



Q3 2011

# MOSCOW OFFICE MARKET

Moscow

**Knight Frank**

## HIGHLIGHTS

- Total supply of quality office space was 11.7 million sq m by the end of Q3 2011. Growth of supply has been slow. About 620,000 sq m were brought into operation in the first nine months of 2011, of which 40% is Class A. Current uncertainty in the world economy will probably cause a reduction in the number of new projects, despite this year's increase of credit available to development companies.
- Take-up in the first nine months of 2011 was about 650,000 sq m, which is comparable with the same period of 2010. The take up volumes in 2010 was inflated by delayed demand from the period of 2008-2009, so maintenance of market volumes at last year's level in 2011 is a positive sign and represents underlying growth as corporate tenants expand their businesses and take on new staff.
- Stock markets and energy prices are experiencing volatility at the present time, but we do not expect any significant decline of office rental rates in the next six months. The current situation on the office market is unlike that in autumn 2008, when there was serious "overheating". However, there will be some slowdown of market expansion and consequent stabilization of rental rates if current macroeconomic difficulties persist.

# MOSCOW OFFICE MARKET OVERVIEW

Key indicators	Class A	Class B+	Class B-
Total stock, million sq m		11,7	
including, million sq m	2,24 (+9%)*	6,39 (+4%)*	3,08 (+4%)*
Commissioned in Q3 2011, thousand sq m		192,3	
including, thousand sq m	51,1	73,7	67,5
Vacancy rate, %	↓ 13,3 (- 4 p.p.)*		↓ 18,3 (-2 p.p.)*
	600-1 200 (950-1 300***)	400-600	260-400
Base rental rates**, \$ per sq m per annum	↑ (+8,5%)*		↑ (+5,5%)*
OPEX, \$ per sq m per annum	110-210	80 - 120	50-95

\* Change from the end of 2010, %  
 \*\*Triple net - excluding OPEX and VAT (18%)  
 \*\*\* Average range of requested rental rates for premises with a premium location  
 Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011



**Konstantin Losiukov,**  
 Head of Corporate Client  
 Group Office Real Estate  
 Department

«The Russian office real estate market has continued to develop despite instability in the world economy. This year is setting records for scale of investments in office properties, partly due to foreign investors' activity: their share of total investments in office property development has grown from 10-12% to nearly 40%.

Volumes of demand in Q1-Q3 2011 were comparable with those in the same period last year. The take up in 2010 was fostered by the delayed demand that practically fades out this year.

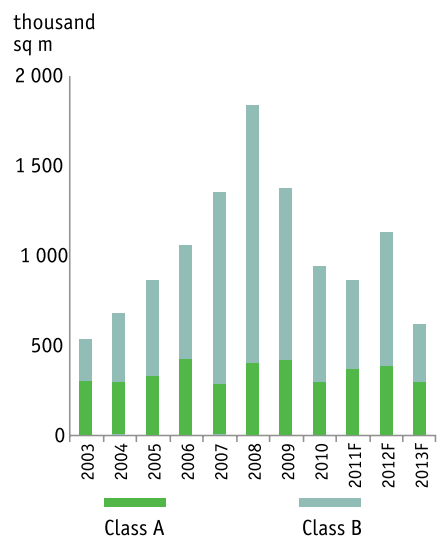
Rental rates in Q3 stabilized at achieved levels. We do not expect significant changes on the market in the coming six months due to the uncertain situation in the overall economy».

## Supply

Total supply of Class A and B office real estate in Moscow at the end of Q3 2011 was 11.7 million sq m. About 620,000 sq m of new quality office space came onto the market in nine months of 2011, of which 40% in Class A. Quarterly growth was 1-2%, representing the lowest rates seen in Moscow for the last seven years: supply increased at quarterly rates of 5-10% in previous periods. Reduction of new supply is a consequence of slowdown in developers' activity during 2008-2009, as well as uncertainty on the construction market in the Russian capital.

The practice of pre-leases (contracts made before project completion) returned to the market about a year ago and is continuing: about a half of new Class A space has already been leased under preliminary contracts.

## Supply of new office space in 2011 will be at lowest levels for the last 7 years

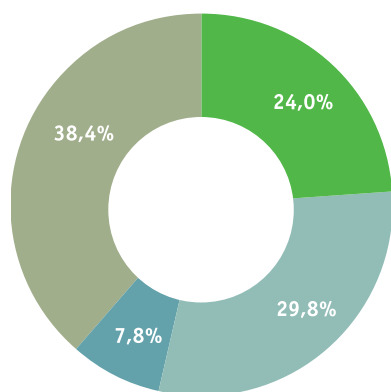


\*The forecast of the terms of projects realization is based on developers' plans

Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011



**New projects commissioned in Q1-Q3 2011 were mainly outside the Third Transport Ring**



- Inside Garden Ring
- Between Garden Ring & Third Transport Ring
- Between Third Transport Ring & Fourth Transport Ring
- Between Fourth Transport Ring & MKAD

*\*including office centers in a close proximity to MKAD but outside it*

Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011

We expect that supply growth rates will remain slow for the next three years. Increase of credit available to development companies in 2011 has given a boost to the launch of new projects, but the situation on stock markets in autumn 2011 is forcing investors into a wait-and-see strategy, so that numbers of new projects will be very limited.

## Demand

Take-up in the first nine months of 2011 was relatively high estimated as 650,000 sq m, which is comparable with the same period of 2010. But in 2010 the greater part of volumes represented delayed demand from 2008 and, partly, 2009. Tenant companies expanded their businesses and took on more staff in Q1-Q3 2011 thanks to positive trends in the economy.

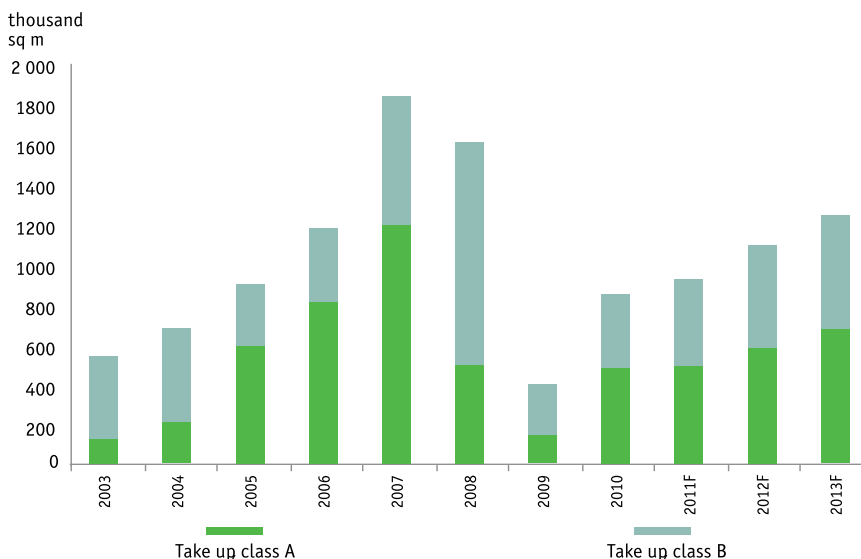
The maximum level of take-up on the Moscow office market was observed in 2007 (about 1.9 million sq m in Classes A and B), when the number of new lease contracts for quality office premises in Moscow was at record levels. Since contracts

**Key office projects in 2011**



Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011

**We expect levels of demand to grow by 10-15% per annum assuming stabilization of financial markets**



Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011

are usually signed for a period of five years, many tenants are deciding in 2011 whether to renew their present contracts or move to new business centres. This is one explanation for the high level of demand this year.

The difficult situation in the financial sector this autumn is likely to cause a slowdown in demand growth rates. However, main economic indicators are not showing negative trends as of the start of October, so we do not expect a serious downturn in demand. Also, the present situation on the office market is unlike that in 2008, when there was evident overheating. Fairly slow rates of growth, limitations on construction of new space in the city centre and review of investment contracts make it unlikely that new projects will materialize in any large numbers. Companies with 500 staff to accommodate are already hard-pressed to find high-class office space in a ready building close to the city centre.

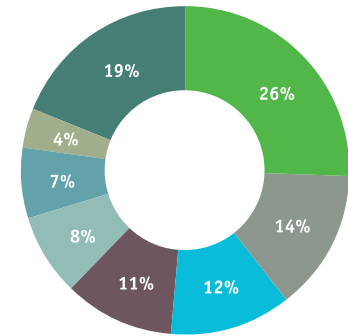
However, we expect to see a change in the structure of demand. Until recently demand structure has been fairly diverse, but about a third of leased and bought premises were taken by banks and other financial structures and 20% by companies

in mining industries and the energy sector (oil, gas, etc). We expect the situation to change in the near future when main tenants are likely to be companies in the high-tech and industrial sectors.



Legend 2, Tsvetnoy Blvd

**Banks and financial organisations accounted for about one third of transactions in the first nine months of 2011**



- Banking, Finance, Investment
- IT & Telecommunication
- Industrial
- FMCG (Fast Moving Consumer Goods)
- Mining & Processing
- Medical & pharmaceutical
- Business services (accounting, consulting, etc.)
- Other companies

Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011

**Key transactions Q1-Q3 2011. Lease**

Nº Company	Area, sq m	Address	Property
<b>Lease</b>			
1 Kaspersky Lab	29,840	39 Leningradskoe Hwy	Olimpia Park
2 Sberbank	23,860	8 Novodanilovskaya Emb	Danilovskiy Fort
3 Greenatom	13,500	8 Paveletskaya Emb	AFI na Paveletskoy
4 Morton	11,520	8 Preobrazhenskaya Sq	Preo 8
5 Group M*	10,800	2 Tsvetnoy Blvd	Legenda
6 UEC	10,770	14 Serebryakova Passage	Silver Stone
7 Renaissance Credit*	1,680	Bld 1A, 12 Dvintsev St	Dvintsev
		Bld 1, 8 Presnenskaya Emb	Capital City
8 Schneider Electric	8,680	Bld 1, 12 Dvintsev	Dvintsev
9 Credit Europe Bank*	7,620	12/16 Olimpiyskiy Ave	Diamond Hall
10 MRSK	7,600	4 2nd Yamskaya St	Nevskiy Dom
11 "Bud Zdorov" (Ingosstrakh medical chain)*	7,400	12 Sushevskiy Val	Ocean Plaza

\*Knight Frank is a consultant of the deal  
Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011



### Key transactions Q1-Q3 2011. Purchase

Nº Company	Area, sq m	Address	Property
<b>Purchase by end-user</b>			
1 Rusal	28,120	1 Vasilisy Kozhinoy St	Park Pobedy
2 VTB	circa 16,000	Bld 1, 13 Krasnopresnenskaya Emb	Federation West Tower
3 UniCreditBank	11,680	Bld 1, 18 Andropova Ave	Nagatino i-Land
<b>Investment purchase</b>			
1 UFG Real Estate	circa 40,000	9 Strastnoy Blvd 10 Shabolovka St	Pushkinskiy Dom Concord
2 Promsvyazrealty	37,000	1 Arbat St	Alfa Arbat
3 Aliv-M	12,200	Bld 2, 50A/8 Zemlyanoy Val	Sadko
4 VTB Capital TPG Capital	project share	5 Lesnaya St Bld 29, Lesnaya St	White Square White Gardens

*\*Knight Frank is a consultant of the deal*  
Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011

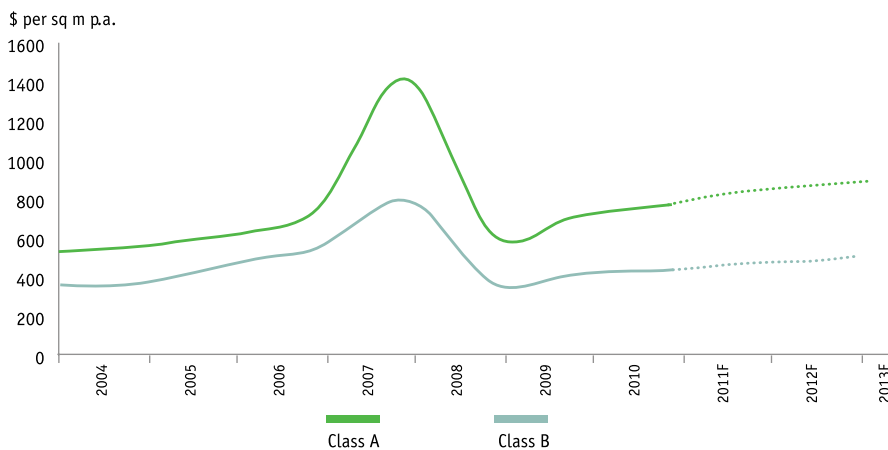
## Commercial terms

The average range of Class A office rentlevels in Q3 2011 was \$600-1200 per sq m per annum, and the rate for Class B premises was \$300-600 per sq m per annum.

Growth of demand and low rates of new supply led to growth of rates in Classes A and B during the first half of 2011: rents had risen by 7% in Class A and 3% in Class B by the middle of the summer. As previously, projects in the premium segment were the main growth drivers. However, there was almost no change in rentlevels during the third quarter. This was probably due to low levels of tenant activity in the holiday months (July and August). An additional factor is turbulence on financial markets, which has made some tenants adopt a wait-and-see strategy, postponing their decisions on new office space.

We believe that asking rates will not decline significantly in the next six months due to low volumes of new supply. Demand for office space should at least remain at present levels, assuming that the Russian and international economy avoids serious upsets. In favourable circumstances, rents could see modest growth of 5-7% per annum.

### Supply shortages should ensure that rent levels remain fairly steady, despite the current uncertain environment



Source: Knight Frank Research, 2011



# GLOSSARY

## (THE KEY DEFINITIONS)

Term	Definition
<b>Base Rental Rate</b>	The rental rate amount excluding operational expenses and VAT.
<b>Business Park</b>	A complex of buildings with low-density development and large ground parking. Its usual location is outside the city center with good accessibility to main highways.
<b>Business-centre</b>	A property with high-quality office premises, wide pool of tenants and centralized management system.
<b>Commissioning</b>	The object is commissioned after the state commission and the receipt of Operation Permit.
<b>Developer</b>	A company that conducts the construction of a real estate project, provides financing or attracts financial resources. Also the company provides further implementation of space developed (sale, lease).
<b>Free-rent period</b>	A time period that is free of rental payments
<b>Lease Agreement</b>	An agreement, which is concluded between a tenant and a landlord and gives a right to the tenant to temporarily possess or use the property for the certain charge called a rental fee.
<b>LOI (Letter of Intention)</b>	Preliminary agreement between a landlord and a tenant that confirms the intention of the parties to conclude a lease agreement. It contains preliminary terms that will be included to the lease agreement.
<b>Loss factor</b>	$\left(1 - \frac{\text{useable\_area}}{\text{rentable\_area}}\right) * 100\%$
<b>Multifunctional complex</b>	A property with three or more real estate components of different functions.
<b>OPEX (Operational Expenses)</b>	Money expenditures allocated for the operation and maintenance of the property. They usually include property taxes, insurance payments, management and maintenance costs of property, utilities.
<b>Pre-lease agreement</b>	A lease agreement that is concluded during the construction phase of the building.
<b>Rentable Area</b>	Area available for the exclusive use of the tenant, for which the tenant will pay rent. Includes common areas such as lobbies, restrooms and hallways.
<b>Rental Rate</b>	The amount of money paid by the tenant for the rental of office space (per sq m per annum).
<b>Sublease</b>	A lease in which the original tenant (lessee) sublets all or part of its premises to another tenant (subtenant) while still retaining a leasehold interest in the property.
<b>Take-up</b>	The amount of units occupied during a particular time period in a given market.
<b>Total Area</b>	Total area of a building measured on the outer sides of exterior walls.
<b>Total Stock</b>	All occupied and vacant Class A, B+ and B- office space for a specific time period.
<b>Useable Area</b>	It is the tenant's rentable area less certain common areas shared by all tenants of the office building (such as corridors, storage facilities and bathrooms). It is applied for the location of the workplaces, equipment and furniture. The area is measured on the interior sides of building walls including the measurement of structural columns and architectural projections. It doesn't include common areas.
<b>Vacancy</b>	The number of units or space that is vacant and available for occupancy at a particular time period within a given market (usually expressed as a vacancy rate).
<b>Vacancy rate</b>	The percentage of total office stock that is vacant and available for occupancy at a particular time period within a given market. It is calculated by dividing vacant space by total space.



# OVERVIEW

Europe  
Austria  
Belgium  
Czech Republic  
France  
Germany  
Ireland  
Italy  
Monaco  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
Spain  
Switzerland  
The Netherlands  
UK  
Ukraine

Africa  
Botswana  
Kenya  
Malawi  
Nigeria  
Tanzania  
Uganda  
Zimbabwe  
Zambia  
South Africa

Middle East  
Bahrain  
UAE

Asia Pacific  
Australia  
Cambodia  
China  
India  
Indonesia  
Malaysia  
New Zealand  
Singapore  
South Korea  
Thailand  
Vietnam

Americas & Canada  
Bermuda  
Caribbean  
Canada  
USA



## Office Real Estate

**Stanislav Tikhonov**  
Partner  
stas.tikhonov@ru.knightfrank.com



## Warehouse Real Estate, Regions

**Viacheslav Kholopov**  
Director  
viacheslav.kholopov@ru.knightfrank.com



## Retail Real Estate

**Sergey Gipsh**  
Partner  
Sergey.Gipsh@ru.knightfrank.com



## Professional Consulting Services

**Konstantin Romanov**  
Partner  
konstantin.romanov@ru.knightfrank.com



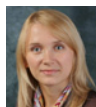
## Elite Residential Real Estate

**Elena Yurgeneva**  
Director  
elena.yurgeneva@ru.knightfrank.com



## Financial Markets and Investing

**Evgeniy Semyonov**  
Director  
evgeniy.semyonov@ru.knightfrank.com



## Valuation Services

**Olga Kochetova**  
Director  
olga.kochetova@ru.knightfrank.com



## Saint Petersburg

**Nikolai Pashkov**  
General Director  
nikolai.pashkov@ru.knightfrank.com



## Kyiv

**Mikhail Yermolenko**  
General Director  
mikhail.yermolenko@ua.knightfrank.com



## Marketing, PR, and Market Research

**Maria Kotova**  
Executive Director  
maria.kotova@ru.knightfrank.com

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Together with Newmark Company, Knight Frank's strategic partner, the company encompasses 209 offices in 47 countries across six continents.

Knight Frank has been a symbol of professionalism for tens of thousands of clients all over the world for 113 years. After 13 years, Knight Frank has become the leading company in the commercial, warehouse, retail and residential real estate segments of the Russian real estate market. More than 500 large Russian and international companies in Russia have already made use of the company's services.

Knight Frank's employees are professional consultants in various fields connected with real estate, such as rent and sale of properties, selection of properties, attraction of investments, consulting, valuation, market research, marketing and project promotion, property and asset management.

We offer the full range of consulting services not only for developers and owners, but also for real estate users; both legal entities and individuals. Now, the company's staff consists of more than 330 employees.

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### MOSCOW

Russia, 119021,  
11 Bld 2 Timura Frunze Str.  
Phone: +7 (495) 981 0000  
Fax: +7 (495) 981 0011

### ST. PETERSBURG

Russia, 191025,  
3B Mayakovskogo Str.  
Phone: +7 (812) 363 2222  
Fax: +7 (812) 363 2223

### KYIV

Ukraine, 04071,  
39-41 Horyva Str.  
Phone: +380 (44) 545 6122  
Fax: +380 (44) 545 6122

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