

EXPO Japan brochure – Company descriptions

Companies in this Slovenian delegation to Japan:

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2. AT8 ltd
3. BPT d.o.o.
4. CENTERNORMA d.o.o.
5. GORENC STARE d.o.o.
6. HIPOPROJECT d.o.o
7. INNODULER d.o.o.
8. MONOMO arhitekti, d.o.o.
9. PIVOVARNA PELICON D.O.O.
10. ROC7 d.o.o.
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September 2025

Matic Volk, CCIS

In cooperation with SPIRIT Slovenia

1. ARCTUR d.o.o.



Turnover: 4,49M€ (2024)

Export: 45 %

Number of Employees: 60

Serching contacts:

- a) producers of Surgical Vision devices - Endoscopic Near Infrared Visualization
- b) producers of HPC servers and components
- c) investors in Hi-Tech

Participant: Tomi Ilijas, CEO & Founder

Arctur is a privately owned company specialising in advanced and innovative IT solutions, with a strong focus on R&D. As part of the European research project **Classica**, we have developed, together with leading clinical centers, an AI assistant that helps surgeons diagnose cancerous formations in real time with high reliability. Clinical tests have already been conducted, and we will soon certify the product as a **medical device**. We are seeking equipment manufacturers who would like to integrate our solution into their sales programs and/or investors who are interested in entering company ownership at this stage.

Furthermore, we are looking to establish contacts with manufacturers of **supercomputing equipment**, ranging from servers to various components (network cards, GPUs, etc.). We operate one of the **largest private HPC centers in Europe** and aim to strengthen our offerings to support **AI model fine-tuning and inference**.

Possible partners:

1. **Olympus Corporation**

- Leading manufacturer of endoscopes, colonoscopes, and related medical equipment.
- Website: <https://www.olympus-global.com>

2. **Fujifilm Holdings Corporation**

- Produces endoscopic systems and accessories for gastroenterology, including colonoscopy.
- Website: <https://www.fujifilm.com>

3. **Pentax Medical (part of HOYA Group)**

- Specializes in endoscopic systems and optical devices for the gastrointestinal tract.
- Website: <https://www.pentaxmedical.com>

4. **Nipro Corporation**

- Manufactures medical devices, including accessories for endoscopy and colorectal surgery.
- Website: <https://www.nipro.co.jp>

2. AT8 Ltd



Turnover: 60,000 EUR

Export: 40%

Number of Employees: 1

Searching contacts: Strategic Advisory and Growth Partner for the EU market

Participant: Tilen Božič, director

AT8 Ltd is a company specialized in strategy and business growth advisory services. It has a proven track record in advanced tax, accounting and finance advisory services that are key in ensuring compliance in the expansion processes.

Support in the expansion to the Central-European region

Companies seeking partnership to expand into the European market by taking advantage of the premium geostrategic and logistical position of the Republic of Slovenia within the European Union. Its international port of Koper allows the fastest access to central and eastern European markets via a number of international rail and road corridors crossing Slovenia. As a member of the European Union, the OECD and other regional and international initiatives it guarantees the access to a broad range of international trade, tax and totalization agreements. It has a highly adaptable small and open economy, skilled labour force and a strong Western European welfare state (i.e. strong public education, social, health, and pension systems). It provides a stable environment for foreign investments and a broad range of services, incentives and grants to support their incorporation and growth.

Human-centred automation and robotisation fit for an ageing population

Searching for the human-centred automation and robotization trends and opportunities in healthcare and elderly support and care services. Interested in the best practices and technologies that could be transferred from Japan to Slovenia and the EU.

3. BPT d.o.o.



Turnover: 5 mio EUR

Export: 0 %

Number of Employees: 12

Serching contacts: Energy conversion and storage solutions, Hydrogen production and use, Robotics (Collaborative, Quadruped and Humanoid Robotics in Industry, Education and Research)

Participant: Gorazd Ažman, Chief Growth and Innovation Officer; Kocelj Gros, Chief Technology Officer

BPT d.o.o. honors its 1885 industrial legacy but now focuses on renewable energy and real estate. The company is revitalizing its former factory into PURE (www.purepowernow.com), a hub for sustainable energy and innovation.

This project is built on four pillars.

Innovation Sandbox - A space to test and develop clean energy solutions using integrated infrastructure, renewables, and battery storage. Smart City - Creates a model for a self-sufficient urban community with modern energy infrastructure and advanced management. Collab Mind - An interdisciplinary hub and climate tech think tank to accelerate development in sustainable energy. Expo Experience - A platform to showcase groundbreaking energy technologies and connect key stakeholders.

We are interested to meet with companies and institutions focusing on clean tech, with a specific interest in partners for our PURE project's four pillars. Our aim is to foster B2B collaboration, knowledge exchange, and potential pilot or demonstration projects.

For our Innovation Sandbox & Smart City we seek to connect with companies that are leaders in developing and implementing smart energy infrastructure, battery storage systems, and advanced energy management for urban environments. In this particular field of our work, we are interested also in adding robotics to our operations – with main focus on asset management and inspection. For our Collab Mind & Expo Experience we are looking for institutions that can serve as a hub for collaborative research and innovation, and platforms to showcase cutting-edge clean tech. Institutes or Universities focusing on renewables are a welcomed partners (like Renewable Energy Institute (REI) and Fukushima Renewable Energy Institute, AIST (FREIA))

4. CENTERNORMA d.o.o.



Turnover: 5.853.661€

Export: 95 %

Number of Employees: 38

Serching contacts:

Participant: Janko Kovač Direktor, Marina Kovač Vodja finančnega in kadrovskega oddelka !

COMPANY DIGITALIZATION, AUTOMATION, AND ROBOTICS

Centernorma is a family-owned company with more than 30 years of tradition. We specialize in the production of multi-layer glued-laminated wooden components for windows and doors. We manufacture everything from simple solid-wood components to complex laminated components tailored to customer requirements. We ensure top quality through the sourcing of high-quality timber and a modern, well-equipped production. Our facilities comprise 7,500 m² of covered production halls, where we process over 8,000 m³ of timber annually. Thanks to flexible, adaptable manufacturing we deliver customer-specific solutions, and as a larger manufacturer we also build long-term strategic partnerships. We employ 38 people working across the various stages of the production process.

In recent years we have modernized our machinery and implemented state-of-the-art wood-industry technologies, improving material yield, increasing productivity, and reducing the physical load on employees. We are currently carrying out comprehensive digitalization and automation: transitioning from paper-based operations to a fully digital MES system that will enable robot integration and real-time material traceability. An advanced wood-defect scanner forms the core of our production process. The new lumber scanner will bring AI and machine-vision algorithms for accurate detection and classification of hidden defects. With X-ray 3D scanning we will achieve optimal sorting and higher material yield, while connection to the MES will enable advanced defect analytics and real-time process optimization. In parallel we are introducing additional IoT-connected robotics: an industrial robot with a custom gripper is already in operation for depalletizing and feeding the band saw, and a second robot performs pellet stacking. We are also rapidly developing manipulators for automatic stacking of shorter lamellas identified and fed by the scanner. This solution could potentially be deployed at eight workstations. By incorporating machine learning, precise length measurement, and IoT connectivity, we will gain a comprehensive real-time view of data and analytics in this production stage as well.

Our goal is to further modernize production, robotize as many routine operations as possible (handling, feeding, sorting, packing), and more tightly connect machines and robots within the IoT/MES environment.

The purpose of the visit is to explore the most advanced robotics solutions and best practices that we can transfer into our process to achieve higher material efficiency, greater productivity, and better ergonomics, and to open opportunities for collaboration on pilot projects.

5. GORENC STARE d.o.o.

Turnover: 4–5 million EUR

Export: 50%

Number of Employees: 30

Participants: Igor Stare, founder and owner of Gorenc Stare d.o.o.



Gorenc stare d.o.o. is a Slovenian family-owned company with a long tradition in manufacturing high-quality agricultural machinery. Our main product lines include harrows, ploughs, and mulchers, designed for durability, reliability, and efficiency. With more than five decades of expertise, Gorenc has established itself as a trusted partner in agricultural mechanization, providing solutions tailored to diverse farming needs across Europe and beyond.

Opportunities in advanced agricultural technology

We are seeking cooperation with Japanese companies specializing in advanced technology for agricultural machinery. Our primary interest lies in navigation systems and monitoring equipment for machinery operation, as well as autonomous robots for independent soil cultivation. We are looking forward to establishing partnerships that combine our robust agricultural machinery expertise with cutting-edge Japanese technology.

Gorenc stare d.o.o.

Address: Spodnji Brnik 81, 4207 Cerklje na Gorenjskem, Slovenia

Website: www.gorenc.si

E-mail: info@gorenc.si

Phone: +386 4 28 16 100

6. HIPOPROJECT d.o.o



Turnover: 6 mio € v 2025

Export: 34,3%

Number of Employees: 27 + 9

Serching contacts: Suppliers, Buyers, Business partners

Participant: Urban Pevnik, CEO

Hiproject is an innovative company based in Slovenske Konjice. The company was founded in year 2018. We are experts in the field of heat treatment and automation of production processes. With an experienced and successful team of employees, we proudly deliver our advanced solutions and technologies worldwide. We offer consulting to our clients, and we use our know-how to develop excellent projects - from conceptual design to final production. This allows greater optimization of all processes and turnkey assembly.

Automation and robotization - Honda - Asimo; Softbank Robotics; Fujitsu; Osaka University

Benefits of the implemented systems for our interested parties:

- ✓ A continuous process of improving the satisfaction of costumer requirements, needs and expectations by considering the fundamental system principles – risk assessment, managing hazards at source, adapting to technical progress, using the best possible technology...
- ✓ The provision of projects that follow the principles of the circular economy and brings a reduction in the consumption of energy resources and the continuous introduction of technologies that will be more productive, give better economic efficiency and will be more friendly to the environment (reduction of CO₂, Nox ...) for costumer.
- ✓ Offer and work operations expansion in the field of development and production of more sophisticated machines and devices.
- ✓ Continuous systematic quality improvement of products and processes (increasing quality, shortening delivery times ...)
- ✓ Development partnership with buyers, suppliers.

7. INNODULER d.o.o.



Turnover: 23,000,000 EUR

Export: 95%

Number of Employees: 150

Searching contacts: Advanced robot welding technologies and equipment

Participants:

- Jernej Duler, founder and co-owner of Innoduler
- Andrej Grilc, Head of the Innoduler Technology Centre

Innoduler d.o.o. is a Slovenian family-owned company producing construction steel-made products such as specialized containers, tanks, pallets and other modular upgrades for the railway sector. It is recognized for its innovative, highly automated small-series manufacturing supported by its R&D centre with a proven track record of in-house developed high-quality robot welding solutions leveraging the integration of advanced sensors and embracing new technologies.

Opportunities in advanced automation and robotization

Searching for new advances in automation and robotisation relevant for small series production of large-scale construction steel-made products and the transfer of such technology. Interested in user-friendly (offline) programmable industrial robots capable of integrating multiple sensors to assure real-time adaptation to the welding parameters (i.e. machine vision and other relevant sensors integrated, possibly with proven AI aided features for the assembly and welding processes).

Opportunities in cooperation with R&D leaders in robotization of welding

Searching for cooperation with Japanese R&D institutions and companies, that are highly specialised in developing and integrating robot welding technologies and can be considered frontrunners in leveraging new technologies (industry 4.0/5.0, AI). We are looking forward to establishing new partnerships and cooperation in sharing and further developing our advanced robot-welding technologies for small series production of large size steel made products, such as modular upgrades of rail wagons, bogies and rail wagon frames.

8. MONOMO arhitekti, d.o.o.

MONOMO
ARHITEKTI·D.O.O.

Turnover: 150.000,00 € / year

Export: N/A

Number of Employees: 2 FT + 6 (contract)

Searching contacts:

- finding investors or clients
- meeting with architects or urban planners for possible collaboration

Participant: Mia Crnič CEO

MONOMO Architects is a studio devoted to architecture, urban design, and spatial research at the intersection of culture, technology, and the environment. Our practice stems from a grounded attentiveness to context—both spatial and social. We believe that high-quality architecture does not require grand gestures, but rather a precise reading of the existing conditions and thoughtful, often nearly invisible moves that preserve the spirit of place.

We focus on seeking innovative, authentic solutions with limited resources. We are interested in how modest means—material, temporal, or social—can generate sensitive, responsive spaces that sustain the character of the place. Each project is understood as a research endeavor—not only about form but also meaning, rhythm, materiality, and quiet. How can we recognize and reinforce the spirit of a place without erasing it? How can a quiet, precise gesture create architecture that responds rather than dominates?

We are especially drawn to edge conditions—rural buildings, degraded areas, transitional spaces—where architecture is often neglected or subordinated to function. In these contexts we seek opportunities for revitalization through restrained but meaningful interventions.

Space is understood as a process—not an object—with an emphasis on balancing presence and absence, past and future, and the relationship between user and landscape.

Alongside design and practice, the office engages in scientific research. We are particularly interested in strategic planning and space development, pursuing methodologies that uncover and cross-fertilize diverse data sources. These studies are oriented toward the broader context of space as a crossroad between architecture, urban design, and landscape/environment. By cross-referencing multiple, initially disparate input data, we explore space in an innovative, interdisciplinary manner. This approach yields a methodology that is repeatable and applicable to various disciplines beyond spatial design. We understand architecture and urbanism as complex systems comprising many interrelated elements rather than a single-layer field.

Recently, we have placed special emphasis on the concept of “shared space”—approached as an urbanist, spatial, and social phenomenon rather than merely a traffic concept. We are developing a model that enables the creation of inclusive and equitable spaces where different traffic flows and users coexist. With a toolkit of urban furniture, ground-floor programs, and integrated space-making, we investigate the development of such a public, open space that is socially inclusive, high-quality, vibrant, and economically viable. This is a comprehensive research project aimed at developing a planning application for end users (e.g., municipal decision-makers, urbanists, architects, economists). The goal is to deliver a simplified yet predictable and prescriptive framework for public-space design based on a chosen set of variable factors. The resulting combinations consistently yield a high-quality space: safe, inclusive, and accessible.



**PIVOVARNA
PELICON**

9. PIVOVARNA PELICON D.O.O.

Turnover: 1.35 million EUR (2024)

Export: 2 % (with focus on EU markets - Italy, Croatia) we would like to reach pre-Covid numbers by 2027 up to 10 % **Number of Employees:** 9

Searching contacts: Lean Manufacturing consultants, Distribution partners **Participant:** Anita Lozar, Co-founder & CEO

Company Profile

Pivovarna Pelicon is Slovenia's leading craft brewery, founded as pioneers in the Slovenian craft beer market in 2013. Located in Ajdovščina, we specialize in premium craft beer production with focus on quality, reliability, and innovation. Our comprehensive offering includes draught and bottled beers (IPA, Pale Ale, Pilsner varieties), plus non-alcoholic sodas. We serve restaurants, retail stores, and beer enthusiasts through reliable delivery, regular tap system maintenance, and exceptional customer service.

As market leaders among small craft breweries in Slovenia, we combine traditional brewing excellence with modern techniques, maintaining strong customer relationships built on trust and quality. Slovenia is home to one of Europe's largest hop-growing regions, producing exceptional varieties like Styrian Golding, Styrian Wolf, and Aurora in the fertile Savinja Valley. Nearly all our beers feature these premium Slovenian hops, offering unique European terroir and distinctive flavor profiles highly valued in today's craft beer market. Our mission embodies growing from humble beginnings while staying honest and passionate about craft beer culture. We have achieved 100% production capacity increase and 70% growth in tap points over recent years.

Objectives for Japanese Market:

- **Lean Manufacturing Implementation:** Learn from Toyota Production System pioneers to optimize our brewing processes, reduce waste, and improve efficiency
- **Quality Systems Enhancement:** Implement Japanese quality control methodologies (Kaizen, 5S) in craft beer production
- **Export Opportunities:** Explore potential for premium Slovenian craft beer in Japanese market, particularly through specialized importers focusing on European craft beverages **Target Partners:**
- **Lean Manufacturing Consultants:** Companies specializing in Toyota Production System implementation for food & beverage industry
- **Import/Distribution Companies:** Specialized beverage importers focusing on premium craft beer and European products
- **Quality System Consultants:** Experts in Japanese quality methodologies for small-scale food production **Strategic Interest**

Japan represents an ideal learning environment for lean manufacturing principles, given Toyota's pioneering role in developing these methodologies. We seek to combine Japanese operational excellence with Slovenian craft brewing tradition to create a model for efficient, high-quality craft beer production. Additionally, Japan's appreciation for premium, artisanal products align with our craft beer positioning.

Our expansion strategy focuses on sustainable growth through operational excellence rather than volume alone, making Japanese lean manufacturing expertise particularly valuable for our development trajectory.

10. ROC7 d.o.o.

Turnover: 1.800.000 EUR

Export: 85 %

Number of Employees: 20

Serching contacts: seeking cooperation with outgoing tour operators and travel agencies specializing in outgoing travel

Participant: Saša Janez Lajovic, CEO

Roc7 d.o.o. is engaged in the hospitality and catering industry. Ninety percent of our guests are international visitors. The company is seeking business partners, primarily abroad.

We are looking for business partners engaged in tourism (agencies, tour operators).

11. URI Soca



Turnover: 39.923.291,70 EUR

Export: N. A.

Number of Employees: 641 (on 31. 12. 2024)

Serching contacts: URI Soča as the central Slovenian public institution in which we perform comprehensive rehabilitation of adults and children with central and peripheral nervous system disorders, movement of related body structures and functions, and patients with muscular and neuromuscular diseases with chronic pain I would like to visit rehabilitation hospital/institute/centre, exchanging experience and good practices. I am particularly interested in the field of robotics in rehabilitation, as well as in the use of sports as a form of rehabilitation.

Participant: Roman Jakič, General Manager

The University Rehabilitation Institute Republic of Slovenia Soča (URI Soča) is the central Slovenian public institution in which we perform comprehensive rehabilitation of adults and children with central and peripheral nervous system disorders, movement of related body structures and functions, and patients with muscular and neuromuscular diseases with chronic pain and with cancer.

Medical rehabilitation in URI Soča is complemented by the activities of our centres:

- Centre for Vocational Rehabilitation
- Centre for Prosthetics and Orthotics
- Rehabilitation Engineering
- Pharmacy with Demonstration Centre for Medical devices
- Research and Development
- Development Centre for Vocational Rehabilitation

Rehabilitation is performed in the outpatient rehabilitation service and in six departments:

- Rehabilitation Department for Patients after Amputation
- Department for (Re)habilitation of Children
- Department for Rehabilitation of Patients after Injuries, with Peripheral Nervous Disorders and Rheumatoid Diseases
- Department for Rehabilitation of Patients after Traumatic Brain Injury, Multiple Sclerosis and other Neurological Diseases
- Department for Rehabilitation of Patients after Stroke
- Department of Rehabilitation of Patients with Spinal Lesions

We use demanding methods in rehabilitation medicine, physiotherapy, rehabilitation nursing, occupational therapy, psychological, speech therapy and social therapy treatment, including counselling for adaptations to the individual's living environment. We "guide" patients and their family members through the disease. We follow the development of the disease, advise patients and relatives on solving certain problems at different stages of life and at different stages of the disease.

12. LUKA LAJOVIC s. p.

Turnover: 50.000 eur

Export: 20%

Number of Employees:1

Serching contacts: real estate

Participant: Luka Lajovic

Luka Lajovic s. p. specializes in commercial real estate and investments. We manage lease agreements for large business complexes, including office and retail spaces. Our services also include organizing and conducting due diligence for real estate projects, ensuring investors a secure and profitable acquisition. With a professional approach and market expertise, Lajovic s. p. provides reliable support throughout the entire investment process.

I would like to meet with real estate investors.

13. LUMAR IG & INVEST d.o.o.



Turnover: 28.446.473 EUR

Export: 17,50 %

Number of Employees: 97

Serching contacts: Modern technologies of timber prefabricated construction, sustainable & smart buildings, sustainable energy systems, concepts

Participants: Nataša Teraž Krois, Head of Development and Sustainability and Bogdan Božac, CEO

Lumar IG is a technologically leading manufacturer of nearly Zero-Energy Buildings (nZEB) in Slovenia. The company's philosophy is focused on creating new trends and developing high-quality timber buildings that ensure maximum living comfort with minimal environmental impact and an optimal price–quality ratio. This vision is reflected in the company's slogan: *"Better living!"*

To date, Lumar has built more than 2,830 prefabricated buildings, including 720 passive houses and four passive kindergartens. With these achievements, Lumar ranks first among Slovenian manufacturers in terms of the number of passive buildings constructed.

14. LIFETIME EXPREIENCE



Company Profile: Lifetime Experience

Lifetime Experience (www.lifetime-experience.com) is a Slovenia-based travel institute specializing in transformative journeys that bridge ancient wisdom with modern wellness. We connect people with nature, culture, and their inner selves through authentic retreats, immersive travel experiences, and unique events.

Mission & Vision

We design all-inclusive boutique retreats and transformative travel programs for growth-minded individuals and groups worldwide. Our experiences blend healing, art, events, and travel, combining modern luxury with timeless wisdom, emphasizing love, balance, and holistic wellbeing.

Innovation & Collaboration

In partnership with MULTIVERSUM d.o.o., we are developing AI-powered avatars to guide users and enhance experiences. As part of 'HEalingART by Lado Rot,' featured at Expo 2025 in Japan, we are creating the Portal of Light – a space merging art, technology, and transformative experiences. We welcome collaborations with hotels, resorts, spa centers, festivals, and companies seeking high-value experiences.

Awards & Recognition

- Slovenia's Hidden Gems 2022 – Finalist: "The Dragon's Secret Tour of Ljubljana"
- Mushrooming with Dr. Fungi – Slovenia Unique Experience 2023
- Sejalec Finalist 2023 – Creative ideas & products (Slovenian Tourist Board)
- Travel & Tourism Awards 2024 – Best Client-Focused Travel Company in Slovenia (LUXlife Magazine)

Founder – Lado Rot (Dr. Fungi)

Lado Rot, aka Dr. Fungi, is a retreat leader, public speaker, and visionary with 30+ years of experience. He integrates Slavic ancestral wisdom, mushroom alchemy, and holistic healing to inspire deep transformation.

Goals & Expectations in Japan

- Present HEalingART – immersive exhibition & video projection at Expo 2025 Osaka
- Promote Slovenia as a destination for nature-based, wellness-focused experiences
- Establish partnerships with Japanese travel agencies, wellness centers, cultural institutions, and sustainable tourism companies
- Develop retreats, cultural exchange programs, and innovative travel concepts connecting Japan and Slovenia

Preferred B2B Meetings

- Japanese travel agencies & tour operators (experiential, wellness, luxury)
- Cultural & wellness institutions for retreats and healing arts
- Sustainable tourism, eco-resorts, and wellness companies
- Organizations promoting cultural exchange, holistic health, and integrative medicine

15. SAVA d.d.



Turnover: 137.2 million euros

Export: The Sava Group generates all of its revenue in resorts in Slovenia, where the share of foreign guests was 66% in 2024.

Number of Employees: 1.155

Participant: Domen Trobec, President of the Management board

With the umbrella brand Sava Hotels & Resorts, the Sava Group owns the largest Slovenian tourism company, managing seven destinations. All of them will take you to beautiful parts of Slovenia that you can explore during your stay in our accommodation facilities in Bled, in our three tourist destinations on the Slovenian coast, and at the thermal springs of our three different thermal resorts on the plains of the former Pannonian Sea. **Foreign guests came from more than 150 countries.**

Our services are designed with great care and with your best experience and well-being in mind. We are looking for first contacts.

Contact: Metka Granov Erjavec, Director of Sales (metka.erjavec-granov@sava.si; +386 41 795 156)