

SMS MAGAZINE

HALF-YEAR JOURNAL OF SMS INFOCOMM

Holiday wish

PAGE 2

Core values

PAGE 3

Past six months in SMS

PAGE 4

Christmas party 2023

PAGE 5

Year of the dragon

PAGE 6

Facts about Taiwan

PAGE 7

Tips for trips

PAGE 8

How to maintain good relationships

PAGE 9

Interviews with
Vojta and Roman

PAGES 10-11

SMS contests

PAGES 12-13

Volunteers in Uganda

PAGES 14-15





Jana Haltmarová
Plant Director



Dear colleagues, summer is in the air. 😊

The time of barbecues and pleasant sitting in our gardens has begun and we can look forward to the following summer months, when most of us take at least a few days of well-deserved vacation. I'm sure everyone has a different idea of how and with whom to ideally spend their days off and enjoy them to the max. Some people like to stay at home and spend time with their family and garden, others spend their holidays cycling or on the water, while others prefer to relax on the beach or travel to exotic countries. You might also visit one of the summer music festivals and enjoy the festival atmosphere and the relaxed atmosphere.

Personally, I like something from everything, summer and all summer activities are just fun for me. I will spend some time by the sea tasting local specialties and wine. Some time in the Bohemian forest under a tent or on bicycles or on a beach volleyball court.

No matter where we relax, the most important thing is of course that during all activities we spend time with our loved ones and have a good rest from our regular duties and recharge our energy.

I wish you to enjoy your summer in the way you like it best!

We are looking for Technicians and Operators!

Recommend a friend and get

We are looking for new SMS team mates!

**OPERATOR
TECHNICIAN**

laptop repair department

**8 000 CZK
15 000 CZK**

You can bring the CV in person to HR or send it to the e-mail wscz-nabor@servms.com.

CORE VALUES



SUSTAINABILITY

We are conscious of how we use resources and not to waste them. We also produce products and services in a way that does not harm the environment.



INNOVATION

We like to come up with new and creative ideas. We are always trying to think of new ways to improve. We want to differentiate ourselves and provide services that no one else provides.



CUSTOMER FOCUS

Our goal is to create things that people will like and find useful. We want to make sure our customers are happy with the services we deliver.



INTEGRITY

We believe in honesty and doing the right things, even when no one is looking. We always strive to be truthful and make decisions that are fair and considerate of others.

PAST SIX MONTHS IN SMS

On Valentine's Day we organized a Coffee Day and enjoyed great coffee from foodex.



The BGA team went onto a teambuilding to Líšeň, where they bowled and had good food and drinks.

We prepared an excursion for heads of vocational training from schools from all over the country as part of the finals of the České ručičky competition. This competition was hosted by Purkyňova school.



In May, SMS management was trained on presentation skills and internal communication. Everyone enjoyed the training with Filip Kvapil.

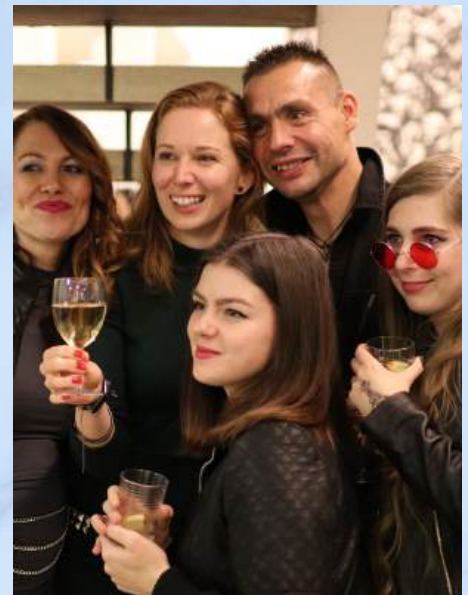
We cooperate with secondary schools. This year, students from the secondary schools Olomoucká and Purkyňova are completing their school internships with us.



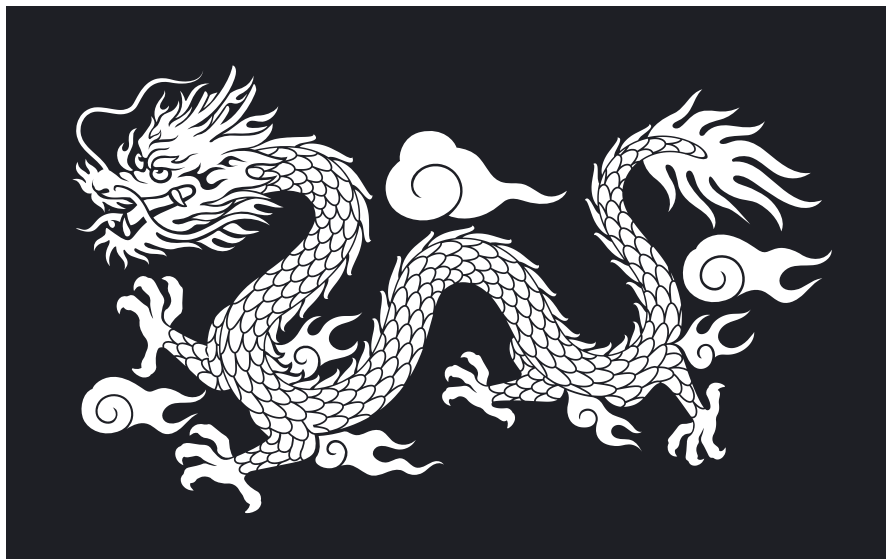
CHRISTMAS PARTY



In December 2023 we enjoyed a party in Semilasso. The party was in Rock style, the whole evening was accompanied by the band Party Leaders. During the party, the employees of the year were announced and the raffle was drawn. The photo booth is a very popular event, so it could not be missed this time either. We believe that everyone found something they liked and we are already looking forward to next year.



CHINESE HOROSCOPE



Many of you have probably already heard about the Chinese zodiac and that the New Year in Asia is celebrated on a different date than ours. However, since we have many colleagues who celebrate Chinese New Year, let's try to summarize a few interesting facts about it.

- Beginning, as a rule, at the turn of January and February, its celebrations are very exuberant, accompanied by parades full of colour.
- It is a fascinating system for measuring time. Its origins date back to the Qin Dynasty. The calendar follows a unique 12-year cycle, where each year is assigned to one of the animals, namely Rat, Buffalo, Tiger, Hare, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Goat, Monkey, Rooster, Dog and Pig.
- Each symbol represents certain qualities and characteristics that affect people born in a given year.

And why these animals and not others? Why in this order? An ancient myth explains these questions. He challenged all the creatures of the earth to a race. The first twelve animals to cross the finish line were given their place and order in the Chinese zodiac.

- In addition to the year of birth, which characterizes a specific animal, the element under whose reign man came into the world has its influence. In the Chinese horoscope, 5 elements alternate: metal, water, wood, fire and earth. This means that one cycle lasts 60 years before it repeats itself all over again.
- Wood represents growth, development and creativity. Fire symbolizes passion, energy and enthusiasm. Earth - stability, balance and practicality. Metal - strength, firmness and endurance. Water - intuition, emotionality and kindness.
- The year 2024 is the year of the wooden dragon. The wood element is associated with the color green. The dragon is a symbol of strength, power and wealth. Dragons are one of the most lucky and powerful signs of the Chinese horoscope, they are natural leaders, ambitious, confident and inspiring. They can also be impatient, explosive and erratic. The Wood element is characterized by creativity, movement and evolution. Wood combined with dragon fire can stimulate passion, creativity and innovation.
- People born in the Year of the Dragon are often seen as charismatic personalities who have the ability to attract others. Their infectious optimism and tireless energy is greatly appreciated.

YEARS OF THE DRAGON: 2024, 2012, 2000, 1988, 1976, 1964

CULTURAL HIGHLIGHTS

...what you might not know about Taiwan



The highest restaurant in the world is located here. Located at the top of a skyscraper, the Din Tai Fung restaurant offers great food in addition to and a breathtaking view of Taiwan's capital city.



Taiwan's high-speed trains reach speeds of up to 300 km/h. The railway is 350 km long, has 12 stations and takes between 90 and 120 minutes to travel the entire route. There ´s a 99% punctuality.



The popular Bubble Tea was created in Taiwan. The original recipe, which dates back to the 1980s, consists of a combination of tea, milk, sugar and tapioca balls (boba).



Taiwan is known for its highly modern toilets. Toilets often have features such as heated seats, self-cleaning or drying. A sound playback function and air freshener can help to create a pleasant atmosphere.



Taiwanese employees are entitled to vacation according to their years of service. In the first year, they are only entitled to 3 days of annual leave. However, this number increases up to 30 days of leave per year after 15 years of service.



Taiwan is proud of its more than 100 hot springs. One of the most famous is Beitou. The popular destination near the capital offers, among other things, sulphur baths that have a beneficial effect on the human body

TIPS FOR TRIPS



(Lednice Castle, Červená lhota, Vrbice wine cellars in Moravia, Prague, Safari Park Dvůr Králové, Hluboká nad Vltavou, Vranov nad Dyjí, Czech Switzerland, Macocha, Český Krumlov)

There are countless places in the Czech Republic where you can go for a trip or a holiday, you can get inspiration for example on kudyznudy.cz or turistickamapa.cz, where you can find a summary of various places including the exact location, opening times and admission prices in one place.



(National Memorial of Interception Lipnice nad Sázavou, Živá voda Modrá, Fajnpark Chlumec nad Cidlinou, Trail of Treetops Lipno, Museum of Puppets in Pilsen, Western Town Boskovice, Skryjská jezírka Žbirožský potok, Zipline Klíny)

HOW TO MAINTAIN GOOD RELATIONSHIPS



Why should we focus on improving workplace relationships? Maintaining good working relationships promotes job satisfaction, productivity, collaboration, career growth, emotional wellbeing, creativity and a positive organizational culture. Investing in positive workplace relationships pays off for both individuals and the organization as a whole.

Communicate openly

Speak openly and transparently with your colleagues. Listen actively and seek feedback, you can learn a lot from it. When giving feedback to colleagues, avoid criticism, instead communicate it with the aim of helping. Maintaining a non-judgmental approach will help build trust and understanding.

Recognise achievements

Did your colleague successfully complete a challenging project? Show your appreciation and publicly praise their excellent performance. You don't have to rush out for material gifts right away; a kind word will suffice. Praise will boost morale, motivation and overall satisfaction.

Meet outside of work

Get involved in teambuilding activities and social events. These events offer opportunities for personal interaction, building friendships and trust beyond work tasks.

Show empathy

All of us experience challenging moments from time to time, whether in our personal or professional lives. If you suspect or know that your colleague is going through a difficult time, don't be afraid to support him/her. Your colleagues will appreciate it if you listen, advise or lend a helping hand.

Be positive

The mood in the workplace is "contagious." All it takes is for one office colleague to have a bad day and the air in the room could suddenly be cut. Employees who are positive at all times and can maintain a good mood are highly valued by employers and well-liked by colleagues. So let's see, think about who in your workplace you like to ask for advice? Who do you talk to the least? Are we right? :)



VOJTĚCH DOLEŽEL

In November it will be 7 years since Vojta has been working for us. He joined us as a Technician. In the beginning he tried a few months of Testing before he started repairing mainboards.

INTERVIEW

RC TRAINER JUNIOR VOJTĚCH DOLEŽEL

How were your beginnings in SMS?

The beginning was really hard for me. Unfortunately, it wasn't just because of the complexity that electronics offers. At that time, we didn't have a trainer with training line. Newbies were assigned to a technician who trained the newbies. My bad luck was that the technician who was supposed to teach me was not exactly the cantorial type. Maybe because of a bad first impression, maybe because he was on notice, so he did not really care. Maybe he was just phlegmatic about my situation, or maybe he thought that if he threw me in the water I wouldn't drown. From what he did or didn't teach me, I feel like he probably put it all together. That's why I had really bad results and nerves.

Later on, I got a lot of help from the other technicians who were always willing to help me with whatever I came to them with. I am still grateful to them for that. I'm glad that I was the one who was offered the job of trainer. Because from my difficult beginnings I understand very well how important it is to guide newcomers and assist them in their efforts to grow.

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my spare time, I like to engage in relaxing activities. I always like to read news from the field of science and technology. I used to be very interested in political events in the world. My occasional hobbies include walking around the field with a metal detector. Where I come from, the Romans had a colony, and there were war fronts running through there. So, with a metal detector, you can find a lot of historically valuable items. Of all my hobbies, my favorite is playing the piano.

What did you find with the metal detector?

In my search for objects with the metal detector, my beginner's luck was confirmed. I only made it the first six steps and dug a horse shoe out of the ground.

I was duly excited about the find. I had it proudly displayed in my home and boasted about it to everyone I met, as mothers boast about a newborn baby. If I met one and she started to boast about her baby, I would say something to the effect: "This is nothing compared to what I found". Until I once bragged to a local farmer. He led me astray. He told me it wasn't a horse shoe, but an ox shoe. I contemptuously replied that I had never seen an ox with a horseshoe. But then I realized that I had... In my search I found a few ammunitions, sometimes a grenade fuse. I even discovered while searching that farming must be pretty boring, because the most common thing I dug out of the ground in the fields was beer caps...

Do you have any goals you would like to achieve?

I definitely want to get better in my field. If I ever find the time and energy, I would like to finish my high school diploma. One day I would like to move into IT, but lately and as I get older, that is no longer my goal and is becoming just a dream.

What advice would you give to our newcomers?

In my advice to newcomers, I would like to quote a well-known saying by Tyrš.

"Climb over, jump over, but don't give in." I most agree with what the saying expresses. And I would point out that don't give in is doubly true if one is referring not to a physical activity, but to a human trait or behavior that is never viewed very favorably in polished society.

The saying is very well adapted by Zdeněk Svěrák, whom I respect very much. He modified it into the form "Climb over, jump over, go under, but always straighten up afterwards". The saying was heard in his film "Jára Cimrman lying, sleeping". Interpreting the meaning in the context of comedy alters the meaning, which I would like to advise newcomers. That is, to clarify and to avoid misunderstanding. If jumping over an obstacle means successfully completing a task, if climbing over an obstacle means completing a task with your ears scraped. Then falling over the hurdle means that we don't want to brag about the result of our work.

So I would like to advise the newcomers not to worry that they have failed at something or that they are not good at something right from the beginning. They should always straighten up and face the next attempts with pride after failure.

It's also worth noting that I'm not just giving advice for the professional part of life. We should be inspired by the saying in the personal parts of our lives as well. What we will, with everyone, it is usually true that our professional part of life influences our personal part of life and vice versa. And that's either positively or negatively.

INTERVIEW

RC TEAM LEADER JUNIOR ROMAN PAVELKA



Roman Pavelka

Roman has been with us for almost 4 years. He joined us as a Technician right after graduating from the Gustav Habrman Technical and Transport Secondary School in Česká Třebová. Currently, he works as a Team Leader of the line responsible for repairing motherboards of HP laptops and desktops.

What do you like to do in your free time?

In my free time, I love to travel and discover new places, cultures and experiences. When I'm not travelling, you will often find me with my hands immersed in my aquarium, which I take care of.

Do you have any goals you would like to achieve?

During my time at SMS, I also had the opportunity to travel on business. One of them was a trip to the USA to the SMS site in Dallas, where I participated in drone repair training. Another interesting trip was to Dublin where I installed a drone nest.

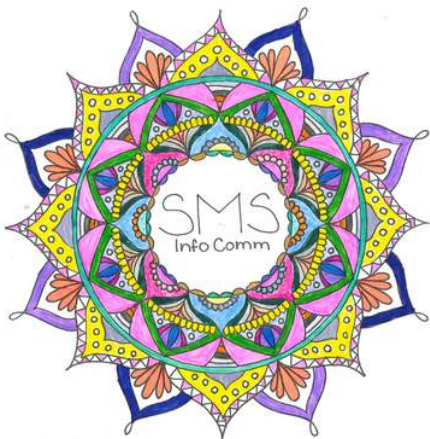
One of my dream destinations that I would like to visit in the future is definitely Japan. I like its different culture and would love to have the opportunity to see and experience it in person.

What advice would you give to future new leaders?

I would advise new leaders to keep a cool head in any difficult situation. There is always someone who will be happy to give you advice.

Your mandalas

In the last issue of the magazine we wrote about a beautiful hobby of one of our colleagues, which is drawing mandalas. She created one for us and you had the opportunity to take a copy of it and colour it yourself or involve your children at home and relax a bit. The first two mandalas you brought in were given a small gift from your children.



Mandalas are still available, you can pick them up at HR and colour yours :-)



0% TOLERANCE

We are a company with zero tolerance for alcohol and drugs in the workplace.

SMS contest with a gift

Last year we gave gifts to our employees, as is our custom. This time it was glass food boxes along with travel cutlery. With the new gifts, our employees had the opportunity to compete to win another box. The challenge was to take a picture of some good food just in our box and send it in with the recipe. In total we got 4 photos and two recipes, which we are happy to share with you:



Mixture of minced meat, vegetables with rice noodles

Kateřina Vlkov

The Onion
Minced beef
or pork
Zucchini
Carrots
Peas
Corn
Paprika

Chubrica spice
Ground cumin
Spices for minced meat
Worcester
Grill. vegetable spices
Oyster sauce
Rice noodles
Salt, pepper

Chop the onion finely and fry in a pan. Add the ground beef or pork, salt, pepper, chubrica spice, ground cumin, ground meat seasoning, a little worcester and stir fry the ground meat.

In the meantime, in the other pan, we have chopped yellow and red peppers, zucchini, peas and corn, carrots into noodles and fry nicely until charred. Add some grilled vegetable seasoning on top of the vegetables. When the vegetables are done, add them to the meat and stir well. Add about two tablespoons of oyster sauce and season to taste.

Cook the rice noodles in boiling water for about three minutes, drain and then serve straight away.

Ingredients

160g chicken breast, 245g potatoes, 200g carrots, 1 onion, butter, milk, salt

Fry the onion in the oil, throw in the chicken and fry. Add the carrots, which we fry, then add the broth or water. Squeeze out the water for the juice and add a little butter to soften. Mash the potatoes with a little milk and serve.



Chicken dish with carrots

Pavina Tinkov

VOLUNTEERS IN UGANDA

Uganda, certainly a great exotica for many of us, may be closer to us than we can imagine. It is part of Africa and it is a very poor country. And that is one of the reasons why it caught the attention of Kateřina Chauveau, at that time a guide from the Czech Republic.

Bwindy Orphans

Kateřina travelled all over Africa and on one trip she encountered the not-so-honest behaviour of a local con man. Unfortunately, all was not as rosy as it first seemed. She learned that her



help didn't go where it was supposed to. So in 2003, she started helping children only on her own behalf as an individual. Over time, others joined in, and a non-profit organization called Bwindy Orphans was formed to give Ugandan children a better chance at life. However, it still operates on a simple principle - all profits go directly to the children. The support is conditional on education; if children stop going to school, they lose their entitlement to the benefits. Sometimes it is difficult, but it is essential to keep the boundaries in place so that the playing field is fair for all. Children here study from primary school to university. Currently, Bwindy Orphans helps a hundred children. In their 20 years of operation, they've helped 500 children get a better start in life. The literacy rate here is quite high by African standards, 69.9%. Schooling is compulsory in Uganda, but families often don't send their children to school.

Why were we interested in Kateřina and this organization?

Kateřina is from Střelice near Brno and the whole help is very closely intertwined with Brno. A lot of volunteers, donors and companies are involved. They organize a lot of events and try to get everything they need for the children.

Filip's journey

One of the volunteers is one of our colleagues from WH, Filip. This January he made his first trip to Uganda together with other volunteers. Each of them packed a backpack with their personal belongings as hand luggage. They packed the clothes they collected for the children into large suitcases to take every opportunity to transfer the items for them and save as much as possible. Their visit to Uganda lasted 17 days, the first half was exploratory. Kateřina showed them around different parts of Uganda, she has made many contacts there over the years. They tried accommodation in tents, semi-tents, huts and apartments.



The second half of the stay was right in the centre of help. They handed over the things they had brought to the children. They bought them school uniforms and school supplies. Many of the volunteers are adoptive parents of the children at the center. It is a chance for them to see their help on the spot. They see exactly what their contributions are used for and can get to know their wards.

It's not adoption in the sense of adopting orphans. This assistance is purely material. The children live with their families, just someone supports them and sends money for school, food, which is the same almost every day here - porridge and beans - but they are grateful for the little and water.

This visit was fateful for Filip as well. At the centre, he and his boyfriend met a 13-year-old boy named Banet, who was not lucky enough to have anyone to send him to school. They liked him so much that they gave him a chance and adopted Banet. Before they left, they bought him a goat, it may not seem like it but it made Banet very happy and that too is a big help to him and his family..

In Uganda, a goat is similar to a savings account in the Czech Republic. It's an asset that means a poor family has a solution in case an unplanned expense comes up.



Although the return of some of the volunteers was accompanied by health complications in the form of malaria, which is a very common disease in Uganda, Filip already knows that it was not the last time and he will manage to visit Uganda again.

For the record, the annual tuition fee for one child in primary school is 7 500,- CZK. This amount covers school uniform, supplies and food for the whole year. But of course not everyone will take such a step, after all it is a commitment for a longer period of time. It is not entirely fair to the children to pay for one year of school and not continue, so it is always necessary to think ahead and be aware of your commitment.

The organization also provides assistance in the form of various one-time contributions, such as the possibility to buy a goat, a chicken, a mattress, food for the holidays, and contributions to repair houses. They organize clothing collections for children, sell imported products from Uganda such as coffee, tea, dried fruit, chocolate, which is hand-processed by the Ajala chocolate factory in Brno. These are all ways in which the organization tries to raise money and we are glad that we have colleagues who are not indifferent to the fate of others.

Thank you, Filip. :)



Uganda Facts:

- * area 241 548 km²
- * 47.25 million people (2022)
- * most densely populated country
- * currency: Ugandan shilling
- * approximately 40 languages spoken
- * official language: English
- * median age of the population: 11 to 14 years
- * Uganda is the country with the youngest population in the world

Where can you find up-to-date information? bwindiorphans.org, www.bwindicoffee.cz

Share, like, join us!

Follow the news from the
world of SMS on our profiles



SMSInfoComm



sms_infocomm_cz



sms-infocomm-czech-s.r.o



CUSTOMER
FOCUS



INTEGRITY



INNOVATION



SUSTAINABILITY