



VESTI

Sakhalin Energy

Highest class A1
in the 2021 Russian Business
Anti-Corruption Rating

SEPTEMBER 2022



Dear Colleagues!

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations on Oil and Gas Industry Workers' Day.

This holiday acquired national status in our country a long time ago. In Russia, with its wealth of resources, the oil and gas sector has always been and remains one of the mainstays of the economy while also having a significant impact on the overall geopolitical situation of the international community.

The strong foundation laid by many generations of oil and gas workers enables us to draw on our expertise when making effective decisions in the new context of international relations. I am confident that our professional excellence will be conducive to achieving the strategic objectives for the economic growth of the Russian Federation.

Dear friends!

I am grateful to every one of you for your hard work, high level of commitment, and unwavering dedication to your professional duties! May good luck accompany you in all your ambitious endeavours!

Roman Dashkov
Chief Executive Officer



CONGRATULATIONS ON OIL AND GAS WORKERS' DAY!

Read in the Issue

PA-B Shutdown Went as Planned

The annual shutdown of the Piltun-Astokhskoye-B offshore oil and gas production platform has been completed successfully. According to the participants, this summer maintenance campaign, which lasted from 16 July to 3 August, has been one of the most eventful

planned shutdown - 2022 9

Remarkable Breakthrough

That's how you can describe the work of the Information Technology and Information Management Department team in the current situation

digital transformation 10

People that the Company Needs

Even though the format of this column calls for the unity of space and time, this particular "table" was virtual. Its participants were united by their personal association to the main topic – the work of Sakhalin Energy's Non-Professional Emergency Response Teams (NERTs)

round table 13-14

Crossteam: Health in the Palm of Your Hand

Launched as part of the FUEL&Co Big Expedition corporate event, the Crossteam project is gaining momentum. However, the platform provides opportunities not only for a healthy lifestyle, but also for self-development

expedition 18

"To follow the thoughts of a great man is the most entertaining science"

Preceding a conversation about Chekhov with a quote by Pushkin seems strange only at first glance. Pushkin and Chekhov are the two pinnacles of Russian literature. They managed to uncover the things Russian people are not always aware of and share them with the Russians themselves.

#allsakhalinedup 25-26

Game Fosters Development

The last, sixth session of the summer leisure Happy Holidays programme is over! Here are the first-hand stories of the "peer" adults who are not looking for easy solutions and ready to grow and develop along with children

our children 27

73 employees
were awarded
in honor Oil and Gas
Workers' Day
read more on pages 6-8

CURRENT EVENTS

1 August	4-6 August	10 August	19 August	20 August	23 August
The PA-B construction and commissioning team has worked 15 years without a lost-time incident	The Company supported the First Regional Championship on Ethnocultural Competencies of Indigenous Peoples of the North <i>(read more on page 24)</i>	The webinar "Getting to Know the Crossteam Platform" was held as part of the FUEL&CO Great Expedition <i>(read more on page 18)</i>	Sakhalin Energy LLC, the new operator of the Sakhalin-2 project, commenced its operations <i>(read more on page 2)</i>	Winning project team leaders received The special Committee of Executive Directors (CED) award <i>(read more on 2)</i>	The exhibition, timed to the 75th anniversary of the Sakhalin Oblast, opened in Moscow. The event is held in the framework of the project "Your Country" of the State Historical Museum <i>(read more on page 20)</i>

september 2022

**DEAR COLLEAGUES!**

I would like to congratulate you on our professional holiday, the Day of Oil and Gas Industry Workers!

Your high professionalism, commitment to innovations, the ability to solve even the most complex tasks, giving your all to your work, allow the Company to deliver a consistently strong performance.

The oil and gas industry has an enormous potential for development. To

make maximum use of this potential and maintain our position as a recognised industry leader while ensuring an accelerated growth of the nation's economy, we need your talent and hard work.

I am confident that the new format of the Company's operation will help us develop a new, even more efficient algorithm for problem solving that would yield great economic returns.

On this festive day, I would like to wish you see new achievements and triumphs, enjoy your family life, maintain good health, and strongly believe that your plans will come to fruition! I hope that our accomplishments will become the basis of Russia's stability!

■ Andrey Oleinikov,
Sakhalin Energy LLC Managing Director

**DEAR FRIENDS!**

Congratulations on your professional holiday, the Day of Oil and Gas Industry Workers! You work in one of the key industries of our country and Sakhalin Oblast.

Our island region has received an impetus for growth and become one of the centres of the oil and gas industry of global importance thanks to the development of the continental shelf. The unrivalled expertise and state-

of-the-art technologies of hydrocarbon production and processing have promoted the upgrading and better competitive capacity of the entire domestic oil and gas complex. The work of the Sakhalin-2 project has also become a shining example of social and environmental responsibility for other Russian enterprises, a reference of excellent work for other contemporary companies.

I believe that the practical project solutions that the company has accumulated over the years are especially relevant today, when our country is facing challenges of import substitution of equipment, development of advanced processing of oil and gas, and training world-class highly qualified specialists. I would like to wish all current and former workers of the oil and gas industry good health, prosperity, and new occupational achievements!

■ Valery Limarenko,
Sakhalin Oblast Governor

event

New Operator

On 19 August, Sakhalin Energy LLC, the new operator of the Sakhalin-2 project, commenced its operations.

As per the RF Government Regulation "On measures to implement Decree No. 416 of the President of the Russian Federation of 30 June 2022", the rights and obligations, as well as the personnel of Sakhalin Energy have been transferred to the new organisation, with the effective value proposition left unchanged.

"Sakhalin Energy LLC has been fully operational in terms of production and business activities. Our key principles, which are safety, health and care for our personnel as well as ensuring sustainable and reliable production, remain an absolute priority for us together with fulfilling all existing obligations," says Andrey Oleinikov, Managing Director of the Company.

The Sakhalin-2 project infrastructure facilities maintain steady oil and gas production. Hydrocarbon production and export are running smoothly in line with the schedule approved for 2022.

Sakhalin Energy LLC has substantial cash reserves to meet all its short-term and long-term financial liabilities to its personnel, the Russian Party and contractors.

**DEAR COLLEAGUES,
DEAR FRIENDS,**

Happy Day of Oil and Gas Industry Workers!

We are celebrating our professional day in a totally new economic reality. The Gazprom team is facing these challenges head-on. Each worker is dedicated to diligently taking care of their area of responsibility. Day after day, the company consistently does its work and perseveres, with a clear goal in mind. That is the key to our achievements, both present and,

more importantly, future ones.

Gazprom is an important pillar of the domestic economy and the reliable foundation of the country's energy security.

We are steadily strengthening the production and technological potential of our industry for decades to come. We are developing the Unified Gas Supply System and expanding gas infrastructure to more and more settlements. We are bringing green, affordable energy to our people, while staying committed to our social priorities.

I would like to thank you for your high professionalism and dedication to our common cause, the productive work for the betterment of Russia. I am confident that no matter how difficult the future tasks might be, our Gazprom team will successfully rise to the challenge. As past trials have proven, we will always prevail.

Dear friends, I wholeheartedly wish you and your loved ones to stay healthy and happy, and to have all the best.

Have a great holiday!

■ Alexey Miller,
Chairman of the Gazprom PJSC Management Committee

award

Initiative Is Encouraged!

The special Committee of Executive Directors (CED) award ceremony took place in the Company. Sakhalin Energy LLC Managing Director Andrey Oleinikov took part in the event and personally handed the diplomas to the heads of the winning project teams.

"All the traditions and best practices developed in the Company should not only be maintained, but also enhanced further. In the course of your work, you can bring even more benefits for continued sustainable development of Sakhalin Energy in the long run," said Andrey Oleinikov in his welcome address.

The teams that received the recognition of the management demonstrated the ability to seek and implement the most efficient, safe, and thorough solutions, while maintaining high performance.

Starting from 2022, the special CED award has been presented quarterly.

Based on the results of Q2, five projects have been awarded in three categories:

● **Optimisation of Production, Mastery in Projects, and Efficiency Drive, Including Cost Saving Initiatives**

– The Installation of the Floating (Summer) Hose and the Removal of the Suspended (Winter) Hose for Exporting Oil at the TLU Project. All technical operations were executed properly, on a tight schedule, and without lost time incidents. Timely performance of works enabled the Company to continue consistent, uninterrupted offloading of hydrocarbons for shipment to customers.

– The Development of an Alternative Automated Business Processes Management System Project. Given further development, the new system that provides for the key processes



for maintaining business continuity can become a full-fledged alternative to SAP.

● **HR and Non-Production Efficiency**

– The Development of Federal and Corporate Professional Standards Project. A cross-functional team prepared a draft of the Liquefied Natural Gas Production, Storage, and Export Specialist standard. Considering the pioneering experience of the Company in LNG production, the participation in the development of the new professional standard allowed us to share the accumulated expertise and best practices while engaging internal experts.

– The Hockey Club Development Project. Thanks to regular practice in the corporate club designed to promote healthy lifestyle, our team won the 11th All-Russian Hockey Festival Among Amateur Teams. The support the Company has been providing to the club proves its dedication to the well-being of the employees.

● **For Communication and Boosting the Team Spirit**

– The Organisation of the Peak Corporate Championship Project. This long-term, large-scale event presented new opportunities for the professional development of the staff, improving the safety culture and strengthening the team spirit, which in turn increased the efficiency of solving production tasks.

Congratulations to all the participants and project initiators!

■ Alyona Olovyanishnikova

OPFC: Highly Ready

On 26 August, Sakhalin Energy LLC team with the Chief Executive Officer Roman Dashkov attended an on-site meeting at the OPFC construction site. Other participants included representatives of Velesstroy and Gazprom Transgaz Tomsk LLC.

During the visit, the delegation visited the power generation unit, control room and gas compressor A, gas air-cooling units, and spring safety valves on the main process rack. During the tour of the construction site, the visitors discussed the project progress with professionals in various disciplines.

As part of the on-site meeting, it was noted that construction & installation on the main process equipment, gas compressor units A and B, reached a high degree of readiness for start-up, while those on auxiliary systems and associated equipment were nearing completion. Another point highlighted by the delegation was the busy pre-commissioning phase, involving circuit and functional testing of the instrumentation and automated process control system and its integration with the OPF general control system.

Importantly, despite the external challenges, the Company managed a number of unprecedented challenges involving procurement of equipment and spares (spare parts, tools and fittings) using its own resources, and completed pre-commissioning without foreign vendors, including software customisation even up to its complete reengineering. A unique development of software for gas compressor units without any foreign input was initiated through a specialist Russian contractor, Promsystems LLC, and supervised by the Company's team. It will be operational once all functional tests are completed.

Alternatives to supplying missing equipment and spares are also being sought from Russian suppliers. The Company's resources are used for this purpose to develop suitable technical solutions.



The success of the project team and dedicated support from across Sakhalin Energy has resulted in OPFC reaching a high state of readiness for the start-up on time. Now, special focus is required from all Company departments to make sure the facility is up and running as scheduled.

At the end of the visit, the project team and operations were tasked to expedite the delivery of outstanding materials and equipment. They were also encouraged to explore alternative options using the Company's available resources, whilst keeping in line with the design documentation.

■ Dmitry Shubny





GREAT FUELS&Co EXPEDITION

Dear colleagues,

Lately, ESG issues have taken on a special place in the global business agenda, with business focused not only on expansion and modernisation of production, but also on quality corporate governance, as well as concern for environmental and social well-being. This approach is also relevant for Russia, where, on behalf of the President, work in the ESG area has been initiated at the state level.

Since its foundation, the Company has been operating in accordance with the principles of sustainable development, which are in tune with the ESG criteria. This is driven by our firm position on compliance with Russian legislation and continuous improvement of corporate practices with due respect to international standards. At the same time, the socio-economic, environmental, and management aspects of our work help both to meet current objectives and ensure business sustainability in the long term.

At present, the need to form our own ESG strategy is determined by new legislative initiatives on the climate agenda, health and industrial safety, anti-corruption, non-financial reporting, and other areas, as well as by the expectations of our partners, including potential ones. The Company is starting this work as part of the Great FUEL&Co Expedition. This endeavour is also important for achieving the interdisciplinary key performance indicators presented in the Journey Book. Among them is the update of the Corporate Governance System Guidelines, implementation of the Green LNG strategy, establishment of the Unified Integration Centre of Sakhalin Energy LLC, and others.

Starting to prepare the strategy, we will have to analyse current standards and requirements, taking into account all changes in Russian legislation, and develop a roadmap. This will require the involvement not only of each employee, but also of our key stakeholders, including Company members, government authorities, and subject matter experts.

I am confident that such an integrated ESG-planning approach will highlight new promising areas and adjust our priorities in setting business targets, which will ensure the long-term sustainability and competitiveness of the Company!

Much work is to be done, and the ESG strategy sets the directions for planning and progressing to new horizons.

Best regards,

Roman Dashkov
Chief Executive Officer



achievement



Energy of leadership

For the sixth year in a row, Sakhalin Energy has been announced the winner of the Labour Productivity: Russian Industry Leaders 2022 all-Russian award. With the annual performance of RUB 206.97 million/person, the Sakhalin-2 project operator leads the TOP 100 rating, which is the main nomination for labour productivity among Russia's key enterprises.

The other companies making the TOP-5 behind Sakhalin Energy include Lukoil, Gazprom, as well as Tatneft and Varyeganneft. The Sakhalin-2 project operator is the only company representing Sakhalin Oblast in the final ranking.

Entities from other constituent territories of Far East included in the final ranking belong to the oil and gas, metals and power industries, as well as construction materials, with four of them coming

from Khabarovsk Krai, two from the Republic of Sakha (Yakutia), one from Zabaykalsky Krai, and one from Amur Oblast.

The labour productivity indicator is one of the most important criteria for assessing the economic efficiency as it reflects a company's ability to use its labour resources rationally. It also helps to understand how advanced the company is in terms of equipment and technology used and how efficiently the business is run.

The organiser of the award, the Production Management business portal, used data on revenue and the average headcount to calculate productivity. The data were obtained from the submitted questionnaires, as well as from open corporate quarterly and annual reports, including the 2021 Sustainable Development Report published on Sakhalin Energy's official website.

The assessment covered more than 5,000 industrial enterprises of Russia, with the total revenue exceeding RUB 37,768.5 billion ruble and headcount of over 2.764 million employees. With such an extensive amount of data analysed, it is possible to draw a comprehensive picture of labour productivity in various industries, as well as trace how the indicator has changed over the last few years.

As stated by the organiser of the award, the data obtained indicate that the majority of companies covered by the project have seen their revenues grow by the end of 2021. Meanwhile, the undisputed leader, Sakhalin Energy, has been demonstrating stable performance year after year, maintaining its leadership position in the ranking even amid global turbulence.

announcement

September business agenda

In the first autumn month, Russia will host a number of major business forums bringing together government officials, business communities, heads of international organisations, experts, scientists, representatives of key media and other stakeholders interested in discussing important economic issues faced by Russia, emerging markets and the world as a whole. Here is an overview of the key events to be attended by Sakhalin Energy in September.

EASTERN ECONOMIC FORUM, 5-8 SEPTEMBER, VLADIVOSTOK

The Eastern Economic Forum is a major international communication platform focused on the prioritised development of the Russian Far East and integration with the economies of the Asia-Pacific Region. The Sakhalin-2 Project contributes greatly to solving these two issues, being a key supplier of energy to the Asia-Pacific region and a driver of social and economic development in the Sakhalin Oblast.

Sakhalin Energy's delegation at the event will be led by Chief Executive Officer Roman Dashkov. The Company will set up its own stand in the pavilion of the Sakhalin Oblast Government. Sakhalin-2 representatives will take part in sessions covering, among others, interaction between the government, business and public, sustainable development of territories, including support of Sakhalin indigenous minorities in the context of ESG trends, personnel capacity building, environment protection, and many other issues.

ST. PETERSBURG INTERNATIONAL GAS FORUM, 13-16 SEPTEMBER, ST. PETERSBURG

The forum is one of the most reputable platforms in the gas industry that brings together leaders of the international

community every year. The event focuses on trends in the Russian gas market and the global gas industry.

During the forum, it is planned to discuss the challenges and determine the pathways to development for Russia's oil and gas industry amid economic turbulence. The key topics include import substitution in the oil and gas industry and development of cooperation with Asia-Pacific countries. The business event

will be attended by Sakhalin Energy's delegation led by Andrey Oleinikov, Managing Director of Sakhalin Energy LLC, and consisting of representatives of Production, Finance and HR Directorates as well as Russian Content Development team.

SAKHALIN OIL AND GAS FAR EASTERN ENERGY FORUM, 28-30 SEPTEMBER, YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK

The agenda of the 26th Far Eastern Energy Forum "2022 Sakhalin Oil & Gas" will focus on strategies for transforming and adapting the industry to the new market conditions.

This topic will run through the entire conference business agenda. The participants will discuss effective corporate management in the period

of transition, localisation and import substitution, digitalisation as well as business operations in the light of the ESG agenda, share their experience in ensuring steady production and operations, developing the capacity of Russian companies in the current situation, etc.

The company will exhibit its original stand at the event uniting the large team of Sakhalin-2 Project at one site, including Sakhalin Energy's key contractors. It is designed based on the concept whereby the Company forms a Unified Integration Centre. The unique tool is intended to combine the resources and capabilities of Sakhalin Energy and its partners to enhance project performance under the current circumstances, being one of the most effective mitigations that continue the corporate strategy of business localisation in the region of operation.

OIL AND GAS WORKERS' DAY, 23-24 SEPTEMBER, YUZHNO-SAKHALINSK

Oil and Gas Industry Workers' Day is celebrated annually on the first Sunday in September. Traditionally, Chief Executive Officer Roman Dashkov will congratulate the Sakhalin-2 Project team on that day.

On 23 September, a celebratory meeting is to be held where the Company's best employees will be awarded with letters of appreciation and certificates of merit (read more on pages 6-8).

A large outdoor celebration will take place on the following day. The time, programme and other details will be communicated later.

Follow the corporate news and announcements – September is going to be very exciting!

■ the page is prepared by Pavel Ryabchikov



Happy Professional Holiday!

В честь Дня работников нефтяной и газовой промышленности 73 сотрудника Компании награждены благодарственными письмами и почетными грамотами. Поздравляем коллег!

On the Oil and Gas Workers' Day 73 employees of Sakhalin Energy were awarded with honorary mentions and certificates of honour. Congratulations!

ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА МИНИСТЕРСТВА ЭНЕРГЕТИКИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ / MINISTRY OF ENERGY OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

БЛАГОДАРНОСТЬ МИНИСТЕРСТВА ЭНЕРГЕТИКИ РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ / MINISTRY OF ENERGY OF RUSSIAN FEDERATION HONORARY MENTION



*Александр Сингуров,
производственный
директорат
Alexander Singurov,
Production Directorate*



*Андрей Охоткин,
коммерческий
директорат
Andrey Okhotkin,
Commercial Directorate*



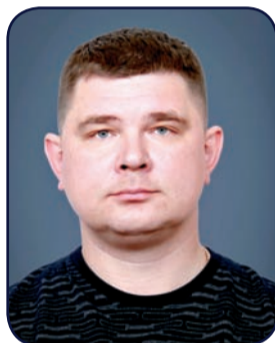
*Андрей Олейников,
аппарат
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Andrey Oleinikov,
Office of the CEO*



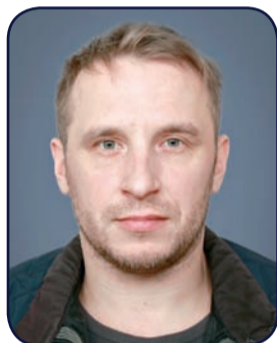
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Lyudmila Demina,
HR Directorate*



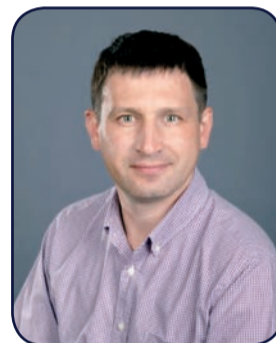
*Михаил Паначев,
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Mikhail Panachev,
Production Directorate*



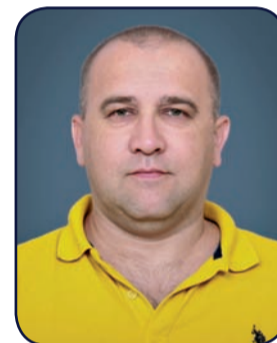
*Александр Кулагин,
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Alexander Kulagin,
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*Дмитрий Пежемский,
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Dmitry Pezhemsky,
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ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВА САХАЛИНСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ / SAKHALIN OBLAST GOVERNMENT CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

БЛАГОДАРСТВЕННОЕ ПИСЬМО ГУБЕРНАТОРА САХАЛИНСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ / SAKHALIN OBLAST GOVERNOR LETTER OF THANKS



*Наталья Кизима,
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Natalia Kizima,
Office of the CEO*



*Зоя Якушевская,
финансовый директорат
Zoya Yakushevskaya,
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*Владимир Кашипурович,
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Vladimir Kashpurovich,
Production Directorate*

ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА МИНЭКОНОМРАЗВИТИЯ САХАЛИНСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ / MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF SAKHALIN OBLAST CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR

БЛАГОДАРНОСТЬ МИНИСТРА ЭКОНОМИЧЕСКОГО РАЗВИТИЯ САХАЛИНСКОЙ ОБЛАСТИ / MINISTER OF SAKHALIN OBLAST ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT HONORARY MENTION



*Ринат Карачурин,
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Rinat Karachurin,
Production Directorate*



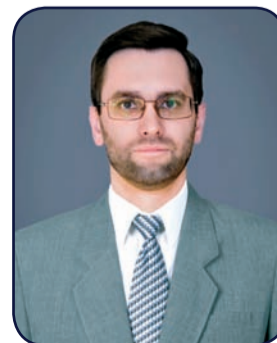
*Татьяна Панина,
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*Антон Труш,
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Anton Trush,
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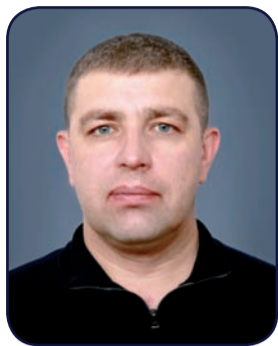


*Татьяна Часникова,
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директорат
Tatyana Chasnikova,
HR Directorate*

**ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА ПАО «ГАЗПРОМ» /
GAZPROM CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR**

**БЛАГОДАРНОСТЬ ПАО «ГАЗПРОМ» /
GAZPROM HONORARY MENTION**

board of honour



Максим Билан,
производственный
директорат
Maxim Bilan,
Production Directorate



Дмитрий Бондаренко,
производственный
директорат
Dmitry Bondarenko,
Production Directorate



Сергей Астахов,
производственный
директорат
Sergey Astakhov,
Production Directorate



Анатолий Аниканов,
производственный
директорат
Anatoliy Anikanov,
Production Directorate



Элина Антонец,
технический
директорат
Elina Antonets,
Technical Directorate



Илья Арапочкин,
коммерческий
директорат
Ilya Arapochkin,
Commercial Directorate



Святослав Зайцев,
финансовый
директорат
Svyatoslav Zaitsev,
Finance Directorate



Алексей Калабин,
производственный
директорат
Alexey Kalabin,
Production Directorate



Александр Павлов,
производственный
директорат
Alexander Pavlov,
Production Directorate



Евгений Содыль,
производственный
директорат
Evgeny Sodyl,
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Константин Шиликовский,
производственный
директорат
Konstantin Shilikovskiy,
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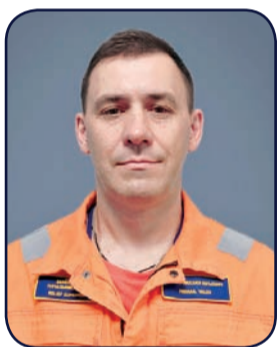
**ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА ООО «САХАЛИНСКАЯ ЭНЕРГИЯ» /
SAKHALIN ENERGY CERTIFICATE OF HONOUR**



Дмитрий Буренин,
производственный
директорат
Dmitry Burenin,
Production Directorate



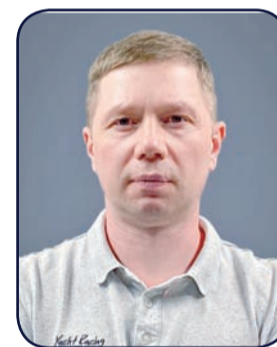
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Вера Квак,
кадровый
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Vera Kvak,
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Евгений Ковалев,
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Evgeny Kovalyov,
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Анна Кознова,
кадровый
директорат
Anna Koznova,
HR Directorate



Юлия Лоскутова,
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Yulia Loskutova,
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Дмитрий Лушпай,
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Ольга Назарчук,
финансовый
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Olga Nazarchuk,
Finance Directorate



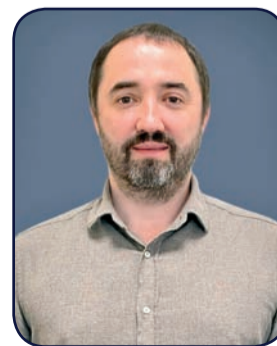
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Alexey Nemyukin,
Production Directorate



Галина Николаева,
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Galina Nikolaeva,
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september 2022

ПОЧЕТНАЯ ГРАМОТА ООО «САХАЛИНСКАЯ ЭНЕРГИЯ» /
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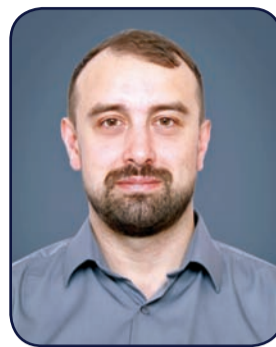
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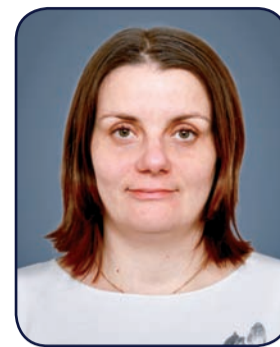
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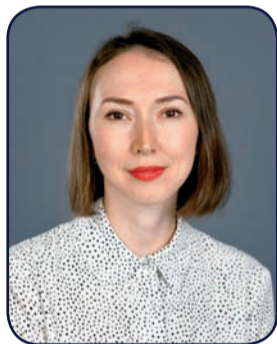
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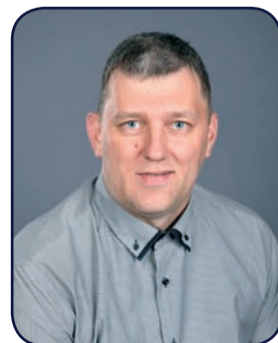
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PA-B Shutdown Went as Planned

The annual shutdown of the Piltun-Astokhskoye-B (PA-B) offshore oil and gas production platform has been completed successfully. According to the participants, this summer maintenance campaign, which lasted from 16 July to 3 August, has been one of the most eventful.

OFFSHORE PLATFORM, FREEZE!

Preventive maintenance works at the facility began with a shutdown of the gas system, then the oil and the reservoir pressure support system. In general, this process can be compared to putting with putting the platform in so-called “sleep mode”.

After the STOP MPG stage is finished, the platform shutdown can be deemed complete. It’s considered completed when the main power generator does

conditions of the Sea of Okhotsk. In the process, our top priority has remained the same – safety,” says Denis Sobol, Offshore Platform Shutdown Operations Coordinator.

For Irina Krylova, Production Support Engineer, the PA-B shutdown was the first one at the Sakhalin-2 project. “I was responsible for managing and supervising vessel deposit cleaning operations. Such vessel is 15 meters long, and its diameter is three times smaller. This is a challenging task that requires high commitment. Not

the latter task, they had to put up scaffolding with a height of more than five meters.

“Offshore operations are very specific. Bad weather often leads to air traffic restrictions or short-term interruptions of communications with the platform. Despite this, all scheduled activities were completed in accordance with the highest corporate safety standards,” Egor Cherepanov adds.

FOCUS ON SAFETY

“Our main task is to perform work safely and efficiently. For this purpose, we develop a comprehensive detailed plan that brings all disciplines together. Although there were some complications, we successfully overcame the challenges without compromising the schedule,” says Margarita Belousova, Planning Engineer.

Priority was given to monitoring the situation on the platform. To this end, authorised specialists conducted regular audits, field inspections, and rounds of the decks, as well as pre-work



not work anymore, and the platform has switched to the backup power supply. This comprehensive process requires constant monitoring of various parameters and coordinated efforts of the Central Control Building staff and operators of field Processing Units.

SHUTDOWN IN FIGURES:

- 245 specialists from different regions of Russia and 23 contractors involved;
- about 17 thousand man-hours worked;
- over 1,000 permits to work issued;
- 468 flange connections assembled and disassembled;
- the total number of employees moving from ships to the platform varied from 180 to 192 per day;
- 510 tonnes of cargo delivered to the platform for operations; 320 pieces of removable lifting equipment involved.

As soon as the offshore platform has “frozen”, we drain residual hydrocarbons from vessels. One it is done, it’s allowed to open the equipment and clean the vessels from deposits.

CLEAN SHOT

“During the shutdown, we successfully completed the most challenging maintenance operations in the harsh



everyone can do it. The workers used special PPE connected to the respiratory system, and they did their job perfectly well,” says Irina Krylova.

During the 2022 shutdown, in addition to annual cleaning of internal multiphase flow separation vessels, a tube bundle of the main oil heater was cleaned.

“Moreover, we replaced dry gas seals on booster and export compressors; repaired flowline sections and shut-off valves,” says Egor Cherepanov, Production Management Engineer.

According to Egor, the successfully completed activities also include repairs of a gate valve on the export gas flowline, a pig launcher, and an 18-inch seawater discharge pipe. In order to accomplish



communication sessions. These activities helped us keep the eyes on the ball during the entire summer repair campaign.

As a result, all scheduled activities on the PA-B platform were completed without incidents and lost time. About 17 thousand man-hours were worked. At present, the platform continues to operate as intended.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov

Remarkable Breakthrough

That's how you can describe the work of the Information Technology and Information Management (IT/IM) Department team in the current situation. We talked to Alexander Tvorogov, the Department Head, and Anna Mikryukova, Head of the IT Operations and Services Division, about the great results achieved in such challenging circumstances.

– Alexander, please tell us how it all started.

– A number of software developers limited the use of their products for customers in Russia. Soon after, one of the Sakhalin-2 shareholders, Shell, announced its intention to exit from the project, which prompted the need to transition to a local, in-house IT infrastructure.

Just like in 2020, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the IT/IM Department had to quickly introduce some mitigation measures. They were combined into the Ensuring Sustainability of the Digital Platform, Information Security and Compliance with Russian Laws programme that we launched in February 2022. We had to set and amend the project deadlines literally “on the go”. The first programme stage, the decoupling from Shell's IT infrastructure, had to be done as soon as possible. And we managed to pull it off!

– How fast were you able to tackle this complex task?

– It would be premature to say that all the processes have been completed. In the situation at hand, the Company had to deal with this task in an extremely tight time frame – just 40 days! Normally, such projects take one to three years.

– Anna, do I understand correctly that in that short period of time, you had to transfer about three thousand Company and contractor employees to corporate digital “tracks”?

– Yes, that's right. We had to reconfigure the computers and reinstall all the software on each one of them. We managed to “reconnect” up to 100 people a day, including on weekends and during night time! Moreover, we reconfigured about 150 servers and about as many databases, and transferred 48 critical business applications to our local network.

I can't even find words that would do them justice. They are real heroes of our times. They proved to everyone, and to themselves, that they could persevere and pull it off. We saw a similar professional enthusiasm during the pandemic, when all our employees and contractors proved that they are the best and that they can be counted on in any situation.

– How did you organise this transition process that encompassed such an intimidating number of tasks?

– We organised special mass migration points for computer reconfiguration in the offices and at the Company's assets, and set up a schedule. Together with the users, the IT specialists copied data and kept the computers overnight for reinstalling. The employees then picked them up in the morning after checking that everything worked fine.

– Did other units help you?

– Absolutely! For example, the Human Resources and Production Directorates sent their employees to help the IT specialists. To make sure they knew what to do, we quickly prepared detailed instructions and

briefings for everyone. Together we were able to transfer all Company employees to the new system in just 30 days!

Though I should note that user migration is just the tip of the iceberg. To make sure the new system functioned correctly, we had to simultaneously do other work: transfer all the corporate programmes, information, storage and data systems to the Company's Data Processing Centre. That is why one part of the IT team interacted with users, while another part was busy handling these “invisible” but critically important technical operations around the clock.

– I can't help but ask, have you ever imagined that you would have to face a challenging situation like this? Did you have anything prepared to soften the blow?

in the work of the IT system would have halted all these processes, which would have negatively affected the Company's operation. That is why we delved into solving the task of ensuring business continuity with great enthusiasm and confidence while minding the potential risks. I would like to thank the entire team and the Company for this accomplishment.

– While working on the first stage of the programme, did you see your colleagues in a new light?

– I can't even find words that would do them justice. They are real heroes of our times. They proved to everyone, and to themselves, that they could persevere and pull it off. We saw a similar professional enthusiasm during the pandemic, when all our employees and contractors proved that they are the best and that they can be counted on in any situation.

– Alexander, what does your team currently focus on?

– Before answering the question, I would like to join Anna and express my admiration for the fantastic work of our specialists. We

They are tasked with assessing how critical different products are to our operations and setting priorities.

In the situation at hand, the Company had to deal with this task in an extremely tight time frame – just 40 days! Normally, such projects take one to three years.

– Decoupling from Shell's IT systems is completed. What are your plans for the nearest future?

– It is now of utmost importance to stabilise the IT infrastructure – the databases, servers, networks, IT security – essentially everything that we call IT for IT. It's the basis of all business applications, so if the infrastructure doesn't function correctly, all our efforts will go to waste. We are continuing the colossal work of implementing the in-house automated enterprise control system under the Voskhod project. Simultaneously, we are discussing



The Information Technology and Information Management Department team. Thanks to the whole team and individually to each employee for the excellent work!

– I can say that it's almost as if we knew something like this would happen by the pricking of our thumbs. We started working on the local IT infrastructure (Sakhalin Infrastructure, SI) back in 2011. It was built similarly to Shell's global network. The intranet with essential work software was launched in 2017 for 300 contractor employees, which had a significant economic impact even back then.

I would also like to point out that the project team and the IT/IM Department management have been developing the SI solution with the Company-wide implementation in mind from the start. We had been working on it, and the results of our work came in handy when the Company needed them most. We were able to quickly adapt to this difficult situation by optimising the existing potential, and made a breakthrough.

– And what would have happened if you had failed to tackle it so promptly?

– The Company's business processes are tightly connected to computer technologies, such as various business applications, office software, email, SAP, the Work Permit System, and so on and so forth. A downtime

are lucky to have a very professional and motivated team. We proved once again that we can solve the most unexpected tasks and find out-of-the-box solutions. Our team worked around the clock because it was important to them to prevail over the circumstances.

Today, our main task is to make sure that the software products we used in January 2022 remain available and operational or replace them with counterparts with similar features.

– And what options do we have here?

– The easiest and most obvious one is to buy or extend licences. That is what we are focusing on right now – finding ways to do that. To start with, we prepared a list of all essential IT products and checked their status. Now, we are actively looking into alternative ways of buying licences and getting customer support.

– And what if there is no way to buy a licence? What are you going to do in that situation?

– In that case, we will look for alternative software and take the original one out of service. The Company has established a TG with business and IT representatives.

the future of business applications with the business representatives.

– What about Russian products on the IT market? Is there any promising software?

– Not only are good products available, we are already using some of them. For example, the Company is actively introducing Russian information security software. It should be stressed here that the Sakhalin-2 project is unique, and not every IT component can be replaced fast. It's a rather complicated task. And the issue doesn't lie with specific IT products – it has to do with corporate processes which have to be considered, adapted, and amended when IT systems are replaced. But every problem has a solution.

– Anna, do you have any information you want to communicate to the users?

– I would like to tell our dear colleagues that life goes on. We continue to work, search for alternatives, solve business tasks together with colleagues from all units of the Company. And we manage to find digital solutions for Sakhalin Energy's productive operation. I am confident that together, as a team, we will overcome any challenges.

■ Interview by Elena Gurshal

Fire, Water and “Foam” Pipes

For the first time in the history of Sakhalin-2, large-scale exercises were held with the participation of the Main Directorate of MChS of Russia for Sakhalin Oblast. The Prigorodnoye production complex was chosen as a location to practise joint fire response activities.

The exercises were managed by Alexander Singurov, Production Director, and Maxim Moiseev, First Deputy Head of the Main Directorate of MChS of Russia for Sakhalin Oblast. The event involved over 50 people, 11 machines, an ambulance car, and a spill response vehicle.

The exercise scenario implied destruction of an oil pipeline at the facility, followed by a spill of hydrocarbons and fire. By the time the asset response teams arrived at the scene, the fire area had exceeded 3,500 m².

Fire at such asset as the Prigorodnoye production complex is classified as an accident of the highest degree of complexity,

conducted a foam attack. During the exercises, the teams also used external fixed fire monitors (equipment for supplying fire extinguishing agents).

An Emergency Response Centre (ERC) was established to collect, process, and review the current situation, including to keep track of the forces involved in fire extinguishing. The ERC was in constant contact with the Asset Response Team.

The exercises also focused on the continuity and safety of production processes at the Prigorodnoye production complex: hydrocarbons were produced and shipped as usual.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov



IGOR ABRAMOV, CHIEF SUPERVISION ENGINEER:
 “Sakhalin Energy strictly complies with fire safety requirements established by legal acts and regulations of the Russian Federation, regularly conducts scheduled and unscheduled fire safety inspections, and promptly responds to requests from supervisory and inspection authorities. And of course, we prioritise developing practical skills and training in fire fighting techniques and methods. The recent exercises are one of the key events of 2022 – the Year of Fire Safety in the company. It took us more than a year to prepare for them. The event involving state fire garrisons gave us an opportunity to work out synchronised and coordinated actions of fire and emergency response units for any natural and man-made emergencies. We have taken another big step towards ensuring production safety, and are highly committed to further development in this area.”



and requires prompt decisions and careful preparations for a foam attack – supply of foam to the fire seat.

As soon as the automatic production control systems went off, a shift engineer confirmed the “emergency situation” via means of telemetry and video surveillance. Following the emergency response procedure, the general alarm was given, and the staff was evacuated to designated muster points.

Response forces of the Prigorodnoye production complex arrived at the “fire” scene in no time. They connected fire engines to special hydrants and began to cool a nearby tank to prevent the fire from spreading to it. By this time, the fixed tank sprinkler system was already on.

15 minutes after the alarm was given, the first units of Korsakov and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk fire garrisons arrived at the production facility. The firefighters installed a Purga-30 fire extinguishing device and



1000 Days Without Shutdowns



Congratulations to the Onshore Processing Facility (OPF) team for a major achievement: the facility worked 1,000 days without an unscheduled shutdown of the oil transportation system.

Behind this achievement is a lot of work as part of a continuous improvement program that has been underway since early 2020. One concrete example is a session on applying the kaizen approach to work aimed at reducing unplanned oil chain shutdowns. During this session, the OPF team reviewed statistics on its reliability, evaluated the hydrocarbon transportation system through the Onshore Processing Facility, and analysed losses and the factors that caused them.

Using the kaizen methodology, the specialists identified root causes and created a “quick wins” plan, which was systematically implemented by the OPF personnel. As a result, the production facility has been operating for over two and a half years without any unscheduled shutdowns. This is an excellent way to improve operational safety and reliability through proactive monitoring and analysis. An important result that motivates new achievements!



assets

Optimising Production

The wellwork has been completed on the Lunskeye-A platform. This programme focuses on maintaining the target level of hydrocarbon production. Mikhail Shuraev, Operational Management Subdivision Head, shares the details of the campaign and its deliverables.

– Mikhail, how long did the wellwork last?

– This year, the integrated wellwork programme comprised two phases. The first ended in mid-August, the second is scheduled for November-December. The works were carried out at three wells, but one of them only needed logging during one week, in other words, geophysical surveys. For this, we used a probe lowered down the well on an electric cable, which captured data and provided us with the necessary information. The telemetry, in particular, is based on such physical well parameters as pressure and temperature.

Having completed the logging, the drilling module used for wellwork was moved to the well used for drill cuttings re-injection. We successfully re-perforated it and thus optimised the injection pressure. But before that, we had performed logging studies to understand how the well “functioned” prior to work start, and will then compare the obtained data with the final result. The third well used for produced water re-injection was also logged to check whether it was functioning properly.

– You mentioned perforation and logging... What other works are related to wellwork?

– The key works include prevention of scale deposits, restoration of the well integrity, and fracture, repair and insulation.

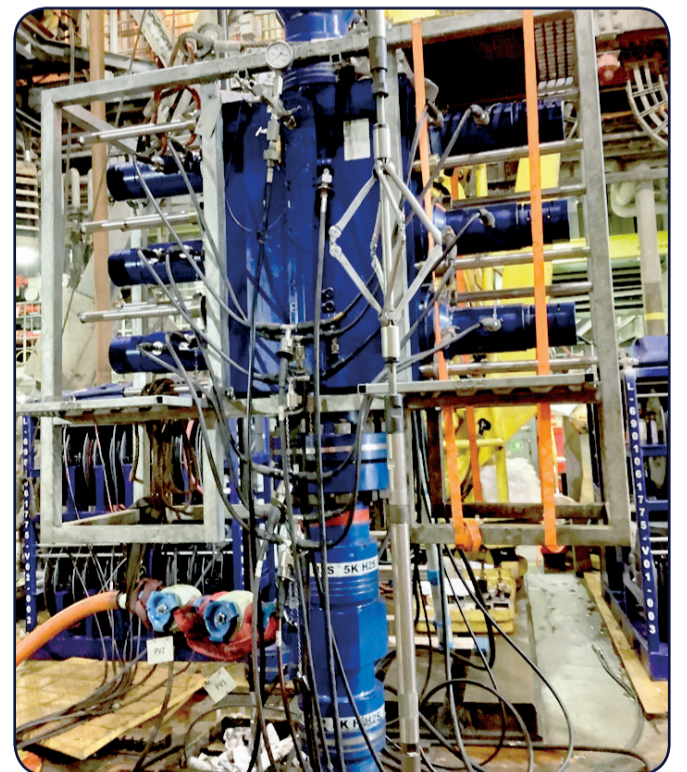
– How often are they required on offshore platforms?

– On average, annually we run two wellwork campaigns. We are scheduling specific dates several years in advance – for utmost safety, effect and promptness. But specific wells are chosen for wellwork at certain time based on the current needs.

We always work closely with the Field Development Subdivision, capture and analyse data on the well stock condition. And if the colleagues send an alert that a particular well seems to be getting faulty, this well is included in the wellwork programme. We are also committed to competent



Registration of operating parameters



Assembling the logging tool before descent

planning in order to ensure top quality management of upcoming events.

– 2022 was full of nasty surprises for the national oil and gas industry, including many international contracts terminations. How did this affect the wellwork programme?

– Despite the situation at hand, we are handling all the challenges quite well. Some contractors have quit, but almost all of them have already been replaced by Russian counterparts. The matter with the supply of equipment is being consistently addressed: we have revised the wellwork programme and adjusted specific measures as circumstances require. We have decided to first tackle the tasks that we could perform with 100% certainty. As a result, 99% of this year’s wellwork have been completed by Russian specialists.

– It happens that some work cannot be postponed or cancelled. What can be done in this case?

– It’s simple: the work must be done. The experience and the knowledge accumulated over the years of work on the Sakhalin-2 project empower us to meet any challenges. In particular, when we needed to test a well without special tools, we developed an alternative way of X-Mas Tree pressure feed. After additional RA and confirmed safety, it was successfully tested to avoid well downtime.

– One of the key tasks of wellwork is to maintain the target level of hydrocarbon production. How successful are we in this regard?

– Today, we are still analysing data on the LUN-A platform, but, for example, the wellwork on the PA-B platform this April helped us not only to maintain, but also increase production. The situation is similar at the Molikpaq platform. This is when facts speak for themselves.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov

People that the Company Needs

Even though the format of this column calls for the unity of space and time, this particular “table” was virtual. Its participants were united by their personal association to the main topic – the work of Sakhalin Energy’s Non-Professional Emergency Response Teams (NERTs).

– **How are NERTs organised at your facilities?**

Alexander Levchenko, Lead Specialist of the HSE and Quality Assurance Subdivision (the Prigorodnoye production complex):

“Our asset has about 70 certified NERT members. In order to ensure continued preparedness, the NERT includes four Fire Response Teams staffed with a number of operators on twenty-four-hour alert. During day and night shifts, an average of 15 rescuers stay prepared for emergency response.”

Artem Kiselyov, Head of the Fire-Fighting Team at the OPF, Lead Fire Safety Specialist of the HSE Subdivision:

“The Non-Professional Emergency Response Team of the OPF comprises 40 members (20 persons per shift). They include the team leader and their deputy, fire

(units) five people each, and two crew leaders.

Why two crews? So that one of them can back up the other crew when they are in the emergency zone. Additionally, each unit has a designated person controlling the amount of available oxygen in the breathing apparatuses.”

– **Dmitry, what is this additional level of control for? The modern apparatuses indicate how much oxygen is left in the cylinders and calculate its consumption rate.**

D. P.: “It doesn’t matter how “smart” the equipment is. We still must post an entry control point with a duty rescuer who can manually calculate the air volume needed for the crew’s return to the safe zone. There’s quite a lot of math involved, to say the least.”

– **Does a rescuer require any extra training to do this job in case of an emergency?**



the emergency response efforts and makes the decisions on what should be done in the particular situation, and manages the response actions in general. After all, before sending a crew to the emergency area, we need to know the status of the process, well, drilling, wind direction, whether production has been halted, how effective the fixed fire-fighting systems have been, whether all employees have gathered at the temporary shelter. We need information on the number of injured, ongoing supply vessel operations – the list goes on and on. In short: you need to get all the up-to-date information.”

– **Let’s talk about NERTs in terms of professions: which specialists, meaning**

mobilise the off-duty team. The Supervisor makes decisions and acts based on the circumstances.”

D. P.: “The team is composed of specialists in different areas. To me, as a leader, it is important that they include operators, as mentioned by Alexander, members of the drilling crew, instrument engineers, mechanics, electricians, and so on. Emergency does not always mean fire – it can also be rescue from a confined space, help after electric shock, gas or oil release, chemical spill. A crane might need to be involved in the response efforts, so a crane operator is also on the team. A lot of different specialists... Save for cooks – I don’t recall one in a NERT.”

– **I bet they will also go on duty and make sandwiches or hot coffee, if necessary.**

D. P.: “Oh, no doubt.”

A. K.: “I agree with my colleagues – NERTs are formed more or less similarly across all assets. Operators are always at their post, in the CCR building. Processing Unit Operators that act as rescuers gather at a designated muster point following an alarm signal. There are two of them for the round-the-clock NERT crews at the OPF and two for the Emergency Response Headquarters.”

– **Does mobilisation start after an alarm?**

A. K.: “At the OPF, we apply a unified response approach to all types of emergencies. For example, if someone detects a fire, they should promptly contact the CCR by radio or phone and report the location and nature of the emergency, information about injured people, and potential threats. The fire alarm is then immediately activated, and staff begins evacuation to safe muster points. Simultaneously the Headquarters and on-duty NERTs are mobilised. Even though all parts of the production area are monitored through the CCTV system, a reconnaissance team is sent to the emergency site. Based on the information they provide, decisions are made on the methods of emergency response and about engaging additional manpower and equipment. Each NERT member knows their role and task, which are described in detail in the mission crew order and the Natural and Industrial Emergency Prevention and Response Plan. They also get to practice their actions during regular training sessions.”

– **Yes, everything is described in plans, but life rarely goes as planned... What if there are some surprises?**

A. L.: “We monitor “surprises” very closely. Jokes aside, the response mechanism should run like clockwork. Each team member has their designated role. But we should always keep in mind that in any emergency, our priority is saving lives of injured people and inventory.



truck drivers, and rescuers. But they differ in colour marking.

The so-called “yellow” and “blue” teams, which include operators of processing units, are in charge of emergency response in the production area during day and night shifts respectively. The “green” team controls the Pipeline Maintenance Depot facilities, helipad, warehouses, welding workshops, administrative and residential buildings. Representatives of this team keep watch around the clock and wake up at night to address alerts, if necessary. Actions of all units of the OPF’s NERT are managed by the Emergency Response Headquarters. It comprises the entire senior management team of the asset and representatives of engineering services by discipline.”

Dmitry Pezhemsky, NERT Head, Chief HSE Specialist at the Molikpaq offshore oil and gas platform:

“Our team is formed similarly. Over 50 Molikpaq employees are listed as members of the asset’s NERT. 13 people are on duty at the same time: NERT Head, two crews

D. P.: “No, this skill is taught as part of the general rescuer training. All our team members know how to do it. It is up to the leader who is going to be doing what during emergency response.”

– **Could you please share some more details about the Emergency Response Headquarters? I guess there are no significant differences in its operation at different facilities?**

D. P.: “In addition to the OIM, the HQ team includes the Logistics Coordinator (who ensures communication between platforms, vessels, helicopters), Operational Team Coordinator (usually it’s the production foreman), and Staff Count Coordinator. There is also a person whom I jokingly call “the Big Ear”. Their job is to write on the board all the orders, questions, data, and sequence of events in the chronological order. The success of emergency response greatly depends on how well-coordinated and prompt the HQ team is.

In case of an emergency, all members of the HQ team gather in a separate room. The person in charge is the OIM, who leads

those in the organisational chart, comprise the teams? Is there any pattern in their composition across the assets, or is each team unique?

A. L.: “At the Prigorodnoye production complex, Processing Unit and Control Room Operators serve as NERT rescuers, because they are the only specialists with round-the-clock duties.”

– **That’s probably a silly question, but who’s going to manage the production processes, for instance, in case of a fire, if all the operators have to go fight it? Who’s going to be in charge of the Control Room?**

A. L.: “An empty Control Room?! Impossible! Everything is thought through and regulated by procedures. The order of actions, all possible (even unlikely) scenarios are reflected in the emergency, fire, oil spill containment response action plans. Also, the number of on-duty operators per shift is enough to send the entire Fire Response Team to the emergency zone and ensure the work of the production management centre, including the Control Rooms. The Shift Supervisor is also authorised to

september 2022

Obviously, no two emergencies or fires are the same; each one is “unique”. Which is why we do preliminary planning, that is, we consider potential scenarios, which are developed in advance so we can perfect them over time. And there is a direct correlation: the more we work on those, the less ‘surprises’ we encounter.”

– **That’s why the employee location system is incorporated at every Sakhalin Energy facility?**

A. K.: “The priority task of NERTs is to help people in the emergency area. That is why at the OPF we use the most reliable system for keeping count of employees entering production and residential areas. It is implemented through the use of T-cards and substitute cards which help us monitor the course of staff evacuation to the muster point in the safe area.”

– **To make sure that the system works, we need regular drills and exercises. Let’s talk about that.**

A. L.: “The exercise system is regulated by asset procedures. The programme for training between qualifications for the Prigorodnoye production complex has been developed in accordance with the laws on rescuers’ training, and it regulates the number of hours we spend on practical and theoretical lessons. Throughout the year, NERT members study the theory and do practice runs of specific scenarios of emergency response, fire prevention, and fire fighting plans. We have almost weekly exercises to practice equipment positioning, deployment of manpower and resources, supplying fire extinguishing agents, use of breathing apparatuses, scenarios of rescuing injured persons and using a special complex for training fire fighters and rescuers, the smoke and heat simulation training facility.”

– **I’ve heard that it was first used during an exercise at Prigorodnoye production complex.**

A. L.: “That’s correct. The exercise includes going through a labyrinth with fake (theatrical) smoke, light and sound effects, and audio tracks (people screaming, sounds of falling building and so on). This complex is meant for physical and psychological training of rescuers. To make sure the teams are ready to cope with the stress of a real emergency, the facility creates conditions that are as close as possible to a real-world scenario.”

A. K.: “That’s right. It comes in handy in the training. At the OPF, we have the NERT Training Course Plan for the year. It contains the full information, up to the specific areas and facilities for conducting practice exercises and the topics that should be covered at theoretical lessons. Each year’s plan is updated and approved by the OPF Manager, and we train according to it.

I would like to note that based on the results of previous years, we now conduct even more drills. Scenarios of potential emergencies have been developed for each process building, and we practice one of them per week. After the exercises, all the key participants regularly gather in the OPF Manager’s office to discuss the team’s reaction to the set objective, the most effective solutions, coordination within a crew and between units, shortcomings and remedial measures.”

D. P.: “In accordance with the requirements set in the Russian Federation, we have an Emergency and Containment Response Action Plan, which describes potential emergency scenarios at the asset and the course of action for each such scenario. Once a month, we conduct extended exercises to practice response to, for instance, a diesel fuel spill with fuel-air mixture explosion and rescue of injured persons. Our team goes through all possible ways to address this task in full detail.

But we also have less extensive training sessions once a week with theoretical and practical lessons, practising team’s actions upon hearing an alarm signal, muster of personnel, rescuing people from confined space and so on. Even though we are on an ‘iron island’, our training procedure is the same as that of onshore facilities.”

– **The Prigorodnoye production complex and the OPF have fire depots. What are they equipped with?**

A. L.: “Our depot has three Volvo fire trucks with Fishcon power units (increased capacity pump) on duty. These trucks are multifunctional: they serve as a water pumping station and ensure supply of foaming agent through hose for extinguishing burning oil and highly flammable liquids. The life-time and capacity of the asset’s fire-fighting equipment are established by the design solutions in accordance with special technical specifications.

The crew is also equipped with a fast response vehicle for rapid response of NERT units and conducting priority emergency response and rescue operations. We also have two more Volvos and a KAMAZ on standby at the Yunona residential complex.

In addition to mobile fire-fighting means, the emergency response team is also equipped with thermal imaging devices used for searching injured people and hidden fire seats, as well as protective suits against heat currents, devices for evacuating injured persons from heights, and much more.”

A. K.: “The OPF NERT has three Mercedes-Benz Actros fire trucks. Given our autonomous and remote location, almost 130 kilometres from the nearest settlement, we are equipped with two ambulances and



have a round-the-clock healthcare facility on the premises. In other words, our NERTs have all the equipment and means necessary for addressing all types of emergencies.”

– **I’ve heard that the OPF fire depot has a special mannequin that needs to be “saved”. How is it doing?**

A. K.: “Our Maxim? He’s doing well. He weighs about 60 kilograms and helps our members practice their rescue and first aid skills during exercises.”

– **Could you please describe how NERT members are trained?**

D. P.: “The initial and periodic training is conducted in Vega Sakhalin Training Centre. An instructor gives the team commands and assesses their actions in fighting fires, handling breathing apparatuses, rescuing and searching for injured people, ascending to heights. The members are presented with various circumstances that they may encounter in real life.

Moreover, we have to reach quite intense qualifying standards which are somewhat similar to those of the Ready for Work & Defence programme. For example, a person over 45 has to run one kilometre in 5 minutes and 40 seconds, and 25-year-old rescuers



have to do the same in under 4 minutes. You need to be pretty fit to be able to do that. Instructors pay close attention to that and add exercises, if necessary.”

– **When it comes to non-professional emergency response teams, we are basically talking about regular employees who, upon finishing their shifts, have to additionally train and study theory. Why do they agree to do all this?**

D. P.: “We work at sea. If there is an emergency, you can’t just run to an open field; a fire truck with professional fire-fighters won’t magically appear. Only we can ensure our safety and safety of our platform, and we will have to deal with the situation on

A. K.: “The Onshore Processing Facility is surrounded by forests, so it makes sense that, in a situation where there’s a risk of a forest fire spreading to our territory, the manpower and resources of NERTs are used to ensure the safety of the asset. Fire must not reach the buildings and structures of the OPF.”

– **Irina Tsarkova, Lead Specialist of Compensations and Benefits Subdivision, is joining our round table from the Sakhalin Energy office in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.**

“NERT members perform their responsibilities in addition to their regular job duties. That is why business representatives, together with our Subdivision, proposed to have a system of financial incentives for NERT rescuers developed and introduced in the Company. The objective of the system is to ensure that NERTs are fully staffed by competent specialists, as well as to keep them motivated, improve discipline and level of personal responsibility.

Our Subdivision has put in a lot of effort to examine all the areas of NERT operation and peculiarities of their work. As a result, we developed an incentive solution in the form of two payments to the team members. The first payment is arranged for all NERT rescuers with satisfactory medical check-up results at the beginning of the year. The second one is made based on the results of the training course conducted between qualifications, and it goes to team members that fully confirm their competencies, pass all the exams, and take part in all workshops.

Today, a year after this arrangement was introduced, we can say that the incentive system works, its mechanisms have been streamlined, and the objective has been accomplished.”

– **What qualities are you looking for in new members of the team?**

A. L.: “The most important thing is their willingness to become rescuers and be part of the team, as well as the ability to choose the right course of actions. In our case, the priority list goes as follows: save the injured, then respond to the emergency, minimise the damage, and finally sustain the production process.”

D. P.: “To me, it’s important to understand the role the person wants to undertake – a member of the rescue team or a crew leader. The employee doesn’t have to work in a managerial position, what matters is their ability to lead people. It’s also important to see how they react in a non-standard situation, whether they are able to spring to action and make a prompt, sound decision. That’s the kind of people I need. That’s the kind of people the Company needs.”

– **Artem, I’ve heard that you have been engaged in fighting forest fires.**

■ Column prepared by Marina Semitko, Elena Gurshal

To Strive, to Seek, to Find, and Not to Yield

These words by Alfred Tennyson, the motto of the characters in novel *The Two Captains*, are more relevant to Sakhalin-2 than ever. Today, development of Russian content in the project is one of the key priorities. Roman Streshinsky, Head of Electrical Division, talks about the progress in electrical engineering.

– Roman, 2022 is the first year when all Pit Stop operations were performed by Russian specialists. It is a good example of cooperation, isn't it?

I'll say this: we accomplished the task we set ourselves at this stage and completed all scheduled electrical operations. Notably, we worked closely with other units, primarily with the Russian Content and Supplier Relationship Team, Supply Chain Management Department, and Electrical Division.

In an extremely short time, we found Russian contractors with necessary skills and competencies who were able to provide high-quality repair and maintenance services. The teams conducted technical pre-qualification, agreed on commercial terms, signed pilot contracts, and arranged the arrival of the contractors to our assets.

– Given the tight schedule, even the list of completed tasks is impressive. What have you managed to achieve?

– We carried out the main Pit Stop operations at the LNG plant, where we completed the maintenance of the key systems, such as frequency converters and switchgear assemblies. We replaced the critical components of frequency converter systems and upgraded the arc protection of switchgear assemblies to avoid false alarms.

Most Russian developers already have a huge number of new orders, but they do not have enough resources to meet demand. So we should contribute to the growth of potential domestic suppliers who have promising developments but are underinvested. They are the future.

– How did Russian companies handle the tasks set? Who stood out to you?

– Russian specialists demonstrated a high level of professionalism, helped to significantly improve the reliability of production. I would like to shout out Nord Industries, that performed the maintenance of variable frequency drives, and SakhElectroAvtomatics, that serviced high-voltage switchgears. Intermatik and ARUS replaced a foreign contractor for service power and control components of electric motor control systems in LNG plant trains,



necessary for liquefied gas production. These companies can be included in a pool of the Company's Unified Integration Centre.

– What about materials and spare parts in the Russian electrical equipment market?

– We haven't yet tried replacing a variable frequency drive of electric motors or uninterruptible power supply in our project. Some domestic solutions are available and successfully used, but it is not possible to replace foreign equipment in a short time. We'll need to re-equip our facilities.

Moreover, Russian manufacturers must comply with certain engineering requisitions to supply materials. Unfortunately, contractors are not always interested in changing their production lines when it comes to limited supplies of equipment. This is one of the grey areas to be addressed.

– What kind of support does the government provide to Russian manufacturers?

– As an example, there is the State Programme for the Development of Electronic Component Base and Radio Electronics, valid until 2025. Extra funding for the programme has already been approved. The Ministry

– In spring you visited the International Energy Forum in St. Petersburg and 2022 Oil and Gas Exhibition in Moscow. How was the electrical engineering cluster represented?

– This year's forum and exhibition really surprised me. Usually in the oil and gas industry, electrical engineering is mistakenly considered a secondary discipline and given little attention at such events. However, this year a separate venue was provided for electrical equipment in Moscow, while St. Petersburg hosted a forum to discuss energy issues.

I really like the motto of the characters from *The Two Captains*, a novel by Veniamin Kaverin: "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield!" If we stick to it, then victory will definitely be ours.

One of the results of the exhibition was a contract signed with 555 Engineering Company, a provider of repair services for high-tech industrial electronics. Earlier, we used to send out-of-order controls for low voltage switches abroad. Now, as part of a pilot project, a new contractor will repair microprocessor-based protection devices for electric motors.

– You have recently inspected the site of KONAR Industrial Group. How was it?

– We were impressed with a high level of production culture, clean workshops, and smooth processes at the RED Plant that manufacturers Russian electric motors. The plant utilises cutting-edge technologies and a complex production process organised as a continuous chain of sequential operations with consistent high quality of products.

– Roman, could you please share your plans for the near future?

– Together with the Russian Content and Supplier Relationship Team, we have developed the so-called categorisation of materials to track needs for their replacement or modification. We continue to search for analogues and contact Russian manufacturers. Unfortunately, they still focus on large-scale energy, network equipment, and power plants.

I really like the motto of the characters from *The Two Captains*, a novel by Veniamin Kaverin: "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield!" If we stick to it, then victory will definitely be ours.

■ Interview by Ekaterina Vlasova

of Industry and Trade grants special-purpose loans to manufacturers. Most Russian developers already have a huge number of new orders, but they do not have enough resources to meet demand. So we should contribute to the growth of potential domestic suppliers who have promising developments but are underinvested. They are the future.

What factors do you think prevent Russian companies from growing?

– Major foreign manufacturers have dominated our market of electronic components and microelectronics for many years. For example, Siemens opened its branch in St. Petersburg in 1852. Such influential competitors did not allow Russian developers to create something from scratch. Now the situation is changing. We have production capabilities, and now everything depends on how and when Russia will develop its own technologies. We need to move on.

On Track to Import Substitution

Sakhalin Energy's delegates visited Chelyabinsk Oblast to inspect KONAR Industrial Group's (IG) production site.

The event programme included a visit to KONAR's Sci-Tech Centre, the foundry, pipeline and X-Mas Tree fittings zones, electric motor and generator plant, as well as the service area for the repair of pumps and compressors. All these capacities are localised in Stankomash Industrial Park with an end-to-end cycle of modern production that meets advanced quality standards. The core area of the Industrial Group site is shared by 11 resident companies.

With a broad range of competences in complex engineering and oil and gas machine-building, KONAR is experienced with developing unparalleled products and possesses production facilities for the manufacture of equipment in several categories: X-Mas Tree and pipeline fittings, electric motors and generators, process and construction metal structures, reverse engineering, etc. The company – which offers integrated services for import substitution – has its own foundry shops, worn part repair benches, and a cryogenic test centre.

“In the course of evaluating KONAR's potential, we have audited its production site in the Chelyabinsk Industrial Park. Top engineers, a large

machine fleet and experience in re-engineering amid unprecedented restrictions for the Russian Federation are all factors that make us consider the company as a promising contractor for repair and supply of pumps and compressors,” said Konstantin Nazarevich, Category 1 Mechanical Engineer.

At the end of the audit, the representatives of Sakhalin Energy highlighted the advanced HSE culture and clear organisation of process flows in the company powered by innovative technologies. “The ‘transformation’ of steel blanks into ready-made mechanisms is really fascinating,” Anton Tolvanen, Flowline, Industrial Constructions and Structures Division Head, shared his impressions. “Here, it is hard not to appreciate the scale of engineering and construction efforts put into the creation of a new tech cluster almost unaffected by the shaky situation with imports.”

Besides the tour around the production facilities, the delegates held a meeting to discuss future cooperation and ensure seamless supplies despite the sanctions, as well as the matters of production localisation, including as part of potential pilot projects.

■ Ekaterina Vlasova



Let's Vote!

11 September 2022 is the start of elections of the 8th Sakhalin Regional Duma.

The employees of the Company's remote production facilities (offshore platforms, OPF, OPFC, Nogliki camp, the Prigorodnoye production complex) will be able to vote ahead of time: from 28 August through 10 September. The citizens of the Russian Federation with permanent registration in Sakhalin Oblast are eligible to vote. Employees who will be present at their places of residence on the Voting Day will be able to cast their vote in person at their polling places.

All questions related to the organisation of the voting can be addressed to Sergey Manchilin, the Lead Specialist of the Corporate Events and Government Relations Subdivision; call: 66 24 57, +7 914 759 41 13.

event

ВЫБОРЫ

ДЕПУТАТОВ
САХАЛИНСКОЙ
ОБЛАСТНОЙ ДУМЫ
2022

ДКС ОБТК

† 28 августа

ПЛАТФОРМА «ЛУНСКАЯ-А»

† 3 сентября

ПЛАТФОРМА
«ПИЛЬТУН-АСТОХСКАЯ-Б»

4 сентября

ОБЪЕДИНЕННЫЙ БЕРЕГОВОЙ
ТЕХНОЛОГИЧЕСКИЙ КОМПЛЕКС

КЭМП пгт НОГЛИКИ

ПЛАТФОРМА
«ПИЛЬТУН-АСТОХСКАЯ-А»

5 сентября

ПК «ПРИГОРОДНОЕ»

† 9, 10 сентября

A Strategic Look at Oil

In the early June, the European Union (EU) adopted the sixth package of sanctions against Russia. It includes a postponed embargo on sea exports of Russian crude oil and petroleum products.

The relevant resolution notes that the ban on crude oil supplies was “postponed for six months, for petroleum products — for eight months” since the sanctions were introduced. The embargo also includes temporary exemptions for Hungary, Slovakia, Bulgaria, and Croatia. Temporary exemption is given for crude oil imports by pipelines, as well as import of Russian crude oil by sea. Next to that, after a 6-month transition period, the EU operators will be prohibited from insuring and financing the transportation of crude oil to the third countries, in particular, by sea.

This raises a concern on the effect of these measures on export of Russian hydrocarbons and total oil production in the country. Oil volume to be withdrawn from the global market due to the introduced embargo is also in question.

In order to answer it, one shall recall the 2019 figures, since they reflect Russia’s capabilities in the production and export of crude oil and petroleum products to the maximum extent as of introduction of sanctions against Russia. During the COVID pandemic, the year 2020 and 2021 demonstrated nose-dived global oil consumption figures and the OPEC+ pact to curtail oil output. There were no such restrictions in 2019, and since the summer 2022, the global oil and gas industry, in general, got back to the positions of the late 2019 in many respects (except for oil prices). Global oil demand has recovered to the “pre-COVID” level, and production restrictions under the OPEC+ pact have almost come to an end.

Thus, the 2019 production in Russia averaged at 11.2 million bbl/d. Russian oil export amounted to 5 million bbl/d and petroleum products — 2.8 million bbl/d.

Export to the Atlantic approximated at 2.9 million bbl/d. Approximately 2.4 million bbl/d of oil and 1.5 million bbl/d of petroleum products were exported to the EU. Oil was transported to the EU mainly along Druzhba Pipeline (850,000 bbl/d), and from ports of the Baltic Sea and the Black Sea. Here, 70% (600,000 bbl/d) of oil along Druzhba Pipeline was transported to Germany and Poland via the northern line, and the remaining 30% via the central line.

Approximately 1.9 million bbl/d was exported from Russia to the Pacific. Asia-Pacific Region is the second largest oil exporter. However, given the market potential and prospects for the increased demand in energy resources in the APR, as well as the development of new oil production centres in Eastern Siberia and the Far East, this market is becoming strategically important for the Russian oil industry. In the eastern direction, Russian oil is supplied through the Eastern Siberia–Pacific Ocean system through the Far Eastern Kozmino and a branch line to Daqing (China), from Sakhalin-1, 2 projects of De-Kastri port

and Prigorodnoye port, as well as through Kazakhstan.

In 2022, Russian oil exported by sea in January to August remains at 3.4 million bbl/d on average. Here, the share of western buyers (Northern Europe, the shore of the Black Sea and the Mediterranean Sea) hit 2/3 of all sea deliveries. Since April, the supplies have been shifting towards Asian buyers, and exceed the half of total oil exports from Russia by tankers, approximately at 2 million bbl/d. It is noteworthy that the plateau in the increase of oil supplies to the APR markets is associated with the restrictions of tanker capacities to overcome the route for the delivery of oil from the western direction.

In general, oil is regularly exported by pipelines both in the western and eastern supply directions.

Once the embargo was introduced, oil supplies along the Druzhba line may

could have been shipped by sea through Primorsk and Novorossiysk: the relevant transshipment and berthing capacities are available. In 2007, Primorsk transshipped 74 million tonnes, and in 2019 — 48 million tonnes only (26 million tonnes annually or 520,000 bbl/d less). The maximum export volume from the Black Sea ports amounted to 64 million tonnes in 2003, and 28 million tonnes per year in 2019 (36 million tonnes per year or 720,000 bbl/d less). Thus, there are more than 1.2 million bbl/d capacities alternative to Druzhba, which can replace the recent year volumes. Such transition, however, would require de-bottlenecking the system, which may be tough under the current sanctions, yet rather possible.

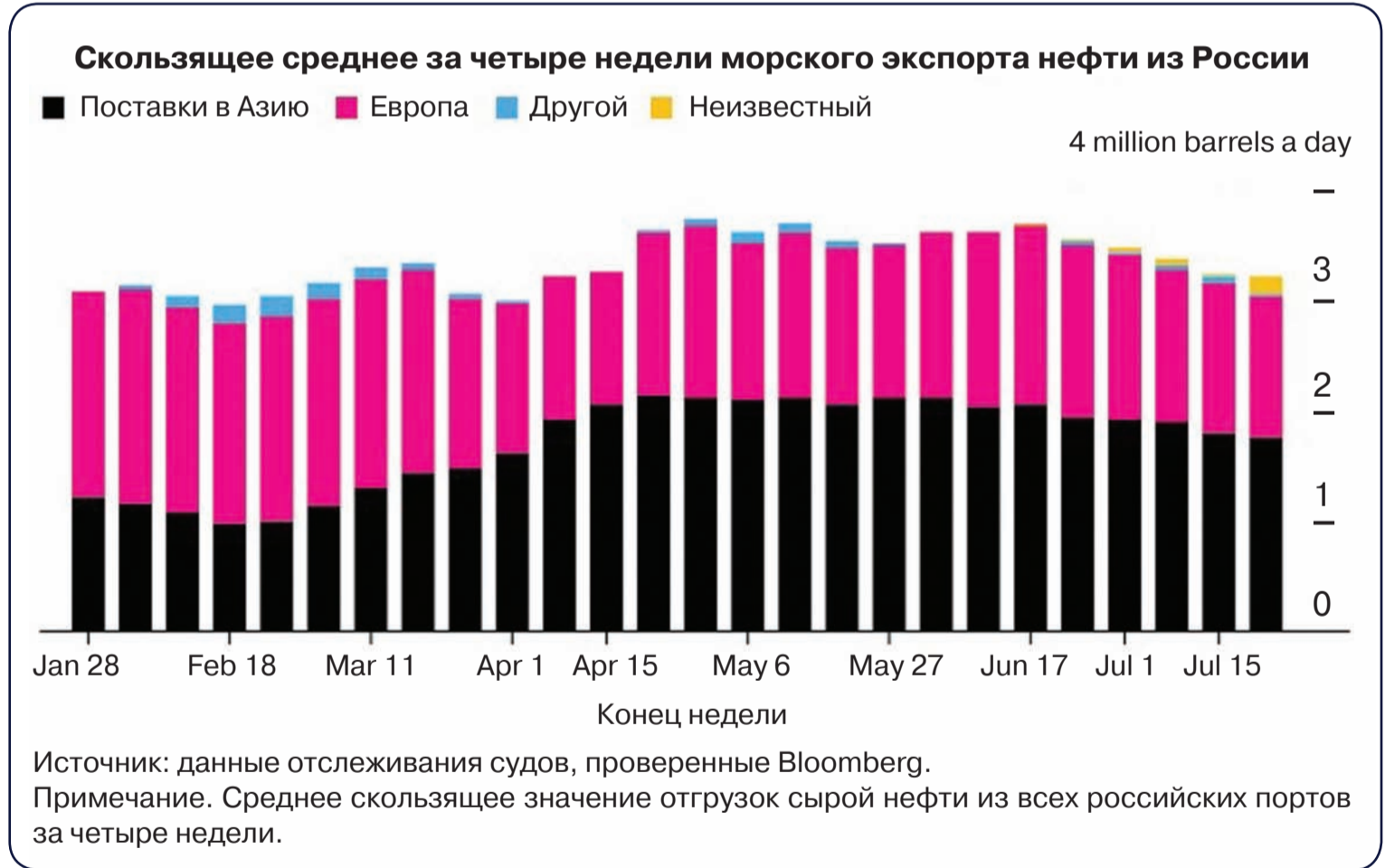
The restriction of sea supplies may be more significant but will require the consent of countries outside the “sanctions coalition”. The most crucial issue is the insurance of huge risks associated with the oil transportation by sea: loss of ship and cargo, oil spills, damage to port infrastructure. The second issue will be the sufficiency of the vessel fleet not

by 200,000 bbl/d. Thus, in the nearest future and in the worst-case scenario, oil exports from Russia may drop approximately by 2 million bbl/d vs. 2019.

Russia has its own tanker fleet to ensure oil transportation in the current volume in demand. But now it is impossible to redirect all oil exports from Europe to China due to logistics issues.

The time of oil transportation redirected to China will significantly increase: from two weeks to two months in one direction (almost 4-fold). Therefore, the same oil volume will require more tankers.

In general, it is difficult to conclude on how Russian oil exports and production can change. It is possible to try redirecting the undemanded volumes from the West to the East to the maximum extent, offering discounts on oil and petroleum products for more lucrative fees at the expense of worse delivery options. Or vice versa, we can preserve the eastern supplies through Druzhba Pipeline to the friendly countries, add restrictions on oil exports from Kazakhstan through the Caspian



drop by 600,000 bbl/d as Poland and Germany may reject Russian oil at their own initiative. These countries have alternative oil routes for their eastern refineries. This means that this pipeline section that peaked at more than 800,000 bbl/d (2006), will simply stand idle.

For a while, deliveries along the Druzhba central line to Slovakia, Hungary, and the Czech Republic will remain at the same level due to the lack of the existing oil import alternatives and complicated transition to other routes. After 2024, oil exports in this direction may be replaced by oil from Kazakhstan.

In theory, the entire 2019 volume along Druzhba Pipeline of 850,000 bbl/d

owned by the companies indifferent to further sanctions. In the near future it is possible for the state-owned companies of the Russian Federation, China and India only.

Currently, these countries have no free tankers that could charter oil exports from the West. This means that in the worst-case scenario oil supplies by sea will also drop. This volume, in addition to the pipeline volume in the western direction, oil is estimated at 1–1.2 million bbl/d.

The exports to the eastern direction are subject to fewer downward risks. These volumes will at least plateau in the coming years. Moreover, exports through Kazakhstan may increase approximately

Pipeline Consortium (CPC), then the effect will be entirely different.

Anyway, significant decline in oil production can lead to irredeemable consequences for maintaining physical properties of the reservoirs for future oil recovery at current levels. Now, the global oil trade volume slightly increases 32 million bbl/d, and potential withdrawal of 1–2 million bbl/d of the Russian share will be less than 10%. Nevertheless, even such withdrawal will take its toll on the supply and demand balance in the global market in the context of economic recovery after a 2-year stagnation and partial recession due to the pandemic.

■ Prepared by Maxim Bakulin based on open sources



«БОЛЬШАЯ ЭКСПЕДИЦИЯ ТЭКиКо»



Crossteam: Health in the Palm of Your Hand

Launched as part of the FEC&Co Big Expedition corporate event, the Crossteam project is gaining momentum. The core goal of the initiative is to promote health of Sakhalin-2 project team. However, the platform provides opportunities not only for a healthy lifestyle, but also for self-development.

According to Maria Kozlova, Specialist of the Corporate Health Section, one of the key features of the project is that each person can choose an activity that is right for them. For example, Be Active for 21 Days project hit really big among the participants – this programme includes three main modules: nutrition, morning exercises and functional workouts. Each lasted for seven days.

Healthy Eating ranked second. Its author, Inna Kononenko, nutritionist, PhD in Medicine, helps participants to ease into healthy eating with 21-day video lessons.

Perfect Morning ranks third. The morning workout programme improves blood circulation, boosts focus and concentration. All the exercises can be performed at home without any special sports equipment.

On August 10, Valentina Romina, jogging coach, triathlete, marathon runner, nutrition expert, spoke in de-

tail about the Crossteam programme during a webinar. This video is available on the intranet FUEL&Co Big Expedition page, as well as in the special smartphone app.

The platform provides many more opportunities. It is regularly updated, with new engaging initiatives available to any Sakhalin-2 project team member. To join it, take a few simple steps. First, download Crossteam mobile app (Appstore, Google Play). Second, sign in (code 4565), and start with the tasks. The digital platform is user-friendly: it has an interface that resembles social media.



DINA MAKAROVA,
CATEGORY 1 ENGINEER

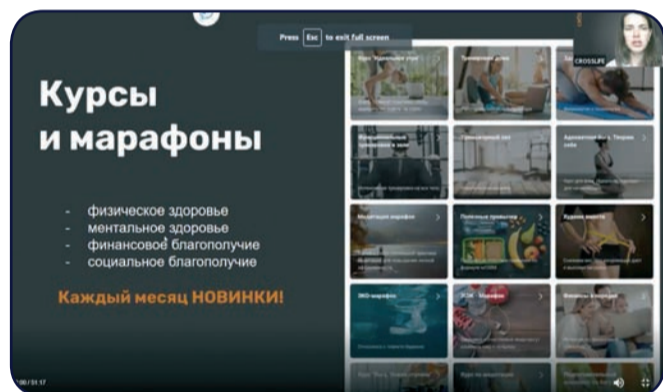
“Just like many of my colleagues, I joined the Crossteam project at the very beginning – in early August. For me, this is a unique opportunity to watch selected videos on healthy eating, join online sports programmes, which, as they say, are always at my fingertips.

I enjoy witnessing the progress of my colleagues, sharing activities, unleashing my competitive spirit, and acquiring new experience. The Crossteam platform offers many exciting things, and all the information is easily accessible. For example, I have recently passed a quest of choosing the foods with trans fats in the supermarket and taking pictures of them, that was really fun! I live in Korsakov, and it takes much time to travel to the office, so in my case, it's not always possible to go to the gym, and Crossteam is an opportunity to exercise at home. I share my achievements with the sports community of our Company in the morning and in the evening – the opportunity to communicate outside of work is important to me. To be happy, you need to tune into positive vibes, and my excellent results further boost my wellness – and I wish the same to all my colleagues!”

Considering that the project is part of FUEL&Co Big Expedition, we can say that we are putting the expedition “at our fingertips”. Now, you do not need to wait for the right moment to take part in an event. Got free time? Launch the app and act! Right at your fingertips!

The mobile app runs in a pilot mode for three months, and is available only in Russian.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov



Pillars of Order

Here is our interview with Vladislav Rezvykh, Deputy Head of the Facility Management Department, about how to establish and keep order on the premises of Zima Highlands residential complex.

In lieu of a preface: this department ensures the operation of the company's offices, residential and social facilities of Zima Highlands residential complex, repair of facilities, catering and leisure organisation for the employees and their families. When performing this work, a special focus is given to environmental issues. The residential complex alone generates approximately 100 tonnes of various waste monthly. Managing waste collection and disposal is one of the pillars of the division's work.

– Vladislav, keeping order, whether on the adjacent outdoor territory, indoors, or even on the desktop, is a burning issue for many. How to keep everything clean and orderly? Could you please share your success story of how you keep order at Zima Highlands residential complex?

– In addition to the obligatory condition – personal and corporate culture (the Company's approach to sustainable use of resources) – let me tell you about our project of waste management on this site.

The complex has over 400 waste containers. For their safe operation, there is a flushing area in place. The 8-cubic-metre containers for plant and wood waste (mowed grass, fallen tree branches) are mobile and also stored on the special site.

It includes waste collection, temporary placement with further disposal to special landfills.

For the accumulation and temporary storage of over 60 types of Hazard Classes 1–5 waste, we needed a place with a drainage and polluted water pumping systems. With this initiative in place, we were able to prepare, put and use 40-foot containers in the number necessary to accommodate all types of waste on a 530-square-meter

assets

reinforced concrete pad with a system of drainage and pumping of contaminated water.

The engineering solutions that we use meet all environmental, sanitary and fire safety standards applicable in the Russian Federation. For example, containers for Hazard Classes 1,2,3 waste have natural ventilation, floors and walls sheathed with materials that allow us not only to store waste properly, but also to carry out high-quality cleaning, if necessary.

As a result, we have all the conditions for safe storage of mercury lamps, used batteries, soiled wipes, used oils and filters, containers for paints and varnishes, cardboard and paper, plastic and other waste before removal for disposal.

– **Would you like to address our readers, including the residents of Zima Highlands? Any message to share?**

– First, I want to thank my colleagues – Igor Rulev, Head of the Warehouse Subdivision (a group within Materials Management), and his team, as well as specialists from the company's Land Transportation Department for the prompt resolution of all organisational issues for the transportation of containers from the base in Yablochnoye village.

And I ask the residents of Zima to continue minimising waste, use resources sustainably and help our management to keep the residential complex clean!



The complex is equipped with a section for paper and cardboard processing and pressing with an industrial press. It helps to increase the weight of one waste batch to be transported 3.5-fold to cut transport costs.



Sakhalin and the Kurils: Through Time

On 23 August, the State Museum of History has opened Your country. Sakhalin and the Kurils: Through Time exhibition. The exhibition and the cultural programme, which will take place on its venue until 25 September, are dedicated to the two anniversaries – this year’s 150th anniversary of the State Museum of History and the 75th anniversary of Sakhalin Oblast.

Russia’s largest national museum and the one-of-a-kind island region in the country have collaborated to guide everyone through the great history of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands, showcase the amazing nature, history, culture, modern achievements, and, of course, the region’s people.

nically challenging in the global oil and gas industry – have joined the State Museum of History.

This is not a typical exhibition: there are two “anchored” models of a fishing boat and a gas tanker in the centre of the museum’s two halls. The ships sailing in the same direction symbolise the inter-



The Governor Valery Limarenko has congratulated the guests and organisers: “Sakhalin Oblast is a truly magnetic destination. This exhibition is an extra opportunity to explore our region, the culture of its indigenous people, splendid scenery, unparalleled achievements and victories. Visitors get to look through the lens of history into today and the future. No doubt that this force of magnetism will only grow, thanks to the efforts that we together with business are making to drive the region’s development. And you can see it for yourself too.”

The venue shows the exhibits that link the past of the region and its original inhabitants with the present time, show the connection between the traditions and modern life, their intercorrelation.

To achieve that the top Sakhalin museums, regional authorities, and Sakhalin Energy LLC – the operator of Sakhalin-2 project, one of the largest and most tech-

connection of the unique culture, history, and modern life of Sakhalin and the Kuril Islands.

“Our company, the operator of Sakhalin-2 project, has been working in Sakhalin for almost 30 years. Our pioneering path



has witnessed many glorious milestones and achievements for the benefit of the entire oil and gas industry. It is symbolic that the region, just like our project, moves

“The key objective of the Your Country project is to familiarise capital residents and guests with the cultural and historical heritage of Russian regions. We are happy to prepare the exhibition dedicated to one-of-a-kind island region of the country, and provide our visitors with the opportunity to dive into our amazing heritage, as well as its modern history,” said Alexey Levykin, Director of the State Museum of History, at the opening.

On 16–18 September, the Days of Sakhalin Oblast to be held as part of the exhibition. A content-packed business and educational programme will include events within several topic units.

The guests will learn about the region’s pilot projects, the HR development in the oil and gas industry, the opportunities and prospects for tourism, and obtain more insights into Sakhalin’s



like a flagship that clearly understands its course and route. It is piercing time to grab new opportunities,” said Andrey Oleinikov, Managing Director of Sakhalin Energy LLC, greeting the participants of the opening.

culture. Visitors are welcome to take part in a concert programme, interactive classes with artisans, lectures by researchers, and film screenings dedicated to the people, history, culture, and economy of the region.

september 2022

OstroVa at the Prigorodnoye Asset

In August, the participants of OstroVa, an all-Russian youth forum, who had arrived from all over the country, visited the Prigorodnoye production complex. It was the third time that the federal-level event had brought together young people, who are passionate about contributing to the social and economic development of the region, on Sakhalin.

The Prigorodnoye production complex team told the young visitors about the Sakhalin-2 project and Russia's first LNG plant, and the visitors were more than enthusiastic to hear the details.

Vladislav Gordienko is a recent eleventh-former and a Novosibirsk School of Journalism graduate, who has set his sights on entering the Novosibirsk State Technical University. "Given my future education, this trip has come in very handy. Hearing about, and seeing, what makes the facility run was overwhelming! I am grateful for the opportunity to not only broaden my horizons but also to acquire knowledge that teaches me to love my homeland and be proud of it," said Vladislav.

For another visitor, Konstantin Kachkin, an associate professor at the Department of Pharmacology and Botany of the Novosibirsk State Medical University, it was the first visit to the asset:

"I work in a very different field and didn't expect to find a lot of interesting things here in terms of ecology. From the first minutes of the visit, it became obvious to me that the Company cares about the environment. The plant is kept clean and tidy and there is a lot of greenery around. Such visits are especially useful to schoolchildren who can see, first-hand, the convergence of technology and nature, and they have something to rely on when choosing a future job."

Oksana Adilova, who was accompanying the young visitors, said that the asset could become one of the drivers of industrial tourism on Sakhalin. "The asset offers great opportunities for that, especially as the guided tours of the plant are extremely well organised," noted Oksana.

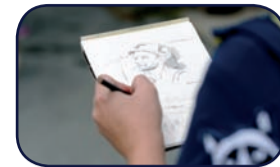
At the end of the visit, the guests thanked the asset team for their hospitality and warm welcome.

■ Roman Dikov



visit

Shaolin Temple, Sakhalin-style: A Look from the Inside



In August, Sakhalin artists found inspiration in the Prigorodnoye Asset. It was their second plein-air workshop arranged at the asset as part of the Company's dialogue with the regional art community that had been ongoing since the previous year.

It resulted in Shutdown is not a Letdown, an exhibition that took place both in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and at the Prigorodnoye Asset in the first half of 2022, proving a great success. The unique project of the same name featured 23 Sakhalin artists representing different styles, movements, and generations, who managed to carry through the unusual idea of sharing their artistic vision of Sakhalin's industrial scene, comparing it to a creative 'reboot'.

For the masters to be fully immersed in the workings of the asset, this time they were given a tour of the LNG plant's laboratories and production areas, where they could experience, first hand, the artistic splendour of the processes going on around them.

"What is your main working tool?" was a question from one of the visitors to the operator accompanying the group. "Maybe a spanner or the like"? The operator-turned-tour guide answered, "My head and a walkie-talkie".

The cherry on the cake was a stop at Goluboy Stream, with its waters teeming with pink salmon that go to that place every year to spawn.

The visit to the very 'heart' of the production facility and the special atmosphere that prevailed at the plant impressed the artists so much that many of them compared it to a visit to an alien base from the future or even to Shaolin temple, which is regarded not only as a tourist attraction but also as an environmentally friendly scenic spot with a low carbon footprint.

"Thank you for the opportunity to visit the sanctum sanctorum. What you feel here is a genuine awe at the power of human genius," artist Alina Tsepenyuk, who curates the Shutdown is not a Letdown project, shared her emotions.

"Seeing the insides of the world-famous plant, getting a glimpse at the scale of production from just metres away is worth a lot! The fact that the asset's team is genuinely committed to their cause is very impressive," said artist Galina Goryachaya.

All that remains is a few finishing strokes to be put on new masterpieces celebrating continuous improvement, harmony, and state-of-the-art production technology—what lies at the heart of the Sakhalin-2 project.

■ Marina Semitko

Round the World on the Water

Schoolchildren from Dolinsk and Korsakov districts took part in the «Round the World: Safety on the Water» competition held on the shore of the Sea of Okhotsk near Starodubskoye village.

Five teams of five people each fought for the victory: «Defenders», «Kipish», «Sea Wolves», «TRP» and «Sea urchins». The kids traversed six stations: «Catamaran», «Save a Drowning Man», «Assemble Puzzles», «Theoretical Stage», «First Aid», «Use of Life Vest», and the most spectacular stage «Surprise» – catamaran racing. The boys and girls were helped by Senya, the main character of the program «Safety Is Important!» and his friend, cat Waska, in solving the tasks. «This was the first time we took part in the «Wet Games» – that’s another name for the competition. Despite the fact that the children were worried, they tried to show everything they knew. We studied the rules of safe water behavior in theory, but we didn’t practice them, which is very important. After all, nothing can replace the experience that the children gain from such events,» shared her opinion Nina Chernyshenko, teacher of the Solovyovka village secondary school recreation camp.

According to 11-year-old Roman Romashin of «Sea Wolves» team, the station «Catamaran» seemed to be the most difficult for the pupil. First, the team had to put on their protective equipment, then jump onto a catamaran and navigate around a buoy. «It was not easy, I found it much easier to solve problems and puzzles», said the young participant of the Round-the-World. As Sakhalin Energy representative Maria Skokova said, safety issues are at the heart

Event organisers:
The Sakhalin Regional Branch of the All-Russian Public Organization Russian Union of Lifeguards, the State Inspectorate for Small Water Vessels of the Sakhalin Oblast Ministry of Emergency Situations' Main Department
The event was organized as part of a partnership with the Sakhalin Energy.
The event was organized as part of the partner program "Safety is Important!"

of the Company’s activities: «Over the years of the Sakhalin-2 project we have developed a unique corporate safety culture, and we willingly share our practices and experience with all interested parties. The ‘Safety is Important!’ program, which we have been implementing jointly with the Sakhalin Oblast Ministry of Emergency Situations and the regional Ministry of Education since 2005, provides an opportunity to focus on children, the most vulnerable age group to risks. In the form of a game children learn to behave correctly in various life situations, including on the water, which is especially important during the summer period.

«Children are always happy to take part in events like Round the World. This year we have new stages. For example, including the station «First Aid», where participants



demonstrated skills in cardiopulmonary resuscitation and artificial lung ventilation on a special simulator. Of course, the teams have to grow, but without mistakes there is no progress», – said the chief judge of the competition Alexander Trutnev, a teacher of the school of coal mine.

Following the results of competitions the palm of superiority at team «Keepish»,

silver prize-winners – experts of safety from «GTO», «Sea urchins» quite a little conceded them. However, the organizers of «Round-the-World» are sure that the acquired knowledge and skills were the most valuable prizes for the children, which will always remain with the young participants of the «Wet Games».

■ Pavel Ryabchikov



Eco-Weekend 2

Sakhalin Energy and Gorny Vozdukh hold Eco-Weekend Festival. Eco-Weekend is becoming an annual tradition, while having taken place for the second time on 27 August 2022.

Like in 2021, the purpose of the ecological festival is to draw the residents' attention to the urgent environmental issues of the city and the region such as biodiversity preservation, domestic waste disposal, harmonious coexistence between human and nature.

This year's festival is focused on behaviour on natural walking trails and routes, and its programme includes master classes, guided tours, a film programme, contests, and quizzes to appeal to people of all ages and interests.

The programme of acquaintance with the western slope of Bolshevik Mountain began with a tour run by Oleg Burkovskiy, Sakhalin Energy LLC Senior Specialist and ornithologist. He is well known as the author of A Journey to the world of Sakhalin birds audio guide that was first presented at a similar event in 2021. This time, instead of one planned excursion, Oleg gave two, with almost 50 people walking along the ecological trail and getting to know more about Sakhalin endemics, plants brought to the island, curative properties of flowers, herbs, lianas. The participants had a chance to hear the voices of numerous birds inhabiting the surroundings of the city.



Participants who were familiar with the island's nature took the eco-trails on their own. One could act as a guide for the nutcracker chicks and find the most interesting plants, birds, and insects on the trails, thinking about food suitable for the chicks, dangers they face, and measures to protect them from the dangers.

An interactive art object Take the Nutcracker Chick for a Walk, created especially for the festival, served as an aid in the walk. It consisted of a female nutcracker, a metal construction for collecting plastic waste, and a nest with plaster chicks designed for travelling along the eco-trails.



A large part of the programme was intended for children. Their journey along the slope began with a story about the world of birds and animals, which they first tried to depict with the Phoenix initiative group. After that they were looking for plants and animals along the trails and observing them with binoculars.

While participating in thematic master classes, the young participants became more aware of why it was important to protect the nature and what their role was. They could make an eco-bag to avoid using plastic bags for groceries, make a postcard from recycled paper or decorate a stone gift, using no plastic but only wood, paper and silk thread. More than 300 such useful and eco-friendly items were created right at the festival by the participants themselves.

The Sakhalin Regional Universal Scientific Library was to educate people visiting the eco-festival. Volunteers had arranged quizzes and puzzles on topics related to nature and care towards nature. The information turned out to be very useful, with why-questions quite interesting and answers making participants think about what else they could do to reduce human impact on the environment.

In one day, the festival visitors brought to Gorny Vozdukh almost 5 kg of used batteries. Everybody who took part in the campaign was offered an eco-bag but many people refused to take it as it was much more important for them to have an opportunity of disposing of hazardous waste in a proper way. A special container from Ecoshelf was recently installed on the lower ground of the complex to accept used batteries of any size at any time.



The highlight of the event was a film programme dedicated to the environment protection. It included six films: two professional films and three videos produced by Sakhalin residents.

Ilya Shamazov, a critic who acted as the custodian of the festival's video programme, warned the audience: "It is very often that in a film about nature, the human is neglected. This year, however, the focus is on humans. Diamonds for My Ants by Karina Vilenkina is an absolute hit of the festival. It is a touching and cheerful film about a former polar explorer who creates his own fascinating worlds while composing fairy-tales with ants as the main characters."



In 2022, the eco-fest volunteers from Sakhalin Energy, Gorny Vozdukh, the Regional Library and Ecoshelf were joined by the employees of the Russia is My History museum, volunteers from the Rodnik Ecological Centre and Sakhalin artists. The campaign saw an increase in the number of participants as well: In 2021, about 300 people took part in the festival over two days, while this year, more than 1,750 people visited the festival in a single day.

The Championship of Great Expectations

The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was celebrated in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk with the premiere of a unique theatrical performance Nivkhgu.

The Sakhalin Oblast summarized the results of the First Regional Indigenous Skills Championship in Ethnocultural Competencies. The championship, organized by the Sakhalin Regional Center of Folk Arts, the regional Agency for Human Capital Development with support from Sakhalin Energy LLC, lasted three days, from August 4 to 6.

During the Year of the Cultural Heritage of the Peoples of Russia, it became one of the key events on the island, giving everyone the opportunity to learn more about the culture of the indigenous peoples of the North. Under the guidance of masters of folk crafts the participants took a series of master classes in the competencies of «Artistic Embroidery», «Beadwork», and «Wood Carving». The ceremony of awarding the authors of the best works was preceded by the concert, crafts fair and numerous game activities.

«It's great to see young people among the winners. It shows that the original traditions of the Nivkhs, Evenks, Nanai and Uilta will

not disappear from our land, but will be carefully handed down from the elders to the new generation. This is a championship of great hopes for the revival and prosperity of traditional crafts in the region and more widely – throughout the Far East and Russia», – stressed in her welcoming speech Nonna Lavrik, Minister of Culture and Archives of the Sakhalin Oblast.

«It is said that people who care about the future cherish their traditions, which are a bridge between the past, present and future. And it seems to me that we have managed to build it. Representatives of various nations and nationalities got acquainted with the culture of indigenous peoples of Sakhalin with great interest, which contributes to the achievement of interethnic harmony. This is one of the main achievements of the championship,» said Tatyana Derivedmid, a representative of Sakhalin Energy.

■ Pavel Ryabchikov



THE WINNERS OF THE I REGIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP IN ETHNO-CULTURAL COMPETENCIES WERE:

«ARTISTIC EMBROIDERY»

First place – Irina Nam, Poronaisk district;

2nd place – Alexandra Voxina, Okha district;

3rd place – Elena Dinokova, Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinskiy district.

«BEADWORK»

1st place – Veronica Golenieva, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk district;

2nd place – Evgenia Cherkasova, district «Aleksandrovsk-Sakhalinsk district»;

3rd place – Elena Ochan, Okha district.

«WOODCARVING»

1st place – Elena Nikonova, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk district;

2nd place – Alexander Sekan, Poronaisk district;

3rd place – Alexander Voksin, Okha district.

Valentina Khalina and Evgeniya Pozdnyakova from the regional center and Alexander Belousov from Poronaisk district received special prizes «New Name».



A Celebration of Respect for Traditions

The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples was celebrated in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk with the premiere of a unique theatrical performance Nivkhgu.

Based on four Nivkh fairy tales, it took place at Mayak art residence on 9 August. Its organiser was the Sakhalin Regional Folk Art Centre backed up by the Regional Ministry of Culture and Archives and Sakhalin Energy LLC.

According to the production director Alexander Li, the performance was the result of a theatrical lab project that involved only amateur actors – for many of them it was their first stage experience. “For me, as a stage director, this is a heroic act. The cast includes my friends, acquaintances, those who responded, expressed an interest and visited our laboratory. There was no special casting, as the key point of the project was precisely the desire to show that the culture of indigenous peoples is available to everyone,” added Alexander Li.

The highlight of the performance was the audience's immersion into the authentic culture of indigenous ethnic groups. According to the stage director, it is precisely this format of performance “stuffed” with humour and ease that helps to break the barrier between fantasy and reality, and lets the audience members not only witness the story

but also empathise or play along with the actors at arm's length – whether it depicts the tough life of an orphan girl, catching fish on the river bank, or meeting a forest nymph.

The topics of everyday chores, family values, respect for nature, relationships between people penetrate all four short stories. Filled with the authentic Nivkh music and speech, charming purity of the “pattern” and ethnographic accuracy of dancing, self-explanatory scenery and

costumes, the stories captured all audience members, regardless of their nationality, since the first minutes.

“Showing the peculiarities of the ethnic group, conveying the ‘core’ of the people without distorting the facts with the storyline is no small task, but all members of the lab project accomplished the mission with flying colours. They have done tremendous work, very touching for me as a spectator. I think that such performances are a great reward in our time,” Aleksandra Khuryun, a native speaker of the Nivkh language, shared her impressions.

“It is wonderful that performances with a national twist win the hearts of Sakhalin audience. The knowledge they carry brings together all ethnic minorities and helps the culture of indigenous peoples to exist and develop,” says Elena Kozachenko, Lead Consultant, Sakhalin Oblast Government's Indigenous Peoples Department.

“It is symbolic that this performance shown with great cordiality and warm-heartedness, took place precisely on the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples. Bringing together adults and children, folk customs and modern theatre, the performance has become an unforgettable gift for each one of today's guests – a true celebration of respect for traditions,” said Natalia Gonchar, Sakhalin Energy's representative.

■ Marina Semitko



“To follow the thoughts of a great man is a most entertaining science”

Of course, it is impossible to cover everything related to Chekhov. He is so insightful, precise, witty, observant, and honest. It was he who gave us the opportunity to see, understand, and perhaps change ourselves, as sometimes we hardly notice what we are used to, both in positive and negative ways. Anton Chekhov is like both a doctor and medicine to us – maybe bitter or not too pleasant, yet effective. And if we are on the same side as our doctor, especially one like Chekhov, we are sure to recover.

CHEKHOV'S MOST NOT-LIKE-CHEKHOV BOOK

The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin surprises from the first page. It is neither a fiction, nor entertaining travel diary, but a serious research work. “It will be boring and special; it will consist of only numbers”, wrote Chekhov.

But it is not boring at all; it is full of talent, science, real-life experiences, and pain. It has become a historical document. Although the book was written 127 years ago, it still remains an encyclopaedia of Sakhalin. If you want to know something about the history of settlements, people, or events that took place on the island before 1890, you can find a brief and meaningful insight in this book. Amazingly, many works of historians eventually become outdated and need to be corrected, while Chekhov was so scrupulous in his presentation that The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin remains perhaps the most reliable source of information.

It is interesting that the first research work about Sakhalin – a completely analytical and objective work – is by the writer, who at that time was already famous as a master of short stories, the author of witty humorous tales and successful plays, that is, completely fictional works. And it is perfect in terms of style and language!

When I read The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin for the first time, I wondered if the combination of travel notes, official statistics, facts, events, names, and historical digressions may be considered literature in the usual sense. Perhaps this is why so many people know about this book, but so few read it. The book is not easy, but it is essential for understanding Chekhov as a Person and Writer. People often start to read this book but then put it aside, feeling that this is a “different” kind of Chekhov. But it is by real Chekhov – true and sincere. This is a book written by the brilliant master, decent and sensitive person, conscientious and honest citizen. This work is very special not only to Anton Chekhov, but to Russian literature as a whole.

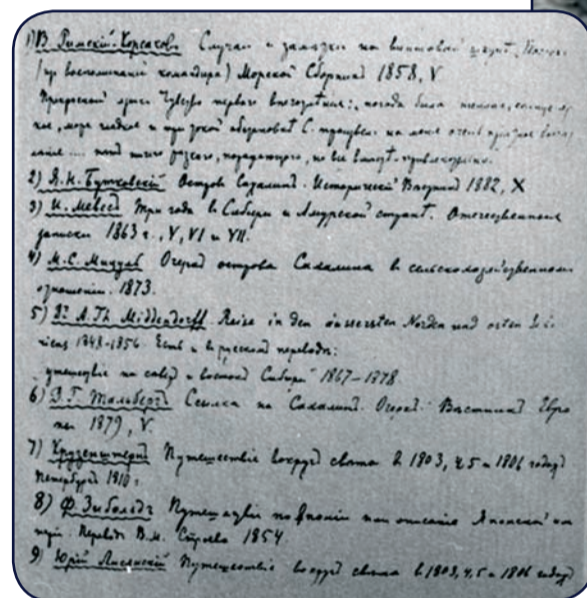
I’m sure, not only I have realised that adjectives are out of favour with Chekhov, although they naturally occur in Chekhov’s language, and they are brilliantly precise and appropriate. But his key words are nouns, verbs, and adverbs. Chekhov’s favourite parts of speech express the most important categories: essence and action. Chekhov’s style – almost telegraphically laconic and at the same time so artistically brilliant – surprised many Russian writers.

ROAD TO ONESELF

Both Chekhov’s contemporaries and descendants couldn’t help but wonder why he went to Sakhalin. There are several versions of various credibility. According to one of them, he could not work things out with Lydia (Lika) Mizinova or Lydia Avilova and escaped from the pressure of love. Another version is more dramatic: his beloved brother Nikolay died ten months before Chekhov’s departure. These events could have pushed Anton Chekhov to more decisive actions and preparations, but he had planned his journey long before the death of his brother and love turmoil.

It is 1890, Chekhov is 30 years old. He does not know that he has not much time to live (only 14 years). But he already knows that he is terminally ill. He has a well-earned reputation as a good doctor and one of the best Russian writers. He has a large family, a wide circle of friends and acquaintances, a busy life, a lot of work. He is really popular. Readers look forward to his new works. He got awarded the Pushkin Prize...

Chekhov decides to hit the road. The route he has chosen is incomprehensible to many people but meaningful to him. Did he go FOR...? Did he go FROM...? Did he go TO...? Perhaps, the answers can be quite simple, but they can hardly be attributed to everyday problems. **FOR** real action and



First page of the list of books compiled by Chekhov in preparation for his trip to Sakhalin

FOR personal experience – that’s what was important. **FROM** his former self. **TO** his new self – a mature person who has understood a lot and decided something for himself.

These are only my assumptions, but it seems to me that they are close to the truth, even though this formula looks so simple. Let’s remember his famous words: “Man will only become better when you make him see what he is like.” In fact, this became his core principle in literature. Anton Chekhov started with satirical works in which he ridiculed hypocrisy, stupidity, and ignorance. Then he hit new grounds: what we really are, what we live for. We are so often stupid and lazy, we want a lot of things, but do so little. We wish our problems could resolve themselves, and are not ready to lift a finger. But Chekhov said: “Go and go up the ladder which is called civilization, progress, culture – go, I sincerely recommend, but where to go? Really, I don’t know, but really it is worth living for the sake of that ladder.”

A MAN WITH THE BLOOD OF A WANDERER IN HIS VEINS

Chekhov’s journey to Sakhalin took 232 days from April to December 1890, including 94 days on the island (every day was important to Chekhov, so he emphasised: three months and two days). Thousands of kilometres, all modes of transport available in those days – railway, river boats, boat ferries, stream crossings, horse-drawn vehicles, ships, on foot. Everything was at his own expense.



Before the trip to Sakhalin, 1890

THINKING OUT LOUD

When travelling across Russia, Chekhov saw many things and shared his impressions in essays (From Siberia) and letters from the road. Residents of every Russian settlement – city, town, or village – eagerly looked for references to them in Chekhov’s lines. Till this day, some feel pleased with Chekhov’s words, while others feel offended. Indeed, the pen is mightier than sword...

Chekhov’s sincerity and frankness in this book still haunt many “local patriots” who feel hurt by the “diagnoses” by the writer and doctor. In excruciating pain, he captures every symptom he has noticed, every neglect that needs to be treated and can be “cured”.

Chekhov did not tour Russia to see the hackneyed sights. He travelled across his country to get to know and understand it better, and to test himself. He travelled as a man who wanted to do good for his great homeland, suffering from its disorders and neglects, as well as from degrading humility and grotesque indifference of people.

PREPARATION FOR THE JOURNEY

There is one more argument against the versions that attribute Chekhov’s journey to domestic problems: he began to make preparations in 1889. I found almost all the books and publications from Chekhov’s first reading list (65 items!) in electronic national libraries. Data on the penitentiary system, works on geology, anthropology, ethnography, zoology, botany, hydrography, history of geographical discoveries, development of Sakhalin, and others. The coverage is incredible. I tried to dive into these publications and found them quite difficult to read (very specific pieces of literature). Chekhov conscientiously and carefully studied all of them while preparing for the journey. Lidia Mizinova and Chekhov’s sister Maria sent requests, visited libraries, and made extracts from various sources for Chekhov. When reading The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin, you can see how much information he absorbed to get insight into the history of the island’s development and specifics.

LAST CHAPTER

Turning over the last page of The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin, you expect to see the next one, but... The story seems to cut off abruptly. Anton Chekhov ends the book with a list of medications available on Sakhalin, and mentions that convict women who have given birth to children get better conditions. It looks like there’s going to be a next chapter, but there isn’t one. Why?

In Soviet times, two works about Chekhov’s travel – From Siberia and The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin – were often published in a single volume. From Siberia is a collection of essays on the journey to the island. And The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin continues Chekhov’s story. It describes his route from Nikolaevsk-on-Amur: a steamer to Alexandrovsk-Sakhalinsky, people who met him, and the like.

We get to Sakhalin together with Chekhov... We travel along the north of the island with him. Then we go to the south, to Korsakov Post. He stayed there for a month working and waiting for departure... But you won’t

find his departure in the book! Chekhov is a master of words – not only in terms of style and plot but also in terms of accuracy in reflecting reality. He did not leave Sakhalin in his fundamentally important book! He described neither his departure from Korsakov Post on the Petersburg, a steamship of the Volunteer Fleet, nor his return to Russia through the Asian seas and the Indian Ocean. He mentioned nothing about passing through the Suez Canal, a new project of world importance, or arriving in Odessa where he unloaded 21 pieces of luggage with travel records and quick mongooses. Neither did he mention his rail road trip to Moscow. Chekhov was so shocked by Sakhalin, that he decided not to neutralise his feelings.

“Even on the last page, the author remains connected to the circle of Sakhalin problems and miseries,” – this is not my interpretation of the end of the book, it belongs to Igor Sukhikh, a literary critic. What a powerful image! This is the correct answer to the question. I find it very compelling. Chekhov, who finished every work with high precision, put a special ellipsis in The Island: A Journey to Sakhalin. He had been working on the book for five years before it was published as a separate edition, so this ellipsis was not a coincidence.

This means that not only did not he leave the island, but he “stayed” and remained connected to it. His deeds after the return from this amazing Eastern (as he called it) journey prove: Sakhalin remained with him and he remained with Sakhalin. He took care of schools and libraries, showed interest in fates of the people he had met on his long journey, helped them. It is no coincidence that the phrase “everything is Sakhalined up”, which gave the name to the column, comes from Chekhov.

“How wrong you were when you told me not to go to Sakhalin! I have <...> tons of plans and all sorts of things. What a wimp would I be now if I were sitting at home. Before the journey, The Kreutzer Sonata was a big event to me, but now it seems ridiculous and stupid. Either the journey made me more mature, or I went crazy – only God knows,” wrote Chekhov.

KORSAKOV DINNER PARTY

"The post offers a decent view from the sea towards the town, which does not look Siberian, but is of some peculiar type that I cannot put my finger on; it was founded almost 40 years ago, when Japanese houses and barns were scattered around the southern shore, and the close proximity of Japanese buildings may well have influenced its appearance and given it certain special features," wrote Chekhov.

In Korsakov Post, Anton Chekhov was met by Ippolit Bely, the Commander of Korsakov District. After getting acquainted with the post, Chekhov came to the house of Stepan Feldman, Secretary of the Police Department, where he was to stay.

"I heard loud voices and bursts of laughter. Brightly lit windows glowed in the darkness. It seemed like I was approaching a provincial club on an autumn evening... I climbed the old, creaking stairs... and entered the house. In the parlour, through the fog and tobacco smoke usually found in taverns and damp premises, I saw military men and officials moving... All of them treated my appearance with such complacency that they gave the impression they had known me for a long time. They showed me to the table..."

Obviously, they waited for Chekhov and prepared. After the Korsakov party, Chekhov went to his room at two o'clock in the morning and could not sleep for a long time. His neighbour, Captain K., knocked on the wall and said: "I get the Nedelya newspaper. Would you like to have a look?" Quite a vivid picture: exhausted Chekhov and such a sincere and caring night offer to the metropolitan writer from a progressive provincial...

There is a wonderful study by Mikhail Vysokov, our famous historian. Relying on a funny phrase from Chekhov's notebook, a professor's opinion: "not Shakespeare, but the commentaries on him what matters most", Vysokov did a huge and very painstaking work. He prepared and published meaningful commentaries to Chekhov's Sakhalin Island in as much detail as possible. They contain a huge amount of useful, amazing, and interesting information (by the way, the commentaries volume is two and a half times thicker than the book itself). There is, in particular, an explanation about the Nedelya newspaper. It turns out that it published very positive analytical reviews of Chekhov's works. This was a liberal newspaper. It is possible that the publishers considered Anton Chekhov their supporter...

MYSTERIOUS STORY

Amazingly, there are only two photographs known with Chekhov on Sakhalin. But how nice it is that these two reliable photos were taken in Korsakov post! Both famous shots were taken by Alexey von Friken during a picnic at the Japanese consulate.

"During my visit, orders of Anna and Stanislav, both of the third degree, were delivered for Kuze and Suzuki. In full dress, Mr. Bely, Major S., and Mr. F., Secretary of the Police Department, ceremoniously departed for Kusun Kotan to present the Orders. I joined them," Chekhov wrote.

So Korsakov Port hosted social events of international importance. Why there are no other Sakhalin photos of Chekhov is a mystery.

PLACE CLOSEST TO THE OCEAN

When relatives and friends saw off Anton Chekhov at the Yaroslavsky railway station in Moscow, they solemnly presented him with cognac in a travel flask and made him promise that he would drink it only on the ocean shore.

Certainly, Chekhov could not see the ocean shore on Sakhalin. Then he delivered on the promise to his friends in the place closest to the Pacific Ocean – in Korsakov

District. In mid-September, A. Chekhov went to the shore of the Sea of Okhotsk with I. Bely, the Commander of the District.

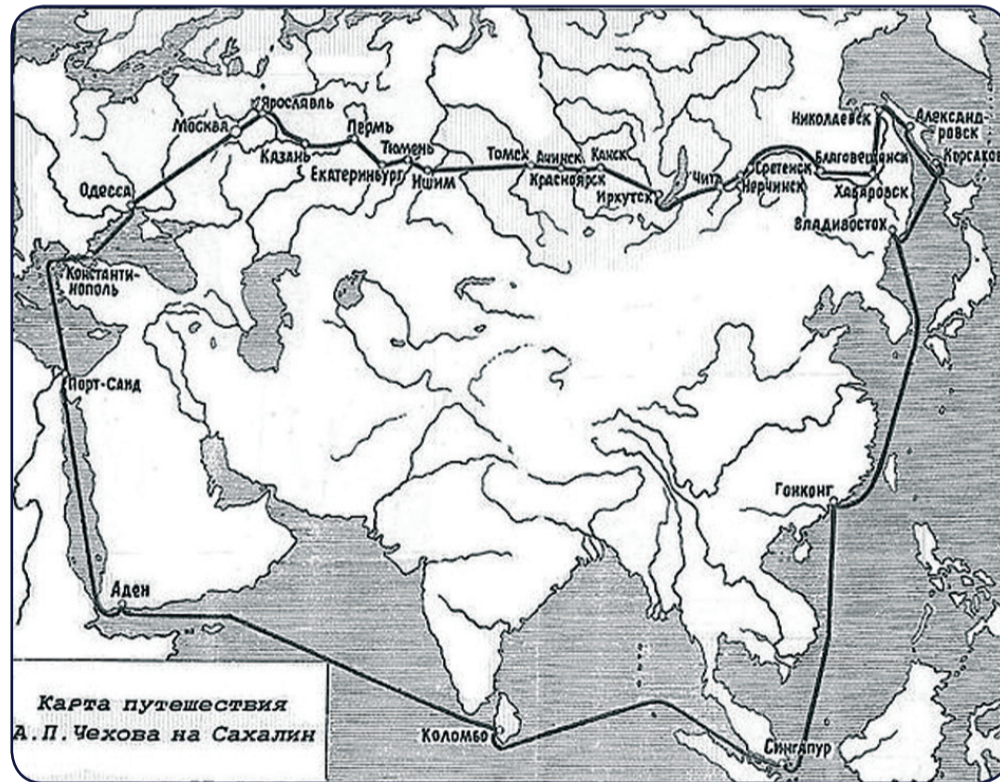
Imagine how much endurance it took! The Moscow compliment to Sakhalin survived so many wagons, potholes, crossings, and even a short sea voyage. Chekhov experienced so many sad moments on the island, had so many sorrowful reflections about the nature of evil and good, but he kept his word.

THE LEGEND ABOUT LEGEND

Chekhov's book has some references to outstanding Sakhalin residents associated with Korsakov District. He could not meet Shishmarev, but still devoted a few lines to him. *"I am sorry I did not meet the oldest Sakhalin officer, Junior Captain Shishmarev. At his age and as an old inhabitant, he could have beaten old Mikryukov from Palevo. He died several months before my arrival, so I only saw the house where he had lived."*

He settled on Sakhalin in prehistoric times when there was no penal servitude, so long ago that a legend was born concerning the origin of Sakhalin. In this legend, the officer's name is closely connected with a geological cataclysm. Once upon a time, far back in the past, Sakhalin did not exist. Suddenly a submerged cliff rose above sea level, and on the cliff there sat two creatures – a sea lion and Junior Captain Shishmarev."

Shishmarev died in Korsakov Post and was buried there (the location of his grave is not known). In Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, there is a small monument to this legendary man – the first Commander of Russian Tikhmenevsky Post (present-day Poronaysk) in the park of the regional library.

**INSCRUTABLE WAYS**

I no longer get surprised at coincidences, incredible interweaving of human destinies, stories, unity and disunity of time and space – there is nothing accidental here.

Let me give an example. Chekhov was involved in an unusual connection with the name of a man he had never met. It is a mystery, isn't it? A few years ago, the airport in the capital of the island was called Khomutovo. It has been renamed to Anton Chekhov Airport. On the island, Chekhov really wanted to meet Vasily Khomutov. He was a resident of Korsakov District, served as a military man in Muravyevsky Post on Busse, and later, together with his brother, resigned and became a free settler (as they were called then). The brothers made a name for themselves as hunters. The meeting did not happen, and Chekhov wrote with displeasure: *"They say that Khomutov is 'roaming around somewhere', and supposedly*



Korsakov Post. *"The new wooden buildings are glossy and gleaming in the sun, the church is white, of old, simple and therefore beautiful architecture..."* (A. Chekhov)

lives in Muravyevsky Post. He is rarely seen. He hunts sable and catches sturgeon in Busse Bay."

AFTERWORD TO THE JOURNEY

Chekhov returned to Moscow on 8 December 1890. The next day he wrote a letter to Alexey Suvorin. Its lines are still touching, even though they were written more than 130 years ago.

"God's world is good. Only one thing isn't good: ourselves. How little justice and humility we have, how poor is our conception of patriotism! A drunken, bedraggled, good-for-

census in 1897 and received a medal for his inputs. Notably, Anton Chekhov personally initiated and conducted his own census on Sakhalin seven years before the national one. He was able to think structurally and, being a doctor, clearly identify and diagnose the pain points of society, outline ways to improve the situation, raise awareness...

He wrote amazing letters, including to his older brothers, realising that they were ruining their talent and lives. Chekhov realised that he could help, but he suffered for even the people closest to him followed the path of least resistance to their weaknesses and circumstances. Please read his letters. His advice is valuable for all ages. He wrote: *"If you want to have little time, do nothing."*

Chekhov's ability to live up to his convictions seems incredible to me. He understood the importance of what he was doing, was aware of his value in the world. Every year at the end of December, he used to get his paperwork for the past year in order – not only his works, but also financial papers. He sorted out and filed his letters by date and addressee. He realised that his words and deeds mattered. In the 1980s, a 30-volume collection of Chekhov's works was published: 16 volumes of fiction and 14 volumes of letters. In a sense, his letters are even more interesting to me. They are more emotional and free, full of Chekhov's humour which is always imaginative and precise.

THINKING OUT LOUD

Anton Chekhov is so diverse but he always remains a person of integrity! We are lucky to have him... And Sakhalin residents should always be respectful and grateful to him for his extraordinary courage and historically significant journey to our island.

Chekhov is our beacon: *"It is necessary to develop conscience and clarity of mind in human beings."* I think he can help us again if we want to preserve our moral health, our sense of the Russian word, and reflect on why living in Russia has always been hard. Not every nation and not every individual are able to see, understand, and know many things, live through, continue to wonder, often despair and grieve, admire many things, and never cease to love and be honest. Together with Anton Chekhov, let's look at our country with loving eyes, not blinded by anything. Let's seek the truth in order to... help. Honesty and love save lives, at least they should.

■ Prepared by Elena Gurshal

Game Fosters Development

The last, sixth session of the summer leisure Happy Holidays programme is over! The team of pros led by the Eureka Institute for Educational Policy Issues has managed to create a space for children's transformation. After all, according to Alexander Adamsky, Academic Advisor, Eureka Institute, game fosters development. What exactly did the kids do during workshop sessions and how did the workshop leaders manage to engage them and catch their interest? Here are the first-hand stories of the "peer" adults who are not looking for easy solutions and ready to grow and develop along with children, whatever the background.

"FORCING A KID INTO AN ACTIVITY IS AN UNREALISTIC IDEA"

Elena Mazurina, Paper Workshop (Art Therapist, Psychologist)

"We did paper engineering, drawing and all kinds of crafting, so our workshop was chosen by the boys and girls who enjoy handicraft and using their imagination. With the kids in the workshop, I inquired what they were interested in and chose activities that would catch their attention and that they were more likely to succeed at. Forcing a kid into any activity is an unrealistic idea. One needs to try and create a situation of trial and error and make kids put in a little more effort than usual. I always try to take kids beyond what they are used to. During the session, the children mastered relevant tools and created a 3D book with three or four illustrations. As a workshop leader, I want them to come up with something of their own. However, even trend-setting children borrow techniques and ideas seen somewhere. And that's fine."

KIDS' POINT OF VIEW

Alina, second zone (children aged 9–12):

"I loved everything we did in this workshop – the scrapbooks in particular. These are the albums that tell a story through images, photos, records, newspaper clippings and other things of value to a person. I also enjoyed a relaxed atmosphere. Our leader Lena has made it very comfortable."



Making things with the counselors (first site)

"GAME HELPS ME GROW"

Sergei Tsvetkov, Contemporary Art Workshop (Teacher of the Russian Language & Literature, Krasnoyarsk)

"For many years I have been coming up with various performances, art objects and installations for the Museum Night in my city, and in general I have been engaged in the art community of Krasnoyarsk. Here, in the camp, I kicked off my workshops with modernism and impressionism. I held a kind of lecture on the history of art, and then we talked. Our communication soon turned into brainstorming. We began to come up with some of our own art objects dedicated to issues that matter to teenagers. My task was to listen carefully to the kids and ask the right questions in a way that helps them to "perfect" the idea. During the second week of the session, having been immersed in the history of the 20th century modernism, we began to create art objects. Some of the kids' ideas even surprised me. Once we were talking about surrealism, and suddenly girls took a spoon and tried it on like it was a tie. I said: "There is a bow (butterfly) tie, and you got a spoon tie?" Some of them replied: "No, it's a pupa tie!" So we gradually got to the caterpillar tie, and as a result we got a stunning triptych of ties: a caterpillar tie, a pupa tie and the most beautiful bow (butterfly) tie. These works are pure art! What helps me grow? I have a hefty background, but thanks to Building a Civilisation game that lasts throughout the camp session, I do not use it – on the contrary, I come up with something new here and now. That's why game helps

2022 HAPPY HOLIDAYS: STATS

- from 31 May to 19 August: six sessions, two weeks each from the fourth session on:
- three simultaneous zones for children 6.5 to 16 years old
- 627 participants in total
- 50+ various workshops
- 23 workshop leaders, including 17 experts from other regions of Russia

me grow! And it's great when kids feel that we hear them. And they are happy about that."

KIDS' POINT OF VIEW

Tatiana, third zone (children aged 13–16):

"I've chosen this workshop because I knew Sergei from last year. Here, we created objects of contemporary art, "fuelled" our imagination and learnt a lot about art in general. I came up with my own art object – Malevich's iPad. This is a parody of his Black Square."



Solving an engineering problem (third site)

"KIDS ARE MOTIVATED BY PEERS AND PARENTS"

Valeria Semenova, Media Workshop (Media Educator, Philology Student)

"We were engaged in data analysis, editing, art video and animation which encompassed the knowledge about the composition in a cartoon and any other film, stop-motion (puppet animation) and other techniques. For the first couple of days, we obtained insights into Telegram channel mechanisms and simulated the work of an editorial office, and then practised the acquired skills. I never provide ready-made solutions, instead, kids generate ideas on their own. I often think about what motivates them. In my opinion, for the majority of kids, it is peer and parental validation, and validation in general. And also – the opportunity to dive into the adult world and be useful."

KIDS' POINT OF VIEW

Ksenia, second zone (children aged 9–12):

"I've been choosing the media workshop every session. I enjoyed shooting videos according to my own script, coming up with new headings and presenting our media products at the end of the camp session. The kids, counsellors and workshop leaders from other units came to us, and by their reaction, I could see how well we had done."

"WE ALWAYS WORK BASED ON KIDS' IDEAS"

Max Antipov, Event Agency Workshop (Director, Creative Producer & MC)

"My workshop is designed for those who want to learn how to organise and hold events. My "staff" is aged 12



Defending the Tribe's Legend (third site)

to 15. At the end of the first week of the fifth session, we successfully implemented the first kid project: Pyjamas Party. In four days, we came up with a concept of the venue despite limited resources, a list of entertainments and a promo – all from scratch. The children wrote the script, compiled an educational and entertaining programme. I always work based on kids' ideas. My workshop nurtures (builds) communication, production, public speaking, and creative development skills. We do everything from scratch, and it's very exciting!"

KIDS' POINT OF VIEW

Pavel, third zone (children aged 13–16)

"The name of the workshop – Event Agency – piqued my interest. I did not immediately realise what we would do, but when I came to the first meeting with Max, I found out that we would organise various events. In this whole process, I was personally intrigued by the technical side of the process: I was responsible for the equipment, sound and lights."



Presentation of an individual project (third site)

"KIDS MUST NOT KNOW THAT I SPEAK RUSSIAN"

Evgeny Filatov (LaoShi), Chinese Language Workshop (Chinese Language Teacher)

"I did all sorts of creative classes, from calligraphy to craft making, all in Chinese. Chinese is not at all like Russian, so it is almost impossible to start teaching it to kids only through speech. It gets much easier through images, because it is the language of hieroglyphs. I could feel how much the children were looking forward to my workshops. They were happy when I came, hurried to say hello in Chinese and were always involved in the process. But there is one condition: they must not know that I speak Russian, otherwise the whole concept of multilingualism collapses."

KIDS' POINT OF VIEW

Mark, first zone (children aged 6–8):

"When the traveller LaoShi came to us, we played different games and read hieroglyphs. My favourite is the one that resembles a beetle. The traveller does not speak Russian at all, as doesn't Mr. George from the English Language Workshop. By the way, we also speak Chinese and English, because the workshop leaders do not know our language"

■ Prepared by Tatiana Voloshko,

Media Master of the Autonomous Educational Center "Evrika

