



# **WESTHOLLAND FOREIGN INVESTMENT AGENCY**

## **English summary 2009 WFIA annual report**

If we look at WFIA's results for last year, we can say that 2009 was a successful year. Despite the fact that the global effects of the credit crunch shrunk the worldwide influx of foreign direct investments, the WFIA 2009 results actually show the opposite of this global trend. More companies chose WestHolland as their business location to set up new activities, expand or relocate their European activities, than the year before. Companies from our priority countries United States of America and China and a growing number of companies from UK, Korea and Russia still saw the benefits of choosing WestHolland as their business location.

This resulted to a total of 35 successfully assisted projects in the Westholland region in 2009 which was 7 projects more than the year before. These 35 projects created 152 new jobs. The combined estimated growth of these companies is set to be 487 jobs after three years of operation.

In addition, we were also successful in retaining two major international companies which are located in the WestHolland region. Due to the economic crisis, these companies were forced to reconsider and reorganize their European operations. Therefore, relocating to another country was a serious option. Together with executive power of local authorities, we were able to convince them to reorganize and stay in WestHolland and thus saving some 300 jobs that would have been lost if the companies had relocated.

[www.westholland.nl](http://www.westholland.nl)