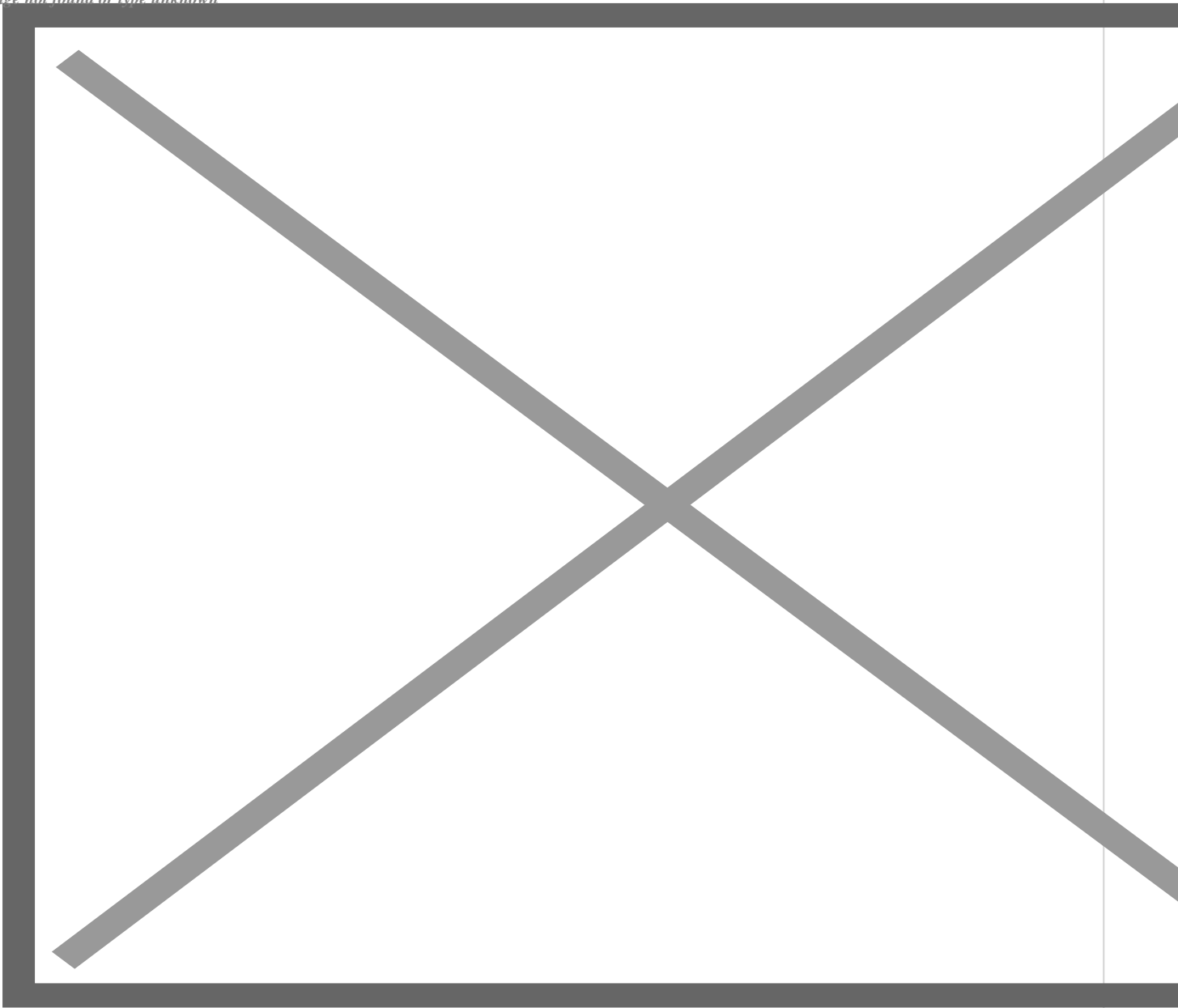


# *World's largest skating rink inaugurated in Russia*

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**World's largest skating rink**

Moscow, Dec 11 (PL) The world's largest skating rink was inaugurated in St. Petersburg, on the shores of the Gulf of Finland.

The facility is called "Flagpole Rink" and was inaugurated by the president of the Russian gas consortium Gazprom, Alexei Miller, who pointed out that it is equipped with the most modern and technologically advanced equipment.

During the ceremony, the Russian Book of Records registered a new world record: the rink covers 28,000 square meters and can accommodate more than 2,500 skaters.

Figure skating stars Alexei Yagudin, Anastasia Mishina, and Alexander Gallyamov also performed at the opening.

"For St. Petersburg residents, especially those who like to spend time with their families outdoors, play sports, and enjoy incredible views of the city and the Gulf of Finland, the rink is an excellent choice," Miller said.

He added that the authorities expect the rink to welcome one million visitors this season, which, combined with its location in the Bolshaya Lajta area, offers a new seafront to St. Petersburg.

The facility has 48 comfortable pavilions with skate rentals, changing rooms, cafeterias, heating points, and other necessary infrastructure.

On holidays and weekends, the rink hosts ice discos and dance performances.

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