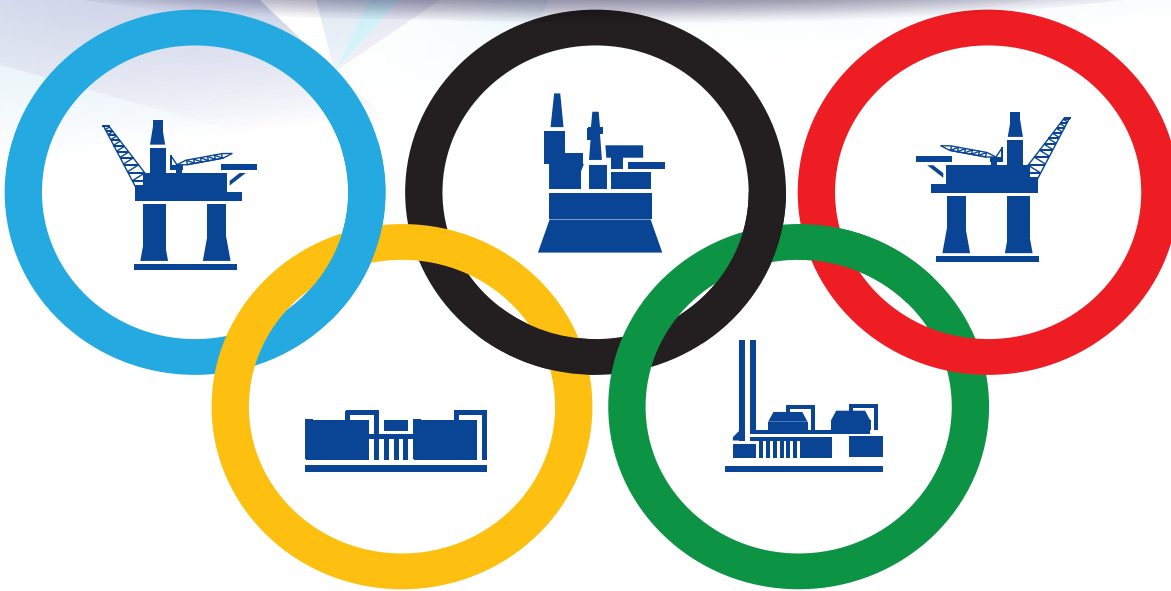




ПОБЕЖДАЕМ ВМЕСТЕ! WIN TOGETHER!



ЗИМНИЙ МАРАФОН БЕЗОПАСНОСТИ WINTER SAFETY MARATHON

The Winter Safety Marathon has started at Sakhalin Energy – the start of the long distance was laid on 15 October. Cute talismans will help you to reach the finish line, who will accompany you all the way – please love and favor! Read more about the winter marathon on pages 12–13

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24 teams made up of Sakhalin Energy employees are taking part in the corporate Winter Safety Marathon

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October

A practical workshop for the leaders and participants of Sakhalin Oblast's folk ensembles took place in Nogliki. The event was held with financial support from Sakhalin Energy

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October

Sakhalin Energy published a collection of case studies on operating during the pandemic COVID-19

15
October

Sakhalin Energy held an online workshop for information centres consultants

20
October

Sun Arrows gas carrier took its 200th cargo of LNG under the Sakhalin-2 project in the Prigorodnoye port

22
October

Sakhalin Energy is recognised as the winner of the "Change Management. Visionaries" award. The company's report became the leader in the category "Best Disclosure of Strategy and Performance for the UN SDGs"

29
October

Sakhalin Energy shipped its 1900th standard LNG cargo from Prigorodnoye port

Retracing the Conference...

In late September – early October, the only island region of Russia hosted the 24th International Sakhalin Oil and Gas 2020 Exhibition-Conference.



Opening the Conference, Valery Limarenko, Governor of the Sakhalin Oblast, noted that the Conference is a significant event in the international oil and gas sector. It serves as a platform where key strategic decisions are made regarding the development of oil and gas projects on Sakhalin and in the Russian Far East as a whole, and where international, mutually beneficial cooperation is solidified. This year, the new five-year Sakhalin Oblast Gas Supply and Gasification Programme was approved during the Conference



Unsurprisingly, the Gazprom delegation drew particular attention of guests and participants of the event, as the multinational company is expanding its presence in the Sakhalin Oblast. In the photo: Sergey Menshikov, Member of the Gazprom Management Committee, Head of Department 307, and Roman Dashkov, Sakhalin Energy Chief Executive Officer



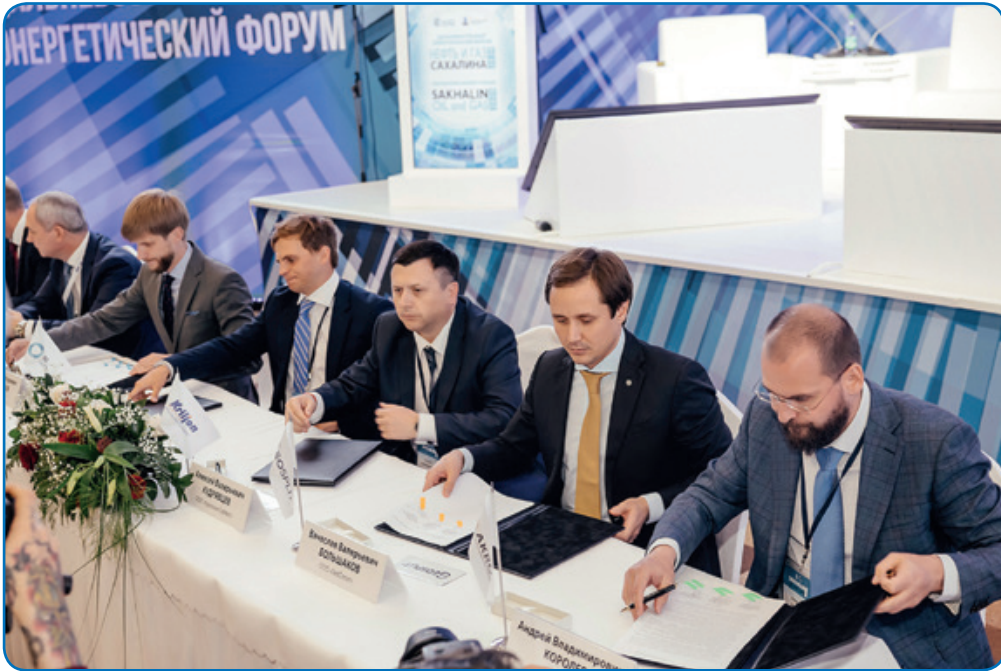
Roman Dashkov, Sakhalin Energy Chief Executive Officer, offered the recipe for turning challenges into a 'cure' for business in the current conditions. "Today, prompt decision making is becoming the most vital aspect of ensuring stability and improving efficiency. It is like a catalyst that can either improve or deteriorate the situation depending on the way it is used. But keep in mind that it also raises the degree of responsibility for the decisions made", concluded Roman Dashkov



Company representatives contributed to discussions on virtually every topic in the Conference agenda. For instance, Andrey Okhotkin, Commercial Director, shared his expert opinion on the prospects of the oil, gas and LNG markets after "the biggest economical shock in the contemporary history"



The guests and participants of the Conference also took interest in Sakhalin Energy's experience with digital transformation of its production amidst the pandemic. At the company's exhibition booth, attendees could temporarily become digital twins of Sakhalin Energy specialists from production facilities. A similar experience became part of the presentation by Denis Lutsev, Sakhalin Energy Onshore Assets Manager



Conclusion of a number of agreements on the creation of the Sakhalin Industrial Park, a new specialised investment platform, became one of the key events of the Conference. 13 service companies confirmed their intention to become residents of Russia's first technical competences centre for oil and gas enterprises. The Park's residents will be granted an exemption from property and income taxes for the first five years. The development of the oil and gas cluster will make the sector less dependent on imported equipment and parts. The share of service work in the region is expected to increase to 25%



Another priority area for our company is the expansion of Russian Content in the Sakhalin-2 project. During the Conference, Sakhalin Energy signed letters of intent with domestic companies PetroGasTech Shelf Service and NIPOM. The former will provide underwater inspection services, while the latter will aid in upgrading power supplies to the block valves of the onshore pipelines



At the end of the International Sakhalin Oil and Gas 2020 Conference, Sakhalin Energy's exhibition booth 'Russian LNG: History and Development' was chosen as the best display

With a Focus on Green Energy

On 30 September and 1 October, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk hosted the Sakhalin Oil and Gas Far-Eastern Energy Forum. Its participants discussed the issues of environmental impact reduction, namely lowering greenhouse gas emissions and developing clean energy on the island. Sakhalin can become the first Russian region to properly implement a corresponding policy framework. Vesti talked to Andrey Samatov, Head of Sakhalin Energy Environmental Protection Division, about the current efforts of the company in this area.

– **Could you talk about what steps Sakhalin Energy is taking today to lower its greenhouse gas emissions?**

– Reduction of greenhouse gas emissions is not some isolated component of Sakhalin Energy's work, but an integral part of our common system of environmental impact management. That is why we consider this issue in conjunction with other environmental aspect of our operations and measures to prevent and mitigate negative impact. All these efforts are guided by the Air Emissions and Energy Management Standard.

This document defines the key requirements of control over the emissions of greenhouse gas, pollutants and ozone-depleting substances, and supports the implementation of the company's plans to increase energy efficiency. In recent years, the company has been demonstrating a decline in its energy consumption and greenhouse gas emissions rates.

– **What do you think about the regional government's initiative to take a comprehensive approach to dealing with greenhouse gas emissions?**

– As a socially and environmentally responsible company, Sakhalin Energy definitely supports such initiatives. It is wonderful to see them come directly from authorities and know that the implementation of the region's sustainable development concept will engage government agencies and the public along with private organisations.

– **How timely are these measures?**

– They are undoubtedly timely. We believe that Sakhalin has the potential to achieve a carbon-neutral economy when atmosphere emissions are appropriately compensated for. These are realistic plans, since our region has a relatively

small production sector and rather low emissions indicator, even if we calculate all greenhouse gas emissions in the CO₂ equivalent.

For another thing, we have great opportunities for carbon fixation, as our island is rich in forest and surrounded by sea. Which is why a comprehensive approach to this issue, well-established accounting and control of greenhouse gas emissions, creating conditions for using alternative energy resources, and carbon fixation can ensure the achievement of the mission statement.

– **How do you feel about the initiative to promote a draft law that seeks to tax companies that leave a carbon footprint?**

– None of the efforts will lead to any progress without normative consolidation of requirements in this area. Because all companies need clear operating parameters — rules of the game, so to speak. Which is why this initiative is necessary. Since there are some hurdles with passing this law on the federal level due to some objective reasons (such as challenges with properly identifying the list of greenhouse gases, and standardisation of accounting and control methods), it makes sense to test it on a pilot region, Sakhalin for instance, to help work out this important issue.

However, it is important to note that Sakhalin Energy does not consider the management of greenhouse gas emissions and the lack of an appropriate law to be the most acute problems — areas defined by the Ecology National Project such as clean air, clean water and waste management deserve to be paid equal attention. Consequently, legislative changes in at least one of these areas will help to create conditions and demonstrate the capabilities of implementing a 'green'



low-carbon economy pilot project and achieving a balance between emissions and consumption in a particular region.

– **During the Forum, the Governor of the Sakhalin Oblast Valery Limarenko called oil and gas companies a 'team' that supported these initiatives. As one of the largest companies on the island, how actively is Sakhalin Energy engaged in this collaboration between authorities and business?**

– We use such venues to reiterate that the concept of sustainable implementation of the Sakhalin-2 project is interconnected with the sustainable development of the host region. On the one hand, the company makes a considerable contribution to the social and economic development; on the other hand — it brings equal responsibilities. Which is why we try to share with all stakeholders our experience in managing greenhouse gas emissions — both in terms of design, technical and technological solutions, operational activities, and also in terms of the information about the best international practices related to quotas, rates, and taxes — that is to say, everything we know, including things we learn as a result of cooperation with our lenders and shareholders.

As an environmental specialist, I would say that we should consider the development of CO₂ fixation and deposit, primarily through forest restoration, rather than reducing greenhouse gas emissions only. Unfortunately, Sakhalin faces both forest clearance and forest fires. Which is why the regional authorities have their work cut out for them when it comes to creating conditions for stimulating carbon offset by businesses. I believe we will succeed if we cooperate.

Source: sakhalinmedia.ru

Energy of Partnership

Sakhalin Energy presented awards to Russian companies for outstanding contribution to developing Russian content under the Sakhalin-2 project. The award ceremony, attended by Valery Limarenko, Governor of the Sakhalin Oblast, and Roman Dashkov, Chief Executive Officer of Sakhalin Energy, concluded the International Sakhalin Oil and Gas Conference.

Among the awardees, five Russian companies made their way into the prize list: TMK (supplying Russian pipe products with premium connections), Gazproektengineering (engineering and technical maintenance and design services), AKROS (drilling cuttings reinjection services), INTRA Services Company (complex work on restoring protective anti-corrosion coating and replacing pipeline thermal insulation and protective coating), PetroGasTech Shelf-Service (surveying offshore facilities using underwater unmanned ROVs and hydrographic equipment).

Each of the five companies made a significant contribution towards the common goal: substituting imported materials with Russia-made ones, participating in the certification of Russian products according to Shell technical certification system, raising the share of Russian personnel, mastering and applying international practices of design, engineering and technical maintenance, and underwater technical operations.

"This synergy gives an impetus for mutual growth, lays ground for stable long-term collaboration, and multiplies our efforts to develop neighbouring economic sectors," said Roman Sinitsky, Head of Sakhalin Energy's Supply Chain Management Department.

■ Virginia Lakomova



Roman Dashkov and Andrey Korolev, General Director of AKROS "Participating in the Sakhalin-2 project is a unique opportunity to apply our many years of experience and cutting-edge technologies to import substitution in Russia. On behalf of the company, I would like to thank Sakhalin Energy for this chance and the trust placed in us. Naturally, we are focused on further collaboration that would hopefully include other areas of our activities," said Andrey Korolev, General Director of AKROS

russian content



Roman Dashkov and Sergey Rekin, General Director of TMK



TMK representatives "We are strengthening our ties with oil and gas companies, and our goal is to expand our presence on Sakhalin in 2021-2022, not only supplying pipe products, but also providing a range of additional services. This will allow TMK to effectively manage the supply chain from the manufacturer's plant to the well and to prepare production plans, taking into account the drilling schedules of oil and gas companies," said Sergey Rekin, General Director of TMK

Wrapping Up

The scheduled repair of internal production systems – oil, gas and water injection systems – at the Piltun-Astokhskiye-B (PA-B) oil and gas platform has been completed. This wrapped up the large-scale shutdown of the Sakhalin-2 production facilities in 2020. Maksim Ognev, Head of the Offshore Assets Shutdown Planning Subdivision, talked to us about the key aspects of maintenance at the PA-B platform.

– I view this process not as a circle that must be closed, but rather a spiral of continuous improvement. We began planning the work for this year during the shutdown of 2019, and already then this campaign promised to be complex, with contractor involvement, ordering and delivering materials from abroad, and a detailed examination of every step. Just like the rest of the world, we had to make adjustments because of the new virus COVID-19.



Inspections of the flare derrick structure assemblies

“The shutdown at the PA-B platform was the first one for me after coming here from Molikpaq in January 2020. I would like to highlight the professionalism of the facility’s team in performing the scheduled scope of work. We saw this shutdown through with flying colours, which helped us achieve Goal Zero – the facility was relaunched safely and on time. Right now we are focusing on preparing the platform for the autumn-winter season so that there won’t be any interruptions during this time.”

Andrey Klimov,
Offshore Installation Manager, PA-B platform

The transition to remote work took place right when the final volume of work was being determined and a detailed examination of every operation, which required regular participation of engineers from the team responsible for prepar-



Complex lifting operations

ing the remote production facilities for shutdown, was about to begin. Of course, all the visits had to be cancelled; as a result, we had to make urgent changes to our daily work routine and adapt to new conditions.

We arranged additional online meetings with the PA-B platform and daily meetings with the shutdown preparation team to monitor key steps and boost employee morale during this unprecedented time. With the coming of summer, we began to implement shutdowns of offshore production facilities.

The LUN-A platform and the entire gas production chain were the first in line. Then it was Molikpaq. The Piltun-Astokhskiye-B platform was scheduled for shutdown last in 2020.

Closing this year’s shutdown season was not easy, but despite the new challenges and difficulties, we witnessed the opposite of our expectations – the team grew closer, people felt like they were surrounded by trusted friends and colleagues ready to take on any task.

The scheduled maintenance took more than 20,000 man-hours. Overall, the specialists inspected 16 production tanks and heat exchangers, with every operation performed in a confined space. Such conditions require enhanced work safety and the use of additional special equipment, including breathing apparatus and hazmat suits.

Additionally, the compressor part of the gas turbine drive was replaced, alongside with about a hundred of filters in the driver/compressor package pumping natural gas to the onshore processing facility (OPF).

Special attention was paid to the work involving inspection of the flare derrick structural components. These were performed by teams of Russian industrial climbers. The height of the platform’s flare stack reaches almost 100 metres above sea level, which is why professionals with experience in working on offshore facilities were engaged. According to the equipment operating manuals, these activities should be carried out at least once every 10 years, and this year they were performed for the first time. We applied a non-destructive testing method, which allowed us to inspect elements of the flare system without dismantling it.

A large volume of work involving internal vessel inspections was completed. We had to prepare for these inspections in advance, clean the vessels of hydrocarbon vapours using nitrogen. It displaces organic compounds and

Pit Stop on Sakhalin-2 Track

ensures safety during the dismantling process by preventing ignition. Unlike onshore facilities, where nitrogen can be supplied in its natural gaseous state, this inert gas was delivered to offshore facilities for hydrocarbon systems blow down in liquid form, in cryogenic transportation tanks weighing approximately 100 tonnes.

The shutdown was completed in 26 days, without breaks or weekends, but with great enthusiasm and a desire to complete the task which united our team. The platform’s Service Department provided support and made sure things ran smoothly. Every day the staff were provided with tasty meals, clean clothes and other little things that instil comfort and make us want to do our best.

I would like to thank all employees who participated in the shutdown and completed this difficult shift under the trying circumstances of the pandemic. The work was completed on time, in a proper manner and, most important of all, safely. As for us, we have to prepare for next year – the 2021 shutdown.

■ Recorded by Marina Moruga



Electrical work in the flare zone



Confined space work

Two More 'Augustes' for Sakhalin-2

Two AW189 helicopters* have been delivered to Sakhalin as part of the Sakhalin-2 project air transport support. They arrived aboard the An-124-100 Ruslan, a rare guest at Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk gateway and one of the world's largest planes designed to transport oversized and extra heavy cargo.



In terms of volume, the helicopters, including loose gear and special detachable equipment, have occupied the entire cargo area of the giant aircraft's fuselage; their total weight exceeds 16 tonnes. Remarkably enough, no hoisting cranes were used for loading and unloading the "luggage". The operation was carried out via the front ramp (flat slope) of the Ruslan's opening stern section, through which the helicopters that had been lifted with the help of an onboard winch, rolled on their own wheels. Their blades were unloaded through the tail end of the aircraft.

Amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and the associated restrictions, the logistics were completed on schedule with all safety measures observed. For this purpose, Leonardo S.p.A., the Italian helicopter manufacturing company, and Sakhalin Energy opted for the aircraft's remote acceptance via videoconferencing.

According to Vadim Panin, Sakhalin Energy's Logistics Manager, in terms of safety, the air freight becomes the cargo transportation of choice in the adverse weather conditions during the autumn-winter sea navigation. Moreover, the transportation by air has significantly reduced the helicopters' delivery time: the An-124 took off from Milan on 2 October to make a direct flight to its final destination, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, in just 12 hours.

"Successful implementation of the company's aircraft fleet renewal project is a well-coordinated, fine-tuned process and the result of the large-scale work by Sakhalin Energy contractors and many of its divisions," said Vadim Panin. The purchase of the AW189 model, a helicopter equipped with the state-of-the-art features for the passengers' safety as required by international standards, is fully in line with the company's intention to be guided by the best practices as part of the Sakhalin-2 project aviation services strategic development.

After the assembly of the new aircraft in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, subsequent test flights on the island will confirm that all aircraft systems meet the declared specifications and are ready for use.

**The first of the three AW189 helicopters to support the Sakhalin-2 project was delivered to the island in August (see September issue for more details).*

■ Marina Semitko

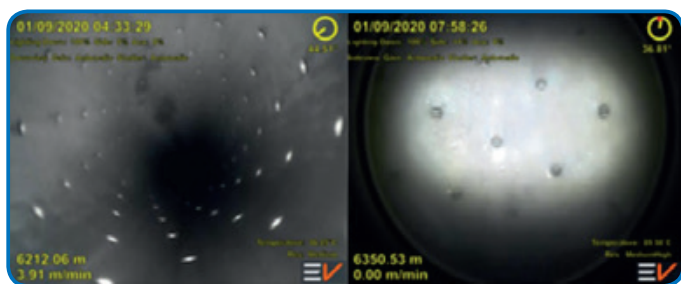


Sakhalin Energy's Flagship: the Course on the Winter

Well intervention was successfully completed at the Lunskeye gas field, that can be called the Flagship of Sakhalin Energy. Its reserves serve as resource base for maintaining Sakhalin Energy top position among the others LNG suppliers to the Asia-Pacific Region. Therefore, it is extremely important that uninterrupted and sufficient Lunskeye gas supply is available to keep the LNG trains full.

Production optimisation is a continuous process executed through Well, Reservoir and Facilities Management programme so called WRFM. WRFM aims to achieve that wells are properly equipped for save operation and wells flow in an optimum manner, the platform disposal system are functioning to reliably inject produced water and enough information is gathered to be “ready for surprises”. From a relatively simple initial phase of production, the field behavior is now changing and these new challenges demand effort and skill from the team to react.

The main Lunskeye challenges are related to reservoir pressure depletion which can lead, in particular, to sand production.



Open hole gravel pack inspection with camera

Coming to surface with extremely high speed, it can lead to surface and subsurface equipment erosion. The second problem caused by reservoir pressure decline lets the underlying water move into the gas zone and then into producing wells. An increase in the proportion of water in the gas stream can significantly reduce well gas production capacity and lead to production well shutdown.

But first, let's start with the sand. In the recent and future wells, the sand production risk is mitigated at the well construction stage by applying downhole sand control equipment like open hole gravel packs (OHGP). However, what to do if in such wells surface acoustic sensors register high degree of “noise”. Or what to do if old designed wells without sand control equipment shows “noise” at surface gauge? The platform is not designed to produce sand and has no ability to take individual well head sample to understand what is causing the noise. Lunskeye has currently two wells LA-508 (OHGP) and LA-513 (old design) that are constrained by “noise” and were part of the successful well intervention campaign.

As was mentioned before, the other main concern for Lunskeye is water breakthrough. There are two main mechanisms which are considered for the movement of water to the well at Lunskeye field: the classic one- the rise of the underlying water from the bottom up, and the breakthrough (leading), when water enters the well from the edge through highly permeable zones, bypassing the gas below. This year's workover experience has shown that well LA-513 is a good example of

a water breakthrough that is ahead of schedule (the water in the well was found to be 40 metres higher than the assessed gas-water contact).

Cases of advanced water breakthrough through highly productive layers pose a dilemma for the team. On the one hand, setting a plug in the well, shutting off the water producing zone and everything below, can lead to a decrease in well production gas capacity, on the other hand- it allows to avoid significant gas capacity decrease in the future due to increased water production.

Therefore, in order to make a good decision, the team must carefully assess the consequences, as well as take into account many influencing factors.

The COVID-19 pandemic has forced us to review our well workover programme. As a result, four wells were selected for 2020 WRFM well intervention campaign. The focus was to gain more insight in the field behavior and to secure and maintain Lunskeye production capacity for the high gas demand winter seasons.

LA-522 is currently one of highest gas capacity wells at the platform and at the same time it ranked very high at Lunskeye “Christmas Tree change-out strategy” priority list as its surface equipment includes old designed and aged components which need to be changed to mitigate connection leaks and valve slippage risks. During the recent campaign LA-522 production tree was pro-actively changed to prevent integrity issues that might have led to production deferment.

LA-512 is an inactive well, the well is not a gas producer and has been originally designed to re-inject drilling cuttings. Now we use it as an observation well: its trajectory goes through all productive layers and it is very convenient to monitor the water level in that area of the field. The relevant information on the water level measurement in combination with regular seismic acquisition is key to be able to predict future gas capacity. Successful well intervention work on the LA-512 enabled us to determine the current water level in this area of the field.

The other two wells in the intervention campaign were LA-508 and LA-513. Both related to the observed “noise” levels described earlier and water production in LA-513.

Well LA-508 is equipped with OHGP completion. From the start surface acoustic sensors register high noise level, constraining the well flow. In order to exclude downhole sand control failure, a special camera was run several kilometers down the hole to assess online the completion equipment condition. Inspection showed no sand or

gravel neither at the well bottom nor along the wellbore and did not show any erosion of downhole equipment. This means that high noise signal is not caused by sand production and hence the well constraint may now be relaxed providing potentially an additional ~30 MMscf/d gas capacity gain.

The fourth of the activities was carried out on well LA-513 and it was the most complex in terms of cross-discipline integration and data acquisition and zonal isolation.

The initial goal of the intervention was to identify source of high noise signal. The

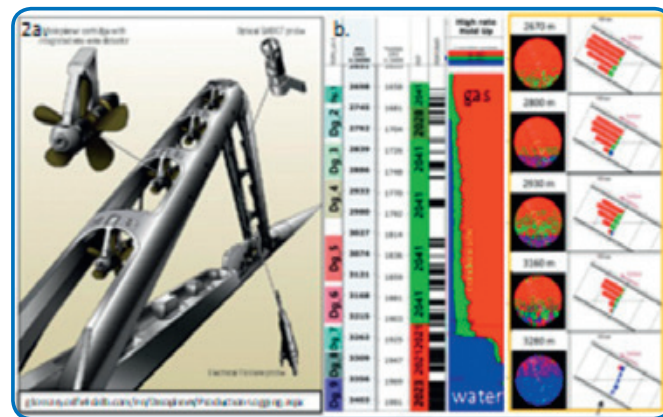
insight triggered to proactively mature a potential water shut off. Within the maturation process, an additional pressure build-up survey at the well was planned and executed, and the interpreted results suggested water presents at the wellbore. Water production tests performed shortly afterwards confirmed water production from the well. Within a short turnover time a “water isolation activity” was matured, endorsed and included into the LA-513 well intervention programme. It should be noted that the programme did not contain explicit decision on setting plug or not, instead it contained a decision tree covering number of scenarios w to enable quick decision making when all the surveillance data was acquired.

Data obtained (gas-water profile; downhole production profile and downhole particles production profile) during the logging operation were analyzed online. As a result of the well intervention successfully isolated a water producing interval that was about to produce a significant amount of water with a plug. Although the isolation work

decreased the immediate unconstrained well capacity with 0.3 million cubic meters per day, a more significant decrease in potential (over 1.4 million cubic meters per day) gas capacity reduction in the near future due to water production increase that would have happened and is now expected to have been prevented. As with LA-508 the team is now testing the well to assess if based on the intervention the production constraint caused by observed surface “noise” can be lifted.

During the 2020 WRFM campaign, the Lunskeye Development Team together with the Wells and Asset Team executed activities aimed at securing gas capacity for coming winter season. The team obtained critical input for planning the next WRFM campaign and proceeded to replace an aged and old generation well tree. In addition, water isolation was well developed and carried out, which ensured an increase of 2.3–4.6 million cubic meters of gas per day in the medium term.

■ Arjen Wagenvoort, Airat Akhmetdinov



a) production logging tool; b) flow profile segregation along the well bore

well capacity restricted by the noise limit was 145 MMscf/d while the unconstrained capacity was 165 MMscf/d. Similarly to LA-508, the noise source can be explained differently, however unlike the LA-508 experience, the camera won't be fully conclusive because LA-513 has been completed with perforated liner instead of OHGP. This completion might in certain circumstances lead to sand production. Previous attempts to identify sand source in Lunskeye wells with acoustic based logging tools were unsuccessful since recorded signal could not differentiate solids-based from flow-based noise. The solution was proposed by a service company which offered a new generation logging tool able to measure mechanical impact caused by particles coming from the reservoir with high velocity and hitting the tool's surface.

The Lunskeye Development Team built sophisticated 3D dynamic models integrating all surveillance data including the latest interpreted 4D seismic. The forecasts from these models predicted significant water breakthrough in LA-513 in the near future resulting in rapid capacity reduction (such behavior has also been observed at well LA-511 drilled relatively close by). This



Medium expansion retrievable bridge plug

Long Live the Winter!

Eight months of winter, the rest is summer!" – it is difficult to determine which geographic point of our country these lines are linked to, but Sakhalin falls under this characteristic. And we are not giving up but preparing ourselves and our production facilities to work in difficult climatic conditions.

The preparations for the winter at the Sakhalin-2 project are moving full speed ahead. First of all, it is important to make sure you are healthy and get vaccinated. Have you received your flu shot yet? If you haven't or are having second thoughts, read the article *A Vaccine to Build up Your Strength* (page 9).

Secondly, complete a winter weather risk assessment. Perform an analysis: are we ready to work during snowstorms, with ice on the roads, at freezing temperatures? In mid-October, the company held its Winter Safety Day. Try to recollect the issues you discussed with your team. The Winter Safety Marathon is ahead, and it will help us remember the key points and stay safe.

Thirdly, check if all production facilities are ready for the winter season. Every facility develops an equipment preparation plan, and its implementation begins long before the first snow comes. This includes repairing process equipment used in the LNG and oil production chain, and other elements of the production system, because even a minor malfunction can become a major issue during operation in the winter season. During the large-scale shutdown of the Sakhalin-2 production facilities, which took place from June to October, all necessary preventive maintenance was performed, the facilities were prepared for uninterrupted operation during the autumn-winter season.

"It is necessary to prepare the environmental support systems of the assets, such as the heating systems of buildings and structures, water wells, instrument air production systems, electric power generators," said Dmitry Pantelev, Head of the Production Planning Division.

– When preparing for the winter, Sakhalin Energy uses the best practices of the Russian oil and gas industry, as well as the procedures employed at Shell for checking the status of work performed: certificates, statements, declarations of conformity. Control and coordination are performed simultaneously at two levels: at the top – by the Production Directorate's management, and at the local level – using comprehensive activity planning and asset maintenance planning."



According to Dmitry Pantelev, the key indicator used for assessing each asset's readiness for the autumn-winter season is the completion percentage of scheduled work, which is calculated based on the scheduled and actually completed amount of work in man-hours, as well as the number of recorded deviations. The weekly reports submitted by the production facilities to the Production Engineering Department of the Production Directorate, which coordinates this process, ensure



that all the preparations at the facilities for the autumn-winter season have been completed on time.

"Even though there is a general strategy, the preventive measures carried out at offshore and onshore facilities differ and have their own specific features. In particular, the platforms are situated in a remote location and, of course, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought new challenges. The introduction of a self-isolation period for staff is now an additional requirement that has to be taken into account in our preparations; however, it has also helped take the planning process to a whole new level. For the Piltun-Astokhs-



koye platform, the final preparations for the winter coincided with scheduled facility maintenance. Nevertheless, the platform's staff were not only able to perform the shutdown work, but also complete



all the necessary activities to prepare for the winter season," added Dmitry Pantelev.

Stanislav Stepanov, Category 1 Engineer of the Production Support Subdivision at the Prigorodnoye production complex, stated that special attention during the preparation for the autumn-winter season at the Prigorodnoye production complex, was paid to LNG and oil storage and loading systems equipment. "To ensure safe work during the period of increased precipitation, strong winds and low temperatures, we perform preventive maintenance of the floating roofs, check the integrity of tanker loading unit (TLU) structural elements, the LNG export terminal and storage tanks.

Equipment that is absolutely vital for the operation of the Prigorodnoye production complex, during the winter season and which must undergo inspection and maintenance includes heating and hot water supply systems, water heaters, and heat tracers for process pipelines. The Maintenance and Operation Subdivisions inspect fire hydrants, perform blow down to clean them of water and prevent freezing, prepare snow removal equipment, fire trucks and personnel delivery vehicles in case of heavy snow.

Administrative buildings and structures are also prepared for adverse weather conditions: we inspect doors, windows, roofs, install anti-skid coatings near office entrances to prevent staff from skidding and falling."

In order to ensure continuous production, we have to constantly improve this process, making sure it is reliable and safe. The results of the maintenance carried out in the previous autumn-winter seasons and the issues raised are stored in a database and, if necessary, the lessons learnt are added to the preparation plans and thoroughly executed. Our production facilities are ready. Have a safe winter!

■ Recorded by Marina Moruga



A Vaccine to Build Up your Strength



Sakhalin Energy is continuing its flu vaccination campaign. It started on 10 October and will last until 30 November 2020. There is still time to decide whether to get vaccinated or not. What is the right decision? Specialists of the Corporate Health Section are unanimous: unless you have a contraindication, you not only can but should get vaccinated this year! Even those who have not considered immunisation a mandatory thing to do are ready to follow this advice. You can find such people even in our editorial team.

TIME TO GET VACCINATED

“This year I decided to get vaccinated, although for a long time I haven’t considered a vaccine to be necessary,” says Marina Moruga, Lead Specialist of the Information Support and Media Liaison Subdivision. Her wariness of vaccination was caused by a personal bad experience: a vaccine meant to protect the body from flu led to unpleasant complications.

Marina learnt a lesson from this painful experience and decided not to agree to vaccinations anymore unless absolutely necessary. She has stuck to this principle for 15 years. But 2020, or, more precisely, the coronavirus pandemic has turned everything upside down.

“We have found ourselves in a new reality and started to pay more attention to our health, to take infections more seriously. We are doing our best to protect ourselves and our family from the risk. This is why I decided to get vaccinated – to protect myself from at least one threat,” she says.

BETTER NOT RISK IT!

“Marina is absolutely right. In the autumn-winter season, we usually face outbreaks of acute respiratory infections. This year, we are threatened not only by flu but also by the novel coronavirus. Do not underestimate the threat of these diseases – the complications they may cause sometimes take a severe form. If the human body is attacked by flu and COVID-19 at the same time, the risk of a negative outcome is doubled,” comments Andrey Lee, Lead Specialist of Corporate Health Section.

The complications may be delayed. You may have forgotten about the infection you had, but over time you may face some problems with your cardiovascular, neural and other systems.

This makes the flu vaccine the true and most effective way to boost your immunity and increase the chances you will not end up in a hospital bed. This would be particularly annoying on New Year’s Eve, wouldn’t it?

GET VACCINATION AT YOUR LOCATION

Another advantage of this procedure is that Sakhalin Energy employees and contractors will not have to waste their time finding vaccine provider. Employees of production facilities (with blue and green GI-D cards) will be able to get a vaccine in medical centres. For all other employees, the Corporate Health Section has developed a separate schedule, published on the company’s internal website.

Have you missed your appointment? Or do you want to get vaccinated against other diseases, not only the flu? Please go to a general health facility near your place of registration or mobile vaccination stations (for more information, see the website of the Sakhalin Preventive Medicine Centre).

WHAT STATISTICS SAY

According to the World Health Organisation, influenza and acute viral respiratory infections (ARVIs) infect 500 million and kill about 500 thousand people in the world every year. A vaccine is one of the safest ways to prevent these tragedies.

“Every year around 40% of Sakhalin Energy employees get vaccinated. Largely due to this fact, the average annual number of registered ARVI cases in the autumn-winter season does not exceed 5% of the staff working at the company’s facilities. This level is below the epidemic threshold. Therefore, we can be sure that the measures the company takes against flu really work,” says Konstantin Kokorin, Head of Corporate Health Section.

However, do not forget that the vaccine is neither a panacea nor a 100% guarantee that you will not get sick. If we compare the human body to a fortress, immunisation is a way

VACCINATION IS THE MOST EFFECTIVE WAY TO PREVENT FLU



#BEHEALTHY!

Vaccination is a specific disease prevention technique where a vaccine is injected in the human body to trigger an immune response to the pathogen. The vaccine contains foreign invaders – a weakened virus or bacteria or their fragments – which cannot cause the disease.

#STAYHEALTHY!

Once the vaccine enters the human body it triggers the response mechanisms of the immune system that uses specialised cells of the body. In the phagocytosis process some of the specialised cells kill the foreign invader, and other cells form a “memory”. When faced with a real virus or bacteria, the immune system will at once recognise them as foreign and will start to respond to prevent the disease or make it milder.

#GETVACCINATED!

Since the flu virus constantly mutates, it is recommended to vaccinate against flu every year. In 2020 you are offered the following flu vaccines:



SOVIGRIPP

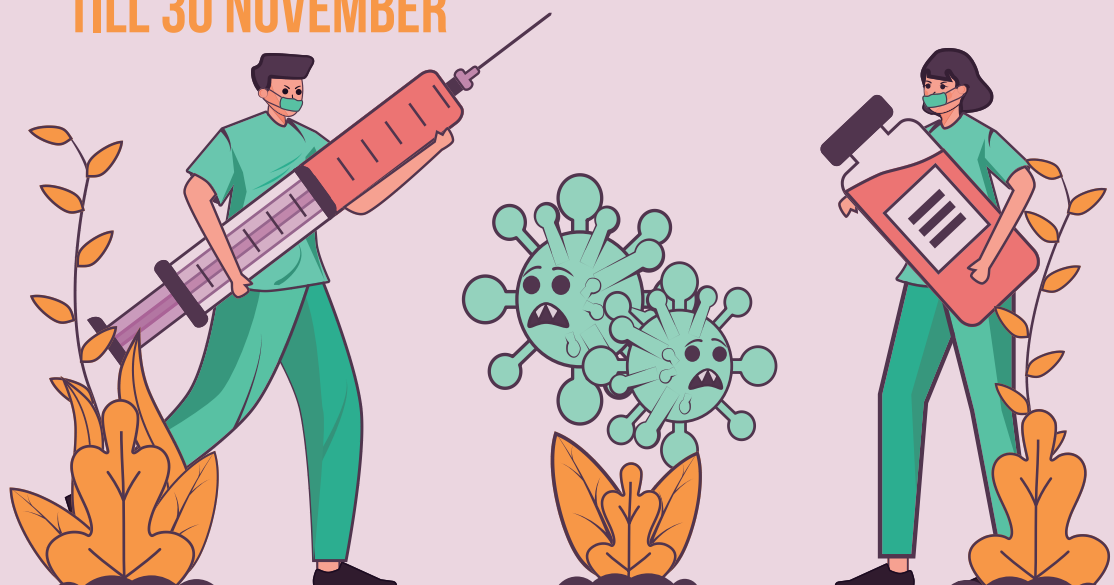
Made in Russia.
Contraindicated for:
– children/teenagers under 18 years of age;
– pregnant women.



ULTRIX QUADRI

Made in Russia.
Contraindicated for:
– children under 6 years of age;
– persons over 60 years of age.
Suitable for pregnant women in the 2nd and 3rd trimester.

FROM 10 OCTOBER –
TILL 30 NOVEMBER



GET VACCINATED – PROTECT YOURSELF, YOUR CO-WORKERS, AND YOUR LOVED ONES!

THERE ARE CONTRAINDICATIONS. CONSULT YOUR PHYSICIAN IF NECESSARY.

to significantly reinforce it in order to fight off virus attacks in the future. But you should not ignore other ways to boost our “defences”. A healthy and active lifestyle, normal daily schedule allowing time for good rest and physical condi-

tioning, positive mood – taken together, these “blocks” can build a secure wall that will protect you from diseases. And you are the only person who can build it for yourself.

The Leader's Opinion

The Commercial Directorate gave top priority to the Continuous Improvement Programme in 2020. The field-oriented initiative group has been using different communication means to develop the Programme. The release of the weekly thematic bulletin is one of these means. A column entitled "Our Leaders' Opinions about the Continuous Improvement Programme" appeared in the bulletin this autumn.

continuous improvement



**ARTHUR LUBNIEWSKI,
DEPUTY COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR**

"The opportunity to improve is the best opportunity in the world." I don't remember when I heard this quotation for the first time, but I immediately saw the true value of it. The idea was my cup of tea. Implementing various projects and working with different teams, I've been applying this principle for many years.

I like to challenge the status quo, both in business and everyday life. I think my colleagues are already used to hearing my usual question: what else can we do to enhance performance? Then I'm ready to listen to and discuss ideas. I have always been curious about exploring boundaries and revealing barriers that hinder improvements. I've got used to viewing the processes as I would my own business, and I

ask you to do the same. You shall see that the amount of initiatives aimed at improvements will become unlimited.

To my mind, continuous improvement always starts with people and is aimed at their needs. Have you noticed the feeling that safety can give? Being open to initiatives, new ideas and discussions, as well as putting forward reasoned arguments, gives confidence regarding the feasibility of your ideas and the management's willingness to support them.

Every idea is important and, in my experience, sometimes one should consider 25 ideas to find the one worthy of implementation. You might ask how one can understand if an idea is worthy of it. The answer is simple. Dear managers, ask questions and listen to answers, try to understand why the idea is important and what value it can bring to the company. Keep in mind: ideas that seem to be the craziest ones at the first glance, can turn into a diamond opening up new opportunities. The generators of CI-ideas never give up. Keep searching, as sometimes an idea is good but you should spend a little more time to find the ideal way to implement it.

And one more thing: now is always a good time to start. If you haven't come up with any ideas yet and if you still have doubt that you are the right person to do so, just give it a try. I strongly believe that every person can generate ideas. Sometimes you just need to pluck up the courage and find the right person to discuss your ideas with.

You can be sure that the right people are here, and my door is always open to discuss your ideas. And don't be afraid to talk to your boss. I am sure you will get his support. Wishing you all the best!



ANDREY OKHOTKIN, COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR

The purpose of our business is to improve our business. I am sure you shall agree with me that this is what the Commercial Directorate is responsible for. Our subdivision is relatively small, but I find that to be advantageous to some extent. It's easier for us to work together with different teams, implement cross-functional initiatives and compete with other directorates in the amount of qualitatively implemented projects aimed at increasing profit.

I believe that despite the pandemic severely limiting our personal meetings for sharing ideas, the Commercial Directorate has delivered impressive results in promoting the Continuous Improvement Programme.

During this period of time, it is crucial that improvements are reflected in all scopes of our activity. I know that a lot of our proposed

initiatives are being implemented and have positively changed the current way of doing stable business.

It is an ideal time for team leaders to support their subordinates, share the innovations and successes of their teams, including those having been achieved by using the CD CI registration system.



**ALEXEY ABDULIN,
GM SHIPPING AND COMMERCIAL OPS**

Most of us know the history of the continuous improvement programmes in different countries and during different historic periods, as well as the current development of the Programs in international companies. They have much in common on the one hand, but still there are many fundamental differences on the other hand. But I'd like to tell you about the development of the Continuous Improvement Programme in the Commercial Directorate.

I vividly remember the beginning of the process, and the considerable progress is evident today. In no small measure, the progress for the last two - three years has been achieved due to our CI-team encouraging our employees to focus on continuous improvement in their

everyday work. At present, all the company's employees are interested in initiating new business ideas and offering possible improvements in business processes. Many projects are implemented within a relatively short period of time, bringing measurable dividends or reducing the company's operational budget expenditures. Thus, employees see the Programme's efficiency in real life. Just as it is in other Directorates, there is an internal system of initiative registration and performance reward for employees in our Directorate. Due to a smoothly running process, even tiny improvements in processes do not go unnoticed.

Not only the Commercial Directorate's staff, but all the company's employees constantly learn to think from the perspective of the continuous improvement culture in relation to improving environmental conditions. The efficient workflow of the company under the conditions of the pandemic is a vivid example I'd like to provide.

Without any doubt, any initiative aimed at improvement is important for business, but in my opinion, initiatives generating high profit are the most valuable ones. Initiatives of that kind are hardly ever plain to see and in most cases require a deep and detailed understanding of business processes. That is why I'm sure that the more educated and experienced our employees are, the more ideas they can offer. This means that one of the main tasks of the company's employees is to continually pursue professional passions and contribute to the growth of your colleagues. This is the best way we can continue improving ourselves as the company's most valuable resource.



**ALEXANDER BUTKO,
HEAD OF LIQUID HYDROCARBONS
MARKETING SUBDIVISION**

I have been working for Sakhalin Energy for many years and, frankly speaking, at first I didn't believe that the CI-principles could become so popular among our employees. But now I see that more and more people have been actively registering their initiatives and, what's more important, the attitude of colleagues towards the very process has significantly changed.

Having considerable experience in communicating with people from different international companies, I often had the chance to observe a typical working situation when a manager was giving instructions for performing

some tasks based on internal procedures, the deviation from which was not encouraged in some companies or even allowed in other companies. Doing day-to-day work without the opportunity to change something will eventually turn even the most interesting activity into a monotonous routine.

Well, let me warmly congratulate you on the new age of corporate evolution, when every employee's ideas are valuable and everyone has an opportunity to express his or her idea at the platform designed for this purpose. Now we call it CI. But what does CI mean to me? This is not only the continuous improvement of the company's processes. First of all, this is a chance for everyone to grow, demonstrate to your colleagues and managers that you are an extraordinary person with a lot of interesting initiatives and, of course, ways to implement them.

I was lucky to attend a few public lectures at Harvard University. One of my questions to the lecturer was about the average number of students expelled annually. I was surprised by the answer: "We do not expel students. If they want to study, they will. Even simply attending lectures will give them some credits necessary for continuing their education. However, it is better for them to take advantage of all the opportunities offered by the university." I can see the same approach in Sakhalin Energy now: if we keep applying CI-culture to our everyday work and developing it, we'll gain more advantages and boost our careers.

New Horizons on the Path to Digitalisation

For the first time in the Russian business sector, Sakhalin Energy has expanded the scope of application of EAM-class (Enterprise Asset Management) information systems. Developed Desnol Soft, the digitalisation project for managing infrastructure, including maintenance and repair of office buildings and the Zima Highland Residential Complex, has significantly improved the efficiency of Maintenance Services. Ivan Tereshchenko, Lead Specialist of Sakhalin Energy Facilities Management and Development Division, talked to Vesti about the implementation of this complex project.



based on the company's standards; it lacked materials and manpower controls, analysis options (for example, to calculate contractor KPIs).

Before implementing 1C: MRO, we could only export data into a flat list in Excel. Such files were cumbersome, impractical for review and analysis. We also had to manually compile reports, which led to errors and inaccuracies. It complicated our work. The company needed a more functional system.

– Does the solution developed by Desnol Soft fulfil all these needs?

– Absolutely. And its functions can be further augmented if needed. When choosing

a suitable software package, we were looking for an option with technical support and the capacity for potentially increasing the number of licences. In other words, a very flexible system. We can use it to manage the maintenance of all our office buildings and the residential complex with public and facilities buildings.

– How was this system implemented, what difficulties did you encounter, and what changed after its introduction?

– First of all, we formed a database of maintenance entities in a hierarchical order —from large buildings and structures to functional systems (water-based fire-fighting, power generation) to individual items (fire hydrants, diesel generators, etc.). As I have already mentioned, before the introduction of 1C:MRO, the maintenance entities were accounted for in simple lists that did not show correlation between the entities and which locations they belonged to. Now, the database provides full information for each specific entity.

The system allows us to apply the Risk Assessment Matrix established by the company to determine the priority of maintenance work: what needs to be repaired immediately, what comes second, and what can be postponed until the next maintenance period. Each entity is assigned a criticality rating; different norms apply different priorities for carrying out work. We drew from our experience with comprehensive risk man-

“The Goal Zero Programme is meant to ensure not only safe production, but also safety in work and accommodation. By managing risks, we aim to minimise any negative effects — economic, production-related, environmental, social, occupational, and reputational. All these factors are vital, as they concern 24/7 essential services for our employees. The capabilities offered by 1C:MRO fully comply with our expectations of modern digital business tools.”

Sergey Doda, Head of the Facilities Management and Development Division

agement at Sakhalin Energy's production facilities, which helped us to transition from reactive to risk-informed control over asset maintenance.

What was the most difficult part? To be honest, every step had its issues, but I would call them growing pains on the path to digitalisation. The project was implemented as follows: detailed inspection, equipment certification, system adaptation, document development, pilot development, and commercial operation.

A lot of effort went into creating the equipment and norms database, as it is the

won in the Repairs Management (EAM) category.

– Our project was chosen as the best in the Enterprise Asset Management category. Its unique feature is the non-conventional application of an EAM-system. 1C:MRO is widely used for automating production asset control (machinery and other equipment). According to 2019 data, up to 30 % of real economy enterprises listed in the MOEX index use this system. And Sakhalin Energy became one of the first companies in Russia to implement 1C:MRO for non-production asset management.

As a result of implementing the system, the business processes of Sakhalin Energy's non-production assets have improved: equipment downtime fell to 20%, labour productivity in operational and service units increased, repair requests are handled 30% faster, and management accounts are now sent 50% quicker.

foundation for the entire system. Overall, the first stage of the project took ten months.

– Why was Desnol Soft chosen for this project?

– That was the result of large-scale work: we performed a market analysis of similar systems, pre-qualified 52 companies — 1C integrators, and organised a tender for candidates that passed pre-selection. In the end, only a few companies were suited to adapt 1C:MRO to our needs. In addition to meeting our criteria, Desnol Soft offered the lowest price for the implementation.

This company is the centre of Russia's competences in asset management digitalisation, as well as the developer of 1C:MRO. It emerged on the market in 1999 and works as an official partner of 1C. We considered it an advantage to be able to apply a domestic IT solution for system automation. It is a great deal, considering the relatively low cost compared to foreign systems and its optimal functionality. It is an important aspect for our company, as we aim to increase Russian Content in the Sakhalin-2 project.

– A worthy choice, supported by the victory in 1C: Project of the Year contest for the best corporate automation systems awarded by 1C. Our project developed by Desnol Soft

– Let's move on from praises to more practical matters. What is a regular employee or a resident of Zima Highland supposed to do if they notice an issue?

– They can report it to the HelpDesk hotline, receive a quick response and guaranteed help, and later rate the quality of service. Sakhalin Energy's general contractor staff receive repair requests and fulfil them based on system-established norms, allocating workers, tools and materials depending on the work load. They can also initiate repairs if they discover any break-downs. Custodians from our Division have access to every request for scheduled and corrective maintenance.

– In your opinion, what is the most significant result of this project?

– For me, it is the fact that we were able to harmonise the business processes of our Division with the company-wide processes and procedures. The combination of the experience of production facilities and the flexibility offered by the new IT system helped us to implement most of the functions we require for properly managing maintenance processes.

■ Interview by Elena Gurshal

– Ivan, as far as I know, this system was previously used only for production facilities. And it was Sakhalin Energy's Facilities Management and Development Division that decided to re-purpose it for managing office and residential buildings, including for maintenance and repair management?

– That's right. The project has proven that 1C: MRO (1C: Maintenance and Repair of Equipment 2 CORP) can be applied not only to managing production assets, but also to servicing residential and office facilities. We began to implement it back at the end of 2018, and the first stage took less than a year to complete. The second stage is scheduled to be completed in May next year. Later, we plan on integrating SAP in materials control.

– Why was the project divided into several stages?

– Mostly because we had to sequentially perform a large volume of work, as well as switch to the new platform as quickly as possible. The implementation of the first stage has already boosted the efficiency of our Division. We hope that it will also improve the quality of life and work for company employees and will help to ensure a high level of safety.

– What was wrong with the previous non-production facilities management system? What factors went into the introduction of the new project?

– The previously used system had its disadvantages. In particular, we couldn't plan



Winning Together!

Winter Safety Marathon has been launched at Sakhalin Energy. The 'starting gun' was fired on 15 October. On this day, employees at the onshore production facilities and company offices, as well as personnel working remotely, started the race.

You can join the marathon from anywhere, on any day you like. What matters is your pace: try to keep it until the finish line!

WHAT IS SAFETY MARATHON?

It is a series of events that will take place in the winter of 2020–2021. The events include team discussions, quizzes, creative contests and competitions.

A FEW WORDS FROM THE CEO

"The COVID-19 pandemic has drastically changed our world and the way we do business in Sakhalin Energy. Today, our focus is on evaluating whether the precautions taken at the company's facilities are sufficient, and on keeping them in sync with each employee's personal responsibility. This is why this year's Safety Day is a great time to reflect on our awareness and self-discipline. We need it to protect ourselves, our families and colleagues from risks, the old ones or the new ones," said Roman Dashkov, the company's CEO, while addressing the participants of the Safety Marathon.

GOAL OF THE WINTER SAFETY MARATHON

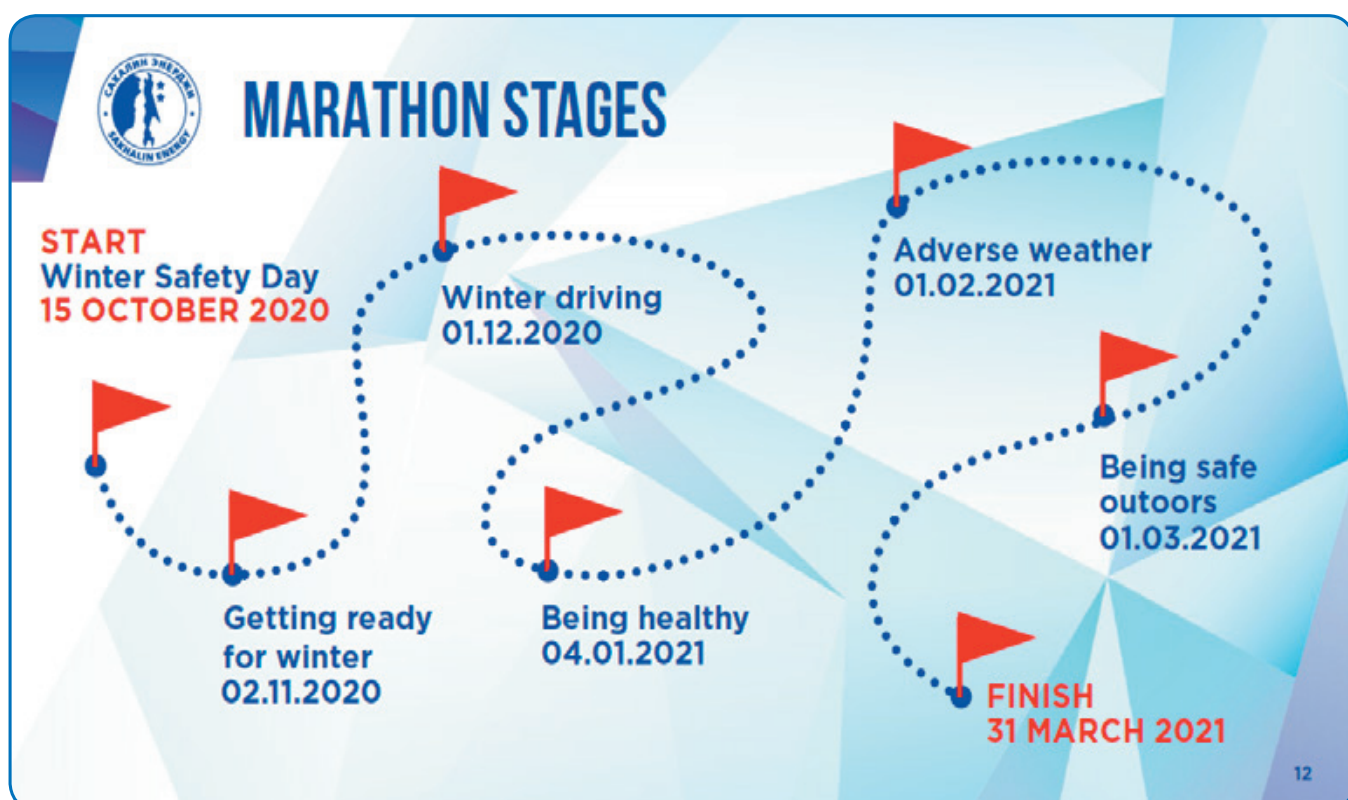
The Marathon aims to reduce the number of work-related injuries and illnesses at the Sakhalin-2 project through raising awareness about crucial aspects of industrial safety in winter and actions being taken to prevent the spread of the COVID-19.

SOMETHING NEW

Winter Safety Day has become a tradition at the company, but this year brings many changes. Safety Day will be followed by the Safety Marathon, a race that is not quite easy to finish. It is divided into several stages, each corresponding to an aspect of cold-season safety: preparation for winter, driving, harsh weather conditions, healthy lifestyle, outdoor safety.

A jury will announce the results of every stage and the race as a whole. It will use specific criteria in five categories: Safety, Leadership, Health, Competencies and Engagement, and Facility Score. For example, the number of employees who receive flu vaccination belongs to the Health category.

Not only team score will be counted, but individual



WHY MAKE CHANGES?

There are 10,000 people, both in-house and contractor employees, working at our facilities and offices every day. They are involved in high-risk operations, but very often injuries occur because people stop perceiving hazardous conditions as such and do not pay attention to safety precautions.

WHERE CAN I GET MATERIALS FOR WINTER SAFETY MARATHON EVENTS?

All materials, including presentations, educational videos and posters, are available at the company's Intranet site; you will need to click the banner at the home page.

input of each employee into the marathon's goal achievement. The most active participants and teams with the highest score will get prizes including a special award from Sakhalin Energy Chief Executive Officer.

THREE WAYS TO START

Everyone will have a chance to shine. In fact, many of our colleagues have already demonstrated what they were good at. The teams could score points towards the Leadership and Engagement category on the Safety Day when choosing topics for discussion at the start.

These were personnel effectiveness, leadership, and controlling seasonal risks in the new conditions. Each team could decide which way to take. The main thing was to get every team member to participate in the discussion—the organisers made sure to stress this point.

TOGETHER TOWARDS THE GOAL

All of us will become marathon runners, each representing one of 24 teams. The Winter Marathon has its mascots, a bear and a chipmunk. The cute critters will inspire everyone to keep moving to new achievements and the ultimate Goal Zero.

Everyone's invited — we'll win together!

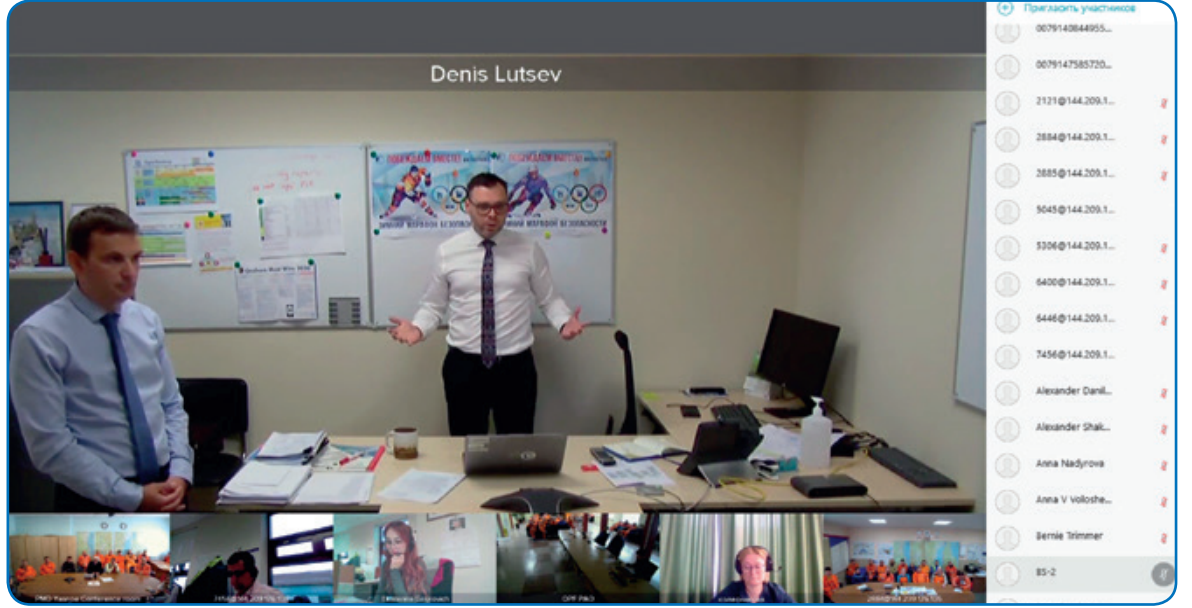
■ Pavel Ryabchikov

MARATHON PARTICIPANTS

- 1. PROJECTS TEAM**
 - ▶ OPFC
- 2. PRODUCTION TEAM**
 - ▶ MPQ
 - ▶ PA-B
 - ▶ LUN-A
 - ▶ OPF
 - ▶ Pipelines
 - ▶ Prigorodnoye
 - ▶ Technical Directorate
 - ▶ Engineering and Maintenance (E&M)
 - ▶ FMD
 - ▶ PDD
 - ▶ ALG
- 3. ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM**
 - ▶ Finance Directorate
 - ▶ HR Directorate
 - ▶ Legal Directorate
 - ▶ Commercial Directorate
 - ▶ Corporate Affairs
 - ▶ C-HSE
 - ▶ Industrial Safety
 - ▶ IT and IM Department
 - ▶ Corporate Security Department
 - ▶ Approvals and Compliance
 - ▶ PrD Support
 - ▶ Internal Audits/Intellectual Property Section/ Representative office

24 teams (according to the tournament table).

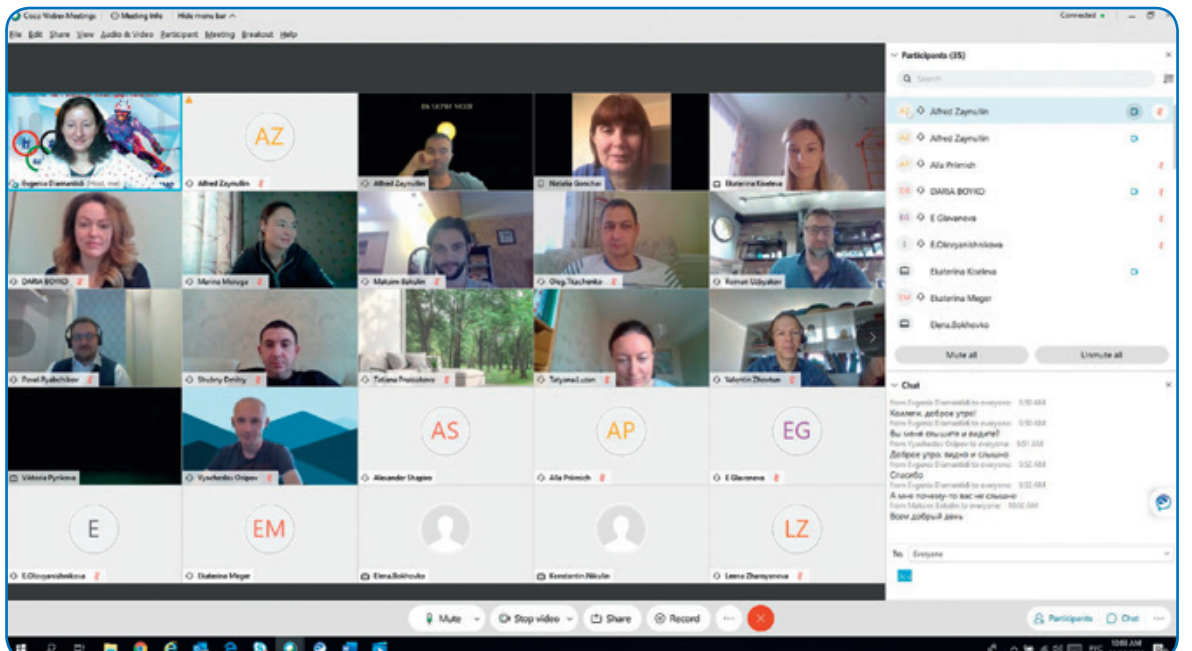
WINTER SAFETY MARATHON



The Winter Safety Day was held simultaneously at all company onshore assets and started off with opening remarks from Denis Lutsev, Onshore Assets Manager. 51 sites (production facility conference halls, operators' premises, administrative offices, etc.) were connected to a video conference dedicated to the event opening



A talk, video films, and group discussions were the communication elements used during the Safety Day at the Kholmsk coastal base. The employees of Sakhalin Energy carrying out operational management of the asset, as well as representatives of Halliburton, Schlumberger, etc., participated in the event. Field sessions were conducted with a number of contractors engaged in the work at the pipe yard in Sadovniki village



About 420 people, including Sakhalin Energy employees and contractor workers, participated in the Winter Safety Day activities at the Prigorodnoye production complex. After discussing seasonal risks and challenges associated with the new reality, the personnel broke into groups and continued working in teams. The next day, a similar session was arranged for employees who work remotely. 42 people participated in the online event

Apart from holding a discussion and watching a film, employees of the Corporate Affairs Department took part in an online poll. The voting showed that during the autumn-winter season, the focus should be made on personnel performance

The page is prepared by Marina Semitko

training

The New Virtual Reality

For the first time in Sakhalin Energy's history, the annual Career Week was held in an unusual format. Nadezhda Busarova, Specialist of the Professional Learning subdivision, shares the details.



– COVID-19 has forced us to adapt to a new reality and learn to work remotely. Training programmes also had to be reformatted to an out-of-class format. We are witnessing an interesting transformation: previously, online learning was compared to sugar substitutes — “sweet, but not quite the same” — but the pandemic has taught us to see it in a new light. This format is growing increasingly popular. But to embrace something new, you have to try it first.

And so we did try it: we converted Career Week, which had always been held in auditoriums in pre-COVID times,

“The world will definitely never be the same again. As the Chief Executive Officer has rightfully noted, we should already start thinking about what our company will be like in the new business reality. The new conditions present not only difficulties and challenges but also opportunities. In this situation, the market of digital educational technologies will grow even faster, and educational approaches will be reimagined. The roles of the teacher and the student are changing as well. Online learning will become one of the key aspects of the new world, where we will have to focus on self-learning and mastering new technologies. The “self” part is the most challenging part, since more and more educational content is available 24/7 and deadlines are less rigid while the scope of tasks only increases. In such conditions, one must properly schedule their time and prioritise events, including educational ones. That is why self-discipline is more important than ever.”

Alexander Sheykin, HR Director

into a remote event. It was a challenging task. In just a month we coordinated the main topics, approved event programmes with each presenter, executed contracts, tested connection with the platform (Cisco Webex). The beginning of series of webinars lasting just over a week was set. We received great help from the Information Technology and Information Management Department—they provided nearly 24-hour support and were always quick to respond.

Webinar preparations and speaker selection were one of the most complicated and important stages of the work. Before getting to it, we had analysed the topics of future webinars, their relevancy for the personal growth of employees, and discussed a great variety of options. Out of this ‘primordial soup’ the themes of the programme were born.

Afterwards, we prepared the broadcast schedule, created links to each webinar video, and posted the programme details on the company's internal website. The online format of Career Week enabled us to engage experts from cities all over Russia (Moscow, Sochi, Kaliningrad, Ekaterinburg, etc.) as well as shareholder representatives. Most importantly, this format allowed us to utilise the company's internal resources to fill staff competence gaps. For example, our colleagues from PE Development have shared their experience of using digital technologies in field development; employees of the Skill Pool Creation and Development Subdivision held an interesting webinar on the psychological aspects of remote work, while the HR Goal Zero Team talked about safety when working from home.

The online attendees listened to presentations, solved practical tasks, asked questions and received answers—all in real time through a shared chat with the speakers. Unlike traditional seminars, these lectures were video-recorded. The videos can be used to refresh knowledge, as they are always within reach (uploaded to the wiki).

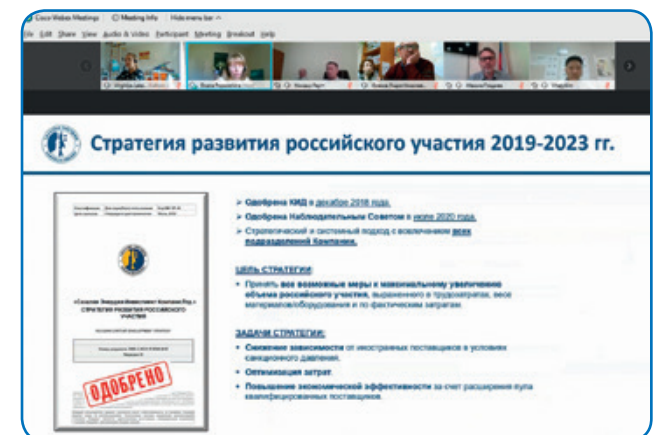
At the end of the Career Week, we asked the participants to share their opinions on the pros and cons of the new format. Among other things, they have recommended including online games in the programme and paying attention to some technical details, such as defining system requirements for user devices and connections. We will take all the suggestions into account for next year.

■ Recorded by Elena Gurshal

russian content

Focus on the New Strategy

Specialists of the Russian Content Team have hosted five video conferences with the company's main contractors. The company's updated Russian Content Development Strategy for 2019–2023 has become the primary topic of the event.



During the video conferences, the participants discussed the key aspects of the new strategy: the Standards Harmonisation Project, installation of the Sakhalin Energy production and maintenance facility in the Sakhalin Industrial Park, Vendor Development Programme, and raising company employee awareness of the requirements to Russian Content development.

Sakhalin Energy's 2019-2023 Russian Content Development Strategy has been approved by the Sakhalin-2 Supervisory Board in July 2020. Its main feature is the systemic approach that is meant to effectively develop and increase the project's Russian Content through maximum engagement of domestic enterprises.

The conference participants also discussed the relatively new cooperation formats: pilot testing of localised and domestic solutions at the company's production facilities, trilateral agreements with foreign partners with subsequent transfer of basic knowledge and competencies to Russian companies. Special attention has been paid to identifying new possibilities and initiatives for Russian Content development under existing contracts.

In total, over 100 representatives from 47 Russian companies took part in the online event. They were particularly interested in the international technical requirements adaptation project and the creation of the Sakhalin Energy production and maintenance facility for oil and gas equipment maintenance and repair.

The primary goal of such sessions is not only to raise our partners' awareness of Sakhalin Energy's Russian Content development obligations under the Production Sharing Agreement, but also to stress the strategic importance of this task in the context of the current situation on the global oil and gas market. We believe that open discussions will provide the impetus for a joint search for new Russian Content opportunities within the Sakhalin-2 project.

■ Russian Content Development and Supplier Relationship Team

safety

Time to Get Changed

Timely provision of personal protective equipment (PPE) to the staff is one of the mandatory conditions for company's safe production activity.

This year, a significant progress has been made in various areas of PPE provision: the company signed three contracts with Russian suppliers. We started to use Russian-made clothing which, inter alia, contributes to increased Russian content in the project.

In response to the wishes of our colleagues working at production assets, new design of protective clothing has been developed. Overalls and suits became more comfortable; Sakhalin Energy and Goal Zero chevrons and logos have been added. Additional info on PPE is available at the webpage which is regularly updated with new documents and PPE management tools. In the next Vesti issue we will go into more detail about provision of PPE to the staff.

■ Alexey Zasutsky



Do your Best

What looks beautiful is robust. The human eye is accustomed to proportions of nature, and in nature that which is robust and rational survives.
Vladimir Shukhov

Professional holidays in the calendar are like a smartphone reminder: they make us take a closer look at a particular trade, at the story behind it, get acquainted with people who have chosen it. On 30 October, Mechanical Engineer Day is celebrated in Russia. This is one of the most universal and sought-after professions in the world. In August 1908, engineer Henry Ford began manufacturing a new car model, in May 1913, Russian Vityaz, the world's first multi-engine aircraft, made its flight, and in October 1945, engineer Percy Spenser filed a patent for the microwave oven. The team of static equipment mechanical engineers at the LNG Plant consists of four people. This is a small yet very important link in the production chain of Sakhalin Energy. Please meet the heroes of our column: Denis Khakimov, Team Head, and Elisaveta Perminova, Mechanical Engineer.



Elisaveta Perminova. After school, she entered the Gubkin Russian State University of Oil and Gas and graduated in 2018 with a degree in Process Machines and Equipment. She has been working for Sakhalin Energy for a year and a half

– What or who has influenced your choice of profession?

Denis Khakimov: “In my case, it is fair to say that we all come from childhood. I often visited my grandma and grandpa who lived in Bishtinovo village in Bashkortostan. A trunk gas pipeline passed just within a few kilometres from their house, but they, like in olden times, had to fire a furnace to heat the dwelling and cook food. While in high school, I already understood how technically simple it was to solve this issue and I was dreaming of designing a project and bringing gas to the village, so that my relatives could have it easily and would not expend their energy, time, and money. It was this wish that determined my future professional fate: higher education and work in the oil and gas sector. Since childhood, I had a propensity for STEM disciplines, actively participated in academic olympiads to prepare for admission to university, then I graduated and started working in my field.”

Elisaveta Perminova: “I think my parents had a certain influence on me, they are engineering experts and, though they have no relation to the oil and gas sector, our casual friends included many people working in it. I wanted to be trained as a technical specialist, and the profession of oil worker was highly in demand on Sakhalin. It seemed somewhat exotic to me — a peculiar fusion of intellectual and practical work. This proved to be the case: I may work at a computer or put on PPE and go into the field to solve some technical issues.”

– What was your professional life like? To what extent have your student ideas agreed with reality?

D. Kh.: “At university, it was interesting for me to learn theoretical mechanics, the structural performance of materials, material engineering, and other sciences. This became the foundation that formed the basis of my professional interests and served as a catalyst for further development. It was not difficult to immerse myself in practical activities. The fact is that, as early as in my second year at the university, I went to work at a company that designed pipelines. It was quite difficult to combine work with studies, but it was worth the effort, and now I understand that this helped me to become a specialist.”

E. P.: There was no shock. Certainly, I do not get everything right on the first attempt, but I have my colleagues nearby - they will always help and support me. What is difficult for me? Resisting the wish to close AutoCAD with an unfinished drawing and go for a walk. It is also very difficult to find a uniform of a small size.” (Smiles.)

– Is there, among mechanical engineers, a person of authority who has inspired you?

D. Kh.: “That is a tricky question. There are quite a number of vivid and interesting personalities in our profession. Since my university days, I have been impressed by the fate of Vladimir Shukhov. His numerous projects include construction of the first oil pipeline in the Russian Empire. He also developed and built the world's first cylindrical oil storage reservoirs. Vladimir Shukhov was a versatile person and an excellent architect who invented the world's first hyperboloid structures. The radio station broadcasting tower in Shabolovka street in Moscow (1919–1922)



Work days. Planned technological shutdown-2020. Denis Khakimov (in the centre). In 2010, he graduated from the Ufa State Petroleum Technological University trained as an oil storage and gas and oil pipeline design and operation engineer. He has been with Sakhalin Energy since 2012

is considered to be his best-known work. For many years, an image of the Shukhov Tower was the emblem of Soviet television and caption of many TV programmes, including the famous Little Blue Light. Even during his lifetime, Shukhov was called the Russian Edison by contemporaries.

– How did you come to work for Sakhalin Energy?

D. Kh.: “My first encounter was very unusual. On the walls in our technical university, there were photos of industrial enterprises, and one of them depicted large reinforced concrete reservoirs. Us, students, assumed that they were oil reservoirs. But later we were told that they were for storing LNG and belonged to Sakhalin Energy. This made me study the activities of this company carefully. After the university, I did postgraduate studies and kept in contact with my teachers. Once I happened to be at a meeting with Sakhalin Energy company employees. I sent my CV, passed several interviews, and was offered a job.”

E. P.: “I started my professional journey back in my school days: I managed to obtain an educational grant from Sakhalin Energy and, certainly, I was eager to get hired by this company. When I graduated from university, there were no suitable vacancies, so I was working for some time with Schlumberger, where I gained some excellent experience. But then fortune smiled upon me.”

– What attracts you in the profession of mechanical engineer?

D. Kh.: “I had a stroke of luck in my life. I am enthusiastic about the things I do with in my professional duties. Work and hobby combined in one. Sometimes I cannot tear myself away from calculations, and even at

Celebration of Mechanical Engineer Day was initiated by an order of the Commander-in-Chief of the Navy dated 1996. But it is conventional to count from 1854 when the Corps of Mechanical Engineers was formed in the Russian Navy.

home keep working on them. I enjoy reading literature on my profession, try to learn something new and evaluate its applicability for our company.”

E. P.: “Its wide range of tasks attracts: from searching for a specification and ordering the required equipment to assisting in the digitalisation project implementation.

Though the role I play in that is not the most significant as yet, I have opportunities for development and get valuable experience from my colleagues. I very much enjoy feeling like part of a large and efficient mechanism.”

– What could you say about your colleagues?

D. Kh.: “All of them are proactive people trying to do more, to surpass the expectations of their colleagues and managers. They are talented and have very good knowledge. They are wonderful at communicating with people. I am sure that the symbiosis of professionalism and the ability to interact will help us to work better still.”

E. P.: “I work in a wonderful team. It's no wonder we say “LNG family”. I love my job, not only for the interesting tasks, but also for the interaction with versatile and positive people and for the opportunity to learn from their experience.

– What can your profession be compared to?

D. Kh.: “I have never thought about it. The profession of mechanical engineer seems quite self-sufficient to me.”

E. P.: “Probably, with the profession of medical diagnostician?”

– This is a good comparison. By the way, Vladimir Shukhov was a non-matriculated student of a Military Medical Academy for two years. As he was saying later, learning medicine had provided him with the invaluable experience of getting familiar with the most perfect structure created by nature: the human body. What could you wish to young people who will choose the profession of mechanical engineer?

D. Kh.: “Our discipline has undergone great changes. Future mechanical engineers require not only solid professional knowledge, but also knowledge of information and digital technologies, modern software products.”

E. P.: “Remember that the need to do your best will start with the first days at university and will never end. You will need to be determined, patient, persistent and, at the same time, mobile. Go for it! Nothing will come, unless you try. And be sure to believe in yourself.”

Dashboard, a Contemporary Analysis Tool

Dashboard is a visualisation tool that presents the most important information segments in a compact form (according to their topic) on a single screen for easier comprehension. Basically, dashboard is a software solution that allows you to create, receive and analyse data in real time.

These information and analysis panels, known as dashboards, have emerged as a result of the synthesis of powerful mathematics analysis tools and tools for optimal graphical representation of results. Top management of various companies sought out a way to see KPIs, trends, correlations and other metrics presented in a clear and concise way, and to be able to interactively change different parameters. In addition to data visualisation, the primary dashboard functions have to do with metrics comparison over time or metrics benchmarking. “Smart reports” provided by dashboards help owners and managers to identify trends in particular areas of activity and control ongoing work.

This is aligned with the main business rule: you can't manage what you don't measure. The purpose of the monitoring dashboard is to enable managers and owners to track efficiency in order to manage their business. Even just a 2% monthly improvement in efficiency can result in considerable annual profit. This is why it is important to constantly monitor metrics and improve them. To do that, dashboards need to be available to all employees — when people see how their work affects results, they become more efficient. This idea has been proven by performance indicators of many companies that had started transmitting reports on dashboards in their subdivisions and offices.

Compared to classic reports, dashboards present global and current metrics in a clear and convenient way that makes them easy to examine. Such tools significantly facilitate comprehension of complex versatile data. A user receiving information on a dashboard can assess the current state of business at any given moment at a glance. What makes it so visually intuitive? Analytical data is shown through various widgets — from tables and diagrams to arrow indicators. Some tools enable developers to present information using animation, videos and free-form infographics. Analytical results are composed of aggregated and grouped raw data. Dashboards allow users to sort and filter data on any level, limit data by top entries, create calculation fields of any level of complexity.

There are a large number of tools for designing dashboards and data visualisation. They differ in available basic analytical tool sets and user script writing capabilities. Tableau, Tibco Spotfire, Qlikview, Microsoft Power BI and Amazon QuickSight are the current leaders of the dashboard building market. However, their services are expensive. At the same time, their free counterpart, Google Data Studio, lacks functionality. When one does not have means to pay for commercial systems with extensive tool sets, there is an alternative in the form of endless dashboard designing capabilities on the basis of Dash library

in Python, but to use it, the user has to have above-average technical skills.

In essence, a dashboard is a new type of information carrier which, unlike tables and slides, provides for interactive experience, allowing users to go deeper into the data in different sections. It also facilitates communication throughout the company hierarchy, since a well-designed dashboard is equally understandable to a top manager and a line worker. Keep in mind that there is no such thing as a perfect dashboard. It all comes down to customer need, developer experience, and the capabilities of a given dashboard-building platform. Some customers are satisfied with simple graphs, others require percentiles or other statistically significant indicators of a data sample, while still others might need to be able to watch the business process.

This diagram shows a five-level model which should potentially satisfy all of the company's business process needs. This model does not offer a universal solution to all tasks, but rather can be used to receive only the information needed for each particular line of work.

1. TOP-LEVEL DASHBOARD

This is a type of dashboard with visualisation of business process KPIs and other top-level metrics that might be of interest to management. It offers all possible important information and little interactivity to allow users to quickly assess the current situation, find areas that require further analysis and switch to them.

2. EVENT DASHBOARD

This type of dashboard helps users study data and find answers to their questions. Exam-

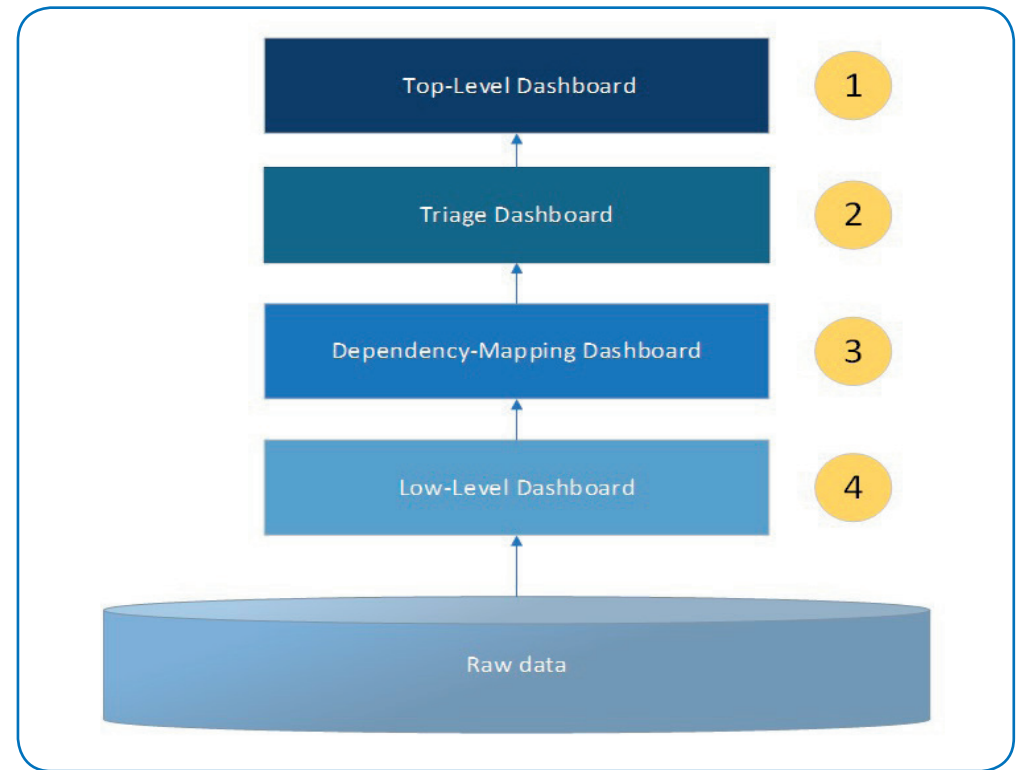
ination of analytical pages takes time and a deeper comprehension of the situation. This dashboard provides for comparative analysis.

3. BUSINESS PROCESS FLOWCHART WITH LINKS

It demonstrates links between the components of the monitored systems or stages of a business process with key quantitative or relative indicators at each level.

and 3D-effects hinder comprehension and can lead to misinterpretation of information.

Additional equally important requirements to dashboard design are appropriate text sizes and fonts, text readability, a uniform visual style of dashboard tabs. Information on the date and time of the latest data upload helps to keep it updated. It is convenient when filter toggles are located at the same spot in all



4. LOW-LEVEL DASHBOARD

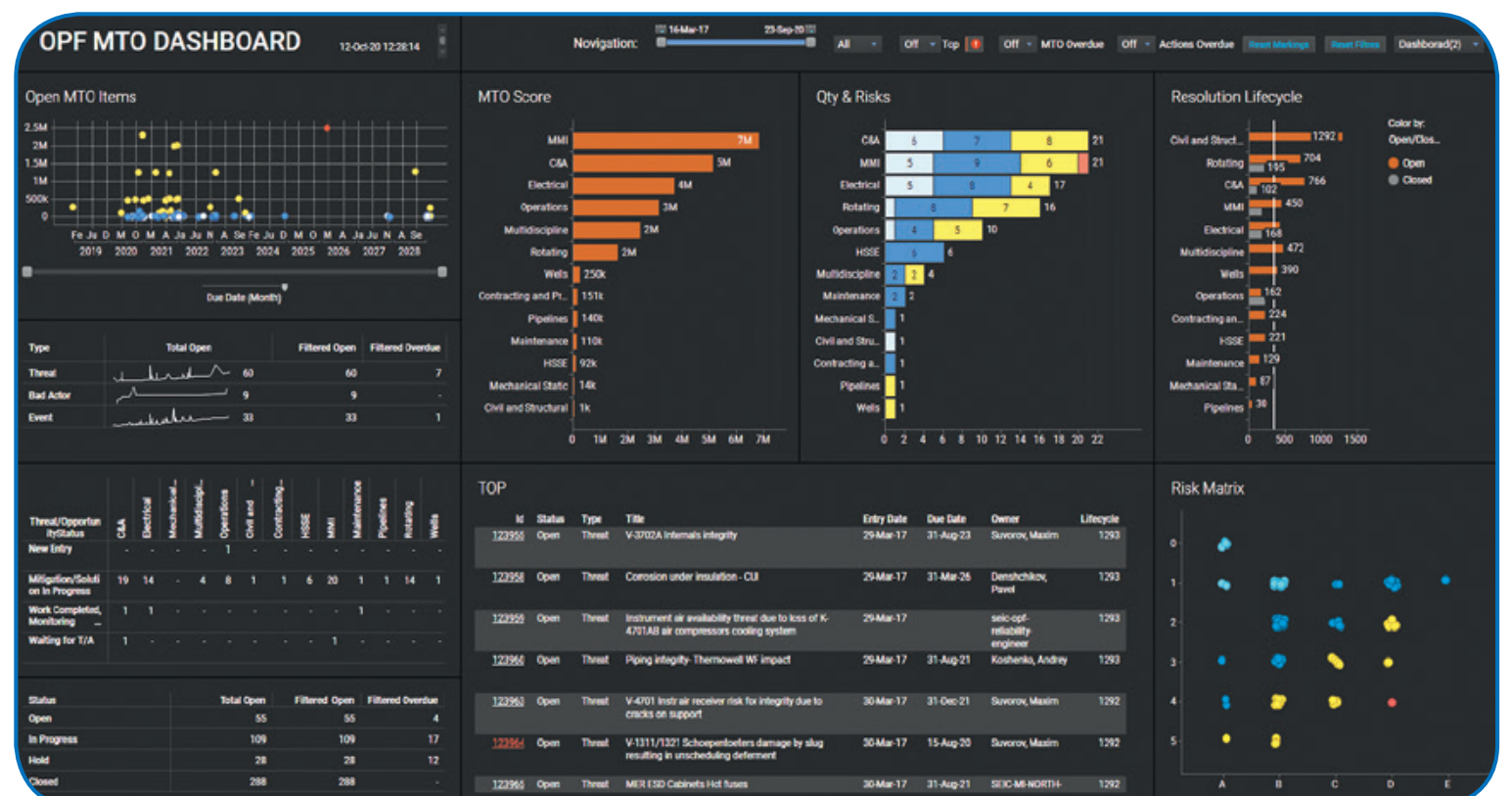
This dashboard shows the most detailed information (down to individual documents, invoices, list items, etc.).

Aside from its appropriate content, a key aspect of any dashboard is its design. It affects how fast users adapt to a new system, analyse data and how they employ it. Neutral subdued colours are eye-pleasing and aid perception, while high contrast helps to quickly accentuate key data. Dashboard design is meant to draw the users' attention to information. Different shapes can be used to group data. Colour gradients are a useful tool to designate a range of values or select indicators that stand out from the rest. At the same time, excessive colours

tabs — that way, users don't have to waste time searching for UI-elements. When it comes to diagrams, the best types for visualisation are columns, rows and table diagrams. Polar, radar, scatter, grid, funnel diagrams might complicate data handling.

Digital and software technologies are developing rapidly in all areas; immense volumes of information are aggregated every day, and it is necessary to analyse them properly in a short time. This is when dashboards come in handy — they are a perfect, effective contemporary business tool that helps companies reach their goals faster.

■ Prepared by Alexander Kiselev based on the materials of maxdat.ru, qliksense.ivan-shamaev.ru, habr.com



An example of an event dashboard for MTO (Manage Threats and Opportunities) business process for the OPF



Non-Financial Reporting: Focus on Corporate Attention

The current COVID-19 pandemic has significantly changed the criteria of a successful business — a contemporary company can no longer focus exclusively on productivity and financial results. The good that a company does for humankind and environmental protection are becoming equally important. That is why Sakhalin Energy continually works to integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), intended to solve economic, social and environmental issues into its everyday operations.

Our company's experience shows that non-financial reporting helps to seamlessly tie in with the global sustainable development agenda. Timely and full disclosure of non-financial information is becoming an integral component of responsible business standards.

TRANSPARENCY, SUBSTANCE, SYSTEMATIC APPROACH

The Sakhalin-2 project has resulted in Russia's first offshore oil and gas production platforms, liquefied natural gas production plant, implementation of state-of-the-art equipment and innovative technologies — these achievements have great significance not only for the region, but for the country as a whole. From the moment Sakhalin Energy, the project's operator, was established, it has been constantly scrutinised by public. Experience has shown that stakeholders need to regularly receive comprehensive information, regarding both production and corporate social responsibility (CSR).

In 2003, in order to be able to openly provide this information, Sakhalin Energy began to issue annual reports detailing production, environmental, social and other results. Since 2009, the company has been preparing public sustainable development reports in accordance with the related requirements of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

The company uses the GRI standards current at the time of report preparations, the GRI G4 Sector Disclosures (Oil and Gas) guidelines and the requirements of the United Nations Global Compact for the preparation of an annual report on adherence to its Ten Principles (UN Global Compact Progress Report).

Additionally, Sakhalin Energy specialists systematically analyse international and domestic trends and new requirements in the area of non-financial reporting and CSR in general. When preparing the 2019 report, the company was guided by the concept and action plan for non-financial reporting development, the European Commission's non-financial reporting recommendations developed according to the Directive on Disclosure of Non-Financial Information.

Report preparation is a systematic, consistent, multi-stage cycle in the framework of the corporate Sustainable Development Reporting Procedure, which ensures long-term consistency and process improvement.

Representatives of all company units contribute to the re-

It would be incredibly difficult to achieve the company's strategic development goals without open and comprehensive coverage of our activities, including in the areas of CSR and sustainable development. The long-standing tradition of open reporting and its constant improvement have become an integral part of the company's activities in this area and, simultaneously, the key to long-term success and an impeccable reputation.

Natalia Gonchar,
Head of Corporate Affairs Department

porting, which positively affects the quality of the material and the depth of its analysis. Each year, the company establishes a working group consisting of at least 70 relevant experts. They spend months gathering, processing, organising and analysing data. To make sure all group members are on the same page, kick-off workshops are conducted to familiarise them with the GRI Guidelines, the plan and the work schedule, and the interaction procedure. Additionally, workshop participants discuss ideas to improve the report preparation process.

For Sakhalin Energy, substance is the key criteria in report preparation. This means that the report's contents and priorities are determined in close cooperation with all stakeholders (both internal and external). Therefore, one of the most instrumental tools of the report preparation process are the open public dialogue sessions held by the company twice a year. This approach allows



Sakhalin Energy's second round of open public dialogue with stakeholders as part of the preparation of the company's 2019 Sustainable Development Report, February 2020



Sakhalin Energy to provide the most relevant information on its production, commercial, environmental, and social activities.

NEW REPORT — NEW TOPIC

Since 2015, Sakhalin Energy has been preparing topic-based reports, which allows the company to cover the strategic areas of its activities in more detail. The first topic was dedicated to the company's key priority — safety. In 2016, the report focused on ecology, which Sakhalin Energy places special emphasis on (for the fourth year in a row, the company has topped the environmental responsibility rating of Russian oil and gas companies). The following year, the report focused on human rights, the strict compliance with which is one of the main Sakhalin Energy Business Principles. The 2018 report was dedicated to innovations and was issued in the year of the company's 25th anniversary. The main topic of the 2019 report was culture in all its aspects — production, environmental, corporate, social, safety culture and occupational safety.

Along with a particular topic, the reports focus on the company's values and business principles, its management systems, including in the areas of risk, labour, environment, safety, human rights, social investment, HR management. A considerable portion of the reports is also dedicated to cooperation with stakeholders and the company's contribution to the sustainable development of the host region (Sakhalin Oblast). Sakhalin Energy continues to cover innovative approaches and practices, both in terms of production and tech-

nologies, as well as non-financial areas (health, safety and environment, staff development, and others).

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND SDGS

In 2003, Sakhalin Energy introduced the Sustainable Development Policy, which ensures incorporation of relevant principles in the operational activities of the company. In 2016, the document was updated with new regulations — the company assumed obligations with regard to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Furthermore, Sakhalin Energy decided to include information demonstrating its contribution to achieving the SDGs in the reports, and became the first Russian company to analyse the SDGs in its reports.

The SDGs are addressed not only to governments, but also to all other players in sustainable development such as businesses, the community, and all individuals. Therefore, Sakhalin Energy strives to contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, incorporating their objectives in its activities and proving that business has to be a full, socially responsible entity in the path towards a better future.

The efficiency of the methods implemented by Sakhalin Energy in preparing non-financial reports is confirmed by the company's leading positions in prestigious national and international competitions. Its Sustainable Development Report has repeatedly won the first prize in the Leaders of Russian Business: Dynamics and Responsibility competition of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs (RSPP)



and the RF Ministry of Energy's contest for the best socially oriented company in the oil and gas industry.

Visible transparency and business responsibility are signs of the high corporate governance standards established in the company. Sakhalin Energy considers sustainable development reporting to be one of the most important tools in building and maintaining long-term trusting relationships with stakeholders. Only such trust can guarantee its reputation as a reliable business partner and provide for efficient further development.

■ Source: Gas Industry magazine



75th anniversary of the Victory

Memories are like pattering, incessant rain, Memories are like never-ending icy snowflakes

During the Great Patriotic war, the soldiers of the 254th guards regiment weathered all the storms that fell to their lot with honour. The warriors did not lose a single battle nor did they leave their positions. On 8 September 1943, by order of the People's Commissar of Defence, the regiment was named after Alexander Matrosov, the Hero of the Soviet Union. Among the soldiers of the legendary military formation, there was Ivan Yevlanov, the central figure of our column. Ruslan Ivanys told us about his relative.

— There is something in common in the fates of our veterans. Life before the war, which always looked happier than it was in reality, because the soldiers recalled about it in the trenches in anticipation of another attack or a new battle. Military, hard work: to overcome fear, cold, heat, to learn to cope with the pain from the wounds and, after the hospital, to rush again to the front. After the Victory — hard work to restore the country. They were able to endure and overcome it all. The generation of winners, there is no other way to say it.



Ivan Yevlanov was born and raised in the Chernigivschyna. His father worked as a mechanic in a small factory, while his mother was a teacher. There were three children growing up in the Yevlanov family: an older brother and two sisters. His mother died when Ivan was only eight years old. His father married again, and that is how the little boy got the second mother, a kind and compassionate woman. After finishing six years of school, Ivan went to work at a factory with his father. He was a locksmith's apprentice until he was given a labour grade.

In September 1940, Ivan Yevlanov left to serve in the Red Army. "Before the war, we studied weapons, we did combat and political training and we did not even suspect that the

enemy would attack the Soviet Union soon," recalls Ivan Yevlanov. "When the fascists came to our country, we had to do an intensive training and master the science of war promptly."

On 30 September 1941, the Germans were a step away from Moscow. Troops of the Red Army under the command of Ivan Konev, Georgy Zhukov, Semyon Budyonny and other military leaders were pulled there. In the battle of Moscow, for the first time, a major victory was won over the Germans and the myth of the invincible fascist army was dispelled. The division where Ivan Yevlanov served was urgently deployed to the metropolitan area, but the soldiers did not take part in this great battle but held back the enemy's attack near the town of Bely, Kalinin Oblast, which was of great strategic importance. It was here when, in November 1942, Ivan Yevlanov, the mortar gunner of the 254th guards rifle regiment, was baptised by fire.

In February 1943, he took part in the Velikiye Luki offensive operation. Despite the resistance of the enemy, the Soviet troops continued their attack. In attempts to stop our troops from advancing at any cost, the enemy built a fortified defensive line — the Eastern Wall, or the Panther Line. The first plans of the rear defence line were developed at the Wehrmacht General Staff in spring of 1943, but only after the Battle of Kursk did Hitler issue the order to build a fortified line going from the Baltic Sea to the Black Sea.

Ivan Yevlanov took part in the battles to liberate Medvedevo, Rozhnovo, Bozhovo, Runovo, Pustoshka, Kriukha (the settlements covered by the Panther Line). The 254th regiment was ordered to occupy the elevation 214.6 to divert the enemy's attention from other parts of the front. The heroism of the Soviet soldiers helped to destroy the defence of the Nazis. Neither a single tank, nor a single fascist managed to break through the positions occupied by the Soviet soldiers.

Pursuing the enemy, in July 1944, the soldiers of the 254th guard rifle regiment reached the border of the Pskov Oblast and the Latvian SSR. The battles in the Luban lowland was a great test for the soldiers. Impassable swamps, 16 large and small rivers with many tributaries around the Lubana Lake. The Germans blocked all forest roads with fire. Artillery weapons and mortars had to be carried by hand. It was there that Ivan was wounded. He was believed to be lucky as the bullet went right through. After spending more than a month in the hospital, the soldier returned to the front, to his division.

After the surrender of the Army Group Courland in 1945, the regiment ended its military operations. It has a track record of 7 broken defensive lines, 598 kilometres of battles, 700 liberated settlements, and destruction of more than 6,300 soldiers and officers, 32 tanks, 47 artillery batteries and 237 enemy firing points!

Recalling the events of those days, the veteran talked about how difficult it was, especially at the beginning of the war: there was lack of weapons and uniforms (our soldier

had only a rifle and a knife, uncomfortable boots with three-metre puttees, which were not warm enough). Still, they had to fight with well-equipped and armed fascists. But the Russian character, bravery and courage helped them to win.

The 65th guards rifle division and the 254th guards rifle regiment remained on the Baltic territory until the end of the war, until the long-awaited victory. Ivan Yevlanov remained to serve extra time. He left the military service in 1948, got married, and came to Sakhalin together with his young wife. He worked in the north of the island as a foreman of the field-crop growers, livestock breeders at the state-owned farm. He also mastered forestry at the timber industry enterprise. The former soldier worked hard; he was never tired. Then he moved to Dolinsk with his family. Together they raised six children.

Ivan Yevlanov was awarded For Courage and For Military Merit medals. He also has the Order of the Patriotic War, II degree. He was awarded the title of the Veteran of Labour.

The Eastern Wall, or the Panther Line. More than 50,000 people were involved in the construction works, and up to 100 trains of building materials arrived daily to the construction site. In total, over 6,000 field fortifications were built, of which more than 800 were made of concrete (concrete pillboxes), the rest were built from earth and timber (log bunkers). About 180 kilometres of barbed-wire obstacles were built and more than 30 kilometres of anti-tank ditches were dug. A large area was prepared for flooding. The areas adjacent to the fortified line were planned to be turned into a scorched earth, all infrastructure destroyed, and residents moved (approximately 900,000 people).

* * *

Private Alexander Matrosov covered the embrasure with his body at the critical moment of the battle for the village of Chernushki. Soon, in the battle for the village of Chernoe, lieutenant Mikhail Lukyanov, the commander of the machine gunners, closed the enemy's firing point with his chest, showing the act of bravery like Matrosov. Soldiers and regiment commanders showed heroism, dedication and self-sacrifice in the name of their Motherland in March 1944 near the village of Kryakovo. In four days, they fought off 21 attacks of the enemy's infantry and tanks. Almost the entire personnel of the regiment was killed, but the battle banner was saved. After this battle, Andrey Yeryomenko, General of the Army, wrote that the regiment showed the immortal act of bravery like their fellow soldier Alexander Matrosov and helped to break through the enemy's front in other sectors.

figures and facts

NOVEMBER STALINGRAD OPERATION

On 19 November 1942, the Soviet Army launched an attack, and on 23 November, it encircled the German 6th Army near Kalach.

Commander of the Sixth Army Friedrich Paulus, who had been promoted to field marshal on 30 January 1943, fought on the Southern Front and was captured despite Hitler's claim that "not one German field marshal has ever been taken prisoner."

That led to the closing of all entertainment establishments, including theatres and cinemas. The Reich Minister of Propaganda started to mentally prepare Germany for tough times. Posters with the tag line "Wheels Must Turn Only for Victory" were everywhere—on railcars, building walls, shop windows. On 15 February, Goebbels made an announcement urging total mobilisation in the name of victory.

The heroic efforts of the soldiers and officers that defended Stalingrad are recorded in thousands of war-time documents. Each award sheet describes the corresponding achievement. Battle books recount particular feats of bravery of Stalingrad protectors. One of them tells the story of Ilya Voronov: "On 25 November 1942, he took part in an assault on a building with his combat crew. A German bomb disabled the entire crew and injured Voronov. But it did not stop Ilya from firing at Nazi soldiers at point-blank range. He personally warded off 3 assaults with a single machine gun... having killed up to three dozen German soldiers. Voronov continued to fight even after his gun broke down and he received two more injuries. While repelling a fourth attack, he kept fighting, despite another wound, pulling safety pins with his teeth and throwing grenades with his good arm. While gravely injured, he refused the help of medics and crawled to the first aid station himself."

the world around us

Following the Tracks of 'Russian Corsairs'

An expedition of the Russian Geographical Society (RGS) visited the Sakhalin Oblast this autumn, intending to throw light on a significant period of the history of Russia related to activities of the Russian-American Company founded in 1799. Timofey Zvezdov, Head of the Environmental Monitoring and Biodiversity Conservation Subdivision at Sakhalin Energy, a member of the RGS Sakhalin Branch, joined the expedition at one of its stages.

LED BY A HERO

"One of the main tasks of the expedition was to collect materials for a photo exhibition and production of a documentary film about the history of the Krusenstern — Rezanov and Khvostov — Davydov expeditions, which were instrumental in securing Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands for Russia. Mikhail Malakhov, Hero of the Russian Federation, a traveller and polar explorer, Chairman of the RGS Ryazan Branch, headed the project," Timofey says.

The expedition group included experienced travellers not only from Ryazan, but also from Moscow, Murmansk, Arkhangelsk, Voronezh, Yaroslavl, Naberezhnye Chelny, Nizhny Novgorod, Kursk and, certainly, Sakhalin enthusiasts who were more than happy to introduce the historic sites of the Sakhalin Oblast to their colleagues from other regions of the country.

On 19 July 1799, Emperor Pavel I signed a decree on founding the Russian-American Company, granting to it monopoly privilege to carry out commercial and industrial activities in Alaska. The document guaranteed the patronage of the sovereign as well as allowed discovering and expanding into new territories. According to historians, the Russian-American Company became the first full-fledged joint-stock corporation in the country. Owing to the activities of this trade association, the Russian Empire was able to enhance the defence in the Pacific region, expand economic relations with China and Japan, develop the infrastructure of the Far East, as well as conduct scientific research and launch round-the-world expeditions.

a part of diplomatic relationship development in those times.

"The project is specifically aimed at showing that this act eventually contributed to the beginning of talks about territorial sovereignty of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands. Moreover, it was a serious impetus for the Japanese to abandon the self-isolation policy that had been pursued by Tokugawa shoguns for two hundred years," the traveller notes.

ASCENT TO JUNO

The researchers visited several districts on Sakhalin; in the Korsakov District, they climbed Mount Juno that in fine weather affords a beautiful view of the seacoast and LNG Plant in Prigorodnoye. A plaque in memory of the expedition of Nikolai Khvostov and Gavriil Davydov was installed on the mount with the participation of Timofey Zvezdov.



Expedition members and Timofey Zvezdov (on the right) at Mount Yunona

A WORD DROPPED FROM A SONG MAKES IT ALL WRONG

In the island region, the travellers visited historically significant sites, which had formed part of the area of vigorous economic activities of the Russian-American Company. They followed the tracks of Russian navigators of the early 19th century, including Nikolai Khvostov, and Gavriil Davydov — captains of the Juno and Avos sailing ships that came into the spotlight owing to the rock opera of the same name composed by Alexey Rybnikov with poetry by Andrei Voznesensky. While the plot of this work is hinged on the love between Nikolai Rezanov, a traveller and entrepreneur, and owner of both the ships, and Conchita

Arguello, the daughter of the governor of San Francisco, the story of Khvostov and Davydov is, at first glance, quite congruent with the setting of pirate novels. At the order of their leader, Nikolai Rezanov, they devastated Japanese trading stations on Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands. So, it was for a reason that the project participants have chosen 'Russian Corsairs' as its conventional working title.

DIPLOMACY WITH NUANCE

Alongside that, according to Mikhail Malakhov, the expedition leader, it is necessary to understand that one should not evaluate the actions of Davydov and Khvostov in terms of the reality of contemporary times. What may be now perceived as a pirate attack was often

The participants' stay on Sakhalin was capped by a trip to Iturup. On this Kuril island, they made a crossing on foot to Good Start Bay where Russian navigators disembarked in 1807.

"Participation in such a project is not only a chance to communicate with interesting people, exchange experience, and learn something new, but also a way to contribute to revealing new dimensions of past events. The Russian Geographical Society works towards having fewer blank spots not only on the map, but also in the history of our country. I was happy to become a part of this process," Timofey Zvezdov says.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov

society

Every Cloud Engenders Not a Storm

William Shakespeare, Henry VI

In October, the company of the Chekhov Sakhalin International Theatre Centre returned to the island after performing The Storm play at the Golden Mask Theatre Festival of Russia.

The Storm had its resounding première two years ago, causing a tornado of spectator emotions: from admiration to complete rejection. Alexander Sozonov, the theatre production director, having preserved the classical text, moved the scene into the future, and Alina Alimova, art director, graduate of the Moscow Art Theatre School, invented an interesting urbanistic set design and fashionable unconventional costumes.

A year later, the performance was nominated for the Golden Mask Russian National Theatre Award, and, at the end of September 2020, it was represented on the stage of the legendary Mossovet Theatre. It was difficult to organise the performance of the play, and Sakhalin Energy provided financial support. This is the short back story.

The coronavirus infection has significantly altered the schedule of events, and the announcement of the Festival results was deferred to the penultimate day of October. We will not be able to learn the jury's decision before publication of this issue of Vesti, but we hope to win. Especially since the Expert Council has nominated the performance for awards in five categories: Best Large Scale Drama Production, Best Director: Alexander Sozonov, Best Supporting Actress: Alisa Medvedeva, Best Supporting Actor—Alexander Li, Best Drama Designer: Alina Alimova.

«I will not exaggerate if I say that a historic event has happened for our entire region. For the first time, Sakhalin residents declared themselves at such a prestigious theatre festival. Despite the fact that the solemn ceremony of awarding the Golden Mask awards will take place only on 30 October, and only then will we find out the names of the winners, for us this is already a great victory», said Tatiana Korneeva, director of the Chekhov Center.

This project is not the first one for Sakhalin Energy. In 2019, owing to the partnership of the Award founder, Sakhalin Energy, and the Chekhov Sakhalin International Theatre Centre, the Golden Mask Theatre Festival was held on Sakhalin in the year of Sakhalin Energy's 25th anniversary.

■ Elena Gurshal

Get Rid of the Autumn Blues!

The autumnal decline that paints our island region in beautiful crimson and gold is not to everyone's liking. For many people it is a cause of low spirits: there is less sunlight, trees lose their leaves, and darkness falls at 7 p.m., bringing with it melancholy and sadness. And the autumn blues start to creep in... Did you know that doctors compare this condition to a stuffy nose? It is just as common; we also try to 'power through it' without treatment and end up 'infecting' others. So what can you do to beat it?



Autumn contrasts. Photo by Raisa Lyashok

SLEEP IS THE BEST MEDICINE

Do not forgo sleep — it is the fuel for good moods and productivity. When you get a good night's rest, you don't have to burn the midnight oil, since you have the energy to get everything done during the day. If your work schedule prevents you from getting a healthy eight hours of sleep, spend extra time in bed during the weekends.



Kuril autumn. Photo by Anna Nekrasova

MIND WHAT YOU EAT

One of the best ways to cope with autumn melancholy is to watch your favourite film and treat yourself to some delicious food. Fortunately, snacks are not prohibited, but everything should be in moderation. Do not skip meals. Eat more fruits and vegetables. Go for foods that are rich in Vitamins B and C and magnesium. Include sauerkraut, lentils, nuts and dark chocolate in your diet.

BE AN EARLY BIRD

If you feel like you are not getting enough sunlight, try to get up earlier. Develop a habit of taking daily walks, regardless of the weather. It is best to go outside when it's sunny to replenish your Vitamin D levels. Remember that UV can even pass through thick clouds and its concentration peaks at noon — so soak up every ray.



Rowan fire. Photo by Marina Semitko



Exemplary formation. Photo by Raisa Lyashok



Autumn in the fog. Photo by Anna Nekrasova

STAY IN SHAPE

Get a gym membership, do yoga, or simply go for a run — just keep your body moving. It stimulates the production of endorphins — the happiness hormones. When the weather grows colder, our bodies start accumulating fat, and physical activity will not only lift your spirits but will also help you stay in shape.

MAKE YOUR LIFE COLOURFUL!

If the autumn weather gets you down with its greyness, bring more colours into your life. Start with your home: buy some eye-catching drapes, hang your favourite photos in colourful frames, and revamp your closet. Fill bowls with fresh fruits and put some flowers in a vase. Look around... Autumn is here, all around you, and it's beautiful!



No Weak Link

An employee calls the company hotline on a Friday evening: he is flying to Sakhalin on Sunday but does not have a residence permit or registration; no digital permit either. What can be done?

Or another happy ending: while observing the 14-day self-isolation in a temporary accommodation facility (TAF), an employee gets a call from the bank that they had messed up the documents he signed the previous day, but the bank can deliver the documents whenever and wherever needed. Once again: what can be done? TAF Focal Point finds a way to safely get the urgent documents re-signed.

For everyone who comes to Sakhalin for work and is not a resident of the region, it is still necessary to have the results of laboratory tests on COVID-19, as well as a QR code of a digital pass and a copy of the employment contract.

Both of these cases really happened. These are just two instances out of hundreds of situations that have been resolved through the COVID-19 hotline. The hotline was launched in March and has since handled over a thousand calls. Some issues can be dealt with easily by providing relevant information,

while others take time and additional efforts from Sakhalin Energy.

When the situation with the pandemic started improving, residents of the temporary accommodation facilities could send requests to the Hotel Services Group on their own. Because of the increase in COVID-19 cases, this feature had to be curtailed—and about one fifth of all callers from TAFs lamented its absence. It is indeed not available nowadays, but at least employees can be certain that they will leave TAFs healthy after the self-isolation period and will get to their facilities without risking infecting their colleagues.

Many of the special requirements for entry to the island have not been lifted. Previously, most related questions came from shift personnel arriving to Sakhalin, but nowadays it is often company employees that leave the island for vacation or a weekend trip that require consultation. Many of them need COVID-19 tests and digital permits to return to the island. This is what the hotline was created for—to provide staff with up-to-date information, help them with difficulties, and lower anxiety. A call to the hotline is a way to deal with uncertainty, with not knowing.

Another popular topic as of late is COVID-19-related procedures and work modes—there are over a hundred protocols. Do you need to return to the office after working remotely? Do you have ARVI, influenza, COVID-19 symptoms? Have you been absent from the office due to an illness? Look for the answers in the Matrix in the Informational Materials section on the COVID-19 dedicated page on the company's internal website.

You can find the COVID-19-Related Scenarios Matrix on the dedicated page in the Informational Materials section.

The burden of servicing the hotline lies with its operators (a total of five people) and with the Corporate Health Section, the Logistics Department, the Human Resources Directorate, and TAF Focal Points—they take care of flights, send requests for digital permits, arrange for COVID-19 tests, work to improve the menu and living conditions in the temporary accommodation facilities, handle issues and suggestions. Information is provided instantaneously. When necessary, colleagues from various other departments lend a helping hand. All problems are dealt with as quickly as possible. Our chain is strong, because there is no weak link.

A New Highway on the Road Map

I wrote the heading but then a thought came into my mind: is it really a new highway? Or under the conditions of COVID-19 was only a temporary bypass road able to be built? Let us try to gain some insight into the special-purpose competition “Digital Transformation of Educational and Social Services” together with Anna Lygina, Lead Specialist of the Social Performance Subdivision.

— Anna, the competition results were summarised in October. What did you come across with and what was unusual about the competition?

— In fact, we invented the competition from scratch. We had done a preliminary assessment of the capacity of the local facilities and decided on the priority of the company's investment funds. Among different spheres, the priority was given to social care and education. We had to significantly shorten the competition period. It began in June and finished at the end of September. Project evaluations were made on a monthly basis, while simultaneously we were working with experts online. Usually we assist our SPTs at the project preparation stage by conducting seminars and a series of consultations. This time, we had to eliminate face-to-face communication. Of course, we were supporting them, but remotely. That is why, everything was unusual, unfamiliar and non-standard — you can continue with any number of your own synonyms.

The districts covered by the contest: Nogliki, Tymovsk, Poronaysk, Makarov, Smirnykh, Dolinsk, Aniva, Korsakov, Kholmsk and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. The winners to receive up to 600 thousand roubles as grants from the company.

— How many projects have been given the green light?
— We have received 25 applications; four projects have been announced winners in the first two rounds and have already received financing (we wanted our SPTs to start implementing their projects as soon as possible). The company will support eight more projects in November. It's crucial for us to understand what the final product or service

will be like, as well as what innovations can be encouraged by non-profit educational or social care agencies for their beneficiaries when operating under the conditions of remote work. Unfortunately, some of them have got it wrong, thinking that the remote work is the same as purchasing new equipment like computers, cameras, tablets, i.e. technical resources aimed at maintaining their regular activities. For example, there were projects with interactive boards or touch-screen tables for conducting offline lectures and lessons as the main element for implementation. This is definitely relatively new equipment for educational institutions, but it's neither an innovative project nor a plan of online activities with the target groups.

— Am I right if I assume that most of the applications had been submitted by educational institutions? And what about social care? Have there been any interesting projects?

— You are quite correct. We expected more applications from social institutions, but apparently it's more difficult for them to adapt to the new reality. And yet, I'd like to mention a few projects. I have already talked previously in the newsletter about the restoration of remote access in the Preodoleniye Centre, the projects of a school in the village of Dachnoye and the Ogonek Rehabilitation Centre in Makarov (see the August edition of Vesti).

In this round, an exciting initiative has been put forward by the Sakhalin Regional Puppet Theatre. Within the framework of the project “Theatre. Home reading” 18 literary video plays will be made for the pupils of the 5th – 7th grades. The theatre's staff expects to attract the children's interest, develop their creative thinking, imagination and the ability to sympathise with the characters. This will be a new platform for the theatre and theatre goers, giving new

society

motivation to develop their mutual relationship. In addition, literary plays can be used during school classes.

— We have known these institutions for many years as they often take part in social programs aimed at encouraging the social initiatives of our company...

— There are newcomers as well. The New Generation Fund has submitted an application for the first time. The project is related to career counselling for children from orphanages and boarding schools. This will help kids to choose their life path. Large-scale testing on a federal platform and online communication with mentors are planned.

Funding will be provided subject to the finalisation of projects based on expert advice and comments.

— Anna, would you please list the winning projects of the next round within the framework of The Digital Transformation of Educational and Social Services special grant competition?

— In addition to those mentioned, our support will be offered to the following projects: “Digital Boundaries of Education” (Regional Centre of Education Quality Evaluation in the Sakhalin Oblast, state-financed institution education), “Education without Boundaries” (Municipal Autonomous General Education Institution Secondary Comprehensive School of Solovyovka village of the Korsakov city district), “Digital Transformation in Education” (Preschool Educational Institution Raduga Kindergarten No. 6 of the village of Troitskoye). A distant preschool academy will start operating (the project was developed by the Municipal Autonomous Institution Children (Youth) Creativity Centre (Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk)), the information and educational environment

“Sova” will be created (Municipal Autonomous General Education Institution A. S. Pushkin Gymnasium No. 1), Sakhalin State University will be able to implement the online project “Now I know!”, and the Children's Creativity Centre in Starodubskoe village, Dolinsk District, will apply remote technologies to develop creativity and intellect. Project financing will be given provided that all necessary modifications have been made with due consideration of experts' recommendations and comments.

— All the same, the road map of social projects has significantly changed considering today's realities. This means that one should continue building new highways and looking for unbeaten paths.

■ Interview by Elena Gurshal

The Main Gift

On 10 October, Senya, a safety expert and kid's favourite, received guests in the Sakhalin Regional Folk Arts and Crafts Centre (RFACC). Here the results of the competition for best birthday greetings for Senya, a partnership programme of Sakhalin Energy, the Chief Directorate of the MChS for the Sakhalin Oblast and the regional Ministry of Education "Safety is important!" were summed up. The creative competition was announced in May and was timed to coincide with the 15th anniversary of the program and Senya himself.

15 YEARS AS ONE MINUTE

"When we came up with the idea for this programme, we couldn't have imagined that our wonderful boy and his cat Vaska would be teaching safety rules to children and adults for so many years. It seems only yesterday we decided with our partners to greenlight this programme. Fifteen years have passed in the blink of an eye, but we still have lots to do. New risks and hazards appear every day, and we, the adults, must protect our children and take care of our own safety. I would like to congratulate everyone who participated in the contest and all residents of our region with having such a great programme. To Senya, I would like to wish to continue working for the good of Sakhalinians of all ages for many more years," said Natalia Gonchar, Head of Sakhalin Energy Corporate Affairs Department, in her opening speech.



According to Nikolay Neretin, Head of the Education, Extracurricular Learning and Child Rights Policy of the Sakhalin Ministry of Education, today Senya is well-known even beyond the island region. "Creating a safe environment is one of the key tasks of the government. I am proud that we get to implement this programme together with such wonderful partners as Sakhalin Energy and the Chief Directorate of the MChS for the Sakhalin Oblast. I hope that we get to bring about many more new projects in the future," added the Ministry representative.

IN THE WEALTH OF CHOICE

The contest organisers told that they had received submissions from 238 participants from all over Sakhalin in five months: Okha, Tymovskoye, Aleksandrovk-Sakhalinsky, Poronaisk, Makarov, Nevelsk, Korsakov, Kholmsk, and Aniva Districts, as well as the regional centre – Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. There were five nominations: greeting cards and posters, video greet-



ings, birthday poems, songs. People of all ages were welcome to participate – anyone from a pre-schooler to a retiree could congratulate Senya. During the pre-qualification stage, the organisers selected 134 works such as, for example, such original gifts as gingerbread, which was baked and sent by a resident of Makarov Larisa Sushko. The photographs have been posted on Senya's instagram account at www.instagram.com/senya_spasatel.

The jury, comprised of professional writers, artists, philologists, and documentary film makers, chose the best submissions and

decided 43 contest winners and laureates. Due to the current pandemic, not

everyone was able to attend the awarding ceremony, but the organisers promised to get all the prizes and souvenirs to their rightful owners. Those who did not make it to the ceremony in person could watch it online on the RFACC's YouTube channel. And the show did not disappoint. The speeches from official representatives were mixed with energetic children's performances – from the Grace School dance and sports club, the Young Bullets Crew breakdance team, the Rodnichok vocal ensemble of the Modulyatsiya studio-theatre. During the event, the children also had a chance to win souvenirs and commemorative prizes, adorn canvas bags

with crayons with their parents' help, pose for a photo against a theme-decorated corner or with the birthday boy Senya. The event was held in compliance with the mask regime.

CONGRATULATED AND ... WONNED

"I think it is marvellous that we celebrated Senya's birthday with such a great contest that engaged so many people. Senya is our friend and partner, and I sincerely hope that with his help our lives will get safer," said Natalia Sharukhina, HR and Psychological Support Specialist of the Sakhalin Oblast Department of the State Fire Fighting Service.

The first prize in the Greeting Card (made using fine or decorative arts techniques) among the participants under 6 years of age category was awarded to Polina Gerasimova (Solnyshko Kindergarten No. 7, Korsakov). In the 7–9 age group, the jury selected Varvara Kuznetsova from the same kindergarten. Among 10–13-year-olds, Polina Komaygorodskaya (School No. 2, Makarov) was the best in this category. Larisa Sushko from the Ogonek Social Rehabilitation Centre for Minors (Makarov) became the winner in the 18+ age group. In the Team Effort / Various Ages group, the jury awarded children from Solnyshko Kindergarten No. 5 (Nevelsk) Anna Gerasimova and Vasilisa Vysotskaya (supervised and aided by Oksana Nusainova).



Two submissions shared the first place in the Congratulatory Poster (ages 7–9) category: from Grade 1 students of the Dachnoye Village School: Sergey Boltabaev, Diana Goryachkina, Igor Kropachev, Vladislav Levkovsky, Savelly Menkovsky, Artyom Miroschnichenko, Maxim Mikhaylin, Dmitry Nikolaev, Vasilisa Panina, Timofey Parshikov, Eva Fursova, and Viktoria Chmeleva. Teacher – Alyona Smolyanova. The second winning work was made by Viktoria Rodina from the same school. Evgeny Martynenko from Poronausk School No. 2 led this category in the 10–13 age group. Among 14–18-year-olds, the award in this category went to Viktoria Smirnova from the Chaika Centre for Medical and Social Rehabilitation (the village of Pionery). There were also two winners in the 18+ age group: one of them was the art team from the International Cooperation Information Centre of the Sakhalin Regional Universal Scientific Library, consisting of Valery Khegay, Kristina Kon, Alyona Maxyutova, and Ekaterina Usova. The second place was awarded to the teachers of Yagodka Kindergarten No. 47 from Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk – Khe Ken Ok and Natalia Khen.

The top spot in the Literary Congratulation category was shared by students Matvey Sedykh from the Gornozavodsk Village School and Vladislav Kovalev from Tymovskoye School №1. Another tie was in the Video Congratulation category. The jury awarded the submission from Korablik Kinder-



garten №30 (Korsakov) and the work of two students Tatyana Kolka and Anastasia Kalashnikova. In the last category (Congratulatory Song), the special For Creativity prize was presented to Elena Chernetsova from Tymovskoye. The winners of the people's vote on Senya's Instagram became ten residents of Sakhalin. See the full list of the winners and laureates on Senya's website www.senya-spasatel.ru in the News section.

P. S. Senya admitted that every congratulation is dear to him. "The main gift is your attention, friends. And not only to me, but above all to security issues," says Senya. And you really can't argue with that.

Dictations Are So Different!

announcement

A dictation... We all remember this frightening word from our childhood. A word used to intimidate school kids of all ages. However, this dictation is special. It is voluntary and not written at school. Even if you fail it, your parents will not scold you. November will see three such dictations – a perfect opportunity to show off your knowledge and hit the bull’s eye!



ETHNOGRAPHIC

At the beginning of November, hundreds of people will be able to test their knowledge of the culture and traditions of the peoples of Russia. From 3 to 8 November, residents of Russia and other countries where Russian, English or Spanish is spoken will be able to take part in the Great Ethnographic Dictation, an international educational campaign. And they will not even have to go anywhere to do so. All you need is a PC, smartphone or tablet connected to the Internet. The campaign will be held online at its website miretno.ru.

“There are many ethnicities and one country!”— this is the motto of the Great Ethnographic Dictation. The organisers’* goal is to inspire Russians to study their roots, the traditions of their ancestors, learn more about people who live next to them. They believe such knowledge is the basis of mutual respect and peace between people of different ethnicities.

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Russia is home to more than 190 ethnicities.

Everyone is free to join the dictation: there are no age, education, social, religious or nationality barriers. Participants will have to answer 30 questions: 20 general and 10 specific for each region. They will have 45 minutes to complete the test. The maximum score is 100.

An electronic Certificate of Participation with your score will be generated immediately after you have completed the dictation. This year, you will be able to learn the correct answers and get a historical note with references straight away. Correct answers and typical mistakes will be published on the project’s website by 16 November. The results will be announced on Constitution Day (12 December) this year.

Last year 454,000 people took part in the dictation at 5,800 venues in Russia and abroad. The Great Ethnographic Dictation was first held in 2016. It gathered nearly 90,000 participants: from a 12-year-old school girl from the Ulyanovsk Oblast to an 80-year-old resident of Mordovia. It is worth noting that the number of participants of the Great Ethnographic Dictation is growing from year to year: from about 90,000 in 2016 to 454,000 participants from 42 countries from all over the world in 2019.

* Federal Agency for National Affairs and the Ministry of National Policy Udmurtia Republic.



ECOLOGICAL

This year, the dictation is timed to the Global Recycling Day and will take place on 15–16 November both offline and online on Экодиктант.рус. The web-site features materials that can help you refresh your knowledge on waste sorting and recycling, atmospheric air and water resources conservation, forest fire safety, endangered species protection, as well as a list of specially protected natural areas.

On the web-site, you can find detailed video instructions and links to services for online participation in the quiz, learn your score and receive your attestation of participation or winning (depending on your score).

This educational campaign is meant to raise people’s awareness of environmental issues that threaten the future of our planet and to promote eco-culture and environmental friendliness.

We encourage you, your family and friends to take part in the All-Russian Eco-Quiz! Good luck!



GEOGRAPHIC

The end of November will be marked by the Geographic Dictation, which is popular both in Russia and abroad. It will be held on November 29, on the last Sunday of autumn.

Geography is often a child’s favourite subject at school, and they remain fascinated by it for their whole life. Before the pandemic, the interest in geography was fuelled by extensive travelling — many people visited dozens of different places in Russia and abroad. Travel experience will be helpful for everyone who has decided to take part in the Geographical Dictation, an annual educational campaign.

The Geographical Dictation has been held by the Russian Geographical Society at the initiative of the Chairman of the Society’s Board of Trustees, President of Russia Vladimir Putin, since 2015. The primary goal of the dictation is to promote geographical knowledge and to boost interest in the geography of Russia.

Last year, about 330,000 people took part in this educational campaign. Over 100,000 participants wrote the dictation online. This year, this ratio is likely to reverse, as most people will write it remotely.

You can find questions for previous years and all physical venues for the Geographical Dictation on the website dictant.rgo.ru. Go ahead and give it a shot, geography and travel lovers!

Pristine Russia: Sakhalin

exhibition

The Pristine Russia Nationwide Nature Festival will take place in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk from 31 October to 30 November. The focus of the Sakhalin project is the unique nature of Sakhalin.

The series of festival events began with an exhibition at the Chekhov Sakhalin Island Book Museum, with the support of Sakhalin Energy and under the patronage of the Regional Ministry of Culture. The exhibition is divided into two thematic modules. The first module presents a series of photographs of rare animals and pristine areas from all over Russia. The second module is devoted to the unique nature and biological diversity of the Sakhalin Oblast as seen by Sakhalin photographers and Sakhalin Energy employees.

The exhibition is intended to become a platform for an extensive educational and discussion programme. The organisers are going to offer a series of film screenings, meetings with nature photographers, ecologists and

professional guides, as well as workshops and laboratories for both children and adults.

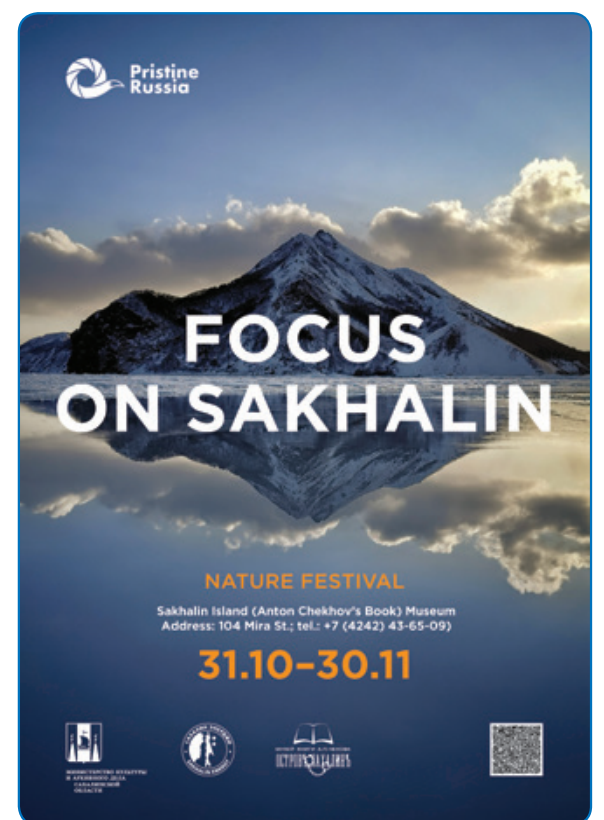
An extravagant part of the programme will feature an audiovisual performance titled Another State of the Living by Gray Cake, a contemporary artist duo. A creative tool of the performance will be neural networks capable of “imagining” things related to nature.

The festival’s film programme features documentaries about nature and the people who try to speak its language in the most challenging situations. The programme is headlined by the film Kuvaev’s Territory, a film by Svetlana Bychenko — the author’s original investigation about the fate of the territory which was so vividly depicted by Oleg Kuvaev

and which is so close to Sakhalin, both geographically and spiritually.

With all its diversity the festival is the organisers’ attempt to give a meaningful answer to a vital question which has been on people’s minds for many years: why should we attend public events if everything is available online? The answer is obvious in our new reality, which has shown how priceless and irreplaceable face-to-face contact with interesting people is. The festival programme can be found on the the Chekhov Sakhalin Island Book Museum website.

■ Evgenia Diamantidi



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