



VITA GODEC

***“And let's not forget to remain optimistic: anything is possible if you want it enough.”***

"I am an excellent generalist, which, looking back on it now, is an essential personality trait for a strong leader of a large team or company," says the doctoral graduate in biochemistry and CEO of Lenis Pharmaceuticals. The Slovenian company, which supplies the markets of Southern and Eastern Europe with specialized groups of medicines, primarily in the areas of infectious disease, neurology, oncology and nephrology, has been led by Vita Godec – with considerable success – since January 2022, and has been excelling for almost a decade.

She notes that in her former roles she was frequently viewed as a "maverick", determined to break down barriers and drive improvements by streamlining processes. Now, she's found a group where she can really express her true self. She manages 50 people in her "battalion" and one of her biggest business projects was the acquisition and integration of the company Medicopharmacia into Lenis Pharmaceuticals. She believes that anything is possible if you want it enough, and she regards integrity as her core value. She is true to her word. She is direct, but always respectful. With Godec, there's no need to read between the lines.

Her primary mission in business, a mission she invests in and cultivates, revolves around interpersonal relationships within the company. In addition to her brilliant colleagues and a flexible schedule at work, she also benefits from incredibly strong support at home. As she highlighted in her speech upon receiving the prestigious Artemida 2023 award, this is particularly important when small children are part of the equation. As a mom of two little girls, she serves as a stark reminder that we should no longer just raise them to be "pretty and hardworking", but brave, smart, strong, and tenacious. To believe they can become whatever they want to be. Vita Godec, who aspired to be a scientist from a very young age, is undeniable proof of this.

As the winner of the AmCham Top Potential 2018 award, she read extensively, often using her Kindle, where she had lined up for summer reading the book "Grit" by Angela Duckworth, a psychology professor at the University of Pennsylvania. "Essentially, it's a book about perseverance, which I believe is crucial both on a personal level and in the business world." I try to view problems I encounter along the way as challenges, but it's not always easy," Godec explained. "I've always been fascinated by too many things in life to master just one," Vita Godec likes to say. Her name means life. Nomen est omen – a name holds meaning. Godec also means musician, and Vita Godec is a sublime saxophonist. The saxophone is a musical instrument that combines versatility and a wide dynamic range, offering a unique platform for creative expression. And finally let's not forget what Louis Armstrong once said: "Music is life itself."

*Written by Melita Meršol*

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