

Family passion in a global cup: 35 years of MOKATE Family Business



Teresa Mokrysz, founder of MOKATE

MOKATE - the story of courage and determination of President Teresa Mokrysz

The history of MOKATE dates back to the early 20th century - when the Mokrysz family ran a general store in Cieszyn Silesia. The real breakthrough came 35 years ago - in 1990.

Teresa Mokrysz, assisted by her husband Kazimierz, took the reins at the company and gave it its current name - MOKATE. It was formed by combining the surname MOKrysz with the names of KAZimierz and TEresa.

Teresa Mokrysz is a woman of extraordinary courage and entrepreneurship. At times when the Polish market was just slowly forming after the fall of Communism, she took a risk and invested in the most modern powdered creamer line in Europe. She also saw the potential in products that Poles had not known yet - like Mokate Cappuccino, which now is an iconic product. It was she who introduced them and revolutionised the market of hot beverages in Poland.

Her vision and determination have turned a local business into an enterprise achieving spectacular success in the international market.

2025 is a special year for the MOKATE Group. The company, which skilfully combines family values with a strong international presence, is celebrating its 35th anniversary. We talk about the tremendous success of the brand initiated by the vision, courage and determination of Teresa Mokrysz with the Group' CEO, Adam Mokrysz, PhD, and the MOKATE Group General Director, Katarzyna Mokrysz, PhD.

Mokate's 35 years presence in the market is not only a moment to celebrate, but also to sum up your path to success.

Adam Mokrysz, PhD: It is a good time to look at what we have accomplished over this long, and yet short time. In just three decades, we have become one of the largest family-owned companies in Poland and Europe that operate in the food products segment. We employ over 1,500 people and operate 4 modern plants - in Poland and the Czech Republic. It is a success built on solid foundations, to which the fourth generation of the Mokrysz family is now contributing.

Katarzyna Mokrysz, PhD: Poles easily recognise the MOKATE brand, but few people in our country are aware of the important position we hold in the international market. More than 80% of the MOKATE Group's products are exported. We are already present in more than 75 countries, both in the consumer market and in the widely understood FMCG sector, and our innovations are winning the hearts of consumers not only in Europe, but also in Asia or Africa. This is the result of hard work and careful following of changing trends in the hot beverages industry. We are not afraid of bold decisions, but always remain true to our values. This approach pays off - with our position today being the best proof of that.

Over the past 35 years, MOKATE has become not only a global powerhouse, but also an important part of the local community, and has pursued important social goals.

K.M.: Indeed, we are one of the key employers in Silesia and we feel responsible for the development of our region. But our social commitment goes further - we invest in future generations through various educational initiatives, i.e.: chess and talent support.

A.M.: Our "Education Through Chess" programme is of particular importance to us. This game has been a family passion for generations. Chess teaches strategic thinking, patience and determination. These are skills that are invaluable in both professional and private life. The programme is already present in more than

1,500 schools in Poland, and we plan to expand it further.

Your chess initiative is beginning to extend beyond the borders of Poland, isn't it?

A.M.: Yes, we are following the same international path with chess that we have set out for our company. In November 2024, we participated in the Czech Open Padrubice tournament. We were also one of the partners of the 45th FIDE Chess Olympiad in Budapest, celebrating the 100th anniversary of the International Chess Federation.

K.M.: We also joined the Safe Screen Safe Mind initiative, which promotes a healthy balance between the digital and real worlds. Therefore, it can be said that we are investing in the future by looking at it in a much broader perspective. There is much more ahead of us than just next 35 years.

So what does the future, near and further, hold for MOKATE?

K.M.: 2025 primarily brings the refreshment of the product portfolio. A project that also fits into this trend is our new Cappuccino Zero line. It is an option for those who want to enjoy the full flavour of this iconic drink while catering to the needs of their body.

A.M.: The changes in our portfolio are combined with another technological revolution. We are finalising the largest investment in recent years, a new plant in Ustroń - this will both increase our production capacity and further reduce our carbon footprint. We have not yet said the last word, and we believe that with its proprietary formula for success developed over 35 years MOKATE's position will only grow stronger in the decades to come.

Thank you for the interview.

Mokate Group production and operation facilities



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