

# the **fleet sheet's final word**

No. 2418 Free subscriptions at [subscribe@fsfinalword.com](mailto:subscribe@fsfinalword.com) Wed., Aug. 4, 2010

## LOP 10



Like Respekt magazine this week, we'll swallow our pride and apologize to Finance Minister Miroslav Kalousek. Not, as Respekt did, for calling him the force behind the "Háva" law on defense intermediaries. Not even for calling him a lush who talks a bit like a gangster. No, our apology is for doubting his commitment to cutting the budget deficit. We nicknamed his party TOP 9.1 because of the 9.1-point difference between his 2009 GDP forecast and the real figures, which produced a record budget deficit. However, the new nickname could perhaps be LOP 10, because Kalousek wants to chop more than 10% off the approved 2010 budget figures in producing the 2011 budget. It would be the first time in at least a decade that both budgeted spending and revenue fell from one year to the next. During that period, spending doubled. Kalousek now wants to reverse the trend. We doff our hat to him, while fully realizing that his budget is only a proposal and will probably be transfigured beyond recognition before becoming reality.

# TNP

## THE NEW PRESENCE

Truly Independent

In-depth analysis by  
prominent authors

Distributed  
throughout the world



[www.new-presence.cz](http://www.new-presence.cz)  
Phone: 222 075 600