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## Grupa Azoty recognised by ICIS and Boston Consulting Group

As the first company from Central and Eastern Europe, Grupa Azoty has made it to the ICIS Top 40 Power Players listing 40 most influential executives on the global chemical market.

Grupa Azoty has also been named one of the global chemical sector's most attractive companies for investors, according to the Boston Consulting Group, an international consultancy.

**ICIS TOP40 POWER PLAYERS**Represented by CEO Paweł Jarczewski, Grupa Azoty has been placed 32nd in the ICIS ranking, just behind Klaus Engel, CEO of Germany's Evonik, and ahead of Graham van't Hoff, Executive Vice President of Shell Chemicals. ICIS has recognised Grupa Azoty's dynamic growth and high quality of management, emphasising in its rationale that the company's market capitalisation in 2015 has for the first time surpassed PLN 10bn (EUR 2.4bn) and that Grupa Azoty has consistently delivered solid financial performance, with stable cash flows and a 'healthy' balance sheet. "This is a true honour for the whole Grupa Azoty family – not only for the parent's Management Board, but also for all the companies that have joined Grupa Azoty in the ongoing consolidation of the Polish chemical sector," said Grupa Azoty CEO Paweł Jarczewski.This special distinction has been awarded to Grupa Azoty by the Independent Chemical Information Service (ICIS) – a leading provider of intelligence on the petrochemical market. Dubbed 'the chemical industry's Bloomberg', ICIS has a staff of more than 800, including 350 journalists and analysts, based in 16 offices around the world, and offers detailed analyses into all aspects of the chemical industry. The complete ranking can be found in the latest edition of ICIS Chemical Business, which is available online at <u>websiteof ICIS</u>.

**BOSTON CONSULTING GROUP's Value Creation in Chemicals 2015**Grupa Azoty has also been included in the Boston Consulting Group's list of the world's ten chemical companies recognised as the most attractive for investors.Controlled by the Polish State Treasury, Grupa Azoty has been placed 5th in the ranking (2nd in Europe), which is headed by Swedish company Hexpol, followed by Japan's Nippon Paint and China's Pengxin International Mining.The Value Creation in Chemicals 2015 report has been compiled based on Total Shareholder Returns (TSRs), which take into account dividends paid and share price movements. At a staggering 41%, Grupa Azoty (in common with other Polish companies) has delivered an above-average TSR over the last five years, compared with the chemical market's median TSR of 13%. The position of Polish players in the ranking is testament to the successful transformation of Poland's chemical sector in recent years, which has been possible thanks to investments in state-of-the-art technologies and a well-executed integration process accompanied by efficiency improvements. It is difficult for global companies to deliver satisfactory results, particularly if they have made substantial investments in emerging markets. Located at the very heart of Europe, with access to trade routes and a robust economy, Poland is a stable and promising market. According to the report's authors, Western companies investing in China, Latin America and Asia Pacific, faced with an economic slowdown, will have to revise their strategies.The authors stress that for a company to succeed in the chemical industry it must

get closer to local markets, be open to fast-paced change and further decentralise its decision-making. A global consulting firm and advisor on business strategy, The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) partners with clients from the private, public, and not-for-profit sectors in all regions of the world to identify their highest-value opportunities, address their most critical challenges, and transform their enterprises. Founded in 1963, BCG is a private company with 82 offices in 46 countries. For the complete report, see the <u>Boston Consulting Group</u> website.