# Forms of strategic partnerships





### Strategic Partnerships

- □ "open" form of co-operation
  - occasional co-operation
  - "", quite" informal agreements
- □ informal collaboration with information sharing
  - handshake agreement
- □ preferred suppliers and buyers
- □ production, assembly, buy, back agreement
- □ management, marketing, service agreement
- □ joint ventures
- □ franchising
- □ licensing
- □ outsourcing
- □ "close" form of co-operation
  - merger
  - acquisition



#### Forms of strategic alliances

- management/marketing/service agreements
- production/assembly/buy back agreements
- preferred suppliers and buyers
- informal collaboration with information sharing
- franchising, licensing, outsourcing
- joint ventures

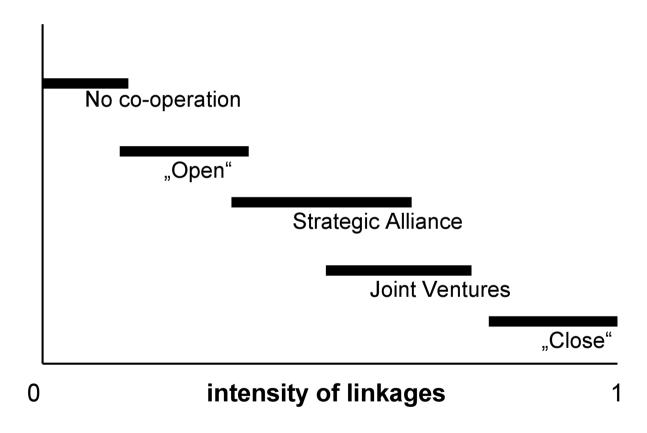
### Strategic alliance

- alliance → one form of strategic partnership
- A relationship formed by *two or more organizations* that share (proprietary), participate in joint investments, and develop linked and common processes to *increase the performance of both* companies. Many organizations form strategic alliances to increase the performance of their common supply chain.

  Source: http://www.apics.org/
- A Strategic Alliance is a partnership between two or more companies to pursue a set of *agreed upon goals* while *remaining independent* organizations. Strategic alliances come in all shapes and sizes, and include a wide range of cooperation, from contractual to equity forms. Source: Encyclopedia, Wikipedia, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Strategic\_alliance
- Definition accroding ASAP:
  - □ agreements with "open" end
  - □ between separated companies
  - □ sharing common interests or goals



### Intensity of linkages



#### Which of the mentioned problems can be solved by strategic alliances?

	Large company	Medium company	Small company
Management difficulty (level of bureaucracy, problem of intra-organizational control)	3	2	1
Provision of knowledge resources	2	1	2
Organizational flexibility	3	2	1
Professionalism and negotiation power	1	2	2
Innovative behavior of organization and its managers	3	2	1
Capital power, disposability of needed resources	1	2	3
Company risks and possibility of their reduction	2	2	3
Efficiency of economic processes	1	2	3
Possibility of quality control in the whole process of the economic activity	1	2	3



#### Small and medium enterprises

- 99,8% of all the Czech companies in the CR belong to SME
- 60% of all the employees in the national economy are employed in the SME
- Great importance of SME in the CR for GDP
- Ability to compete in the EU can be acquired when co-operating with other companies around even if they are competitors



## Informal collaboration with information sharing

- Sharing of information which are interesting for the both sides (supplier and subscriber)
- The partners can share the experience and other data resources concerning the market conditions, experience with other partners, computer programs
- Handshake agreements
- Question of trust it can be problem in the CR



## Management / marketing / service agreements

- Agreements concerning the collective solution and implementation of external processes
- The external processes can be presented by mutually coordinated marketing, assembly and servicing of complicated equipments, commen distribution
- The example of Technicoat and DuPont, cooperation in the strategic planning of marketing activities



## Production / assembly / buy back agreements

- The participating companies are trying to exploit the advantages coming from the economies of scale
- Co-operation connected with fluently recovery of the capital equipment and later with buy back by the supplier of the equipment



#### Preferred suppliers and buyers

- Agreements connected with the special position of the partners (sole agency)
- Long-term co-operation
- License agreements are the subgroups of strategic partnership (strategic partnership is wider notion than strategic alliances) but they are also established on the principles of preferred suppliers and buyers
- ŠKODA Auto Mladá Boleslav



#### Sole agency



- The company **Starlift s.r.o**. is the exclusive agent of the American company Caterpillar Lift Truck (manufacturer of material handling equipment for a wide range of industrial and commercial applications)
- Starlift is distributor of the lift trucks and alongside it provides the customer of Caterpillar company with maintenance services
- The co-operation started 10 years ago
- Starlift company is also sole distributor for the Slovak market



#### Joint ventures

- An agreement between two or more firms to undertake the same business strategy and plan of action
- It has its legal form
- Two companies want to co-operate (share knowledge, markets, and profits) and they decide to create another company together – JOINT VENTURE
- In the CR typical for the enterprises with foreign capital



#### **Barum Continental**

tires producer



- JV partner German company CONTINENTAL 1992
- Barum part of Continental Group







#### **SEPLAST**



- The company Plastika s.r.o. Kroměříž established joint venture with the French company Seat Ventilation, SA in 1994 – SEPLAST s.r.o.
- Seplast is a producer and distributor of industrial ventilators units and plastic industrial ventilators
- Plastica provided the French partner with knowledge of the Czech market





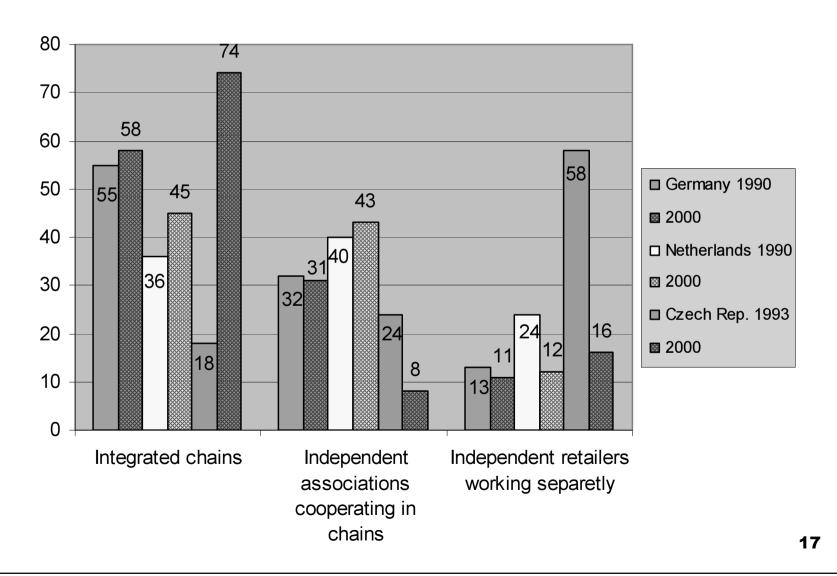


#### Licensing



- The Czech company **Technicoat s.r.o.** operates in the surface coating business specializing in the application of industrial coatings (Teflon, Xylan, Dykor, Halar, Rilsan)
- Technicoat was awarded DuPont license to apply Teflon® Fluoropolymer coatings "DuPont Licensed Industrial Applicators"
- Technicoat is supplying also Slovak and Polish market
- Success of the co-operation: troublefree communication, sharing of know-how, knowledge of Czech and Slovak market







# Cooperation in retail and wholesale

■ Stages of co-operation:

□ Purchasing and payment alliance

□ Purchasing and selling alliance

☐ Marketing alliance

□ Service organization

- NC Praha purchasing and payment alliance SPAR
- COOP Centrum
- Marketing alliances Droxi, RENOME





















■ EMD Markant – Globus, Kaufland....



# Dissatisfaction with alliances followed by their end

- Low rate of strategies conformity
- Unrealistic expectation concerning difficulty of establishment and running the alliance
- Key workers don't want to work
- Key workers don't manage to fulfill qualification requirements
- Enemy effort to become independent with regard to the founder



## My experience concerning cooperation in the CR

- Problem with trust between the Czech companies being competitors, if they are going to co-operate (the Moravia Silesia Cluster) – problem especially of the co-operation supported by public authority
- Foreign partners are trying to produce for cheap in the Czech Republic
- Foreign partners want to expand and don't know the Czech market
- Cooperation between Czech firms in the sphere of research and development (24 of innovative research parks in the CR)
- Expansion of outsourcing

