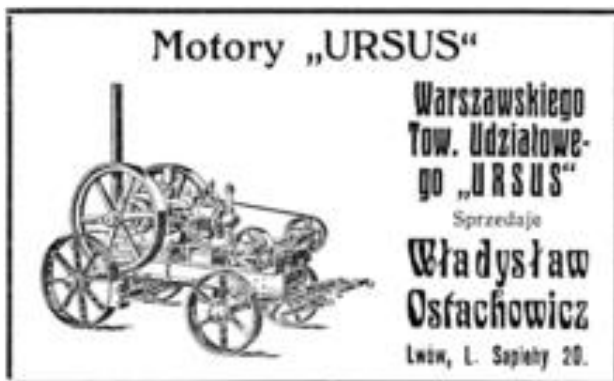




From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Ursus Factory** is a Polish producer of agricultural machinery located in Warsaw.

History



Ursus advertisement from 1914



Ursus C 45

The Ursus Factory was founded in Poland in 1893 on 15 Sienna Street, Warsaw, by three engineers and four businessmen. It began producing exhaust engines and then later trucks and metal fittings intended for the Russian Tsar.

In 1930, the Ursus factory fell on hard times due to the world financial crisis and was nationalised under the National Engineering Works, the Polish manufacturer of arms and vehicles. It then began producing military tractors, tanks and other heavy machinery for troops.

During World War II, the company was relocated to Germany by the Germans and the remains were destroyed. After the war, the Ursus Factory was rebuilt and started producing the Ursus C-45 a copy of German pre-war Lanz Bulldog tractor. During the 1950s, the Ursus factory began producing tractors using a Zetor-based design.

By 1961, there was a growing need for tractors in Poland, but the tractors produced by the Ursus factory did not meet the needs of Polish agriculture. A bilateral agreement was created between Poland and Czechoslovakia, where Czechoslovakia would provide the Ursus factory with the parts necessary to enlarge and modernise the factory and in exchange, Poland would supply Czechoslovak factories with raw materials. The goal was to construct a joint tractor industry where Poland and Czechoslovakia would combine to produce 120,000 tractors per year, as in 1963 Poland was only producing 15,000.

Solidarity

Workers of the Ursus tractor factory played a large role in the solidarity movement in the 1970s and 1980s. On 25 June 1976 in response to a rise in food prices, the workers of Ursus, acting in solidarity with workers in Radom and many other areas, went on strike and blocked and destroyed parts of the main east-west and north-south rail lines leaving Warsaw. This was one of the largest and most disruptive of the many strikes that occurred that day, and resulted in the prime minister announcing on television the withdrawal of the food price increase.

In 1980, workers of the Ursus factory went on strike and spent the night at the factory to protest the detention of Jan Narozniak, a volunteer printing worker at the Warsaw chapter of Solidarity. Also in 1980, 16,000 workers threatened to stop coming to work on Saturdays to self enforce the 5 day work week proclaimed by the Solidarity movement. In 1988, 200 workers in the Ursus factory occupied the plant canteen and demanded that the management petition for increased wages, the release of imprisoned workers, and the legalisation of Solidarity and the Independent Students' Association.

Investment under Gierek

The Ursus factory was the focus of an extensive investment initiative in the 1970s under Edwars Gierek. Under this programme, large loans were taken from western banks for the purpose of importing modern equipment and methods that would cause expansion of Polish industry and growth of the Polish economy. In 1977, a 7.9 million dollar export-import bank loan and a 7 million dollar loan from private American banks were granted to the Ursus tractor factory for the purpose of purchasing machine tools from the Ingersoll Milling Machine Company of Rockford Illinois.. However, such investment programmes became inefficient and failed, leaving Poland with an immense debt.

By 1980, 25 billion dollars were locked into inefficient, unfinished projects in Polish industry that were speculated to require an additional 50 billion dollars to complete. The Ursus Tractor Factory was one of the largest victims of this problem. By 1981, equipment that had been purchased in the West at the Ursus Factory amounted to 3,600 million złoty. Warehouse space at Ursus was filled with unused, unnecessary supplies, such as a stock of 1.6 million rarely used screws, for example, and since production of new warehouse space had stopped, other supplies were left to deteriorate outside. Gierek had invested nearly 1 billion dollars into a project of developing a modern Massey Ferguson model of tractor at Ursus, however due to licensing problems, these tractors could not be sold in the West, and could not be sold in the East because they were too expensive. Instead of the targeted production of 75,000 tractors per year, only 500 were produced.



Ursus today



Ursus 1224

Ursus' tractor production declined through the 1990s, falling from 60,000 tractors per year in 1980 to about 16,000 tractors in 1995. The decline in production was due to the enormous debt that Ursus contracted as a result of its expansion programme in the 1980s. The need to repay the debt blocked access to funds needed for the daily operations of the factory. In 1996, 550 million zloty, 80% of Ursus' debt, owed to nearly 700 creditors was written off. Tractor sales continued to decline to an all time low of 1,578 units in 2006.

URSUS Company was established in the years 1998–2003 as a consequence of restructuring and cooperation of PHZ "Bumar" Ltd., ZPC URSUS SA and Ursus Tractor Factory Ltd. The company is still producing Ursus tractors. Bumar Ltd became the main shareholder of Ursus Company. That is why Ursus joined Bumar Industrial Group dealing with Ursus products both on foreign and domestic markets.

In 2007, Uzel Holding of Turkey announced they were buying 51% of Ursus. Both Uzel and Ursus are, or were, licensees of AGCO – Massey Ferguson. In 2008 it was announced that Uzel hadn't kept up to its commitments, and TAFE and Pol-Mot were interested to take over Ursus.







URSUS























The Ursus 4512 is an ideal middleweight tractor in the 70hp range, offering sophistication and versatility.

FEATURES INCLUDE:

A well proven 4 cylinder engine design, robust transmission and heavy duty backend with oil immersed disc brakes.

The cabin is well appointed, with seat adjustable for driver's height and weight. The rear-view mirrors are telescopic for use with wide trailers.

There are 5 working lights, as well as 2 headlamps and full road lighting. An adjustable interior sun visor is fitted with automatic retraction. A heater and 3-speed cooling blower, drawing filtered air, are standard features.

STANDARD FITTINGS:

include Telescopic Draw Bar/Pick-up Hook · Inside and outside linkage stabilisers · 2 Single/Double Acting Hydraulic External Services · Front Weight Frame · Linkage Drawbar Power Assisted Steering





This is a robust 80hp tractor available in 2 and 4 wheel drive, which performs well in work which varies from spraying to loader work, and from pulling today's ever growing heavy trailers to ploughing.

FEATURES INCLUDE:

A large capacity **long stroke engine**, which fitted with a balancer gives a smooth performance with excellent torque.

The **heavy duty transmission** offering 16 forward and 8 reverse gears, including the power shift, gives a top speed capability of approximately 40kph.

Hydraulic operation is made simple by the choice of Position, Mixed and Draft control, with the added capability of pressure control for mounted and trailed implements. The independent gear pump and twin assister rams give a lifting capacity up to 5 tons.

Driver comfort and efficiency are assured by a spacious quiet cabin, on rubber mountings with a fully adjustable seat, heater and a 3-speed cooling blower drawing filtered air. An opening roof, opening side and rear windows, front and rear wipers and 5 working lamps, in addition to full road lighting, together with the safety of a passenger seat and extendable rear-view mirrors, all combine to give a safe and pleasant working environment.

The **four wheel drive** is engaged by hydraulic clutch and the front axle incorporates a hydraulically engaged differential lock, operated from the rear differential lock pedal.

STANDARD FITTINGS:

include Radial Tyres · Combined Draw Bar/Pick-up Hitch · Telescopic Stabilisers · 2 Single/Double Acting External Hydraulic Services · Air Compressor & Brake System · Front Weights · Front Mudguards · Front Springs on 2 wd · Front Differential Lock on 4 wd · Linkage Drawbar · Adjustable Wheels · Extendable Mirrors · Tool Kit · Passenger Seat · 5 Working Lights · Hydrostatic Steering · Improved Starter Switch · Stereo Radio/Cassette



M somapol



URSUS C. 3110



UN TRACTEUR PUISSANT ET ROBUSTE

URSUS

3512





URSUS

Since 1893



3702 Pico

www.ursus.com.pl



URSUS

Since 1893



1674 Forte

www.ursus.com.pl