

Amazon says to open two Czech centres

October 22 2013



Employees pack parcels at the logistics centre of Amazon in Bad Hersfeld, central Germany, on December 20, 2010

US online giant Amazon said Tuesday it would open two distribution centres in the Czech Republic by the end of 2014, a month after its German employees went on strike over pay.

The centres are a response to increased demand across Europe, Amazon said in a statement, adding that it chose the Czech Republic for its prime location in the heart of Europe and not far from key markets.



The company said earlier this month that it would open three logistics centres in Poland by 2015, creating 6,000 new jobs.

The Czech centres will open near the capital Prague and the second city Brno, creating 4,000 new jobs plus 6,000 extra hires around Christmas.

Amazon already has a centre near Prague's international airport, along with more than 20 distribution centres in seven European countries.

Several hundred employees of Amazon's German centres went on strike last month after the company refused to bring pay into line with comparable work in the distribution sector. Walkouts were also held in May and June.

It employs 9,000 people in Germany at eight logistics centres, two customer service centres and at the German headquarters in the southern city of Munich.

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Citation: Amazon says to open two Czech centres (2013, October 22) retrieved 18 April 2024 from https://phys.org/news/2013-10-amazon-czech-centres.html

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