

News in Portugal

24 April 2019

A weekly summary of the headline news from Portugal in English, every Wednesday.

First factory opens in Portugal that manufactures cannabis for medicinal use

When the Canadian company Tilray began the licensing process to plant cannabis in Cantanhede, Coimbra district, the idea was to make Portugal the entry point in the European market. The plants would be produced here and later distributed to other countries. However, recent changes in Portuguese legislation open the door to the creation of a Portuguese market.

The location for the \$ 20 million investment currently employing 109 workers – but expected to reach 200 by the end of the year – was chosen based on the climate and the skilled workforce, Tilray CEO Brendan Kennedy said at the end of a visit to the facilities at the Cantanhede Technology Park, which served to inaugurate the facility where medicinal and allied products will be produced.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

EDP announces sale of renewable assets worth 800 million

EDP Renováveis announced in a statement to the Securities and Exchange Commission (CMVM) that it reached an agreement with investors to sell its stake in a portfolio of onshore wind technology with a total of 997 MW of installed capacity, valued at € 1.6 billion. These sales operations will be carried out in Portugal, Spain, France and Belgium. This is the first tranche of the € 4 billion asset rotation plan (sale and reinvestment) over four years.

See the full Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

Portugal with "green light" from Brussels to lower VAT in electricity to 6%

The Portuguese government has already had a "green light" from the European Commission VAT Committee to apply the reduced rate in the fixed component of electricity and natural gas to consumers with lower power and can proceed with the measure.

Contacted this Tuesday by the Lusa agency, community source explained that the question is a consultation made on 12 April by the Government to that committee, which did not oppose the measure, so the executive can now move forward with the application of the rate of 6% to the fixed component of

electricity and natural gas supply to consumers with lower contracted power, such as households and services. "With this step, Portugal has fulfilled all the requirements of the EU VAT Directive and can now decide when the measure comes into force," the same source told Lusa.

See the Portuguese version of the story [here](#).

NAV invests 103.8 million in new air traffic system by 2023

NAV - Air Navigation Portugal will invest € 103.8 million in the new air traffic system by 2023, in a project that includes the construction of a new control tower in Lisbon.

Speaking to Lusa on the sidelines of the presentation of the new system, NAV president Jorge Ponce de Leão said that the investment also takes into account future adaptation to the regulatory requirements that will soon be imposed by the European Union to increase safety levels. "The company has to equip itself to be among the best as it has ever been," he said, noting that the investment will be funded by NAV's own resources.

See the Portuguese version of the story [here](#).