

Information and communications technology (ICT)

The Danish ICT sector has developed rapidly since the beginning of the IT era more than 20 years ago. Today it is truly global in nature, making the best of top qualifications, know how and business models where ever it is found in the world. The annual turnover reaches Bakt 1344,72 billion of which 20% are exports.

IT in Denmark

Today, Denmark ranks as one of the top countries with regards to the adoption of IT. More than 98% have access to broadband Internet. The price for these services is among the lowest in Europe. The Danish government issued the first “computer-driving license” in 1997 and the IT education sector has been increasing ever since. Many European countries have later copied this idea.

Business in Denmark uses the Internet more than in most other countries. Nearly all companies with more than ten employees have access to the Internet, and 78% have their own website.

Denmark leads ITC developments

The ICT sector occupies a large proportion of the economy. Measured by the number of ICT jobs in relation to total jobs, Denmark ranks second of all OECD countries with a share of over 4.2% and 95,000 full time employees.

Several business clusters exist in Denmark, each with different specialties. In North Jutland, the interaction of Aalborg University and the local business environment has created a dynamic IT and telecommunications cluster. In Aarhus the development of medical journals and other advanced IT-services are prioritised. And Copenhagen offers a very wide range of companies within all areas of software and services for both the public and private sectors.

The Danish IT sector excels within the field of eGovernance. Due partly to Denmark’s large public sector, the need to meet the demands of its citizens in an effective manner has spawned a large amount of companies specialising in effective solutions in this field. Besides the eGovernance software solutions, Danish companies are leading in the fields of B2B and other business software solutions.

The sector is characterised by a focus on constant development from research, and it delivers one third of the total Danish R&D budget.

Danish ICT professionals have always been at the forefront of the technological development. Recently, the Danish programmer Janus Friis together with his Swedish colleague Niklas Zennström developed the internet P2P software Skype and the file sharing service KaZaA.

Thailand is both a market and a supplier

In the future the Danish ICT sector is going to increase both outsourcing and exports to the Asian markets. This gives these markets the opportunity to gain from the specialised products and know how provided by Danish companies.

The IT Trade Association in Denmark, IT-Branchen, estimates that export options to Asia will increase rapidly over the next decade.

In general, imports in the sector exceed exports. Asian companies are reaching skill levels where they can provide valuable input to Danish companies. Therefore, Danish ICT-companies are rapidly increasing the outsourcing of both production and services to Asia. Thailand is in many ways an interesting country for Danish companies because of the low labour cost, highly skilled labour, geographic position, infrastructure and investments in the IT-sector.

IT-Branchen: www.itb.dk

ITEK: www.itek.dk