Visit to Akrapovič

October 24, 2025

GZDBK organizes numerous forums, company visits, and exchanges of good business practices among companies, entrepreneurs, and other organizations. The executive boards of each professional section within the regional chamber prepare their own annual programs, which include activities aimed at exchanging best practices through visits to successful companies. This time, the Section for Innovation (SINO) and the Section for Quality (SK) organized a joint visit to Akrapovič d. d..

Akrapovič is a leading manufacturer of high-performance exhaust systems for motorcycles and sports cars. The company is a pioneer in the innovative use of titanium and superalloys and a leader in the development of carbon-fiber components. Akrapovič exhaust systems are renowned for their enhanced performance, unmistakable sound, innovative design, lightweight construction, premium craftsmanship, and durability. The company employs 1,500 people and exports its products to more than 80 countries. For its approach to human resource management, Akrapovič received the "Exemplary Practice in Human Resource Management" award from the Chamber of Commerce of Dolenjska and Bela krajina in 2016.

Founded in Slovenia in 1991 by former motorcycle racer Igor Akrapovič, the brand has built an outstanding international reputation and recognition over the years. Through its involvement in racing—together with riders and teams it supports—and by setting the highest design standards, Akrapovič continues to lead the way in exhaust system technology. In recent years, the company has received multiple *Red Dot* and *Best Brand* awards for both motorcycle and automotive exhausts.

The first visit took place on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, with SINO representatives. Following a welcome address and company presentation, the hosts shared key achievements and development strategies in the field of innovation. An engaging discussion followed, focusing on opportunities for further development, and participants were later given a guided tour of the production and R&D facilities. The meeting concluded with informal networking and social interaction.

The following day, October 23, 2025, members of SK visited the company. The program began with a welcome reception and opening remarks from company representatives, followed by the 3rd meeting of the Executive Board of SK, where the agenda for the upcoming Annual Professional Day (scheduled for November 27, 2025) was finalized. After the meeting, the hosts presented the company's quality assurance system and current challenges, which sparked a professional discussion among participants. The group then toured the production processes, where they were personally greeted by the company's founder and owner. The visit concluded in a pleasant atmosphere with refreshments and informal networking in the conference room.

Both visits were marked by an active exchange of experiences, discussions on development directions, and insights into current trends in quality management. The meetings offered valuable opportunities for professional networking and collaboration among participants from

various industries. The visits once again underscored the importance of cooperation and knowledge sharing among successful companies in the areas of innovation, quality, leadership, and continuous improvement.

Participants emphasized that such meetings, organized under the auspices of GZDBK, provide a unique and valuable opportunity for direct exposure to best business practices and for strengthening regional business cooperation and connectivity.

Membership in the Section for Innovation (SINO) and the Section for Quality (SK) is free of charge for all employees of companies that are GZDBK members.

<u>Membership form – SINO</u> <u>Membership form – SK</u>

The event is part of the **SRC-EDIH** project.

