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## THE AZOTY-PUŁAWY SPORTS CLUB BECOMES THE THIRD FORCE IN POLAND

**The Azoty-Puławy handball players achieved a great success this season by winning the first bronze medal in the Club's history. This achievement coincided with a milestone anniversary of the team's presence in the highest tier of the league system. On May 27th, the players and coaches met with the representatives of the Club's general sponsor.**

### **The cup goes to the Company**

On Wednesday morning, May 27th, 16 Azoty-Puławy players, their five-member coaching team, and the Club's President Jerzy Witaszko, were received at Grupa Azoty PUŁAWY. The team, welcomed with loud applause, was presented to the Company. The players received token gifts and handed over to Marian Rybak, President of Grupa Azoty Puławy, the impressive cup they won for their third place in the league. In this way, the handball players thanked the Company for creating appropriate conditions to train and achieve the success. A photo session followed the official part of the meeting.

### **From hell to heaven**

The 2014/2015 season began for Azoty-Puławy well below expectations. Despite having engaged a foreign coach, Dragan Markovic (the Bosnia and Herzegovina national team selector), the team played poorly and after seven rounds occupied the last-but-one place in the table. The management was quick to react – it thanked the Balkan coach for his work and passed the team over to the hands of experienced coach Ryszard Skutnik. The new coach, having a record of intentional and national success, smoothly implemented his tactics, setting the team on a march up the table. The team closed the main season on the sixth place and could join the play-off phase with hopes to climb higher. In the quarter-finals, the Azoty-Puławy team beat Górnik Zabrze twice even though they were not the favourite. Although in the next round they lost to Orlen Wisła Płock, Poland's Vice-Champion, in the fight for the bronze medal they gave no chance to Pogoń Szczecin, beating the team in four matches.

*"This historic medal won by Azoty-Puławy coincides with the tenth anniversary of our Club's presence in highest tier of the league system. Ten years ago, we earned promotion to the first league and have been playing there constantly, each year closer to a place on the podium. The medal we have won this year is a wonderful highlight marking the anniversary",* said Jerzy Witaszek, President of the Azoty-Puławy Sports Club