

**Wojciech Bronisław Sobieszak** (born March 8, 1952 in Gryfice) – a food industry manager, activist in the employer organization, long-term President of the Cereal Partners Poland Toruń-pacific, graduate of the Faculty of Biology and Environmental Protection and of the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Management at Nicolaus Copernicus University in Toruń as well as of the University of Gdańsk (International Trade), the University of Edinburgh (Executive MBA), and Republique Francaise Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussees de Paris (Executive MBA).

His entire professional career has been associated with the food industry and Toruń. Having graduated, he ended up at the Potato Industry Company. In the former starch house, he gained his first executive experience. In 1990, as an executive, he initiated partnership of the Polish state-owned enterprise with foreign-invested companies. As a result of the privatization of the Potato Industry Company, the Toruń-Pacific company was established, with Sobieszak in charge. Since 1994, the company has been a part of the international group called Cereal Partners Worldwide, which is owned by two giants in the industry - Nestlé SA and General Mills Inc. Today, Cereal Partners Poland Toruń Pacific is the largest manufacturer of breakfast cereals in this part of Europe. It is thanks to the Wojciech B. Sobieszak's decisions that the company evolved from the local starch house and cornflakes factory to the giant providing cereal products of high quality to more than 50 countries. As one of the biggest food exporter in Poland, the company belongs to the economic elite of the Pomerania and Kuyavia, ensuring stable and decent employment to more than 900 employees. The President of the Board, Wojciech B. Sobieszak, serves also as an executive of Cereal Partners Worldwide in Central Europe.

As a proponent of running business activity in accordance with the concept of corporate social responsibility, he eagerly participates in the initiatives of local communities, including the cooperation with Toruń academics. He is an author and co-author of academic publications concerning the issue of company management. The President and the company are known for their support to sports clubs as well as to social, scientific, cultural, educational and charitable organizations in Toruń and the region. Wojciech B. Sobieszak fulfils many social functions; among other things, he was the head of the Toruń Lodge of the Business Centre Club and Chairman of the Lodge Council as well as member of the Supervisory Board of the Polish Federation of Food Producers. He also represented economic sectors in the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeship Commissions for Social Dialogue. He actively takes part in the activities of the Volunteer Fire Brigades in the Toruń district.

The most important honours and decorations:

- Crosses of Merit: Commander's Cross of Polonia Restituta (2010), Officer's Cross of Polonia Restituta (2005), Knight's Cross of Polonia Restituta (2001).
- Medal of the Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivode received for the merits to the region (September 2010).
- „Thorunium” Medal awarded for the merits to the City of Toruń by the President of Toruń (February 2015).
- Gold Statuette of the Leader of Polish Business in the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the competition organized by BCC on February 9, 2002, and Diamonds to the Gold Statuette of the Leader of Polish Business received between the years 2003-2015.
- Gold Medal „For Merit for the Polish Olympic Movement” awarded by the Polish Olympic Committee on October 20, 2005.

Więcej na [www.sobieszak.pl](http://www.sobieszak.pl)

- “Gold Carriage” (“Złota Kareta”) of the “Nowości Pomorza i Kujaw” Daily Newspaper, the 10<sup>th</sup> edition, Entrepreneurship Category, February 12, 2004.