**Colt CZ Group SE**

Press Kit

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# About Colt CZ Group SE

Colt CZ Group SE, together with its subsidiaries, is one of the world’s leading manufacturers of firearms and tactical accessories for military and law enforcement, personal defense, hunting, sport shooting and other commercial use. Its products are marketed and sold mainly under the Colt, CZ (Česká zbrojovka), Colt Canada, CZ-USA, Dan Wesson, Brno Rifles and 4M Systems brands. The Group includes companies such as Colt, Česká zbrojovka, Colt Canada, CZ-USA, Spuhr i Dalby, swissAA, 4M Systems, Brno Rifles and Colt CZ Defence Solutions.

Colt CZ is headquartered in the Czech Republic and has production facilities in the Czech Republic, the United States, Canada, and Sweden. It currently employs more than 2,000 people in the Czech Republic, United States, Canada, Germany, and Sweden. Colt CZ is owned by Česká zbrojovka Partners SE from 76.2%, with the remaining 23.8% being a free float.

Colt CZ was founded in 2013 as CZG – Česká zbrojovka Group SE. However, its history dates back to 1936 when the Česká zbrojovka firearms factory was established in Uherský Brod. The factory was built prior to WWII by the Czechoslovak state with the strategic aim of moving firearms production further away from the German border. It was one of the largest and most modern armaments production facilities in Europe. The factory’s production of a full range of firearms started to develop gradually after WWII, resulting in strong product positioning in the major segments of the firearms market.

In 1997, CZ-USA was established in the United States to handle local distribution, sales, and service of firearms. In 2001, René Holeček became one of the two key shareholders of the Group. In 2004, Česká zbrojovka acquired the firearms division of Zbrojovka Brno and, subsequently, it acquired Dan Wesson Firearms through CZ-USA in 2005. In 2014, René Holeček became the controlling majority shareholder of the Group. A year later, in 2015, the Group acquired a majority stake in 4M Systems, which it gradually increased to 100%. 4M Systems supplies tactical equipment. In 2018, the Group acquired a stake in Vibrom, a company specialized in MIM technology. In 2020, the Group acquired a minority stake in Spuhr i Dalby AB, a Swedish manufacturer of optical mounting solutions for firearms.

In October 2020, the Group completed a public offering of its shares on the Prague Stock Exchange. In May 2021, the Group acquired a 100% stake in Colt Holding Company LLC, the parent company of the US arms manufacturer Colt’s Manufacturing Company LLC, as well as its Canadian subsidiary Colt Canada Corporation. In April 2022, the Group changed its name from CZG - Česká zbrojovka Group SE to Colt CZ Group SE to reflect the expansion and integration of the Group and to emphasize the importance of both key brands, Colt and CZ (Česká zbrojovka). In October 2022, the Group completed the acquisition of the remaining 100% stake in Spuhr i Dalby.

In June 2023, the Group acquired 100% stake in swissAA Holding AG, a manufacturer of ammunition and technologies for the armed forces, which specializes in in small caliber ammunition and 40 mm grenade launcher ammunition. Therefore, Colt CZ Group has expanded into the ammunition manufacturing segment.

# Company history

**1836** Samuel Colt obtained a patent for the Colt Paterson revolver

**1936** The beginning of the production of firearms in Uherský Brod

**1997** CZ-USA established in the United States (importer of Česká zbrojovka products to the USA)

**2001** René Holeček became one of the key shareholders of Česká zbrojovka

**2004** Zbrojovka Brno acquisition (manufacturer of hunting rifles and provider of customized solutions)

**2005** Dan Wesson acquisition (American gun manufacturer)

**2014** René Holeček became the majority shareholder of the company

**2015** Acquisition of a majority stake in 4M Systems (manufacturer of tactical equipment for the armed forces)

**2018** Acquisition of a stake in Vibrom (technological manufacturer)

**2020** Framework agreement with the Army of the Czech Republic

**2020** Acquisition of a stake in Spuhr i Dalby (Swedish manufacturer of optical mounting solutions for arms)

**2020** Launch of the Group’s shares on the Prime Market of the Prague Stock Exchange

**2021** Acquisition of 100% stake in Colt

**2022** Change of the Group name to Colt CZ Group SE

**2022** Acquisition of the remaining stake in Spuhr i Dalby

**2023** Acquisition of 100% stake in swissAA Holding AG

# Company management

## Board of Directors

Jan Drahota, Chairman of the Board

* President of Colt CZ
* More than 15 years of experience in investment banking
* In Colt CZ since 2014

Josef Adam, Vice-Chairman of the Board

* Corporate secretary
* Responsible for legal, compliance and risk management
* In Colt CZ since 2021

Jan Holeček, Member of the Board

* Sales director of Colt CZ
* Experience in the field of marketing and trade
* In Colt CZ since 2017

Dennis Veilleux, Member of the Board

* CEO of Colt Holding Company LLC of Colt CZ
* More than 35 years in armaments industry
* In Colt CZ since 2021

Jan Zajíc, Member of the Board

* CEO of Česká zbrojovka
* More than 15 years of experience in managerial position in industrial companies in the Czech Republic and abroad
* In Colt CZ since 2019

David Aguilar, Member of the Board

* Independent and non-executive member of the Board of Directors
* 35 years of experience with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the United States Border Patrol
* In Colt CZ since 2016

## Supervisory Board

David Aguilar, Chairman of the Supervisory Board

* Independent and non-executive member of the Board of Directors
* 35 years of experience with U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the United States Border Patrol
* In Colt CZ since 2016

Lubomír Kovařík, Vice-Chairman of the Supervisory Board

* President of Colt CZ in years 2018-2021
* Former CEO of Česká zbrojovka in years 2006-2017
* In Colt CZ since 2006

René Holeček, Vice-Chairman of the Supervisory Board

* experience from executive positions in Komerční banka and Pragobanka
* participation in landmark privatization of Třinecké železárny
* majority owner of the Company

Vladimír Dlouhý, Member of the Supervisory Board

* Former Minister of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic
* More than 20 years of experience in the field of investment advice in Czech and foreign companies
* Member of the Trilateral Commission

Jana Růžičková

* Secretary of Colt CZ in years 2020-2021
* More than 15 years in managerial and executive positions
* In Colt CZ since 2015

## North America Leadership

General (Ret.) George Casey, Member of the Board of Directors, CZ-US Holdings

* Former US Army Chief of Staff in years 2007-2011
* Deep knowledge of the military and a demonstrated history of leadership in the armed forces, academia, the non-profit sector and industry

JoAnne McCormick, CEO, Colt Canada

* Over 23 years of business experience managing people, projects, departments and businesses in manufacturing, technology and distribution

Jean-Louis Vanderstraeten, Member of the Board of Directors, CZ-US Holdings

* Over 40 years of experience in Defense Contracting, business Planning, Operations Management and Corporate Finance

## 3.4 Audit Committee

Věslava Piegzová, Chairman of the Audit Committee

David Ondroušek, Member of the Audit Committee

Jiří Nekovář, Member of the Audit Committee

# Structure and brands of the Company

The company's portfolio consists of several brands and subsidiaries, in particular:

**Colt**

Colt is one of the world’s leading designers, developers, and manufacturers of firearms. It has supplied commercial, military and law enforcement customers in the U.S. and throughout the world for over 185 years. Colt is a supplier to the U.S. military, the exclusive supplier to the Canadian military and it also supplies its products to other military and law enforcement agencies around the world. Colt is located in West Hartford, Connecticut.

**Česká zbrojovka**

Česká zbrojovka is the main European production facility of the Group, located in Uherský Brod, Czech Republic. It produces firearms for commercial, military and law enforcement customers worldwide. The company exports products to more than 90 countries. Currently, Česká zbrojovka’s firearms are widely used by military and law enforcement agencies in more than 40 countries worldwide.

**Colt Canada**

Colt Canada is a subsidiary of the US arms manufacturer Colt. It has supplied Military and Law Enforcement customers in Canada and throughout the world for over 45 years. As the Canadian Small Arms Centre of Excellence, Colt Canada is the exclusive supplier to the Canadian military. It is located in Kitchener, Ontario.

**CZ-USA**

CZ-USA is based in Kansas City, Kansas, U.S. and it is owned by the Group through its subsidiary CZ-US HOLDINGS. CZ-USA mainly imports its products from the Group’s production facility in the Czech Republic, but it also imports CZ-USA Field Sport shotguns from Turkey.

**Dan Wesson**

With the acquisition of the American handgun manufacturer Dan Wesson in 2005, the Group expanded its portfolio of handguns with the addition of revolvers and the popular 1911-type pistol model. Thanks to its long history and specialization in revolvers, Dan Wesson is considered an upmarket brand in the United States

**Spuhr i Dalby AB**

Spuhr is a Swedish manufacturer of optical mounting solutions for firearms located in Löddeköpinge, Sweden. Spuhr’s product portfolio consists of optical mounts, accessories and upgrade kits for firearms, making it highly complementary to Colt CZ’s core business. The Spuhr mounts and accessories are used by many military and law enforcement units around the world. Spuhr also offers a popular hunting series of products.

**swissAA**

SwissAA is a producer of ammunition and law enforcement technology, specialized in small caliber ammunition, specifically 5.56 mm, 7.62 mm, 9 mm, and 12.7 mm, as well as 40 mm grenade launcher ammunition. SwissAA is a partner of the Swiss, Belgian, German and other European armed forces. The company holds several patents for ammunition and consists of several 100% owned subsidiaries located in Switzerland and Hungary.

**4M Systems**

4M Systems is a fully owned subsidiary, based in Prague, Czech Republic. 4M Systems operations include the design, production and sale of tactical equipment for customers including the military, police, customs, prison service and border guards. 4M Systems enhances the ability of the Group to offer its customers a broader scope of products in complex orders, such as complete rearmaments.

**Zbrojovka Brno**

Zbrojovka Brno is a fully owned subsidiary of Česká zbrojovka, based in Brno, Czech Republic. Zbrojovka Brno used to be an independent firearms producer with its own rich production history. It was acquired by the Group in 2004. Zbrojovka Brno currently mainly produces hunting rifles and provides customized solutions for Group clients.

**CZ Defence Solutions**

CZ Defence Solutions is a fully owned subsidiary of the Group, based in Uherský Brod, Czech Republic. The company specializes in the international trade of military equipment, materiel and munition for the Military and Law Enforcement clients. It also provides related services, such as training and support throughout the entire lifecycle of the delivered products and technologies. CZ Defence Solutions prepares a project proposal based on the Mil/LE client’s requirements for firearms, tactical equipment, and ammunition and ensures a complete delivery.

**EG-CZ Academy**

EG-CZ Academy is a modern, indoor shooting range complex being built in Quimper, France. The project started in cooperation with Eric Grauffel, seven times world champion and IPSC (International Practical Shooting Confederation) legend to promote the shooting sport and raise awareness about the gun safety. The Academy hosts various events, competitions and courses all around the globe, bringing together world ‘s top shooters and high-end products of Česká zbrojovka.

**CARDAM**

CARDAM is a unique research and development center that focuses on the implementation of new technically and technologically advanced solutions and products using additive metal production. CARDAM provides applied research and development services, a complete engineering solution for creating new applications and manufacturing processes, helping companies create the necessary knowledge and know-how in the new area of additive design and manufacturing. CARDAM is a joint venture of the Institute of Physics of the Academy of Sciences of the Czech Republic and the industrial companies Beneš a Lát and Colt CZ.

**Vibrom**

Vibrom is based in Třebechovice pod Orebem in the Czech Republic and specializes in powder injection molding (PIM), MIM (metal) and CIM (ceramic powder) technologies. Thanks to the strategic connection of Colt CZ with Vibrom, it is possible to ensure close cooperation between production and research and development units, as the number of MIM parts in firearms is still growing.

# 2022 Financial highlights

* The Group’s revenues in 2022 amounted to CZK 14,589.8 million, which is on the upper end of the indicated guidance. This amount represents an increase of 36.5% y-o-y. The main reasons for the increase are higher number of sold firearms and an improved product mix as well as the consolidation of Colt’s revenues.
* In 2022, the adjusted EBITDA net of extraordinary items reached CZK 3,365.3 million, up by 55.2% y-o-y.
* The 2022 net profit after tax reached CZK 2,034.2 million, which is 167.5% more compared to the same period in 2021.
* The 2022 adjusted net profit after tax reached CZK 2,280.5 million, which is 96.4% more compared to the same period in 2021.
* The number of firearms sold in 2022 increased by 10.5% compared to the same period in 2021, reaching almost 700 thousand units sold.
* The Board of Directors will propose a dividend pay-out of CZK 30 per share to the General Meeting for its approval, with an option to choose between cash payment and stock dividend.

The following table shows the breakdown of the Group’s revenues for the reported periods by region.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| (in CZK thousand) | FY 2022 | FY 2021 | Change in % | Share on total revenues 2022 in % |
| Czech Republic | 1,926,379 | 824,128 | 133.7% | 13.2% |
| USA | 6,983,933 | 6,248,038 | 11.8% | 47.9% |
| Canada | 1,773,822 | 551,509 | 221.6% | 12.2% |
| Europe (excl. the Czech Republic) | 1,584,169 | 1,053,754 | 50.3% | 10.9% |
| Africa | 243,317 | 752,850 | (67.7%) | 1.7% |
| Asia | 1,483,412 | 727,426 | 103.9% | 10.2% |
| Other | 594,742 | 531,222 | 12.0% | 4.1% |
| **Total** | 14,589,774 | 10,688,927 | 36.5% | 100.0% |

# Contact for media

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