

## Nikola Tesla – essence of his research work

Nikola Tesla was born on July 10, 1856 in the little town of Smilijan on the territory of today's Croatia. He studied at the faculties of Graz in Austria and Prague in the former Czechoslovakia.

In 1882 Nicola Tesla discovered the rotating magnetic field on which electricity transmission and the overall power engineering of our time are based. His idea swung the door wide open for the development of power engineering which today includes electricity generation, transmission and consumption. Similarly as at the beginning, the electric power network as a whole still operates with alternating voltage. The lives we are living today would have been quite impossible without Tesla's inventiveness. His research work involves also several other fields important for the mankind. The fluorescent lamp, vacuum photographic tube, radio signal, remote control, cosmic radio waves, use of ionosphere, remote transmission of electricity are just some of the ideas that Tesla intensively involved himself with. This is why he is justifiably named "the man who has invented the 20<sup>th</sup> century". Being a broad-minded man, he preferred naming himself "discoverer" rather than "inventor".

Nicola Tesla died on January 7, 1943 in New York. This year, i. e. 2006, 150 years have passed since his birth. The 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his birth has been celebrated all over the world wherever Tesla has lived and created his masterpieces. Solemn celebrations have taken place in New York, Graz, Vienna, Budapest, Prague, Belgrade, Zagreb, Paris, London and Moscow and in many other places in Canada, Australia, Asia (Japan), Africa and South America.