool" business destination.

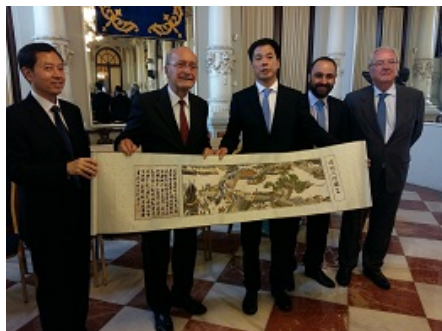
Lublin, Poland - We participate in one of the two annual congresses of the EUniverCities network May 30 to June 1. It is a European network in which 14 medium-sized cities and their universities work together to share experiences, strategies, projects, problem solving, know-how and ideas. All the participating cities/universities have a similar goal, which is to attract and retain talented people to their respective cities as well as create innovative ecosystems with business incubators, support entrepreneurs and make the city more attractive for international investments.

By the Numbers

8% increase in total combined revenue (1.8 billion euros), 5.97 % increase in workers (17,776 workers) and 26.44 % increase in investments in R&D (76.6 million euros) in 2016 for the 635 companies at the Andalusian Technological Park.

12 € per m2 is the average cost of office space in Malaga. Currently, the City offers 600,000 m2 of office space concentrated in 4 areas: historical center, the business district, periphery & Andalusian Technological Park.

special visits from the Norwegian Ambassador, the Israel Ambassador and a delegation from Shenzhen “iPhone city” China.



2016.

Upcoming Events

July 21-23	Gamepolis: V Videogame weekend festival
Sept. 14-17	Eisenhower Fellowships Global Conference on the Future of Work
Oct. 18-20	XIX Japan-Spain Forum
Oct. 21	TEDx Malagueta
Nov. 16-17	Spanish-Germany B2B meeting
Nov. 21-22	IMEX Inpluso Exterior Andalucía

Foreign Business Groups

American International Club	Internations Malaga Chapter
Asociacion Comercio Chino Andalucia	Irish Association of Spain
New & Foreign Residents of Malaga (ANREM)	Malaga Business & Networking
British Association Marbella	Malaga Business Minds
British Chamber of Commerce	Malaga International Group
Business Breakfast Club (Velez-Malaga)	Malaga Makers Startup Community
Business First Group	Malaga Valley Emprendedores / Entrepreneurs
Costa Woman	Marbella Dutch Business Club
English Speaking Club Málaga	Marbella Open City
Guiri Business: Professional network for foreigners	The Business Group Spain (Mijas)
International Club Estepona	ToastMasters Malaga Chapter
	Trusted Trades

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Ayuntamiento de Málaga

Área de Gobierno para la Reactivación Económica, la Promoción Empresarial y el Fomento del Empleo
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