Fintech



Explore Czech Fintech Innovators and Online Banking Pioneers.





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57 offices operating in 66 countries Worldwide

About CzechTrade

The Czech Trade Promotion Agency is proud to present the Czech fintech sector.

The goal of this brochure is to inform interested foreigners about the trade and manufacturing potential of the fintech sector in the Czech Republic. Take the companies mentioned in this brochure as a sample listing, which will help you to formulate a better picture of the specific field.

If you are interested in more information on Czech companies, please contact: supplier@czechtrade.cz

CzechTrade is the governmental trade promotion agency of the Czech Republic established by the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Its main objective is to develop international trade and cooperation between businesses in the Czech Republic and around the world. Wherever in the world you are, the agency is your official contact partner when looking for qualified Czech-based companies.

- More than 25 years of professional partnership
- Free, mainly customised services
- 57 offices operating worldwide
- Excellent overview of Czech companies and their business potential



The perfect way to find your business partners

Sourcing Days / Tailored events to meet your needs

Specify your product/service requirements, define the qualifications required for your potential product and service supplier, and we will arrange one-to-one meetings followed by company visits in the Czech Republic. This service saves you time:

- Precise knowledge of Czech manufacturers and their production potential
- Custom market screening we identify potential suppliers according to your requirements
- Supplier shortlist after reviewing each applicant's profile, you can select the companies you wish to meet
- All-inclusive package from providing meeting rooms to accompanying you to the companies' premises, we cover it all.

Czech Exporters Directory



Official online database of Czech exporters and the simplest tool to help you find potential business partners in the Czech Republic.

Czech Business Partner Search

If you are looking for a partner to assist you with production or you need a service provider, you can approach our experts with your specific request. CzechTrade will gladly help you to get in touch with the relevant Czech companies.



with our representative



Online form

BusinessInfo.cz

The official business portal helping foreign businesses navigate the Czech business environment.



Current information on its website about the conditions for business. investment and trade opportunities on its website.



The Czech Fintech Association, founded in 2016, aims to support innovation in the financial sector, co-create a regulatory environment for its development, and thus promote an economy without barriers, paper and cash. The association holds expert working groups, organises networking and expert events, and is a contact point for innovators, investors, regulators and business partners.



The association is also active on the European stage, being a member of the European Digital Finance Association (EDFA), which helps it to gain an overview of developments in the industry, but also to influence and shape it together.

czechfintech.cz/en



The Czech Fintech Sector

The Czech Republic is literally an incubator of innovative fintech companies. The Czech fintech ecosystem is very dynamic and companies with global potential are emerging here. Moreover, the Czech Republic offers a strong base of financial professionals and a high stability and level of services based on innovative technologies thanks to a broad background of startups and the openness of Czech consumers to the use of digitised services. A high-quality and strong fintech sector in the Czech Republic supports economic growth and creates skilled jobs. Furthermore, fintech companies are seen as essential enablers of more efficient and competitive financial markets. In the future, this segment is expected to be an important pillar of the Czech and global economy, as it will contribute to its digitalisation and overall transformation.

Strong base of professionals

There are over 200 fintech companies and projects (regulated – licensed by the Czech National Bank - and unregulated) operating in the Czech fintech sector, which has roughly doubled over the last 5 years.

Although the sector is still dominated to some extent by banks, the Czech Republic has become a financial

Did you know?

HomeCredit, which was founded in the Czech Republic, has become a world leader in consumer finance and, as one of the largest fintechs in the world, has also fostered a whole generation of top international managers in the Czech Republic.

services country in recent years, and Czech fintech is a significant source of innovation for foreign markets (e.g. the Wallet app from BudgetBakers for managing personal finances).

The Czech Republic has a strong base of financial professionals and its financial services are among the most innovative in the world, particularly in the area of digital banking and electronic payment services. According to an OECD analysis, the Czech Republic is consistently among the 5 countries in the world with the highest level of contactless card payments.

Fintech companies operate in various business segments, the main ones being digital payment services, e-commerce, personal finance and accounting. Numerous other segments are: P2P lending, insurance and blockchain or crowdfunding projects.







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Payments

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NFCtron

Personal finance.

budgetbakers

Portmonka

FLEXIFIN















created by **mr trigama.eu**

FinTech definition and categorization are not completely standardized or settled down.

If you found an error in the overview or if your project is missing, write us: info@fintechcowboys.cz











Czechs are innovators and love online banking

Czechs are among the European and global pioneers in the adoption of digital payment technologies. According to Mastercard's latest data, nearly 57% of consumers in the Czech Republic make cashless payments, and it would be as high as 76% if people did not visit merchants who do not accept cards. Currently, the most significant trend is payment via mobile phones, smart watches and other forms of wearable electronics: 54% of Czechs have already tried mobile payments, compared to only 19% five years ago.

A key technology for the future of payments is tokenisation, which not only simplifies cashless transactions but also enhances their security. The share of transactions made via tokens in the Czech Republic has doubled in the past two and a half years.

In the e-commerce environment, the Click to Pay method is a major innovation, meaning it is no longer necessary to enter the card number and other card details into the payment gateway when paying. open to innovation, which allows us to constantly expand the possibilities of digital payments. This is demonstrated by the recent launch of payment rings and payment bracelets or the new Pay to Fuel and Pay to Park apps, which allows you to pay for fuel and parking directly from your car."

"The Czech market is extremely

Jana Lvová, General Manager Mastercard Czech Republic & Slovakia



Unlike other digital wallets, it is available on all devices and platforms. Mastercard's vision is to completely eliminate the overwriting of card details when paying online by 2030, further enhancing the convenience and security of online transactions.

The Czech Republic is one of the most progressive countries in Europe and the world in contactless payments. Data from the Bank Card Association shows that in the Czech Republic, 99% of domestic card payments are contactless, and every second transaction is made with a mobile phone or wearable electronics such as watches, rings or bracelets.

At the same time, the Czech Republic is one of the few countries in the world where you can make contactless withdrawals from an ATM, even with a mobile phone or wearable electronics.

In Europe, we rank 7th in the percentage of payments made with mobile and wearable electronics.

Wherever payment by card is possible, it is also possible to pay with a mobile phone or wearable electronics.



Czech Fintech and Exports

The future of the Czech and global economy lies in the combination of financial services and technologies that will facilitate its digitisation and transformation process. An important aspect of this development is the growing popularity of wealthtech and cryptocurrencies as instruments to protect finances from inflation. Europe has become a leader in fintech in recent years, with approximately 1/3 of European unicorns being fintechs. A similar trend applies to the Czech Republic, which is a leader in the adoption of fintech innovations, whether it is banking identity, mobile or digital payment services.

The Czech Republic is a country with one of the highest e-commerce penetration rates in Europe, and it is still growing. Consumer interest in actively using these innovations plays a major role here. Due to our strong fintech background, we have the potential to export top fintech and insurtech to the whole world, and some companies have already successfully expanded abroad – e.g. Dateio, Wultra or Switchio. The best prospects are currently in the areas of infrastructure services such as risk management solutions, digital servicing, claims handling and insurance claims settlement. These solutions often combine the fields of finance, cybersecurity and machine learning, for which we have top experts in the Czech Republic, such as cybersecurity expert and former CEO of Avast Ondřej Vlček.

This sector is growing steadily, and key Czech fintech companies are increasingly active in various pro-export events. In 2023, a Czech fintech delegation went to Dublin for the Czech-Irish Fintech Forum, represented by Dateio, Wultra, Lemonero, Adacta, Blogic, MoroSystems, Analytical Platform, Principal, Deloitte, the CTIT Association and Czech Fintech Association, where they established direct contacts with representatives of the Irish banking sector, ICT companies and other potential clients using financial technology. The delegation was organised by the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Dublin.

Explore Czech Companies'
Successes Abroad



Tapix is the industry-leading service that utilises payment data enrichment to enable banks and fintechs to build smart solutions and features for their internal teams and clients. Today, this data is primarily used to enhance the user experience with mobile banking and financial apps, but the real value lies in the analytical application of this structured data.

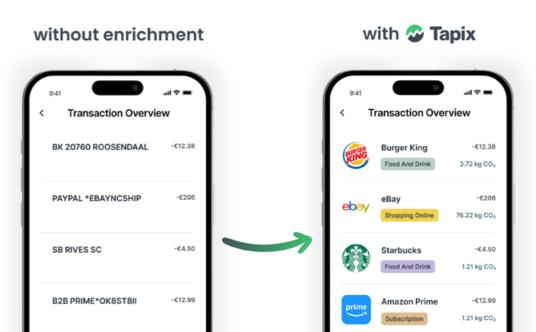
The story of Tapix began in 2013 when the company was developing a card-linked marketing solution—the Dateio platform. Tapix experts noticed that many financial institutions did not fully understand payment data, which prevented them from offering a personalised banking experience tailored to users' needs.

They also realised that the tools they had already created could address this issue and provide banks with a much-needed data backbone.

The mission of Tapix is to bridge the gap between payments and people's lives by transforming messy transaction data into actionable insights.

Tapix currently enriches data for more than 50 banks and Fintechs operating in 80 countries around the globe. Every day, this enriched data improves the lives of over 73 million people through banking and financial applications.

www.tapix.io





Wultra serves as a guardian of digital finance, providing banks and fintech companies with easy-to-deploy, post-quantum authentication that enhances security and improve customer experiences. As a trusted partner with an open-source, developer-friendly approach, Wultra's solutions can be deployed in under 8 weeks, rather than months.

Wultra's flagship product, Mobile-First Authentication, is a passwordless authentication solution designed with their clients in mind. It's intuitive, easy to use, and will genuinely improve their clients' experience. The solutions are 100% compliant with PSD2 legislation and Strong Customer Authentication (SCA) requirements, including dynamic linking.

Wultra operates in more than 20 countries across the globe.

www.wultra.com



Did you know?

We all use Wultra or Monet+ products almost daily in our online banking.



MONET +

Monet+ is a specialised software house dedicated to ensuring the secure use of digital identity and money worldwide, whenever and wherever you need it. Whether you are logging into corporate systems, managing a bank account through a mobile app, verifying your identity with biometric data, or electronically signing documents from a distance, Monet+ makes it safe and straightforward.

Monet+ also enables a seamless payment experience, whether you use a bank card to make a purchase in-store, buy a ticket for public transportation or recharge your electric vehicle.

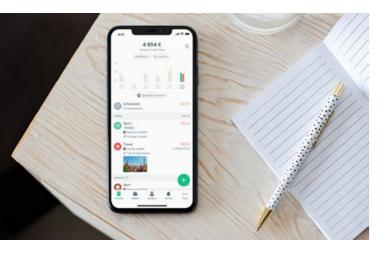
Monet+ digital identity clients include European corporations, banks and public sector organisations. The company provides electronic payment software globally, focusing on large retail chains, payment solution integrators, transport companies, and suppliers and operators of electric vehicle charging stations.

www.monetplus.com

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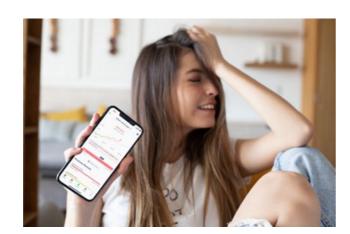
Spendee is a personal finance management and budgeting app. It aims to help users easily and clearly track their spending and income, analyse their financial habits, and plan their budget. Spendee offers a simple intuitive user interface where users can add transactions, categorise them and get an overview of what they spend the most on. Over this data, Spendee then provides users with a variety of personalised hints and tips.



The app supports manual entry of expenses, but also allows you to link to accounts at thousands of different banks and financial institutions around the world, making the process of tracking finances automated and easy. Spendee supports multiple currencies and allows individuals, households and teams to manage their finances with shared wallets. This feature makes it an ideal tool for couples, families or small groups who want to keep track of their joint finances.

One of the key features of the app is data visualisations that help users understand their financial situation and uncover areas where they could save. Spendee is available for Android, iOS and web browsers and offers both free and paid plans with enhanced features. The popularity of the app is growing not only in the Czech Republic, but also abroad, where it is gaining users thanks to its clarity and emphasis on improving financial literacy.

www.spendee.com





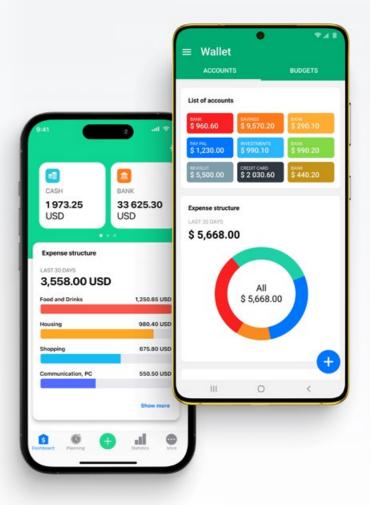
BudgetBakers, a leading fintech company based in Prague, empowers individuals and businesses to take control of their financial future.

Wallet by BudgetBakers is a personal finance management application for individuals, families and groups who want a detailed understanding of, and control over their finances. Wallet is localized to 40+ languages. Unlike traditional banks, BudgetBakers mission is to help people lead a rich life. Wallet by BudgetBakers aims to treat people's finances the way they want in achieving their goals in a way they value.

For financial institutions BudgetBakers offers a suite of powerful solutions to help businesses thrive. Our secure Open Banking API connects to over 5000 European banks, unlocking a wealth of financial insights. Data Enrichment solutions enhance data quality and accuracy, empowering businesses to make informed decisions. Tailored enterprise solutions for finance companies, including banking API, transaction categorisation and more.

By leveraging the power of technology, BudgetBakers is transforming the way people and businesses manage their finances. BudgetBakers' team of passionate professionals is dedicated to building the world's best finance management tools. The company values are collaboration, innovation and customer satisfaction.

www.budgetbakers.com



Cybersecurity in Fintech

Cybersecurity is becoming one of the key segments of our digital age, and for fintech companies, the cybersecurity of their products is one of the key areas of concern. The Czech Republic boasts an excellent background for the development of fintech and cybersecurity, which makes it an ideal place for the creation of innovative companies in these areas. This is supported by a quality education system with top-level technical and economic schools.

Thus, the Czech Republic has a lot to offer in the field of cybersecurity – from successful and growing companies such as Avast Software (now Gen), to companies such as Flowmon Networks, GreyCortex or FIDES Trade, to the intensive cooperation of leading Czech universities such as the Czech Technical University in Prague, Charles University in Prague, the University of Technology in Liberec and Masaryk University in Brno and the National Office for Cyber and Information Security (NUCSIS) in the research and development of new technologies in the field of cybersecurity.

In recent years, very interesting and innovative companies with global reach have also been established in the Czech Republic, such as Wultra, which specialises in security technologies for financial institutions, Monet+ (with its successful software platform Switchio), CZ.NIC or BankID.

Companies like ThreatMark and Resistant.ai use artificial intelligence and advanced technology to protect financial institutions from cyberattacks and fraud. Other examples include Linksoft, Blogic and Zentity, which focus on developing secure and user-friendly applications for banks and financial institutions. All of this contributes to the creation of a strong and innovative cybersecurity ecosystem in the Czech Republic, which in recent years has also become a popular and stable segment for domestic and foreign investment.

Did you know?

Avast Software, a global giant known for its antivirus solutions, was founded in the Czech Republic.



Gen

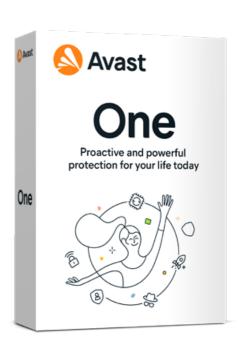
Gen is a global company committed to empowering digital freedom for all through its leading cybersecurity brands Avast, Norton, LifeLock, Avira, AVG, ReputationDefender and CCleaner. Gen was formed in 2022 by the merger of Avast and the US company NortonLifeLock.

The company has two headquarters – in Tempe, USA and in Prague. The Czech Republic is the main research and development centre of Gen.

The company currently employs approximately 3,500 people. As a global leader in cybersecurity, Gen brings award-winning cybersecurity, privacy and online identity protection products and services to nearly 500 million users in more than 150 countries worldwide.

It also offers solutions for businesses including security breach services, employee benefits and identity and privacy protection. Gen's cutting-edge technologies, based on quality research and the use of artificial intelligence, block billions of cyber-attacks annually.

www.gendigital.com





ThreatMark is the fraud disruptor of the future. Using cutting-edge AI and behavioural intelligence technologies, we protect financial institutions, businesses and their customers from present-day fraud, creating a more trusted digital world.

ThreatMark's Behavioural Intelligence Platform doesn't just prevent fraud – it silently monitors hackers' infrastructure, devices, techniques and money flows to reveal entire crime rings. ThreatMark's solution is specifically designed to detect even the most sophisticated fraud attempts, including authorised push payment (APP) scams, RAT attacks, social engineering, phishing, account takeovers and new account fraud. By leveraging a holistic, future-proof approach, ThreatMark provides a detailed, real-time view across all digital channels through a single interface. ThreatMark unites the bank's security, fraud, risk and compliance teams to increase their effectiveness and bridge the gap between AML and fraud approaches.

ThreatMark's technology protects 40 million customers of top-tier financial institutions around the world from the financial and psychological impacts of fraud.

www.threatmark.com





Linksoft, a Czech IT company with over 16 years of experience, develops advanced information systems and supplies skilled specialists who help clients worldwide navigate market shifts and regulatory demands with ease.

With a team of nearly 200 professionals, Linksoft creates tools to optimise financial operations, improve data management and automate key processes. Notable projects include building a project management team for ČSOB and designing a reporting and data consolidation system for the Central Bank of Iraq.

Combining modern technology and extensive experience in financial sector processes and structures, Linksoft's systems integrate smoothly into existing infrastructures to ensure they are user-friendly and meet the specific needs of financial institutions.

Their focus on long-term partnerships and transparent communication supports efficient and effective implementation and delivers lasting, impactful results.

www.linksoft.eu

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Founded in 2019, Resistant AI allows digital lenders and other fintechs to check documents for fraud without replacing their existing systems, by uploading documents to a web app or via API integration.

From simple document edits to template farms and generative AI fraud, Resistant AI checks every document in over 500 different ways to detect threats in less than 20 seconds. Resistant AI was twice named Digital Crime Fighter of the Year, has registered 100+ patents and has already reviewed 100M documents for 150+ customers in 30+ different countries. Backed by GV, Index Ventures, Credo Ventures, Seedcamp, Notion Capital and more, Resistant AI is headquartered in Prague, with offices in London and New York.

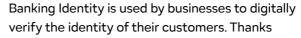
resistant.ai



Banking Identity, a digital ID, is the most widely used method of digital identity verification.

Thanks to it, Czechs can securely log in to the online services of government offices, institutions and companies.

Currently, 6.5 million bank customers who use electronic banking have a banking identity. In the Czech Republic, Banking Identity operates under the Bank iD brand.



to Banking Identity, companies get the customer's verified personal and contact details, which have already been ascertained by their bank. The use of Banking Identity in the customer process brings higher conversions, increases customer satisfaction and reduces costs. Automated client identification is fast, online and completely paperless.

Through Bank iD SIGN, the company can sign documents with clients online with a guaranteed electronic signature. Banking Identity makes a significant contribution to the digitalisation of government and private company services. It is also actively involved in international consortia developing and testing technologies and user scenarios for the planned European Digital Identity Wallet.

bankid.cz



Did you know?

In the Czech Republic, banking identity was born in the private sector, led by Bank iD, and is now used by a large segment of the nation.

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Innovative EnvironmentStartups

The Czech Republic is one of the countries where the number of newly emerging fintech startups has been growing regularly in recent years. Startup companies have a favourable environment here, and domestic and foreign venture capital funds are in favour of supporting them; cooperation with some banks is likewise evident. The active startup community is also supported by the state through various accelerators.

CzechTrade currently offers two main services:

Startup Entry

Help with assessing the export potential of a startup, recommending suitable territories and using individual services

Czech Startup Day

Pitch in front of foreign investors, including an accompanying programme (e.g. panel discussions, workshops with investors, best practice presentations).

This supportive mix creates the right environment for the growth of startup companies focused on technological innovation.

Interesting fintech startup companies in the Czech Republic that offer innovative solutions include Qerko (payment methods in gastronomy), Twisto (offering a "buy now, pay later" option), Lemonero (e-commerce financing) or PORTU (investment products). These companies prove that quality education, new ideas and active support for startups form a solid foundation for success not only in fintech.

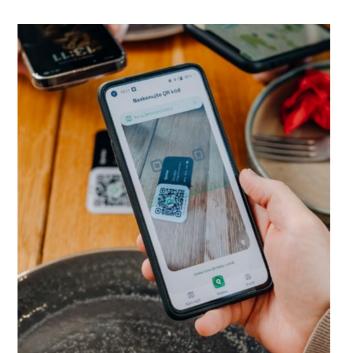
Czech fintechs were also awarded in the international Sifted 30 competition: Central Europe, which ranks the fastest growing startups in Switzerland, Austria, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Slovenia, Hungary and Liechtenstein based on revenue growth. 5 Czech fintech startups were listed among the 30 fastest growing startups in the region: Resistant AI, 4Trans (Malcom finance), wflow, Choice and Whalebone (cyber security).



Qerko°

Qerko is a Czech fintech company operating since 2019, and part of the Miton group. Qerko's goal is to modernize the hospitality industry and improve service. Qerko brings Fintech innovations to the hospitality industry through fast QR payments, ordering, online loyalty programs and guest communication.

All operations are secure, backed by a European license from the Czech National Bank. It enhances operational efficiency and customer experience, helping businesses maximise revenue. By combining payment functions with analytics, Qerko enables businesses to better understand customer behaviour, increase spending and encourage repeat visits.





Qerko is an innovative app with over 1.4 million users, digitising operations in more than 1,500 restaurants, bistros and cafes. Available in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary, it offers seamless payments and smart data utilisation. Qerko enables owners to communicate with customers through Qerko Stories, while the loyalty program drives repeat visits.

Additionally, Qerko helps businesses gather private feedback from every guest to improve services, enhance their Google profile rating and attract more relevant followers on Instagram. Tips through Qerko average 8-10%, increasing employee earnings. Qerko is a revolutionary solution for modern hospitality businesses, building strong customer communities, boosting revenue and enhancing reputation.

www.qerko.com/en



Portu is an online investment platform for the general public where everyone can sort out all their long- and short-term investments in one place. It allows users to easily yet effectively appreciate their spare funds, whether to protect money from inflation or to provide for retirement. Portu democratises the investment market in the Czech Republic. It was the first to bring the robo-advisory model to market as an alternative to traditional investment products. The benefits of Portu are proven by the over 200,000 clients for whom the platform manages more than CZK 40 billion (as of January 2025).

Portu has already earned over CZK 5 billion for its clients. The platform delivers interesting returns while saving people time. Investors don't have to spend hours analysing and choosing the right investment. They can focus on activities that are more important to their lives.

The platform makes sure the money works for them. On the basis of a sophisticated questionnaire, it recommends a tailor-made investment portfolio for the client. Even low deposits are optimally invested by using so-called securities fractions. The client thus receives a globally diversified, low-cost ETF portfolio consisting of thousands of stocks and bonds, which is then constantly monitored by Portu to ensure that it does not deviate from the target risk level due to market developments and rebalanced if necessary.

In addition to the Czech Republic, Portu currently operates in Slovakia and Poland.

www.portu.cz

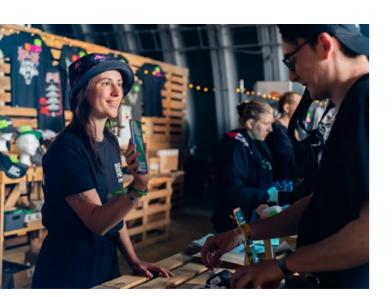




NFCtron

The company provides a cashless payment system and online ticket sales to the largest festivals in the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Austria. NFCtron a.s. was founded in 2018. Thanks to its team's dedication and scalable product, its services were used at 92 events in 2019, and in 2024 NFCtron managed more than 450 events with 5 million cashless transactions and 520,000 tickets sold online.

Visitors can pay at events with NFCtron by chip and credit card. The chip can always be topped up online before the event or at the event with a card or cash. NFCtron is instrumental in enlightening festivals, vendors and visitors toward the path to cashless sales.



In 2023, it entered into a memorandum of cooperation with Mastercard. As part of this memorandum, it will launch a mobile phone terminal and a payment card for event visitors in 2025.

In the most recent 2024 season, the NFCtron system was used by Live Nation concerts, Rock for People, Let It Roll and the Prima FRESH Festival series. The total number of events in 2024 exceeded 450 festivals and concerts. In Slovakia, the biggest events include the Lovestream festival and the AC/DC concert in Bratislava for 120,000 people.

www.nfctron.com



Roger payment institution embedded fintech helps small and medium-sized businesses with cash flow. It provides them with sufficient liquidity by shortening the long maturities of their invoices issued to creditworthy companies.

Instead of often having funds locked up in invoices for months, they receive them into their account within 3 days of the invoice being issued. With Roger's solution, both long-established large companies and smaller businesspeople who do not yet have a long credit history can access financing.





For large established companies, Roger offers a unified whitelabel supply chain finance solution. It allows them to offer their suppliers access to finance within three days, while retaining their original invoice due dates. Everything is automated and can be managed in a simple online interface. It saves a lot of time for the subscriber's internal team. Suppliers, in turn, have a constant overview of their confirmed invoices, which they can fund with a few clicks. Roger works as a peer-to-peer platform. It offers private investors an investment in these long-dated invoices, giving them the opportunity to appreciate their finances while helping local companies get funding for their businesses. Roger currently has clients all over Europe.

www.roger.cz

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Fintech Hub Europe

Fintech Hub is an open platform project created by a consortium of innovative Fintech companies (led by Mastercard Europe and Vacuumlabs) together with the Slovak Fintech Association.

The main partner of the Fintech Hub in the Czech Republic is the Czech Fintech Association; their services complement each other very well. The association ideally aggregates all market participants and speaks with a single voice for the whole sector, including the public sector.

The Fintech Hub works with considerably fewer entities than the association, but for them it acts as a representative with deep insight into the practical life of fintech and a problem-solving agenda for their particular projects. The main vision of Fintech Hub Europe is to become the preferred partner for supporting fintech startups in CEE.



The aim is to provide practical assistance for the growth of innovative fintech companies, to raise the level of digital financial innovation in CEE and to connect the public sector or government with the corporate and startup world.

Fintech Hub Europe provides assistance to fintech companies across Central and Eastern Europe through its partners. The assistance focuses on five main areas, namely technology, regulation, raising capital and growth.

Projects or co-founders whose projects need a comprehensive level of support to solve a market problem they have discovered in the fintech field (cofounder as a service) can also contact the Fintech Hub.

www.fintechhubeurope.com

Fintech Accelerator – Zero to One

A fintech program by DEPO Ventures & Startupyard with the support of the Czech Fintech Association built by the community for the community.

A unique ongoing acceleration program leveraging the network of successful fintech founders and operators from CEE - those with real, battle-tested experience from the fintech industry.

It is a go-to acceleration program for exceptional technology founders from CEE, building pan-European or global fintech companies as part of the most significant transformation of the financial industry yet, driven by GenAI, blockchain and DLTs, quantum computing & cyber-security, and prepared to thrive in the highly regulated industry by default by including financial industry stakeholders and regulators in the program.

Powered by DEPO Ventures, one of the most active fintech-focused VCs in CEE, and StartupYard, the best CEE accelerators serving technology founders for over 13 years.



Cooperation of Czech Fintechs with Banks

Fintech is a sector that is still very much dominated by banks. There are currently almost 50 banks and 151 fintech companies operating on the Czech banking scene, which is roughly 3 fintech companies per 1 bank. However, in recent years, there has been a significant shift in the cooperation between Czech banks and fintech companies, where banks can ensure more user-friendly and cheaper services thanks to the products of fintech companies, thus increasing the loyalty of their customers.

Czech banks and fintech companies are therefore beginning to cooperate effectively at various levels:

- Česká spořitelna (a member of Erste Group) has a Seed Starter programme that helps startups with the go-to-market phase and involves external projects in Česká spořitelna's environment (e.g. investments from foreign companies Investtown, PalmApp, Rekenber and others).
- Komerční banka (member of Société Générale)
 has the KB Smart Solutions programme.
- ČSOB (a member of KBC Group) offers very flexible cooperation with startups through the Start IT ČSOB acceleration programme.
- Raiffeisenbank actively seeks out fintech startups in order to become a bank that is closer to the client. Raiffeisenbank has already had successful collaborations with e.g. the fintech Wultra, which it helped to succeed on the global marketplace and was one of the first to use Dateio's Tapix product; RB is also able to secure investment thanks to the VC fund Elevator Ventures, which also invested in the successful fintech Twisto.

Some banks also cooperate with fintechs as investors – Erste and AirBanka cooperate with Dateio, which runs discount programmes for the banks, while J&T Bank has shares in Wultra.

As part of its support for financial innovation, the Czech National Bank (CNB) has established its Fintech Contact Point, which aims to answer relevant questions directly related to financial innovation in the Czech Republic and provide assistance in resolving unclear regulatory issues (including licensing and supervision) in this area, while regularly organising roundtables to inform about the possibilities and practices of foreign crowdfunding from EU countries.

In order to engage in promoting financial innovation, the Ministry of Finance has established an Innovation Unit to offer non-binding consultation to financial service providers and companies planning to enter the financial market.

Czech banks are not afraid to invest in new technologies, which is confirmed by the fact that they are the third country in Europe to launch a click-to-pay service, and the vast majority of banks here offer the possibility of paying via mobile wallets, which is unique in Europe.

Did you know?

In the Czech Republic it is possible to pay via telephone contacts. Instead of an account number, you only need to know the phone number of the person you want to transfer money to. The project was launched by the Czech National Bank and is supported by six Czech banks – Air Bank, Česká spořitelna, ČSOB, Fio banka, Komerční banka and Raiffeisenbank.

According to some representatives of major banking institutions, the Czech Republic functions as a small technological laboratory. Therefore, there is a huge potential in the introduction of these innovations.

Partners Banka, the first purely digital bank on the Czech market, was created by combining state-of-the-art digital banking with Partners' personal financial consulting.

Did you know?

Thanks to mBank, the Czech Republic was one of the first countries to widely use payment rings, created through the cooperation of Niceboy and Mastercard.

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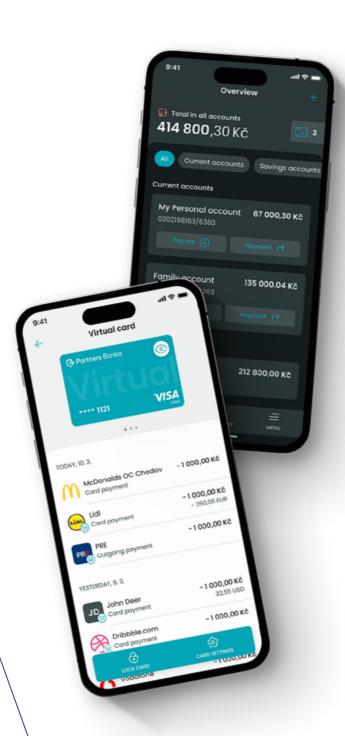
Partners Banka, a.s. offers a consulting approach combined with modern technologies. Thanks to this, clients can keep track of their entire financial life in their Partners app and easily manage all their finances completely in one place (from payments to insurance).

Partners Banka is part of the large and stable Partners financial group. It is a purely Czech bank licensed by the Czech National Bank. Since 2007, Partners Group has been transforming the Czech financial services market and helping hundreds of thousands of clients create, protect and grow their wealth. Partners Banka operates only on the Czech market for the time being, but plans to expand to other European countries in the future.

www.partnersbanka.cz

Did you know?

With Partners, users can have their entire financial world in one place. From Partners bank accounts and accounts with other banks to investments, insurance and mortgages. In the Partners app, you can also connect directly to a financial advisor or one of your choice.



Conferences and Other Events of Czech Fintech

Fintech RoadMap

The largest Czech-Slovak fintech conference has been held in the Czech Republic from 2022 under the auspices of several organisers – the CTIT (Communications Tools and Internet of Things) Association, Fintree and the Czech and Slovak Fintech Association.

The aim of the conference is to connect Czech and Slovak entities involved in fintech and thus create a larger, more unified and stronger market. Czech companies in cooperation with other organisations are associated by the CTIT Association and the Czech Fintech Association. Fintech players join forces and anchor the tradition of the annual industry meeting. In 2023, almost 75% of the participants were directly involved in the fintech business, and another 25% were fintech enthusiasts from all corners of the Czech Republic and Slovakia. The conference is also open to participants from other countries.

Fintech Mixers

Fintech Mixers is a project of the Czech Fintech Association, which aims to connect experts and laymen from the Fintech field and to support the mutual sharing of experience. The Mixer features thematic discussions that help create a sustainable ecosystem for the society as a whole. The Mixers already held focused on topics such as Digital Solutions for Fintechs, Fintech's Contribution to the Development of the Czech Economy and Talent, Czech Republic as a Fintech Superpower or Blockchain – Opportunity or Bubble?

Fintech Mixers have been running since 2021 and there are approximately 10 events each year, one of which is regularly focused exclusively on international participation and is conducted in English.

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Cryptocurrencies in the Czech Republic

The Czech Republic is perceived as a strong player and innovator in the cryptocurrency world thanks to several pioneering companies, prominent personalities and practical applications of cryptocurrencies.

Key players include Braiins, which created the world's first mining pool, and Satoshi Labs, whose Trezor hardware wallet pioneered secure cryptocurrency storage. Professor Ladislav Krištoufek, who was awarded the Medal of Merit for research in the field of cryptoassets by the President of the Czech Republic, is also an important academic personality and is one of the most cited scientists in the world.

The practical side of cryptocurrencies is illustrated by the Confirmo payment gateway, which allows payments in cryptocurrencies, for instance at restaurants via Qerko or on Alza. The network of payment points in the Czech Republic is very extensive.

Together, these factors underscore the Czech Republic's privileged position in the field of cryptocurrencies and cryptoassets on the world stage.

BTC Prague

Prague also hosts one of the largest and most important bitcoin events in Europe every year. More than 100 international bitcoin companies and open-source projects presented at this conference in 2024 and more than 10,000 visitors from around the world attended.

The conference also hosts annual presentations by bitcoin experts from around the world (more than 100 selected speakers attended in 2024) who present their experiences and the latest topics in the world of bitcoin. The main goal of this conference is to deepen knowledge in the field of bitcoin and to introduce and connect the major players in the field.

BRANNS

Braiins is a world leader in providing comprehensive solutions for bitcoin miners. The company operates the Braiins Pool – the oldest operating mining pool in the world, which has mined over 1.3 million bitcoins.

Software products include firmware to optimise the performance and profitability of mining equipment, tools to manage mining operations or a communication protocol to link miners to the pool. The company has now embarked on the development and production of its own mining hardware. It offers a unique compact mining device, the Braiins Mini Miner, for home use and educational purposes. It also designs and manufactures individual components for its own full-featured mining machine.



Did you know?

Thanks to the Confirmo payment gateway, the Czech Republic has the highest per capita usage of cryptocurrency acceptance points in Europe. This means that users can also pay with cryptocurrencies in selected e-shop platforms or wherever they use the Qerko app or ThePay and GoPay gateways.

Educational activities are another pillar of activity. The primary focus on mining issues is the publication of books in English. The aim of the Czech Braiins Publishing House, which has already published over 10 books by original authors and translations of major titles from abroad, is to spread awareness of bitcoin among the wider population. Moreover, Braiins recently invested in Firefish, which provides a platform for the bitcoin-backed lending market. This gives miners access to a new field of services, this time financial.

www.braiins.com

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Investment opportunities

Czech Venture Capital Market and Fintechs

VC funds are an important source of funding for startup fintech companies. There are several VC funds operating in the Czech Republic, such as Credo Ventures, Milton, Startup Yard, Nation1 or Reflex Capital. According to data from the CzechFounders community, interest in fintechs from domestic and foreign venture capital funds is growing. Many investment rounds were led by foreign companies, which brings capital to the Czech Republic.

The Czech startups that have passed the most investment rounds are Rohlik.cz (online supermarket) and GoodData (provider of cloud software services in the field of data analysis and operational reporting), Qerko (mobile application enabling contactless payment from the table in restaurants) and Mutumutu (online life insurance).

Other successful Czech fintech startups include Donio, Shoptet, Upvest, GoPay and Chytrý Honza.

Despite 2022 being a difficult year not just for the fintech industry, with investments in fintech down 31% globally, there is still significant financial capital in the sector despite its volatility, much of which is now being invested in cybersecurity and to improve fintech regulatory and compliance processes.

Did you know?

In 2022, Dutch investors Jaspeh Anderluh and Niels Kok invested €6.25 million in the personal finance management app Wallet from Czech company BudgetBakers.

M&A Trends

Based on an internal Deloitte Czech Republic analysis, there were several funding rounds in 2023 in the categories of Banking Infrastructure, Deposits and Lending and Investment in the Czech Republic.

Banking Infrastructure became the leading category in terms of VC investment due to the capital raised by Resistant AI in the amount of 11 USDm.

The Deposits and Lending category identified capital raisings in the amount of 3 EURm (4Trans) and unspecified raisings in the case of Lemonero and Cashbot. The Investment category saw capital raisings of 160 CZKm (period 2023-2025, BudgetBakers), 30+ CZKm (Investown), 1 EURm (Finmap), 10 CZKm (Investbay) and 7.5 CZKm (PatronGo).

Apart from the capital raisings of individual companies, changes in shareholder structure as a result of M&A transactions are observable in all categories. In terms of market consolidation, minor cooperation on the business activities level has been announced, e.g. between Twisto and NFCtron,

Did you know?

The largest investment on the Czech fintech scene to date is the purchase of Twisto by Australian Zip for more than CZK 2 billion.

but also a significant merger of the Bauer Media Group and Netrisk Group impacting the insurtech category where companies ePojištění (Bauer Media Group) and Klik (Netrisk Group) were concerned.

Lower M&A activity can be partially explained by increased debt financing driven by corporate bond emissions.

Deloitte Czech Republic identified bond emissions in the Deposits and Lending category in the case of 4Trans (15 EURm) and Flowpay (6 CZKm), and in the Cryptocurrency and Blockchain category in the case of Braiins (100 CZKm).

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This brochure was created in collaboration with CzechTrade and the Czech Fintech Association.



