

# THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN FLANDERS

## Facts about Flanders

- Flanders covers 44.8% of Belgium's 30,528 km<sup>2</sup> and accounts for some 60% of the total population. The region provides 60% of the national GDP
- Flanders is located at the centre of the wealthiest and most populated area of Europe. Its neighbours are France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and, across the Channel, the UK. The second Belgian region, to the south of Flanders is Walloonia
- The leading sectors in the Flanders economy are chemicals and plastics, automotive, life sciences, logistics and food. Textiles used to be very important in the West of Flanders.
- Flanders has four ports, including Antwerp the world's fifth largest, Europe's 5th ranked freight airport, inland waterways, and one of the world's highest density networks of road and rail.
- Brussels is the capital of both Flanders and Belgium as well as the administrative capital of the European Union. It is one of the most cost-effective cities in northern Europe with an index rating of 87.2 using New York as the base at 100.  
(Source: Mercer Human Resource Consulting, Cost of Living Survey 2005)

More about Flanders on:

<http://www.flanders.be>, <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Flanders> or <http://www.visitflanders.com>

