

Petrof

Coordinates: 50°11′31.75″N 15°51′3.33″E﻿ / ﻿

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**Petrof** is a Czech piano manufacturer. The company was founded in 1864 in Hradec Králové by Antonín Petrof (d. 1915), who had studied piano making in Vienna.

History of Petrof

1857 – The company founder Antonín Petrof goes to Vienna to learn, how to build grand pianos

1864 – Hradec Králové - building of the first concert grand piano

1865 – Antonín Petrof transforms his father's joinery workshop into a piano maker's workshop

1874 – The company moves to a new property in the direction of Brno

1881 – The company starts keyboard production and the construction of action

1884 – The construction of a saw mill

1894 – Start exporting instruments abroad

1895 – Subsidiary in Temesvár in Hungary opened

1908 – The company becomes a limited company. Not only the founder Antonín Petrof, but also his sons Jan, Antonín and from 1914 the youngest Vladimír (2nd generation) work for the company.

1915 – Antonín Petrof and his wife Marie, the company confidential clerk die

1928 – Petrof together with the significant American and German piano manufacturer Steinway & Sons open a subsidiary in London at Wigmore Street.

1932 – The company management enlarges the company administration with the 3rd Petrof generation: Dimitrij, Eduard and Eugena

1948 – Nationalization - the national company Továrny na piana a varhany (piano and organ factories) with a registered office at Hradec Králové is established; the Petrof brand is further used

Petrof



<b>Industry</b>	Musical instruments
<b>Founded</b>	1864
<b>Founder(s)</b>	Antonín Petrof
<b>Headquarters</b>	Hradec Králové, Czech Republic
<b>Area served</b>	Worldwide
<b>Key people</b>	Zuzana Ceralová Petrofová
<b>Products</b>	Grand pianos and upright pianos
<b>Production output</b>	Yearly around 1,750 new grand pianos and 12,000 uprights <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Employees</b>	about 1,000 <sup>[1]</sup>
<b>Website</b>	petrof.com ( <a href="http://www.petrof.com">http://www.petrof.com</a> )



Auditioning Petrof pianos at the factory

1954 – Development department for upright pianos and grand pianos is established.

1965 – 1965 became part of Czechoslovak Musical Instruments Hradec Králové.

1991 – The Petrof family returns to the factory

Ing. Jan Petrof (4th generation) after 40 years of communistic regime  
Start of privatization process

1994 – New modern research centre with own big-capacity free-field measuring chamber, biggest of its kind in the Czech republic, opened

1997 – Továrna na piana, a. s. established in Hradec Králové

1999 – 135th anniversary of establishment of Petrof company

2001 – Petrof, spol. s r. o. - the factory passed fully into the hands of the Petrof family, 5th generation enters

2004 – Zuzana Ceralová Petrofová becomes president of the company – 5th generation

2005 – Zuzana Ceralová Petrofová - appointed president of European Federation of Music Instrument Manufacturers - CAFIM



1895 ad for Petrof pianos

## References

- <sup>a b</sup> Williams, John-Paul (2002). *The Piano*, p. 90. New York: Billboard Books. ISBN 0-8230-8151-6.

## External links

- Official site (<http://www.petrof.com>)

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Categories: Piano manufacturing companies | Companies of the Czech Republic | Hradec Králové  
| Purveyors to the Imperial and Royal Court | Musical instrument company stubs | Czech Republic stubs  
| European company stubs

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