RESEARCH





HIGHLIGHTS

- For the first three quarters of 2012 the volume of office area supply increased by 5%.
- Take-up volume for Q1-Q3 of 2012 exceeded the commissioning volume for the analyzed period in 1, 74 times and amounted to 151,000 sq m.
- Vacancy rates from the beginning of the year in Class A decreased by 11.1 percentage points, in Class B – by 3.1 percentage points.
- Average rental rates in dollars do not show significant changes: from the beginning of the year in Class A they decreased by 1%, in Class B the value of average rate increased by 4%.

Q3 2012 OFFICE MARKET REPORT

Saint Petersburg

OFFICE MARKET REPORT



Marina Puzanova, Head of Office Department, Knight Frank St. Petersburg

"Due to some large transactions the level of vacancy rates in Q3 of the current year had significantly decreased. Q4 promises to be not less "fruitful" for transactions. In this respect the 2013 year, in which the commissioning of large office projects is planned, is expected impatiently in the market.

Recently we notice the increase in requests from international and large Russian companies, planning to locate or to expand their office in St. Petersburg.

Every year the city becomes more and more attractive for exacting tenants, and there are some reasons. Firstly, the amount of qualitative projects, which meet the demands of international companies, increased. Office market in the whole becomes more civilized: the announced

terms of commissioning are kept, the owners and managing companies offer market commercial terms together with qualitative services. Secondly, on the residential lease market, that also is necessary component for engaging to the city highly qualified staff, professional players, developing the apart-hotel segment, appear. Thirdly, transportation with the main European cities becomes better. The planned in the end of 2013 commissioning of a new terminal Pulkovo-3 even now bears fruit: large international airlines perform flights from St. Petersburg to mostly any place in the world. St. Petersburg becomes a popular place for conducting business and successfully compete, for example, with Moscow, due to the lower rental rates of the similar by quality offices and lower costs for the staff at a comparable level of the staff training".

Key events

- In Q3 2012 two business centers were delivered. In Moskovsky district in august the construction of BC Sobraniye with a total area of 56 thousand sq m was finished. The project developer was a holding company Adamant. In Petrogradsky district the BC Oriental of the YIT Company with a total area of 5,000 sq m was commissioned.
- Significant transactions in the lease market were closed primarily in Class A business centers. The most active were the companies engaged in the commodity sector, IT-companies, and also the companies, engaged in banking sector.
- The campaign for leasing of the office area in the administrative business area Nevskaya Ratusha began. Area of the 1st stage, which is planned to be commissioned in Q1 2013, will amount to 178,800 sq m.

	Class A	Class B
otal stock, thousand sq m	1,752.2	
including, thousand sq m	412.7	1,339.5
Changes from the beginning of 2012, %	+ 9.4 %	+ 4.0 % 🔺
Delivered in Q1-Q3 of 2012, thousand sq m	90,4	
including, thousand sq m	35.5	54.9
Vacancy rate by the end of Q3 of 2012, %	8.2	7.1
Changes from the beginning of 2012, %	- 11.1 p.p. ▼	- 3.1 p.p. ▼
Rental rates*, \$ per sq m per annum	310-710	200-680
Changes of vacancy rates in dollars from the beginning of 2012, %	- 1 % ~	+ 4 % 🔺
* Excluding VAT (18%), including operating expenses, 1 USD = 31.06 rub Source: Knight Frank St. Petersburg Research, 2012		





Supply

During the three quarters of 2012 the total stock of gross leasable area increased to 90,400 sq m; thus, the increase from the beginning of the year amounts to 5%.

It should be mentioned, that all new Class A business centers have been delivered in the central districts of St. Petersburg.

Almost two-thirds of new supply relate to Class B, and 40% goes to BC Sobraniye.

Demand

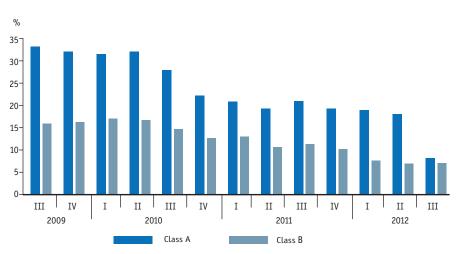
Vacancy rates in Class A business centers in Q3 2012 decreased by 11.1 percentage point, and amounted 8.2% or 33,900 sq m in absolute terms. In Class B the vacancy rates are 95,400 sq m that amounts to 7.1% from the total supply of the concerned Class (decrease – by 3.1 p.p.).

Name	Address	Total area, sq m	Office area, sq m
Class A			
Senator (phase II)	22, 17th line, Vasileostrovsky district	24,800	16,800
Senator (phase II)	80, Bolshoy Ave, Vasileostrovsky district	8,800	6,700
Universe	Lit. A, build. 5, 7-9-11, Universitetskaya Emb	6,500	5,000
Business center on Sinopskaya Emb.	60-62, Sinopskaya Emb	8,200	3,000
Oriental	12, Barochnaya St	5,000	4,000
Class B			
Sobraniye	25, Tsvetochnaya St	56,000	22,100
Russkiye samotsvety (phase II)	Lit. V, 8, Carla Faberzhe Sq	13,000	9,500
MegaPark 2	22, Zastavskaya St	11,700	9,400
Propaganda	Build.4, 35, Marshala Govorova Ave	11,000	9,000
Katsus	Lit. B, 8, Tverskaya St	3,600	2,700
Blagodatnaya, 69	69, Blagodatnaya St	2,800	2,200

Q3 2012 OFFICE MARKET RFPORT

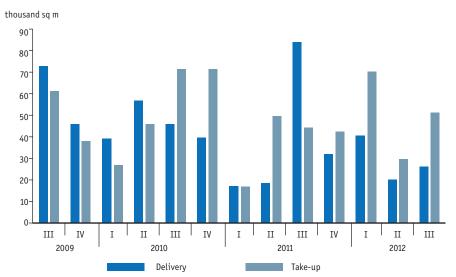
Saint Petersburg

From the beginning of the year the decrease of vacancy rates for quality offices is observed



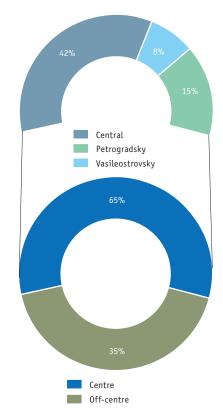
Source: Knight Frank St. Petersburg Research, 2012

During the three quarters of 2012 take-up volume exceeded the commissioning volume in 1.74 times $\,$



Source: Knight Frank St. Petersburg Research, 2012

The greatest demand is for the business centers located in central districts of the city



Source: Knight Frank St. Petersburg Research, 2012

Commercial Terms

From the beginning of 2012 rental rates in dollars almost has not changed: in Class A the rate decreased by 1%, in Class B – increased by 4%.

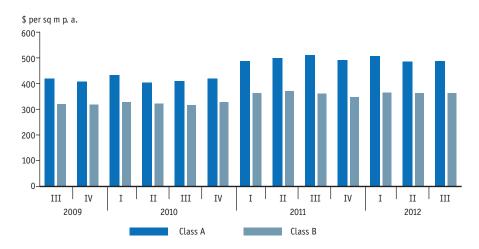
Class A rental rates in the end of Q3 2012 varied from \$310 up to \$710 per sq m p.a. (including operating expenses and excluding VAT), in Class B – from \$200 up to \$680 per sq m p.a.

Company Name	Transaction size, sq m	Property Name	Property Address
Gazprom Invest Severo-Zapad	8,500	Upiter-1	6, Startovaya St
JetBrains	5,000	Universe	7-9-11, Universitetskaya Emb
Gazprom	3,100	Renaissance Forum	61-63, Ligovsky Ave
Nord	3,000	Sankt-Petersburg Plaza	64, Malookhtinsky Ave
QB Finance	3,000	Sankt-Petersburg Plaza	64, Malookhtinsky Ave
Magistral Severnoy Stolitsy	1,313	14, Nekrasova St	14, Nekrasova St





Rental rates from the beginning of 2011 up to present are stable



Forecast

If the commissioning terms of the projects expected by the end of 2012 will be kept, the total volume supply of the office premises will increase up by 12% in comparison with this rate at the end of 2011. The largest projects, planned to be delivered by the end of 2012, are the business center Leader Tower, mix-used complexes Preobrazhensky and U Krasnogo mosta.

Significant increase of the supply in the market is expected next year. The greater part of new supply will be the 1st stage of the administrative business area Nevskaya Ratusha.

Source: Knight Frank St. Petersburg Research, 2012

Name	Address	Developer	Office premises area, sq m
Class A			
Preobrazhensky	26, Liteyny Ave	Peterburg-Stroy	15,000
U Krasnogo mosta	74, Moyka River Emb	BTK Development	9,000
Zima	44, Sverdlovskaya Emb	Teorema	8,850
Zoologichesky	2-5, Zoologichesky lane	Vozrozhdeniye Sankt-Peterburga	8,500
Class B			
Leader Tower	Lit.B, 153, Leninsky Ave	Lider Grup	38,000
Vant (phase III)	120, Obukhovskoy Oborony Ave	Paros	11,250
Luch (phase I)	7, Metallistov Ave	Luch	3,750

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