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Press release

Ilona Weiss – Strong Woman in IT 2019

The CEO of ABC Data, Ilona Weiss, was mentioned in the *Strong Women in IT 2019* report. The report presents tech industry's most powerful women, who, thanks to their experience, became role models for other women. Its authors stress that the name of the report refers directly to what it presents, since the word "strong" can equally mean "powerful", "tough", "essential" and "convincing". The report was published in May this year.

The women mentioned in the report were asked to present the characteristics of work in the IT industry. In the opinion of Strong Women, the biggest advantage of the industry are constant changes, dynamic development and the possibility to create new reality.

– I'm a finance professional that for over 20 years has been operating in the new tech market. It can therefore be said that I have always been involved with the IT industry. The IT industry is the place where all the crucial transformations happen. It has shaped the world as we know it and it will shape the future – says Ilona Weiss, CEO of ABC Data.

Moreover, the participants created a list of challenges faced by those involved with the new tech industry. The challenges that were enumerated the most frequently were: high industry dynamics and rapidly aging technologies. The participants stressed that work in the new tech industry requires constant knowledge updates, e.g. through constant participation in conferences, reading books or online courses.

– There are always two sides to every story. The new tech industry is no exception. The word "change" is the best one to describe it. On the one hand, it requires the ability of being ahead of market changes and trends, on the other hand, it is what makes this industry so interesting.

The recent years have brought especially large amount of innovation that has affected all of us. These are challenges that are worth the effort – adds the CEO of ABC Data.

Moreover, Strong Women pointed to various character traits as advantages helping to conquer the IT industry. They enumerated empathy, high interpersonal skills and consistency.

– Management is the biggest challenge in the IT industry. It relies on a number of various elements. There is nothing such as “irrelevant matters”. In fact, the most important ones are those that can’t be crammed into spreadsheets. Company spirit, team spirit or, in other words, a whole set of phenomena that shape the company’s culture and its values are priceless allies in the company’s pursuit of success. – sums up Ilona Weiss.

About the CEO of ABC Data

Ilona Weiss has been involved with the finance and new tech industry for over 20 years. She has gained her vast professional experience while holding managerial positions at Polish and international companies. Since 2015, she has been the CEO and the President of the Management Board of ABC Data S.A., a leading IT hardware distributor in the CEE region. Under her leadership, the company transformed from being a local player to a leader of the CEE region and has gained a strong position in the global IT market environment, securing its unique competitive advantage.

About *Strong Women in IT 2019* report

The *Strong Women in IT 2019* report presents 120 women involved with the IT industry. The works on the report lasted from March to May 2019. It was elaborated based on the questionnaires sent by the nominees. The report focuses solely on persons in upper managerial positions, meaning CEOs, CTOs, CIOs, directors and heads. It was published by Come Creations Group. The report in its integrity is available at: <https://strongwomen.comecreationsgroup.pl/>.