

▶ Top 5 Reasons to do Business in Belgium

1. Ideal Test Market for Europe

With over 10 million inhabitants, Belgium is a very small country compared to its European neighbors.

But its size and manageability make it an ideal test market for the European Union (EU), especially for companies in environmental technology and the automotive sector.

- *Within a 300 mile radius, companies can reach 140 million consumers, representing 60% of Europe's purchasing power.*

2. Quality Labor Force

Belgium is known for having a multi-lingual and solutions-minded labor force.

The Belgian education system emphasizes instruction in multiple languages, including French, Flemish, English and German.

- *Belgium is a federal state, consisting of 3 communities (Flemish-, French- and German-speaking) and three regions (Flemish, Walloon and Brussels-Capital).*

Belgian universities are world-class and rank highly at an international level.

- *The International Labor Organization and the Organisation for Economic Development and Co-operation (OECD) rate Belgian workers as some of the most productive in the world, ahead of the counterparts in France, the United States, the Netherlands and Germany.*
- *Belgium has the highest concentration of college-educated people in the Europe. One-quarter of the working population in Belgian workforce has a college degree.*

3. Intelligent Tax System

Belgium's pro-business tax incentives make it one of the most attractive places to set-up a business.

It is the only European country to alleviate the differences in tax treatment between finances raised through venture capital and finances raised through borrowed capital.

4. The Capital City of Brussels

Belgium's capital, Brussels, is home to the headquarters of the European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), as well as hundreds of international institutions, associations and multinational corporations.

Opinion leaders from around the world meet to do business in the city, creating a far-reaching network of contacts and opportunities.

Brussels is also the 'greenest' capital in Europe and has one of the lowest costs of living. This gives workers the highest purchasing power in the region.

5. Export Opportunities

There are opportunities for Pennsylvania companies in a number of sectors, including:

- Automotive
- Energy
- Environmental Technology
- Information & Communications Technology
- Advanced Logistics / Infrastructure
- Prepared & Packaged Foods

▶ Contact Us

Learn more about how we can help your company find opportunities and partners in Belgium.

Contact Pennsylvania's Authorized Trade Representative for the Netherlands and Belgium:

Mr. Peter Sanders
Authorized Trade Representative
Het Nobelhuis, Nobelstraat 1c
NL-2513 BC The Hague
THE NETHERLANDS
Web: www.pspconsultants.nl
E-mail: psanders@pspsconsultants.nl