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The memories are like pattering, incessant rain, the memories are like never-ending icy snowflakes

Military parades held under the Banner of Victory on the Red Square in Moscow and other Russian cities commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War. The annual event had to be postponed to avoid any health risks for the attendees, especially the veterans. Anna Beskrovnaya, one of the few remaining witnesses of the war, shared her memories with Vesti.

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[congratulations](#)

Happy Day of Family, Love, and Faithfulness!

DEAR COLLEAGUES,

We cordially congratulate you on the Day of Family, Love, and Faithfulness, which is celebrated in our country on 8 July! Among the national holidays, this is one of the most heartfelt, endowed with unifying power and dear to everyone.

Family is the most important thing in our lives. Thanks to it, from our birth we learn to care for the near and dear ones and support each other. Our loved ones give us strength to overcome hardships, with them we share our joys and sorrows. It is in the family circle that

we absorb cultural traditions and get familiar with moral values.

Faithfulness and devotion to our families manifest themselves not only at home – our creative labour is not only a reliable support for our hearths and homes but it contributes to the prosperity of our whole country. In the difficult times of the pandemic, carrying our duty at remote assets, we may be separated from our families for a long time. Still, we always know that at home we are loved, awaited, and supported in time of trouble.

It is no coincidence that a camomile has

become the symbol of this holiday in our country. It is the flower of purity, tenderness, and tenacity at the same time. These qualities help us to overcome inevitable difficulties with dignity, preserve peace at home, keep love and faith.

We cordially wish health, peace, and understanding to all families! Let you all live a happy and joyful life at home with the near and dear ones – your family – always beside you!

■ Editorial staff of the Sakhalin Energy Vesti News Bulletin

About 10,000 employees and contractors took part in the Sakhalin Energy's Summer Safety Day

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Subsoil Resources Remain Available



One of the key elements of Sakhalin-2 success is Russia's first Production Sharing Agreement (PSA), entered between Sakhalin Energy and the Russian Federation in 1994. The PSA specified the procedure for development of Piltun-Astokhskoye and Lunskoye oil and gas fields in the Sea of Okhotsk. The development of the fields is carried out under Subsurface Resource Use Licences which have been renewed this year for the first time in company's history. Roman Dashkov, Chief Executive Officer, communicated about successful completion of the key stages of this extensive process.

opportunity to address potential comments of the Federal Agency for Mineral Resources (Rosnedra) – government authority in charge of licenses' renewal.

Extension of each of the two licenses required submission of separate application packages inducing an appreciable quantity of various documentation. In particular, we have prepared justifications, executive summaries on implementing license conditions, confirmation of non-indebtedness to tax authorities and funds of geological information. In order to confirm the transmission of data accumulated in the course of fields' development, we established communication and conducted the long joint work with three geological funds*. Preparatory activities have been eventually completed ahead of the approved schedule and application packages were accepted by the Rosnedra 1.5 months earlier than planned – in mid-April 2020.

As early as June, amendments to the current licences on extension of their terms have been signed and submitted

for official registration. As the result of sound planning and timely completion of all stages, the terms of the licenses have been extended for five years until 19 May 2026. In parallel with the above work we have achieved another successful result – renewal of licenses for disposal of drilling waste which are dependent on the main licenses.

One of the promising avenues is discussing with the Russian Party the potential extension of the PSA beyond 2041. Although it will occur in 20 years, we have already started this dialogue and see that our initiative was well received.

Renewal of the licenses is an important milestone of the Sakhalin-2 project, illustrating a willingness of the Russian Party to promote project's further implementation. This accomplishment will boost confidence of the shareholders and lenders in sustainability and progressive realisation of the company's plans.

Having completed the first extension, we can prepare for the next. Under the PSA, with notification of the Russian Party the company can apply for five-year extension of the licenses and in the course of the next renewal process it will obtain the permit to use the subsoil resources for another five years – until 2031. Successful completion of the first extension process will allow us to use the gained experience for effective organisation of the future work.

One of the promising avenues is discussing with the Russian Party the potential extension of the PSA beyond 2041. Although it will occur in 20 years, we have already started this dialogue and see that our initiative was well received by the Russian Party.

As to the future of Sakhalin Energy, it was historically tied to the long-term production forecasts focused on development of the proven reserves of Lunskoye and Piltun-Astokhskoye fields. At present, in view of the growth potential, the company is considering options of developing the additional promising hydrocarbon sources from the own license areas (deposits predominantly located below the developed ones), as well as using the external sources of hydrocarbons to be fed in the infrastructure of the project.

Perhaps not everyone knows that the existing Reservoir Management Plan provides for the calculation of production parameters of Piltun-Astokhskoye field covering the period until 2101.

■ By Marina Semitko

* The list of funds of geological information with which Sakhalin Energy is engaging, includes Rosgeofund in Moscow, its regional representation in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk and offshore branch in Gelendzhik.

Huge Window of Opportunity

learning

Sakhalin State University held an Open House Day that was attended by the governor Valery Limarenko, top university officials, Sakhalin government officials, leading companies and high school graduates and their parents. It was the first event of this kind to be broadcast online.

The discussion was mainly devoted to the educational initiative proposed by the Oblast Government. This year Sakhalin State University plans to launch a regional double-diploma programme. This programme will enable Sakhalin State University students enrolled under the federal quota to take one more educational programme with one of the leading Russian universities. Discussions are ongoing with Lomonosov Moscow State University (MSU), Saint-Petersburg State University, Russian University of Transport, Saint-Petersburg State University of Aerospace Engineering, Saint-Petersburg Architectural and Civil Engineering University and others. There are over ten potential partners.

The initiative was proposed by the governor of the region Valery Limarenko. The key goal is to develop professionals in highly demanded areas and provide them work with local employers in Sakhalin Oblast.

"The idea here is to encourage our kids to stay on our islands. If they study at two universities and graduate with two diplomas, during their education we will be able to engage with the key employers operating here on the islands. These are the companies working in oil and gas production, coal, fishing, energy projects, and those engaged in municipal and government processes. So, in the end we will be able to develop local talent instead of brining specialists from the mainland," said the governor about the goals of the initiative.

The main focus will be on the IT, bioinformatics, urban studies, oil and gas and other high potential areas that were selected by the government in close

cooperation with the leading employers of the region, including Sakhalin Energy.

"We have talked in detail on multiple occasions about how to improve the level of and demand for graduates of Sakhalin universities and colleges, and now many of the future students might not even understand all the meaning of this very serious step that is being done for them and is opening a huge window of opportunity. With several diplomas, our Sakhalin graduates will be in high demand with international projects and at the international market," Sakhalin Energy's CEO Roman Dashkov said.

"And the key is not in the fact of studying at leading universities, but rather in the content of academic programmes. That is why we need the study programmes to include practical skills development, so that upon graduation young professionals not only possess a good theoretical background, but also have sound practical capabilities. We would also like to see the study areas, that have proven highly demanded with the business, integrated in the general education system. The key area is production technology linked with IT," he added.

Sakhalin Energy's CEO said that the company already employs about 400 Sakhalin State University graduates. Sakhalin Energy also has a number of programmes to train, support and facilitate employment of young people from the island, including grants for high school graduates, internships, traineeship, and graduates development.

■ By Pavel Rabchikov

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LNG: 2020 Turnaround Campaign

Due to the COVID-19-related restrictions, our lives have changed, as did business processes across all company functions and production assets. In addition to core activities, they had to build strong barriers to prevent the disease from spreading and simultaneously prepare for the turnaround campaign.

The team has passed this test with flying colours, with the integrated gas assets turnaround campaign commencing strictly on schedule. This year, the LNG plant expects to carry out a large maintenance scope, including two elements that have not been done up to day, neither in Russia nor globally. These elements are 2K-1420 axial compressor modifications and 2C-1351 carbon mercury adsorbent replacement.

The idea to develop a new compressor design was born in 2002. “It was custom manufactured for the company and is unmatched in terms of size and capacity”, points out Alexey Soshnikov, Head of LNG Rotating Equipment. The compressor was installed at the LNG plant in 2006. It was started up following successful testing and commissioning. Then, in 2009, the plant commenced LNG production.”

By the way, it would hardly be an exaggeration to say that this compressor plays a pivotal role in the liquefaction cycle. Here is why: a colossal heat transfer between the natural gas and the refrigerant takes place as part of the cycle, resulting in the gas getting refrigerated and liquefied. The axial

compressor is used to move large amounts of highly pressurised natural gas.

The compressor is an intricate piece of machinery and, just like any industrial or household equipment, sooner or later it needs to be upgraded. Several years ago, company experts, together with the OEM and Shell started the search for possible ways to improve its performance. Another objective was to reduce the likelihood of trips and unplanned shutdowns.

The OEM proposed a number of modifications, including stiffening of the blade carrier and vane guides. Once they had been implemented, the focus was shifted to software, including vane guide and LP bypass valve control logic.

The search for possible upgrade options continued. In 2018, the experts suggested that the design should be radically modified by removing vane guides and permanently fixing the vanes in a certain position. This is what will be done during this year’s turnaround campaign. The modification should improve compressor performance and completely eliminate the risk of failure.

There is another unique scope element to be completed this summer. “We will replace the mercury adsorbent. This is something we have never done before”, says Andrey Saytiev, Senior Maintenance Coordinator.

Mercury can be found in crude oil and gas collected at the well-head. It contaminates natural gas. Moreover, the presence of mercury can result in severely corroded aluminium tube bundles and other equipment contained within cryogenic heat exchangers used for LNG production.

Various non-regenerative adsorbent types are usually used to remove mercury. Our LNG plant utilised sulphur-impregnated carbon. By the way, used carbon adsorbent containing small traces of mercury (in the form of HgS, a naturally occurring mineral known as cinnabar) has virtually no impact on human health.

“The adsorbent is sensitive to ambient air; this is why it is loaded and unloaded in a nitrogen atmosphere. The used carbon is a pyrophoric substance. Since safety is a top priority for our company, we have mobilised an experienced specialty contractor to do this job for us”, points out Andrey Sharipov, Head of QHSSEE at the Prigorodnoye production complex.



Axial compressor modification

In addition to adsorbent replacement, vessel internal inspection will take place. The plant inspectors will check the vessel’s condition and put together a maintenance plan.

Completing the turnaround scope in its entirety will ensure safe, reliable and effective LNG plant operations going forward.

■ By Alyona Olovyanishnikova

Powerful Support

Booster Station No. 2 (BS2) is part of the Sakhalin-2 integrated gas production chain, but it stands alone in the middle of our Trans-Sakhalin pipeline system, between the northern facilities of Sakhalin Energy and the Prigorodnoye production complex in the south of the island. During the company’s comprehensive shutdown of 2020, the equipment including special heat exchangers, gas air-cooling units, will be inspected at the station for the first time. Alexander Tsoi, BS2 Manager, will tell us about this in detail.

— The main function of BS2 is to increase the throughput capacity of the main oil and gas pipelines during the transportation of hydrocarbons from the north to the south of the island. The station includes booster oil pumps, gas pumping units, and auxiliary equipment.

According to the approved maintenance plans, an internal inspection of the heat-exchange sections of one of the gas air-cooling units and inspection of 30-inch check valves and vessels will take place this year. This work will be carried out for the first time in the entire history of the production facility operation since 2009 (the year when the station was connected to the Trans-Sakhalin pipeline system, and full-scale production of hydrocarbons under Sakhalin-2 project began — Editor’s note). In addition, we will carry out routine maintenance and minor repairs of gas pumping units with the support of contracting specialists.

The fact that we are going to conduct a number of operations for the first time ever makes this shutdown unique to a certain degree and promises us new experience. We will have a good opportunity to test our prepara-

tion methods in practice and to evaluate the technology of maintenance works. Next year, we will take into account the lessons learnt and make another step towards improving the process of work preparation for scheduled shutdowns.

- BS2 is located 295km south of OPF (along the pipeline), approximately 1 km to the north of the settlement of Gastello and 20 km to the south-west of Poronaysk.
- One of the biggest achievements in 2020 which the station is rightly proud of is that it has been operating during 4,000 days without a single incident with loss of working time.

A standard preparation process is applied to all maintenance operations, including new ones. We know in advance what tasks we will be engaged in, since the scope of work for each year is formed based on various long-term planned activities. In addition to the scheduled activities, we perform the necessary newly identified repair work. Detailed preparation for each scheduled



Booster Station No. 2

shutdown begins one to two years before the actual start of work. As a rule, we begin with developing a methodology, study the documentation on operation of the equipment under question and, based on that, create additional instructions, order spare parts necessary for the planned repair work, and discuss in detail the method and scope of work with the Engineering and Maintenance Department of the company. Even though we will perform the work for the first time, it will not present any particular difficulty, because our specialists have a wealth of experience, plus we can count on the expertise of professionals from other production facilities. Besides, our engineers are ready to provide support whenever we need it. At the same time, there is certain specific work related to the equipment which we cannot carry out on our own. For this reason, we are inviting single-discipline specialists to the facility.

Since our production facilities have a sterile status, and we must counteract the penetration of the virus, all station personnel (including employees of contracting organisations who have not previously stayed at the facility) have been switched to rotational shift work. Now we have no direct contact with the outside world and carry out the work in full compliance with anti-epidemic measures. In this regard, we focus on on-line support. When carrying out technical work, we will receive consulting assistance from specially assigned engineers and relevant contractor specialists. We were set a large number of assignments. Happily, the most difficult of them — planning and preparation — are behind us. Now it is important to implement the plans, acting responsibly and safely, working as one team in coordination with other production facilities. This is the only way to complete the turnover with high quality and according to the schedule.

■ By Marina Moruga



Outstanding People

On the eve of the Medical Worker Day, Sakhalin Energy congratulated the corporate Health Section on their professional holiday.

“Doctors are outstanding people with an amazing ability to empathise with all the pain and emotions of those who come to them for help. The work of medics requires exceptional diligence and complete dedication, which you contribute to preserving the health of our company’s staff in this difficult epidemic environment,” – said CEO, Roman Dashkov in the personal congratulatory addresses.

In the high alert mode enforced in Sakhalin Energy for the time of the pandemic, the Health Section team coped with the situation in a highly professional collaborative manner developing effective measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus infection at the production assets. Their efforts helped

to set up in good time, among other things, the testing of all employees along with the expert monitoring of their health, which became more important than ever. Besides, effective communication has been established with the regional Rospotrebnadzor, and the shift change algorithms have been coordinated ensuring that Company employees get to work after the isolation period on schedule. In these difficult times, we send special thanks to the corporate medics for their efforts to improve the emotional health of the employees.

“I would like to sincerely thank you for the great work and wish you every success, the best of health and prosperity,” – said Roman Dashkov congratulating our colleagues.



cover story

People Who Take Care of Our Health

There are many professional holidays, but one of them – the Medical Worker’s Day – is especially significant for everyone. The work of physicians has always been the most noble and in the highest demand. Doctors help us all come into this world. In difficult times, they do everything possible to give us hope and to enjoy life.

On the eve of their career holiday, we would like to express our sincere appreciation and gratitude to the healthcare workers who provide a wide range of medical services meeting the highest international standards to Sakhalin Energy employees, their nearest and dearest. This is especially relevant now, during the pandemic. Specialists of the Corporate Health Section make responsible decisions every day, cope with arising difficulties promptly and professionally, take care of the health and keep up the vitality of the company staff, thus giving us all an opportunity to work effectively and achieve impressive results.

Today Konstantin Kokorin, Victor Zorin, Andrey Lee, and Natalia Kizima are here to talk about how work in a high alert mode was organised at the company and what measures are being taken.

company’s assets and to coordinate actions in case anyone is infected with it. The main task of the Committee (and, subsequently, a great achievement) was the prompt and successful organisation of Temporary Accommodation Facilities (TAF) for a two-week isolation of personnel before the rotational shift. When all arrangements had been finally made and the TAFs were ready to accommodate employees for observation, the whole team, which had been working for 12–13 hours several days in a row, felt so elated as though had just successfully launched a spacecraft. The measures taken to organise the TAFs fully complied with the principles of epidemiology. Immediately afterwards enormous work began to maintain proper conditions for the vital activity of the TAFs, given the large-scale shift rotation.

When organising the TAFs and their operation, the GCC coordinated all actions with

Well-Being on the organisation of rotational shift work, which incorporated the TAF organisation measures already taken by the company, was the heart-warming acknowledgement of our work.

Of course, the remoteness of the Sakhalin Oblast from the mainland and the decisions taken by the regional government gave us considerable advantages in the control of the epidemic situation. Nevertheless, we are proud that our efforts and effective coordination of actions with the relevant state bodies have contributed significantly to the prevention of the coronavirus from penetrating the territory of our assets. In its work, the GCC is guided by a simple principle: “Fighter, you will not rise to the level of your expectations in a critical situation – you will fall to the level of your training”. It is a great honour to work with professionals dedicated to their work. Our team will not leave any chances to COVID-19!

VICTOR ZORIN, CHIEF SPECIALIST OF CORPORATE HEALTH SECTION

– Building a system to protect our staff in the key areas for the company, we enlisted the support of the Sakhalin Oblast Ministry of Health, established close cooperation with the medical institutions of the Nogliki, Poronaysk, Korsakov, Kholmsk Districts, and Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. Not only did we address the issues related to testing for COVID-19, which is of paramount importance, but also arranged medical support, which involves emergency medical response, hospitalisation, isolation of employees from the territory of TAFs, if necessary.

It is worth noting that the health workers set about organising the activities of the temporary housing areas just from the moment they arrived there, almost simultaneously with the first residents. Information support from medical institutions helped us to plan the necessary actions and also to secure labour resources for the company – the self-isolation period has not been reduced for any employee.

ANDREY LEE, LEAD SPECIALIST OF CORPORATE HEALTH SECTION

– We began to discuss measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 at the company’s assets as early as the beginning of February. At that stage, one of them was a survey of employees arriving from abroad and a two-week monitoring of their health at the facilities. In March, the situation began to deteriorate rapidly, and the government promptly responded to these developments. We worked accordingly, keeping up with the decisions of the federal government. We also continued to look ahead and proactively changed or supplemented



the schemes of anti-epidemic measures on a weekly basis.

I remember interacting with Rospotrebnadzor for the first time when the world pandemic was growing at a threateningly rapid pace: we needed to find foreign employees of our contracting organisations to impose on them the obligation to self-isolate, since several cases of COVID-19 had been confirmed from among the passengers of the flights they arrived in Russia on. It was very much like Brain-do or a similar intellectual game: based on the little data we received by phone from Rospotrebnadzor (we had to take down the foreign names and surnames read out in Russian), it was necessary to find out, as quickly as possible, who those people were, from what organisation, where they had come from and were heading for, and their current whereabouts. This process required the involvement of many company employees and contractors. We were all amazed when we managed to identify and find some of them in about 40 minutes.

NATALIA KIZIMA, CHIEF SPECIALIST OF CORPORATE HEALTH SECTION

– A team of specialists from the Command Centre developed their approaches to the organisation of anti-epidemic measures at the company, by using international experience along with Russian best practices. Later the same approaches were applied by the Sakhalin Oblast Government and the Russian government bodies.

In the emergency situation, all services and the leadership team of the company were united into a single system, demonstrating a reference example of cooperation. Of course, the situation is still very complicated and there are areas for improvement. Thankfully, there are good reasons for optimism: we have highly qualified specialists, and our organisational approaches have proved to be effective.

In several weeks, the company’s specialists were able not only to prepare nine temporary housing areas and two isolation facilities in the region, but also to organise medical observation and testing for COVID-19 in them. It was an extremely difficult task: we had to find suitable buildings, get approvals from the government bodies, develop an anti-epidemic regime regulations and schemes for the safe transportation of each employee, ensure effective security, uninterrupted supply of materials and, finally, coordinate all services at the site. Together, we did it! I am proud of my colleagues and admire them for their achievement!

■ By Olga Moreva



Workers leaving the TAF after 14-day isolation

KONSTANTIN KOKORIN, HEAD OF CORPORATE HEALTH SECTION

– In the third decade of March, the General Coordinating Committee (GCC) was organised at Sakhalin Energy to protect the company from the new dangerous disease. The GCC includes a Command Centre for the development and implementation of measures to prevent the spread of the coronavirus at the

their colleagues from the regional department of Rospotrebnadzor. This was the starting point for building trust in the company on the part of the state agency which coordinates anti-COVID-19 efforts in the region. Trusting relationships were strengthened by regular interaction at each stage of making decisions by the company. The issuance of recommendations by the Federal Service for Supervision of Consumer Rights Protection and Human

Company Stability and Digital Technology

The main task of the Information Technology and Information Management (IT/IM) Department is to ensure the stability of the company's operations, shares his vision Alexander Tvorogov, IT/IM Department Head. In his interview he told us about how this task was accomplished during the global economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the company's work in the high-alert regime.



— Alexander Gennadievich, your team was entrusted with the important task of organising the remote work of critical personnel and all office employees. According to statistics, more than 1,300 people work in the company's offices. What was the scale of IT support preparation and implementation?

— Seeing what was happening abroad and understanding the dynamic, we decided to be proactive and promptly started testing our IT systems. We created a special duty team in our department to ensure the stability of the company's operations in the new conditions, and it immediately got down to planning and preparatory work: expanding the communication channels, checking and strengthening the solutions for secure remote access to the company's IT systems (VPN, etc.). We understood that it was highly probable that the whole company would have to switch to working remotely, so we made all the necessary preparations in advance.

Remote work required the company's own additional IT infrastructure and timely support from Shell, our main supplier of IT solutions and standards. Fortunately, we have state-of-the-art IT infrastructure — our new data centre, which has all the necessary technologies, enabling us to quickly redistribute and increase capacities. In a short period of time we were able to increase the number of VPN connections provided by Shell, develop our own VPN solution, and organise secure access in the territory of the Zima Highland Residential Complex. However, simply providing access to the company's network is not enough — it is necessary to develop effective solutions to support business communications and business processes. Instead of a regular telephone, people were able to use special software (Cisco Jabber), and instead of usual face-to-face meetings — conference solutions such as Skype, Cisco WebEx, and the like. Another important task was to ensure information security because any crisis situation makes the company extremely vulnerable to external attacks. Considerable work was done in all areas: checking of telecommunications and information storage systems, preparation of equipment, enhancement of cybersecurity, users support hotline, development of clear instructions for new IT solutions, and much more.

At the end of March we also started working on equipping the temporary accommodation facilities with remote access systems. Some of them (for example, the hotels) already had IT infrastructure; in other loca-

tions, however, we had to build communications from scratch. We worked very hard, and all the participants in the process — from IT specialists, who were directly involved in setting up communications, to the GCC headquarters and support services — did everything they could to fulfil the set task. We decided to utilise our backup equipment, used laptops and alternative infrastructure, which is normally allocated to contractors. This way we provided self-isolating personnel with access to the company's information systems. Our specialists worked around the clock to prepare computers, install new software for personnel training and IT security assurance.

The well-coordinated joint work of all company units made it possible to keep the business processes running smoothly in the remote mode. Many of our colleagues noted that when working remotely their teams were as effective as in the normal conditions be-

In 2016, having assessed the degree of equipment wear, the acute shortage of free space and the increasing role of information technology in production, the company's management made a decision to build a new data centre that would meet all modern-day digital technology requirements.

During the construction of the data centre, IT/IM specialists drew up a plan for migrating systems and services from the old server rooms. They also developed a strategy to minimise the impact on critical IT services: install new equipment in the data centre, configure and test it, and only then transfer the data and switch users to the new servers. This allowed us to reduce interruptions and optimise the budget for the purchase of new servers and storage networks.

A detailed migration plan was drawn up, in which all services and applications were divided into several blocks, depending on the amount of data and the criticality of the applications. To debug the process and identify all possible pitfalls, non-critical and uncomplicated applications were migrated first. These were followed by "heavyweights" such as UNICA, PI, Petrel, VWS, and others. Whenever possible, IT specialists updated applications or migrated them to more powerful equipment.

The data centre contains a transformer substation and two emergency diesel generators. The building is equipped with a modern cooling system, an uninterrupted power supply and a gaseous fire suppression system.

In late 2019, the IT/IM Department successfully completed the migration of systems and services from the old server rooms to the new data centre.

fore the pandemic; some claimed that their performance had even increased.

— Considerable efforts were directed towards the rapid expansion of the company's IT infrastructure. It would be unreasonable to stop using these solutions after the high-alert regime is lifted...

— After returning back to normal working conditions, we need to use all the best practices and experience to improve our day-to-day operations and increase the cyber security of our company. It is important to continue to invest in modern digital solutions and systems — recent experience has shown that they make your business more stable and successful. The development of digital technologies affects the organisation of business processes in the entire oil and gas industry. Moreover, there is an emerging trend towards changes in the needs of society as a whole. Everyone understands that modern digital technologies, which enable people to do all their work online, are the future and offer interesting, new opportunities, especially for modern cities. As a result of the latest global experiment, to which we have all been witnesses and participated in, people have experienced first-hand the advantages of working remotely. They no longer want to spend one and a half to two hours commuting to work and then more time on moving about during

the work day, and are seriously thinking about how they can change this. As for employers, they have seen the possibility of optimising the office space and working hours of their employees.

I hope that we will be able to gain significant advantages in this respect in the future — competitive advantages for the company and personal benefits for employees. This means that we need to understand clearly what advantages managed investments can give the company in terms of stability and development, and to continue moving further in this direction. Our company pays much attention to the issues of digital transformation: a whole section of the Journey Book 2020–2024 is devoted to this topic; this year we are developing a Digital Strategy for the company, aimed at organising the search for, selection, planning, and further use of digital technologies. Of course, the strategy will be developed taking into account the company's experience in working remotely.

Today, the IT/IM Department is developing all the necessary solutions for the company to make optimal use of the remote connection capabilities. Let me elaborate on this a bit further, if I may. Right now we are actively developing the Digital Workplace Programme, which is designed to solve several problems. First, it will provide a remote workplace and related infrastructure, such as

changing the way we work. One of the areas that we are actively working on at the moment is representation of the IT function in Business (ITiB). We plan to assign IT specialists to each directorate. Their priority tasks will include coordination of joint work and planning of digital initiatives for the respective unit. Today, our department is not only working on infrastructure and software — we see our mission in organising work and business processes because today's digital technologies have reached a level at which they define and change the ways we conduct business.

I would like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the IT specialists on behalf of the company. The members of the Committee of Executive Directors, the heads of the organisational units, the representatives of the shareholders have noted the high quality of the IT specialists' work, who ensured the stability of the company in the new and unfamiliar remote work mode. Regrettably, the given format does not allow me to name everyone who did their part to successfully complete this difficult task. Therefore, I thank everyone who was involved for your dedicated work during these long months. The names of the employees who participated in the project and contributed to the development and implementation of all interesting and at times unexpected solutions will be published in the daily news bulletin on the company's Intranet website.

— Do you have any other suggestions in store for the company's further development?

— The implementation of the department's major projects has not stopped for a single minute, even after the start of the pandemic. They are all recorded in the Journey Book: the SAP project, the company's digital strategy, predictive monitoring, a unified document management and data storage system. They are being implemented according to schedule. However, it should be understood that both new and existing technologies generate and consume huge amounts of data, which need to be processed and stored somewhere. For this purpose, the IT/IM Department supports hundreds of servers, repository databases for hundreds of terabytes, and hundreds of switchboards connecting these resources.

All these functions will be implemented on the basis of the new Data Centre (DC), which connects all the servers and data storage systems. The Data Centre makes it possible to accommodate existing IT solutions, test them, and promptly implement them in the company's operations. Actually, this is a unique project because it has good prospects and provides for an opportunity for further modernisation.

Today, our main task is to continue to ensure the stability of the company, to use the experience we have gained to streamline its work and improve its business processes through effective use of modern digital technologies. The new DC, equipped with innovative IT systems, has sufficient resources to meet our current needs and allows their further expansion to address the ambitious challenges of digital transformation in the future. We invite our colleagues to take an active part in this process. In the meantime, the department team will continue to actively develop and enhance the necessary digital platform. The company has created a solid foundation for strategic projects.

■ By Marina Moruga

Geography of Arrivals

The outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic was a serious test of strength for the whole world and clearly showed which countries and organisations were ready for action in the difficult, practically emergency situation, and which were completely unprepared. Sakhalin Energy is successfully passing this test. The company has not only protected its facilities from the dangerous disease and ensured the continuity of the production process, but also fulfils all its obligations to product buyers. Of course, the main role plays the large team of specialists from different parts of Russia and other countries. If we coloured all regions they come from, the geographical map would look like a completed picture book.

PASSENGER GEOGRAPHY

According to the Business Travel Coordination Group Leader Petr Pochaevsky, the list of 478 passengers who arrived to work on Sakhalin-2 project from 20 April to 21 May this year includes representatives of 52 Russian regions. Almost 21 % of them are residents of Khabarovsk, 19.7 % arrived from the Primorsky Region and 13.8 % from Krasnodar. St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region rate fourth in this list with a result of 6.5 %, while Moscow and the Moscow Region are in the fifth place with an indicator of 3.8 %.

The rest of the rotational shift workers arrived from all corners of the country. Some of them have been working rotational shifts for many years already, others are new employees who have done it for the first time. In both cases, the Sakhalin Oblast and Sakhalin Energy are their second home, at least for some time, and, as the saying goes, the walls at home are their friends, their comfort, and their helping hands. On their part, they must make sure that they do not get the virus and do not infect others. This is why all new arrivals are invited to spend two weeks in quarantine.

SAKHALIN RESIDENTS PREVAIL

"I do not see any problem in the requirement for self-isolation. I believe that the measures taken by the company in the current conditions are correct and reasonable," says Nikita Kudrin, Deputy Shift Supervisor of the LNG Production, Storage, and Export Shop.

He has been working for the company since March 2006 and regularly travels between Angarsk (Irkutsk Region) and Sakhalin.

According to Nikita, another employee from his home town works at the same facility, there are many residents of Moscow and St. Petersburg among his colleagues, as well as other regions of the country, although residents of Sakhalin clearly prevail.

In total, more than half of the company's Russian employees are residents of the Sakhalin Oblast. This is not surprising, because in its personnel policy Sakhalin Energy puts special emphasis on the employment of residents of the host region.

According to Nikita Kudrin, many of his colleagues from other regions of Russia previously lived on Sakhalin, but recently moved to warmer parts of the country.

"After all, the weather on Sakhalin can be quite harsh; not everyone is willing to live in this climate permanently," the resident of Angarsk concludes.

PERFECT ANTI-EPIDEMIC MEASURES

Alexey Platonov, a medical worker of International SOS, who arrived in Sakhalin from Sochi for the first time this year, does not mind the local climate at all. Moreover, he is delighted with the local nature.

"I like to travel, visit new places... When I saw the island from the air plane window, I immediately decided that it was exactly where I wanted to live. I look forward to starting work on Sakhalin-2 project and intend to get to know the region better in my free time," he says.



Alexey Platonov

Alexey has quite extensive experience of work in the healthcare sector: he worked in the medical service of the Sochi airport; before that, he lived and worked as a medical assistant and rescuer in the Magadan Region. Being a professional in the area of medicine, he highly estimates the anti-epidemic measures taken by Sakhalin Energy.

"All the measures have been perfectly thought out; I do not see any drawbacks, everything is perfect," he states.

EVERYONE WITHOUT EXCEPTION

Indeed, the company personnel show great responsibility as regards complying with the preventative measures. All contractors are notified beforehand, so they should be aware of this process. Another of our interlocutors, Alexey Strelnikov, who arrived in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk together with his colleagues from TIC (Samara), has every reason to think so.

"We specialise in the loading of catalysts and adsorbents and provide these services to companies across the country. As you see, we travel a lot. Initially we thought that we would come to Sakhalin, do our work and leave. That is not how it turned out. Instead, we are self-isolating, just like everyone else. Of course, it was an unpleasant surprise, but we have no complaints about the conditions we are staying in," Alexey says.

On the one hand, you can understand the dissatisfaction of the shift workers arriving at



Nikita Kudrin

the company (who would be happy to have to adjust their plans and schedules at a short notice?); on the other hand, let us be frank: anti-epidemic measures are mandatory, and the company makes no exceptions for anyone. It is this approach precisely that allows Sakhalin Energy to work effectively, even in the time of the pandemic. Thus, it is fully justified.

■ By Pavel Ryabchikov



In the beginning of June Sakhalin Energy successfully completed major crew change in the difficult epidemiological situation – within one day the company transported nearly 700 people while ensuring compliance with all epidemiological protection measures. The transported personnel represent company staff and contractors who completed their shifts at production assets, and specialists who replaced them. Special attention was given to the process of transportation of staff after 14-day isolation in temporary accommodation facilities to the production assets which implied maintaining of sterile environment and accommodation of new staff in TAFs.

Crew Boats vs Frequent Fogs

Two crew boats of Sakhalin Energy have arrived at Nabil' terminal of Moskal'vo port located on the northeast coast of Sakhalin Island.

Polar Baikal and Polar Piltun high-speed vessels as crew boats started transporting personnel on rotating assignments to oil and gas platforms in the Okhotsk Sea after two weeks of self-isolation.

According to Alexander Lukashik, Marine Operations Manager, these vessels have been involved in Sakhalin-2 project since 2009. Prior to returning to work, both twin-hull boats were upgraded for embarkation/disembarkation at sea

Norwegian shipbuilders built harbour cabins, outfitted the vessels to operate at low temperatures, installed thrusters and after control stations. Despite their small size (Polar Baikal is 29 metres long and 9 metres wide, Polar Piltun is 35 metres long and 10 meters wide), the vessels can take on board 70 passengers each.

The twin-hull boats with water-jet propulsion gain high speed up to 35 knots in the ideal conditions, which allows the

travelling time to be cut in half compared to other vessels. For example, they travel the distance from the port to Piltun-As-tokhskoye-B in about 2 hours and 15 minutes. Minimum travelling time is important for staff, because they take over their shift faster and can catch, for example, the next train when they leave.

"Delivering staff to remote locations is one of the key aspects of the company's operations, therefore, navigation safety in difficult weather conditions of Sakhalin Island as well as the quality of services remain our primary focus. Also, these vessels deliver staff on time, which is especially important in the early summer months, when frequent fogs in north Sakhalin do not allow helicopters to be engaged for staff transportation", said Alexander Lukashik.

With the start of summer navigation, when the waters are free of ice, the crew boats operated by skilled Russian sailors make trips from Nabil' terminal to offshore facilities of the company approximately until 1 November. With freeze-up of the bay the crew boats will leave for the home port of Kholmsk, where they will remain until May. The vessels undergo mandatory annual maintenance in the south of the island, including dock inspection prior to the upcoming navigation season.



The crew boats are engaged for staff transportation during frequent fogs in north Sakhalin – Polar Baikal near the Molikpaq platform

One as a Team

Sakhalin Energy has launched an annual subsea technical work campaign with the involvement of Evgeny Primakov multifunctional vessel.



In early June, a scheduled inspection of the underwater part of the tanker loading unit (TLU) and the subsea pipeline connecting the TLU with the onshore facility was completed in the port of Prigorodnoye. After the completion of these tasks, Evgeny Primakov headed to the company's offshore facilities in the north of the island to service the foundations of the three platforms, offshore pipelines, and related subsea infrastructure.

Previously, this annual work had been performed by up to three different types of vessels, including ships flying foreign flags. Their services have no longer been necessary since 2018, when Evgeny Primakov joined the company's fleet.

"The use of one vessel instead of three has allowed the company to reduce the risks associated with the organisation of underwater technical work, to increase its quality, and to reduce significantly the operating costs – both for the rental of vessels and the purchase of fuel. Moreover, mobilisation of the personnel of three contractors and equipment to a single vessel has made it possible to optimise the total duration of the seasonal work," said Vadim Panin, Sakhalin Energy Logistics Manager.

In addition to the main functions (standby duty, rescue operations, oil spill response), Evgeny Primakov is engaged in organising the work using a remotely operated underwater vehicle and a double multipath echo sounder which is necessary to determine the location of sagging in the free spans of offshore linear pipelines. Along with this, the vessel allows working with divers in an automatic dynamic positioning mode, which significantly reduces the likelihood of a human error.

The implementation of the subsea technical work programme in the Sea of Okhotsk with the involvement of Evgeny Primakov multi-functional vessel will take about two months.

■ The page is prepared by Marina Semitko

Five Thousand Days and Goal Zero

The crew of SCF Endurance supply vessel has achieved an important goal: 5,000 days without recorded injuries*. The count to this important achievement began on September 5, 2006, when the vessel first entered the port of Kholmsk and commenced work on Sakhalin-2 project. The hero of the anniversary was built in Norway and is now operated by Sovcomflot PJSC under the long-term time charter contract.

The decision to build multi-purpose heavy-duty ice-class vessels was made in 2004 before the installation of PA-B and LUN-A platforms. SCF Endurance (originally Pacific Endurance) along with SCF Endeavour and SCF Enterprise upgraded the company's fleet, outdated at the time, which included, in particular, seasonal vessels flying foreign flags.

This allowed Sakhalin Energy to improve its supply chain from the southern ports of Sakhalin to offshore platforms of the company. Also, the volume of cargo delivered to offshore facilities in the difficult conditions of the Okhotsk Sea has increased. This is especially relevant during the winter ice season, when first-year ice in the platform area reaches two meters in thickness, and stamukhas – grounded ice floes – reach four metres or more.

The statistics of this hero vessel are really impressive considering its significant achievement. For a little less than 14 years, the vessel has made about 350 trips from the port of Kholmsk (supply base) to the company's platforms and back, transported more than 300 thousand tons of cargo and travelled almost 450,000 nautical miles, which is

equivalent to about 20 Earth's equators. Nevertheless, SCF Endurance is in good condition and is ready to carry on for many years.

"The key to the successful trouble-free operation of SCF Endurance is the synergy of the management company and permanent all-Russian crew of highly skilled professionals. Sovcomflot carries

on the traditions of Russian seafarers laid down during the reign of Peter I", said Vadim Panin, Logistics Manager.

"It is safe to say that there was almost no staff turnover during the operation of this and other vessels on the project, it was mainly career growth of professionals, who now work on other vessels of our project and continue to apply the useful practices that they gained when working aboard the Pacific Endurance", added Alexander Lukashik, Marine Operations Manager.

Let us wish the vessel and its crew further trouble-free operation on the project and fair winds and following seas!

* This figure includes lost time cases, medical treatment cases and restricted work cases.



SCF Endurance supply vessel

Один за всех и все за одного! All for One and One for All!

Семнадцатого июня в компании стартовал традиционный летний День безопасности. Учитывая эпидемиологическую обстановку, в этом году традиционные встречи дополнили беседы в онлайн-режиме – на разных объектах мероприятия прошли в течение нескольких дней. Среди основных комментариев – сессии проведены интересно и с пользой. Как прошел День безопасности в разных командах, смотрите ниже.

The company hosted its traditional Summer Safety Day on 17 June. Due to the raging pandemic, our traditional meetings were complemented with online discussions. The events were held by assets during the several days. Most participants agreed that the sessions were interesting and useful. You can see below how the Safety Day went in different teams.



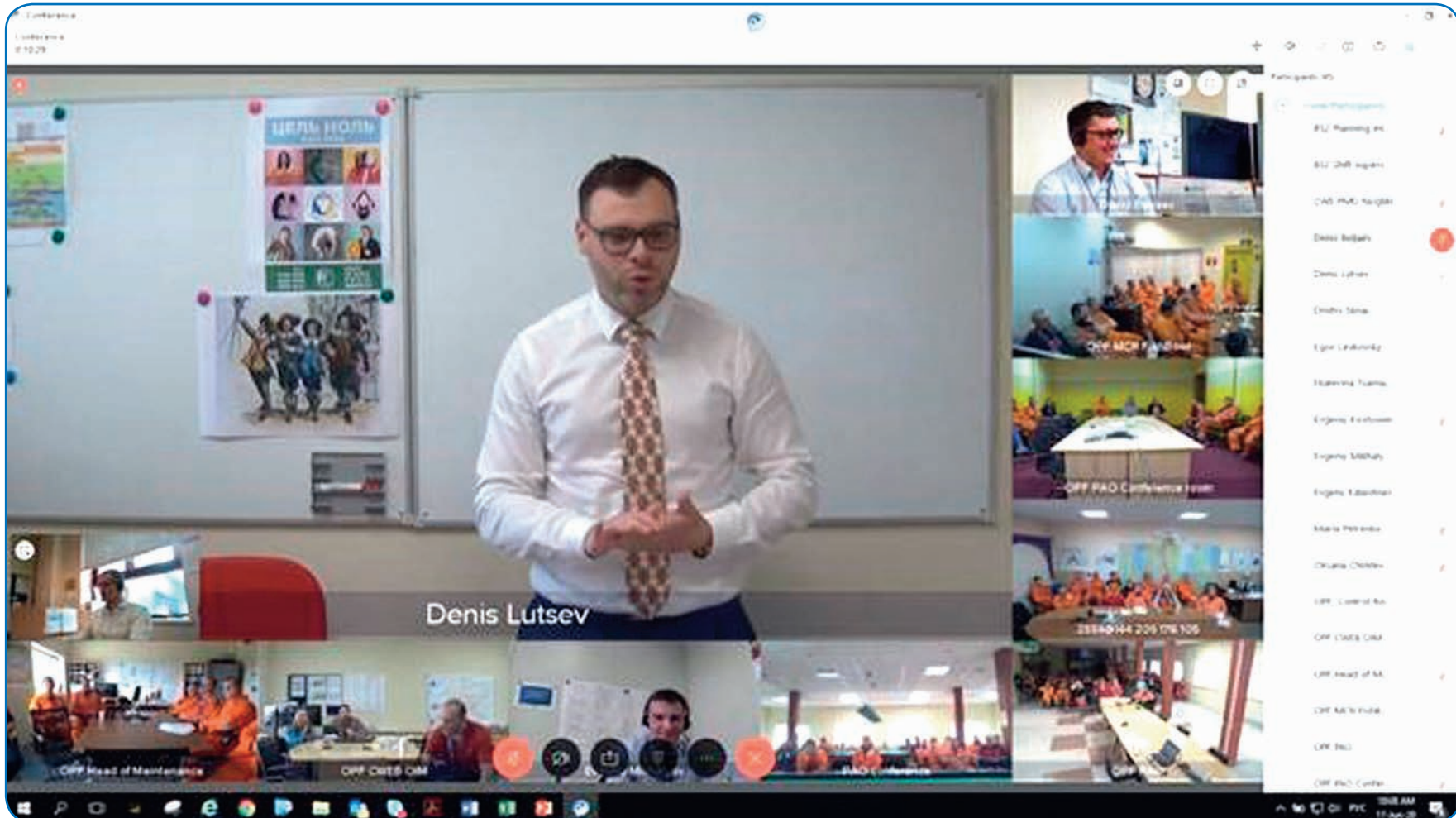
Темы стрессоустойчивости, контроля усталости, заботы об окружающих, динамической оценки рисков особенно актуальны сейчас, когда в непростых эпидемиологических условиях начался плановый останов на объектах газовой инфраструктуры / The topics of stress resilience, fatigue management, care for others, and dynamic risk assessment are especially important now when the company is at the outset of the complex planned turnaround of gas production assets in the challenging epidemiological conditions



На этом фоне еще более важное значение приобретает тема командного развития – сильный и сплоченный коллектив способен справиться с любыми вызовами. Не случайно девиз летнего Дня безопасности в этом году – «Один за всех и все за одного!» / Team building and development have even more significance under these circumstances; a strong team can cope with any challenges. The motto for this year's Summer Safety Day is exactly about that – All for One and One for All!



На заводе по производству СПГ участникам Дня безопасности предложили построить самую высокую башню с учетом приоритетов: безопасность, качество, скорость / The LNG asset team was challenged to build the highest tower possible while keeping focus on safety, quality and speed



Не помешало и то, что многие сотрудники принимали участие удаленно – возможности телеконференции позволили максимально охватить всех членов команд, активно обсудить темы, поделиться мнениями и идеями. На всех наземных объектах летний День безопасности начался одновременно со вступительного слова начальника департамента Дениса Луцева / Participation of many colleagues via teleconferencing did not hinder the process – it actually helped to involve as many team members as possible while also providing an opportunity to have lively discussions and personally engage everyone. The Summer Safety Day started simultaneously at all onshore assets with opening speech by Onshore Asset Manager Denis Lutsev

Кроме основной повестки Дня безопасности, коллеги из управления по взаимодействию с государственными органами надзора и контроля обсудили дополнительные вопросы безопасности, актуальные в летний период: действия при встрече с медведем, профилактика укусов клещей и другие / In addition to the main agenda for Safety Day, colleagues from PrD Compliance discussed another summer-related safety concerns: what to do if you encounter a bear; tick bite prevention, etc.



Наши подрядчики тоже провели День безопасности. Встречи прошли в компаниях «Сварог», «СМНМ-модификация», «Экоспас», «СК ИНТРА», «Консоль» и других / The company's contractors were also engaged in Safety Day. The meetings were held in Svarog, SMNM-modification, Ecospas, INTRA Service Company, Konsol and others

How to Rescue LUN-A

On 8–10 June, the company held table-top exercises on involvement of manpower and forces of emergency response and rescue services and teams to respond to a simulated accident at a flowing well in the Lunskoye field.

According to the scenario of the exercises, there was a loss of containment of the well fittings and leakage of gas condensate during the drilling at LUN-A. The drilling team began well killing operations under the leadership of the operating team from the office in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, and the company's own manpower and forces were mobilised to respond to the oil spill. The accident quickly developed to an emergency situation of the federal level. Production on the platform was stopped in safe mode, LUN-A personnel were evacuated due to an exceeded maximum level of gas contamination. There was a risk of pollution of the coastal zone, wildlife, and birds.

For effective response, it was required to mobilise the manpower and forces of all contractors, Russian and foreign, including Ecospas, Ecoshef, Marine Rescue Service, Gazprom Gazobezopasnost, Wild Well Control, and Boots&Coots.

Practising a procedure for engaging foreign emergency response and rescue services has become one of the key objectives of the exercises. For international contractors from Houston and specialised equipment



The operating team from the office in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk

from Singapore to be able to arrive at the emergency site and start to work, it was necessary to practise a procedure for interaction with Russian state bodies, including

MChS and the Marine Rescue Service Federal State Unitary Enterprise.

A specific feature of these table-top exercises was that they were carried out in the context of combating the spread of coronavirus infection, due to which most of the

as some of the meetings and reports were held online, and a number of documents were agreed by e-mail. According to Rene Woertman, the exercise manager, the work of more than 30 participants in this drill can be compared to a duck on the water. "Visually, the duck looks completely calm, and one can only guess the violent activity under water," he said, implying that the hard work of the company specialists, contractors and officials during the exercises might go unnoticed, amid ordinary business processes.

The exercise objective has been achieved: the forces of Wild Well Control and Boots&Coots were allowed to cross the border of the Russian Federation in a simulation mode. All activities conformed to the Russian laws. The relevant resources and personnel of international contractors were mobilised, in a simulation mode, to the emergency site within the joint forces to work at the accident site. The ability to work together on the platform has been confirmed.

Timur Gafarov, the Technical Director of the company, who participated in the exercises, thanked the team which prepared and held the exercise for efficient and active work. He noted that, in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, it is resounding success to obtain permits from state bodies of the Russian Federation for mobilisation of manpower and forces of foreign contractors' emergency response and rescue services and teams.

■ By Ekaterina Meger

event

Certified and Ready

The certification of the LNG plant Non-Professional Emergency Response Team (NERT) has been successfully completed. In connection with the COVID-19 pandemic, the certification was held in a remote mode.

NERT, an independent unit created by the company on a non-professional basis from among its employees, ensures the preparedness of the hazardous production facility for the containment of and response to possible accidents.

Traditionally, it takes teams a year to prepare for certification. When they receive an emergency scenario inject, they practise actions to demonstrate the best possible results. Decisions to extend certification are made by the Certification Commission of the RF Ministry of Energy. Certification is held every three years.

The Prigorodnoye Non-Professional Emergency Response Team was created by the decision of the Production Director more than 11 years ago.

NERT is equipped with special machines, equipment, gear, tools and materials for conducting response, rescue, and other urgent operations in the affected areas in case of fire and emergency situations. The Prigorodnoye NERT consists of 60 employees who ensure round-the-clock duty and preparedness of the asset to respond to potential emergencies.

According to Alexander Levchenko, Lead Emergency Response Specialist of the HSE Subdivision at the Prigorodnoye Asset, the Certification Commission reviewed the NERT's certification package which included more than 300 reporting documents prepared and sent to the RF Ministry of Energy, and made a decision to conduct a remote verification of the team's compliance with applicable requirements and the capability of the rescuers to respond to emergencies and give aid to their victims. Having received the Emergency Scenario inject, the res-

cuers developed a scenario of the emergency response operation, shot and edited video material (all in just ONE day). The video was sent to the Certification Commission on 19 May.

"The task was completed on time and, which is exceptionally important, safely and efficiently thanks to the professionalism and experience of the NERT members and

This year, NERT certification was successfully completed not only at the Prigorodnoye production complex but also at the Onshore Processing Facility.

managers. On 5 June, the Industry Certification Commission of the RF Ministry of Energy held a meeting on the certification of oil and gas emergency response and rescue services. During the meeting, a decision was made to certify the Prigorodnoye NERT, granting the team the right to conduct emergency response and rescue operations in case of fire for a period of three years. The prepared video material will be an excellent tool for training future rescuers," said Alexander Singurov, Deputy Production Director, Prigorodnoye production complex manager.

■ By Andrey Sharipov



The members of the LNG plant Non-Professional Emergency Response Team

CI in Offline Regime

The virtual CED CI Award Ceremony for Q1 2020 took place in June.

The winner of the CED CI Award in Q1 2020, in recognition for the CI Initiative “New Approach for Scale Treatment Operations (Offline execution)”, is a team from Technical Directorate, consisting of: Alexey Dudochkin, Valentin Tarsky, Bill Connon, Andrey Belonogov, Nikolay Belonogov, Alexey Shishmakov, Artyom Grechanik, Aidar Sharafetdinov, Ivan Lunev, Yaroslav Kuprin, Sergey Lezzhov, Ruslan Klishch, Sergey Kazmin, Manish Kumar, Leonid Ganets, Andrey Boguslavsky, Andrey Markin.

CI Initiative background: Presence of salt deposits in an oil reservoir, in surface and subsurface equipment complicate its operation and effect well performance. Untimely no corrective measures can result in entire loss of wells. Normally to perform the Scale treatment and Injectivity tests operations, it is required to utilise a drilling rig (“online” regime), which significantly increases the operation costs as the other operations on wells’ construction cannot be executed at this time and are moved for a different time.

Development of a methodical approach for execution of the given operations in a “offline” regime (not utilising online Rig time) allowed to achieve significant financial savings (CAPEX) and to free up operation time of the drilling rig for performing other wells’ operations.

This alternative method was developed and embedded into an opportunity windows

in the Short-Term Drilling Sequence and was successfully realised on seven wells of the PA-B platform.

The method of performing Scale treatment and Injectivity tests operations “offline” was acknowledged as the “Best Practice” and will be replicated further on all platforms of the company.

The implementation of the initiative resulted in the following:

- significant reduction of CAPEX;
- saving online rig time;
- opening opportunity to execute additional online scope.

Direct and additional savings have been achieved due to the following:

- scope of work planned online (DG-4), but executed offline (2019);
- replication of this “Best Practice” at wells PB-301 and PB-302;
- additional unplanned scope of work executed offline to dissolve scale on flapper and restore integrity.

CED also would like to thank other strong nominations for the impactful initiatives:

Reduction of Port Calls by low tonnage LNG Carrier “Sun Arrows”.

e-Robots: Automation of the Purchases Orders creation.

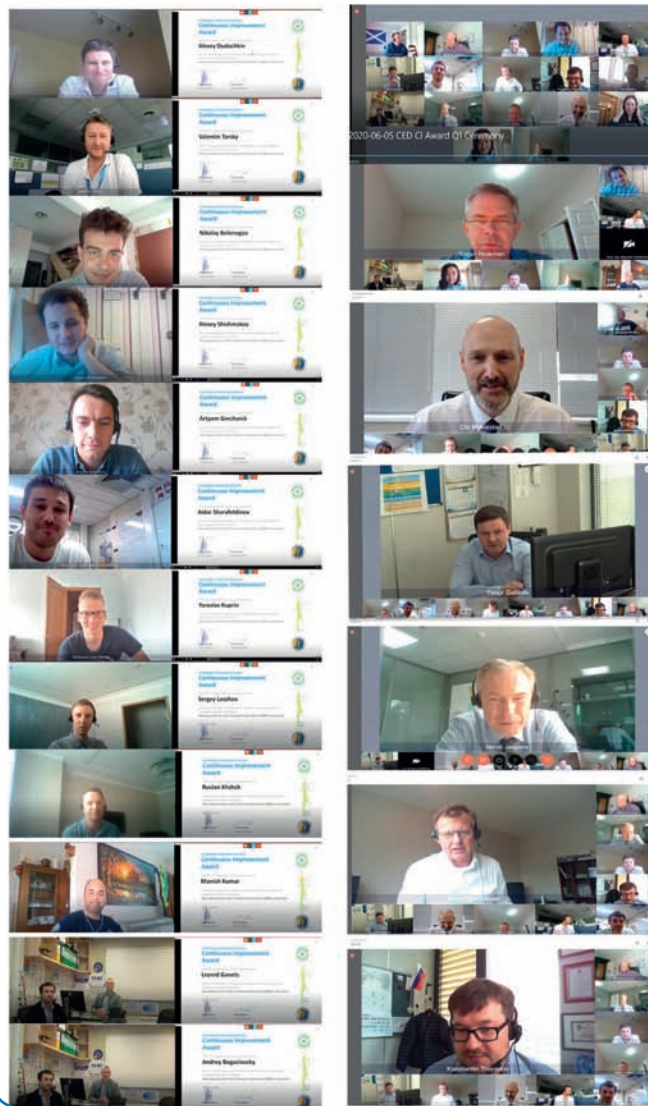
You can learn more about these initiatives and many others on CI Wiki web site.

■ Alina Sin, Alexey Dudochkin, Valentin Tarsky

Committee of Executive Directors

Continuous Improvement
Award Q1 2020

for outstanding contribution to Sakhalin Energy through the completion of the CI Initiative
New Approach for Scale Treatment Operations (Offline execution).



The video conference of CED CI Award Ceremony

Talent Plus Initiative Equals Success

Technical Directorate has a good tradition to perform a two-phased evaluation of business improvement initiatives which have been proposed and implemented by staff. The authors of the best initiatives receive awards from the directorate’s leadership, and the winning projects proceed to the final stage and compete for the title of the best initiative of the year.

13 completed projects were submitted for the first round of evaluation, and the voting determined three winners of the first semi-final:

● **Usage of Russian geosteering contractor for PA-133 well placement and for future wells** – a joint project with Finance Directorate

The team thoroughly assessed the Russian market and performed a detailed technical evaluation of Russian companies, following which a contract was awarded to ROGII for the LWD data analysis and interpretation and preparation of recommendations to adjust well trajectory in real time. The initiative resulted in significant cost savings in the project (expected also in future projects) and contributed the Russian content development.

● **New methods to eliminate integrity issues on MPQ wells** – a joint project with Production Directorate

To reinstate integrity of two wells the project team used the following methods and techniques:

– PA-116: INTRA TOOL contractor and FURMANITE equipment was used for the first time ever to re-cut RX-44 gasket

surfaces without X-mas tree removal.

– PA-120: The FMC sealant compound was used for the first time to cure the leak at SMBS testing port at X-mas tree thereby deferring X-mas tree replacement.

As a result the well integrity was successfully restored without usage of the rig, additional days in Drilling Sequence opened up, CAPEX reduced, WI capacity preserved to maintain reservoir pres-

sure and avoid production deferment.

● **“DROPS in the box” – new format of DROPS training** by Business Support Department.

The authors of the initiatives were the first to introduce the DROPS experiential learning in the company. The project offers an extended theoretical training programme providing knowledge on key hazards pertaining to dynamic (lifting and hoisting) and static potentially dropped objects and gives an opportunity to receive hands-on skills. The training materials are placed in a special container, which makes it possible to transport it to the remote assets, including the offshore platforms. The container also acts as the “classroom”. So, the project team has managed to link theory and practice, increase engagement levels and offer a flexible schedule to cover all offshore employees.

TD Leadership Team commend the high quality of the projects, congratulate the winners, wish them luck in the second evaluation round and thank all the project teams that competed in the semi-final.

■ Julia Loskutova



“DROPS in the box” project



The memories are like pattering, incessant rain, the memories are like never-ending icy snowflakes

A week ago, military parades held under the Banner of Victory on the Red Square in Moscow and other Russian cities commemorated the 75th Anniversary of the Victory in the Great Patriotic War. The annual event had to be postponed to avoid any health risks for the attendees, especially the veterans. Anna Beskrovnaya, one of the few remaining witnesses of the war, shared her memories with Vesti.



Before the war, the Leningrad Oblast's population was about 1,500,000. After the war, only 420,000 survived.

ly, the Nazis expected a blitzkrieg, so they confiscated all the products, leaving the local population with nothing. As the blitzkrieg failed, the Nazis established labour agencies, each for a group of settlements. Every resident between the ages of 14 and 65 had to check in.

I overheard the adults saying the Nazis had occupied Velikiye Luki and Nevel – the latter was a large road and railway hub. Moscow–Odessa, Moscow–Leningrad, and other trains ran through Nevel. Later, the siege of Leningrad began.

The Leningrad Oblast was under occupation between August 1941 and mid-1944. The villagers from the settlements close to Leningrad tried to move as far as possible. Life in some of the villages was as terrible as in besieged Leningrad.

In 1941–1943 the Nazis executed over 8,000 civilians in the Nevel District. They partly or completely burnt down dozens of villages and took thousands of their residents to forced labour. Many citizens died at the frontline, or as prisoners of war. Over 20,000 residents of the city and the surrounding district perished.

As early as at the very beginning of the Nazi occupation, in September–October 1941, resistance fighters flooded the Leningrad Oblast. The partisans raided from the forest, attacked the Nazi motor convoys and trains carrying food and munition. According to Soviet, and later Russian, sources, initially the number of partisans was about 5,000, but the guerrilla war gained momentum fast, and by the end of 1943 their ranks expanded to 35,000.

In the coldest winter of 1941–42, the partisans collected over 56,000 tonnes of bread, cereals, and edible fat from the derailed Nazi trains that were headed from the occupied USSR territories to Germany. All this cargo was transported by 223 horse carts across the frontline to hunger-stricken Leningrad.

In December 1943 the Guarding the Motherland newspaper published a testimony signed by the partisans. It said that the Nazis shot civilians with machine guns: "On 20 October, the Nazis drove up to 200 people from the Gusevo, Seversk, Gorushka, Khlukovo, and Maksino villages of the Porkhovsky District to the Kiverovo village for forced labour. On 24 October, the Nazi bandits pushed them into column formations and chased them down the road. As the formation went downhill at the Zakryuchye village, the Nazis opened fire with machine guns. 130 people were killed; the rest managed to escape into the forest. After that, the Nazis stole all the livestock, harvest, and property from these villages. The settlements were burnt down to ashes."

LITTLE KIDS, GREAT WAR

– I was born on 25 January 1934. We had a large family with 12 kids. Before the war, we lived in Leningrad, but staying in a big city was hard both for the adults and the children, so we decided to move to the Vorobyi village in the Leningrad Oblast (now the village is in the Pskov Oblast.)

Things were getting better: we moved into a large house, Dad started his wild honey farming. But the war ruined everything. I was just over 7 years old. I still remember the Nazi warplanes I hid from in a ravine with my siblings. I remember my mother's eyes as Nazi troops began invading cities and villages.

I remember the day when the Nazis came to our village, and our family ended up under occupation. Initial-

My father fought in the Winter War and became handicapped: he had lost his hearing. That is why he was not drafted into the Red Army. But, despite his crying wife and children, he joined the guerrilla warriors and served as a scout throughout the Nazi occupation. The partisans delivered flour to my Mom, and she secretly baked bread for them.

One day, a large Nazi squad entered Vorobyi and took away some villagers. In the morning we learned they had

On 24 June 1945, the legendary Victory Parade took place: the soldiers who had returned from the frontline marched on the Red Square.

executed them in the field. I remember that the life in the village seemed to have come to a halt – everyone was afraid that they would be next. Indeed, in a couple of days, there was a knock at the door, but thankfully it was the Red Army that had retaken the village.

We thought it was the Nazis and that it was our turn to die. I still remember the pure joy we all felt, the joy of liberation. After the war, we moved back to Leningrad. The entire city was ruined; there was no food. When I was 10, they sent me to my uncle since Mom could not feed all of us. That is how I ended up in Kaliningrad. Since 10 years old, I knew what it meant to work and earn my daily bread.

■ By Elena Gurshal



One of the most heart-breaking war monuments still stands in the Volosovo District, Leningrad Oblast. It is the Bolshoye Zarechye village burnt down by the Nazis as a punishment for the villagers' collaboration with the partisans. It was decided to not restore the village and preserve it in its current form as a monument to the Nazi victims and the guerrilla warriors who came back to find their homes burnt. No new constructions have been erected there to this day; only the old chimneys remain. The chimneys stand in the open fields, with plaques saying which family lived in the house they represent. A pillar with a bell raises above the stoves and ruined foundations.

The bell has long been silent. Still, storks build a nest on it every spring. Source: 78.ru, online47

Send us your stories about the war veterans at ea@sakhalinenergy.ru

22 June 1941: First Day of the War

In Russia, 22 June is generally regarded as the Day of Remembrance and Sorrow. On this day in 1941, World War II reached the territory of the USSR. Without any warning, the German army invaded the Soviet Union, which marked the beginning of one of the bloodiest and atrocity-filled military campaigns in the history of mankind.

The USSR was destined to go through 1,418 fearful days and nights, military retreats and losses, the death of millions of its citizens, until finally achieving the long-hoped-for victory, which is often called “a holiday mixed with tears”.

LEAD UP TO THE WAR

At the time of the German invasion, a non-aggression pact was in force between the USSR and Germany. Since the start of World War II on 01 September 1939, Germany had managed to conquer almost all of Europe, including France. The Soviet army had gained some fighting experience in the battles near Khalkin-Gol and during the Finnish campaign by this time, but our soldiers had not yet come face-to-face with German troops.

Joseph Stalin, the head of the USSR, tried to keep the fascists at bay as long as possible; the country was re-equipping its army, and it needed more time to complete the process. For this reason, our soldiers were ordered not to respond to provocative actions of any kind on the part of the Germans, so that the latter could not take advantage of the situation and announce that the Russians had broken the pact. In the meantime, the USSR was rapidly preparing for the war.

21 JUNE

On 21 June, Saturday, school graduation parties were being held all over the USSR, and, in keeping with tradition, many boys and girls were out partying until dawn. Other people — both civilians and military — were sleeping peacefully, without any sense of the imminent danger.

DEFECTOR

At about 9 p.m. on the evening of 21 June, border guards detained a German soldier. It was Private First Class Alfred Liskow who had swum across the Bug River to warn the Soviet army of the forthcoming German attack scheduled for the small hours of 22 June.

The interpreters serving in the detachment were not very skilled and could not understand what the captive was trying to explain, so he was interrogated by a teacher of German who was urgently called in to help. The German soldier was immediately sent to Volodymyr-Volynsky.

THE FIRST HOUR

At half past four, the defector was delivered to Volodymyr-Volynsky, and the information about the impending attack was passed on to higher authorities. Soon after that the People's Commissariat of Defence in Moscow transmitted Directive No. 1. It contained information about a possible attack by the German army, and an order to bring all border troops to full combat readiness and discreetly occupy the firing points in the fortified areas.

At 3:05, the first bombs fell on Kronstadt roads. At 3:07, the commander of the Black Sea Fleet reported on the approach of “unidentified planes” and received permission from the Chief of General Staff Georgy Zhukov to meet them with air defence fire.

At about the same time, the information from the defector was passed on to higher authorities. The interrogation was hardly over when the sound of strong artillery fire shattered the silence. The German soldier confirmed that the fire was aimed at targets in the territory of the USSR.

DECLARATION OF WAR

Meanwhile, at a meeting of the Politburo in the Kremlin, Stalin said that the attack could be nothing more than a provocation. General G. Zhukov and Marshal S. Timoshenko objected and insisted that it was indeed war.

Shortly, their words were confirmed by the German ambassador who presented a note from the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs to the Soviet government. The note said that the German leadership could not ignore the serious threat on the eastern border any longer and, therefore, had issued an order to avert this threat by all means. In other words, the war on the USSR had been declared de jure.

INDESTRUCTIBLE

In the meantime, civilians were trying to escape from the burning cities, and the military — to restrain the onslaught of the German troops. Many of the Soviet military units were left virtually without communications and command. “Raise the troops and fight,” ordered General Pavlov whose detachments defended the most important direction — the road to Moscow. He did not set any specific tasks, though, since he himself had not yet received any directives from the supreme command in Moscow.

The fighters fought with unparalleled heroism, at times committing military feats beyond belief. For instance, at the

time of the attack on Peremyshl, a Red Army soldier Efim Balakar occupied a bunker, mounted a heavy machine gun and was successfully stopping the German soldiers with machine-gun fire for one and a half (!) days, preventing the enemy troops from crossing the San River.

After the fascist soldiers abandoned their attempts, the hero took the weapon and joined his regiment.

NO INFORMATION

At 7:15, Stalin approved Directive No. 2 which announced the invasion and called on the Soviet Armed Forces to repel the attack of the enemy. However, German sabotage groups had damaged communication lines in the western districts. Neither the population nor the authorities in Moscow understood what was going on at the borders; soldiers and officers did not see the big picture either.

The famous announcer Yuri Levitan later recalled that people had phoned from Minsk, Kaunas, Kiev, asking the same question: “What is happening? Is it really war?” Sadly, no official reports had yet been made.

At 11:00, the border military districts were officially transformed into three fronts: the North-West, the West and the South-West.

“OUR CAUSE IS JUST”

The authorities broke the silence at 12 o'clock. Soviet Foreign Minister Vyacheslav Molotov broke the distressing news on the radio, reading out the remarkable address to the population of the USSR.

“The government calls on you, dear citizens of the Soviet Union, to rally your ranks even more closely around our glorious Bolshevik party, around our Soviet government, around our great leader, Comrade Stalin. Our cause is just. The enemy will be defeated. Victory will be ours,” concluded V. Molotov.

Many people did not hear the address, but the terrible news was instantly spread by word of mouth.

THE BLITZKRIEG THAT WASN'T

Hitler planned to conquer Soviet Russia in under two months. Despite the crushing and impressive defeat of the Western Front and the fall of Kiev and Minsk which soon followed, the German troops did not manage to realise this plan. Neither did they occupy Moscow.

The Great Patriotic War ended with the indisputable victory of the Soviet army and the destruction of the Third Reich. This took four years.

figures and facts

Oil Front

Our victory in the Great Patriotic War, which was called “the war of engines” for a good reason, would have been impossible without the dedicated work of the oil and gas industry workers on the home front.

(Read the beginning in March 2020 issue)

Baku — the country's main oil base — was in a tight corner. There was no way to ship off the producing oil. All metal tanks and even the sumps were filled with oil. Soon the drilling of new wells had to be suspended and the existing wells — conserved. It all was happening when the country needed petrol, and needed it badly! What about the remaining stock? After all, it was a valuable raw material; it had taken considerable costs and hard labour to produce! A proposal was made, totally incredible from the point of view of oilfield development technology: extract the oil, supply it through the pipeline to the refineries in the “Black City”, remove the top layer (gasoline) there, then send the remaining liquid back and pump it back into the reservoir. A special well was allocated for this purpose, and about half a million tonnes of stripped oil was pumped through it directly into the oil reservoir for storage. By the way, this oil was fully extracted a second time later, after the war...

* * *

At the time, more than one hundred and forty partisan detachments and groups were fighting in the rear of Nazi troop positions in the Krasnodar and Stavropol Territories. One of their main tasks was to prevent the invaders from starting oil production. In Germany, the Nazis had already established a joint-stock company under the name of

German Oil in the Caucasus, but the new enterprise never received any oil: they were not able to restore a single field or even a single well during their stay in Kuban. After the liberation of this territory, our soldiers discovered a significant stock of pipes imported from Germany for the development of oil fields. After the occupation, all of these pipes were used by the Soviet oil industry to restore the oil fields.

* * *

After the defeat at Stalingrad, the Germans realised that it was impossible to break through to the oil reserves in Grozny, so they began to bomb the Grozny oil refineries on Hitler's orders. More than 80 Focke-Wulf bombers performed three rounds of massive air raid on the factories. The oil refineries suffered enormous damage — most of them were knocked out of commission, salvaged oil products were transported across the Caspian Sea to Krasnovodsk and Guryev, and then by rail to the front lines and to other areas. Railway tanks for the transportation of oil were often delivered from Baku to Krasnovodsk by sea, pulled by tugboats. The interruptions in the export of oil and oil products resulted in overfilled Baku oil storage facilities; a large number of wells were mothballed, although the country needed oil in ever increasing quantities: without oil, it was impossible to fight, much less to win.

Given the military situation at the time, it was decided to create new oil production enterprises and oil refineries in the areas of Second Baku — in Bashkiria, the Kuibyshev and Perm Regions, in Central Asia and Kazakhstan — in order to compensate for the losses due to the temporary cessation of operations in the Ukrainian and Caucasus oil-bearing regions. Luckily, some of the equipment had been evacuated to the East before the bombing.

* * *

The role of the eastern regions in the country's total oil production had begun to increase long before the Great Patriotic War. The conditions in which the country found itself in 1942 accelerated the process, since it was necessary to arrange the production of oil in the shortest possible time. It was then that the State Committee of Defence appealed to Baku oil industry workers to move to uninhabited but highly promising oil lands to boost oil production. The oil specialists knew that they were being given an extremely difficult task. About ten thousand Baku oil workers, the best professionals of the Azerbaijan oil industry — drilling specialists, highly-skilled oil production and well repair technicians, people who loved their profession, their work, no matter how hard it was — departed for the eastern regions of the country, most of them taking along their families. The people were badly prepared for travelling to distant parts of the country: they did not have warm clothes; they were only provided with food for the duration of the journey and a cash allowance. People and equipment were taken by passenger ships and tankers from the port of Baku to Krasnovodsk; there they were transported by train to their destination, mainly to Bashkiria, the Perm or Kuibyshev Regions. Unaccustomed to the severe northern climate, Azerbaijan people suffered from cold and illnesses, and many of them died. Notwithstanding the

hardships and losses, the “great relocation” was successfully carried out.

* * *

In the meantime, the front line moved farther and farther away from Baku. In mid-December 1942, after encircling the 300 thousand army headed by Paulus in the Stalingrad Region and the grand counterattack of the Red Army, the State Committee of Defence decided to resume drilling operations in Baku, because the army was suffering from the forced reduction in oil production in the Caucasus. From the end of 1943, drilling operations were intensified and oil exploration drilling was resumed. In the last months of 1944, the Baku oil engineering plants worked tirelessly to meet the needs of the oil industry.

* * *

The harsh winter of 1942-1943 strengthened the friendship between oil workers representing all the peoples of the country: they worked together, making their invaluable contribution to the salvation of their common homeland. The patriotic feeling of all oil workers was well expressed by the employees of the Ishimbay oil field in their appeal to the State Defence Committee: “We know the importance of oil during war. Although we are not fighting on the front lines, we are also an army and are determined to give the country as much oil as it needs. We are doing everything we can to achieve and exceed targets. Each tonne of oil is our blow to Hitler.”

■ Based on the memoirs of Nikolai Baybakov

Nikolai Baybakov is a well-known statesman, who went all the way from an oil engineer to Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Chairman of the USSR State Planning Committee. In his book, Nikolai Baibakov shares his memories of the Great Patriotic War, the oil and gas industry of that period, its relocation from the southern regions to the East, the creation of Second Baku, and the feats of labour of the country's oil workers during the war years.

A Pace to Benefit From

With a view to continuously improving Russian Content, Sakhalin Energy is expanding the scope of business and actively seeking new ways of cooperation with Russian companies.

FOCUS ON ENGINEERING

Since 2017, the company has been implementing an extensive project of contract transfer from foreign designer Production Services Network Sakhalin (PSNS) to the Russian design institute Gazprojectengineering (GPI).

For GPI such a strategic partnership represents an opportunity to learn optimally from the experience and best international practices of a global leader in design, engineering and maintenance in energy and industrial markets.

Sakhalin Energy started securing an appropriate Russian contractor capable of replacing PSNS in the area of technical support and design back in 2013. As a result of analysis of the Russian market, GPI was selected as a strategic partner. In 2016, the companies reached pivotal agreements and in the beginning of the following year PSNS and GPI concluded a 5-year subcontract providing for the final transfer of the contract in 2025. Under the contract, the scopes will be transferred in stages along with a transfer of personnel from PSNS to GPI, exchange of experience and competences as well as gradual replacement of expatriate specialists by Russian colleagues.

During the first three years of a 10-year project implementation, almost the entire engineering staff (more than 100 specialists) were transferred from PSNS to GPI. As of today, more than 150 specialists work in GPI, and the share of GPI staff in the PSNS contract amounts to 46%. A workplace monitoring programme has been introduced to increase the transfer effectiveness of design competences from expatriate to Russian specialists in accordance with international standards, in addition to training that recently had to be stopped due to the spread of the coronavirus and the decline in oil prices. It will resume as soon as the global epidemiological and economic situation stabilises.

The next steps under the project plan will be the development and introduction of a Health, Safety, Environment, Industrial and Fire Safety Management System and preparation of an in-house

IT infrastructure. A transfer of part of the Sakhalin-2 scope to the Voronezh office of GPI and its branch in Rostov-on-Don is planned for the future.

In the beginning of the year, GPI presented the updated project implementation plan according to which the transfer of the contract from PSNS would be possible ahead of the planned schedule (2022-2023). The new plan makes provisions for simultaneous development of several systems in 2020-2021: GPI management, management of information, projects, etc.

At present, GPI is currently participating in the design of offshore assets, construction of helicopter hangars in Nogliki and other facilities for Sakhalin Energy. As part of the Sakhalin Industrial Park project, contract is planned to be

project of identifying Russian-made analogues of the shut-off and control valves (SCV) used to control flow in pipeline transportation systems. In 2019, a working group comprised of staff members

Not only will joint implementation of such a project with the Russian design institute create a baseline for the further development and improvement of domestic solutions, but it will become a powerful engine in developing this sector of Russian industry in the future.

from the Projects Delivery Department and Russian Content Development Department was established for this very purpose.

At the stage of issuance of Terms of Reference, the working group established a unified register of shut-off and control

deviations in accordance with the manufacturer's proposals.

Two company assets have been selected for the implementation of the first stage of the project: the LNG plant and Booster station 2. Over the course of this work 49 unique SCV units and more than 590 potential Russian-made analogues have been identified. The SCV register was developed in coordination with 18 of the largest Russian manufacturers. Based on the results of the first stage and considering the SCV types most commonly used at Sakhalin Energy assets, a subsequent action plan has been defined for the second stage of the project.

Plans for 2020 include the identification of opportunities for SCV pilot-testing and operation at company assets and joint preparation of Sakhalin Energy's technical requirements for SCV testing. The Terms of Reference for this stage have already been developed; negotiations with GPI are currently underway to finalise the scope and deadlines. Implementation of



Joint team of GPI and PSNS employees, Archive photo, 2017

concluded for the development of design documentation for Sakhalin Energy's production and maintenance facility.

A key factor in the successful implementation of a project of such unprecedented scale and complexity was establishing effective cooperation with GPI and PSNS, active engagement of the project team and Supply Chain Management Department at all key stages of project implementation during introduction of additional controls.

LOCALISATION OF SHUT-OFF AND CONTROL VALVES

Another area of work in the context of the strategic partnership with GPI is the

valves of all Sakhalin Energy assets. The register contains all the required information on each relevant valve, its location, technical and operational specifications, as well as configuration data sheets, design and testing standards, additional technical requirements of Shell (MESC SPE) and Sakhalin Energy.

GPI's tasks include comparative technical analysis of Russian and foreign SCV design standards followed by a selection of Russian-made SCV analogues and analysis of deviations related to construction or material. As the result of this work, the unified SCV register will be complemented with a list of Russian-made SCV analogues and list of

the second stage has involved, in addition to the working group members, specialists of the Division of Technical Integrity of Static Equipment and the Equipment and Chemicals Contracts Department.

Moreover, as part of the implementation of the SCV localisation project, Sakhalin Energy is undertaking further work with Russian manufacturers aimed to assess possibilities of periodic valve testing in manufacturer's labs in accordance with the best standards of global leaders of the oil and gas industry and operators of LNG projects.

■ By Dmitry Lushpay,
Virginiya Lakomova, Georgy Zakhov,
Yuriy Lopashchuk

There Is No Limit to Perfection

GLMS system has been used at Sakhalin Energy since 2005. Throughout the years, the specialists of the GLMS Implementation and Support Group have perfectly adapted it to the needs of the company. Nevertheless, they refuse to rest on their laurels: the system is currently undergoing a major improvement stage. Ruslan Ivanys', GLMS Implementation and Support Manager, talks about the latest modifications.



— GLMS is a system managing logistics for Sakhalin-2 project. It allows controlling the movement of the company's employees and contractors across Sakhalin; it means that a user of the system can receive information about the whereabouts of a particular person at any time.

This database is used in all logistic operations related to the staff, including for counting the number of people on board the platforms, and in the distribution of roles and responsibilities in case of an emergency situation.

The system also gets information on the registration of passengers for helicopter flights in Nogliki, as well as check-ins and check-outs of the company employees at hotels. This system is used by our contractors conducting trainings on evacuation from a helicopter under water and from offshore platforms through a special sleeve. All information about the certificates is recorded in the database, so our employees do not need to bring paper copies with them when they arrive for the rotational shift.

We have grandiose plans: we intend to expand the system and introduce it at all production facilities of Sakhalin-2 project, including along the route of the onshore pipelines. Recently, we completed transfer of a tool called

Business Objects (BO) from the contractor's server to the SAP HCM infrastructure base. This tool helps create various reports based on GLMS data.

We accomplished this task with the assistance of specialists from the Data Processing and Storage Subdivision of the IT Department. They set up the SAP infrastructure specifically for our needs. The project was very urgent and required deep knowledge of internal processes, so our colleagues made every effort to transfer the developers' settings to the local server in the shortest possible time and fix all bugs.

Today we have a GLMS server which contains information from quite diverse sources: aviation and maritime logistics, organisation of ground transportation, hotel accommodation, and much more. BO tool makes it used

to generate out-of-box reports based on reporting templates developed by our Group's experts Anatoly Pen and Natalia Butko.

We have identified, in the system, the main system users whose duties include creating reports, and such users can do this independently, at any production facilities of the company. Still, we have to prepare some reports ourselves, for example, a daily report for the General Coordinating Committee on Temporary Accommodation Facilities (TAF). Each self-isolating person is registered in the system; then we automatically generate reports on his or her movements and logistics in general.

It should be noted that the transition to the new platform has given us a number of advantages. Firstly, we can set up the system independently. Secondly, the speed of work has

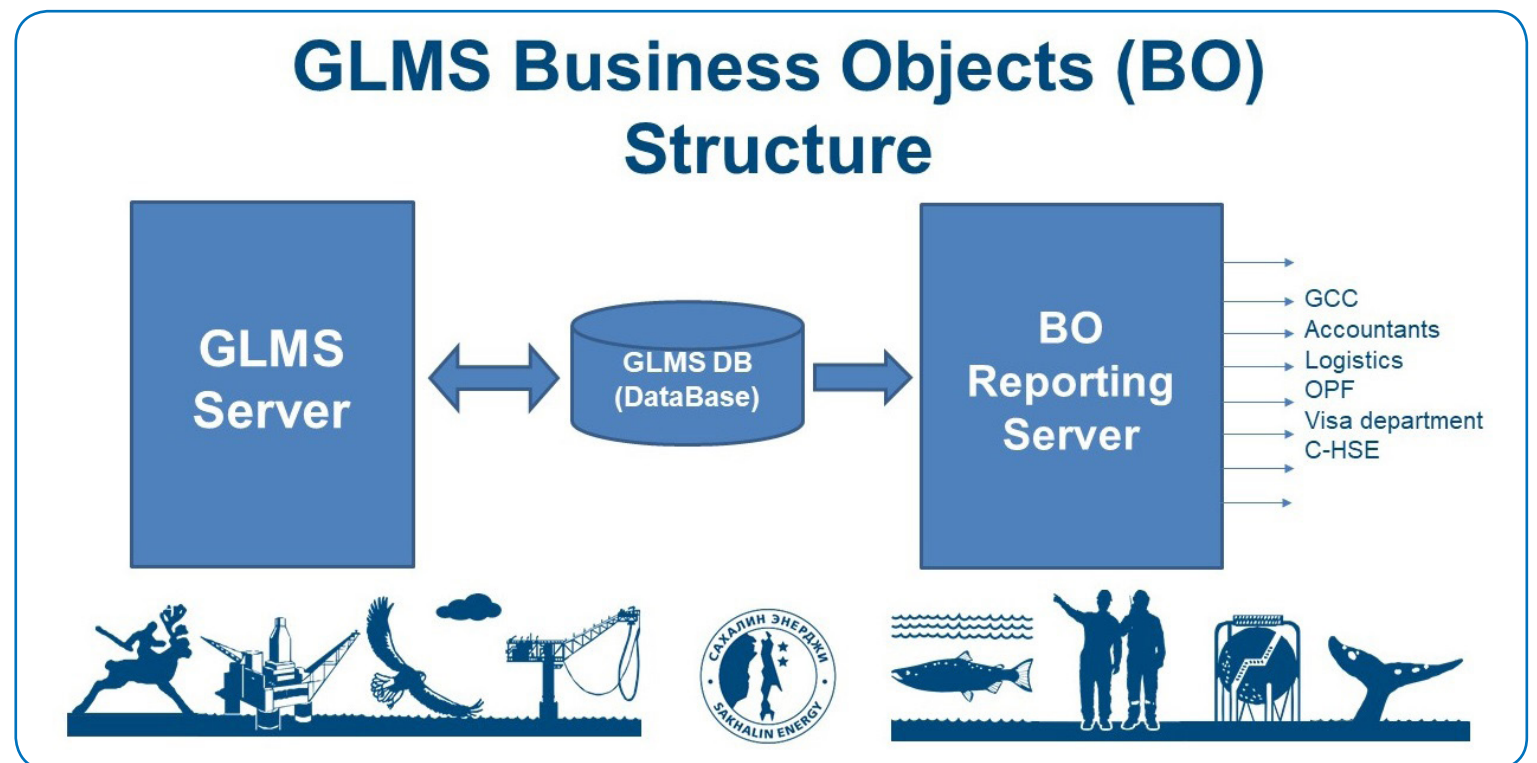
significantly increased. Now we do not have to wait two or three hours until the weekly reboot of the servers is completed or the contractor finishes the maintenance work.

One of the biggest advantages, I think, is working with our support team. Its specialists respond to our requests for modification or solution of any IT problems immediately, as soon as the requests are generated and approved. This is especially important during the

On the part of the GLMS Implementation and Support Group, I would like to thank the specialists from the Data Processing and Storage Subdivision of the Information Technology and Information Management Department, namely, Tatiana Nikulina, Andrey Zolotarev, Andrey Sedov, Egor Derkach, for the cooperation, high-quality efficient work, and the service of the highest professional level.

pandemic, when the rapidly changing situation requires prompt response. Accordingly, new variables in the system should be displayed as quickly as possible, so that we can produce relevant, correct information for production purposes.

■ By Marina Moruga



Learning From Incidents

In addition to the legal requirement for all companies to report and investigate certain types of incidents, there is an opportunity to learn from some of these events and prevent other locations from repeating a similar type of event. If people are aware of what caused these incidents, there is an increased chance of preventing them occurring at their own work location and potentially reducing the risks of injury to people, spills to the environment and damage to company assets and reputation. We call this process — Learning From Incidents.

How do we identify and share learnings?

Most of our assets and functions have Incident Review Panels (IRP). When incidents occur, the investigations are reviewed at these forums, chaired by local leadership, and learning from incident opportunities are more easily identified. Once agreed that it may be relevant to other company lo-

cations, a two-page document is produced identifying; what happened? — what caused it? — what can we learn to prevent it happening again? This document, the LFI Safety Alert, is then distributed to asset and functional focal points for further communication to staff and contractor colleagues at a local level.

How can we learn from these incidents?

As well as providing general information about the incident, the main purpose of sharing is for people to discuss in teams — “Can this type of incident happen at our location?”, “Do we use similar equipment, have similar processes or have we experienced a similar type of event that, fortunately, didn't result in a bad situation occurring?”

The company has been sharing information on incidents since the start of the Sakhalin-2 Phase 2 project. However, up until the last few years, focus was on providing information-only of the event. This type of communication results in ‘passive’ learning. Research studies conducted on how adults learn identified that people have a much higher chance of remembering information and learning when discussions in small groups take place — we call this ‘active’ learning. This is why, whenever possible, we include ‘reflective’ questions into the LFI Alert. This helps stimulate

debate in the team and aims to make the learning focus on their own location, behaviours, equipment and processes.

For further information on the LFI process, please contact Maria Gavrilova or Neil Corbett in the Industrial Safety Department.

Where can I find LFI Safety Alerts?

All issues are accessible to those with a GID account via the ‘LFI Search Tool’ on the Goal Zero webpage. Although this tool has limited search functionality, Industrial Safety Department, IT Department, the Process Safety Team and TDW HSE are collectively working to provide an improved database with much improved functionality. This is expected to be available some time during Q3 this year.

■ By Neil Corbett

We Are Going Online!

For several months now we have been living in a new, unprecedented reality. Quite recently, the company had planned to take part in job fairs and conferences, to hold a large number of face-to-face events with the participation of university graduates. However, the company's plans were frustrated by the totally unexpected pandemic.

Every year, representatives of the Sakhalin Energy HR Subdivision visit oil and gas universities all over the country to recruit their best graduates. This year, COVID-19 made that all impossible. However, many domestic universities quickly got their bearings in the pandemic chaos and switched to an online format. The company received numerous proposals to conduct online lectures for students via Zoom or live on Instagram. We gladly accepted the offers and held several online lectures and conferences.

The first lecture was organised for students of the Far Eastern Federal University (FEFU), Vladivostok. Sergey Parshin, an engineer of the Equipment Monitoring Subdivision, gave a report titled "Prospects and Challenges of Digital Transformation in the Oil and Gas Industry". Sergey spoke in detail about digitalisation and advised his audience where to get the necessary knowledge in

this area, stressing that many well-known energy companies (for example, BP, Shell, Total) included digital technologies in their development strategies. "With giants like Gazprom PJSC, Shell, Mitsui, and Mitsubishi as shareholders, Sakhalin Energy cannot but digitally transform its assets. Young specialists who are enthusiastic about digital technologies and have boundless energy and a desire to implement new interdisciplinary solutions have a unique chance to join in this process and use their knowledge in practice," Sergey Parshin said during the lecture. In conclusion, he pointed out that the labour market will soon have a high demand for professionals who not only have profound knowledge of the discipline they specialise in, but also the skills of using tools for processing and analysing big data.

The lecture was a great success: the students asked many questions, learned information about internship opportunities

at Sakhalin Energy, and afterwards sent positive feedback to the company. In particular, Lilia Lunkova, a FEFU student, received answers to a number of questions and feedback from experts, and also got plenty of food for thought. She wrote: "As it turned out, the issue of digitalisation in the oil and gas industry is quite complicated: there are a number of challenges to using digital technologies due to the particularities of the work in this sector, but it is clear that the industry needs to join the global digitalisation movement."

At the FEFU students' request, Sergey presented another online lecture about the "LNG: technology overview". Our colleague spoke in detail about the LNG, why do we need it, LNG plants and LNG industry perspectives. He devoted a part of his speech to the Sakhalin-2 project and Sakhalin Energy LNG plant. "The World Economic Forum January 2017 report says that digital transformation in the oil and gas sector could bring revenue of up to US\$ 2.5 trillion by 2025. In June 2019, the G20 Summit discussed the key role of natural gas in global energy. And one of the main consumers of gas and importers of LNG is the Asia-Pacific region. Make your decision!" — Sergey noted.

One more online meeting was held jointly with the Faculty of Petroleum and Petrochemistry of Kazan National Research Technological University (KNRTU). Sakhalin Energy started its collaboration with the university not so long ago. Last year, the company invited five KNRTU students who had won the competition for the best student scientific association held as part of the Oil and Gas-2019 Conference at the Gubkin Russian State University of Oil and Gas (we wrote about this event in the September issue of Vesti) to take a study tour of the company. Their work was concerned with LNG production technology, so visiting the Prigorodnoye production complex made a great impression on the young people.

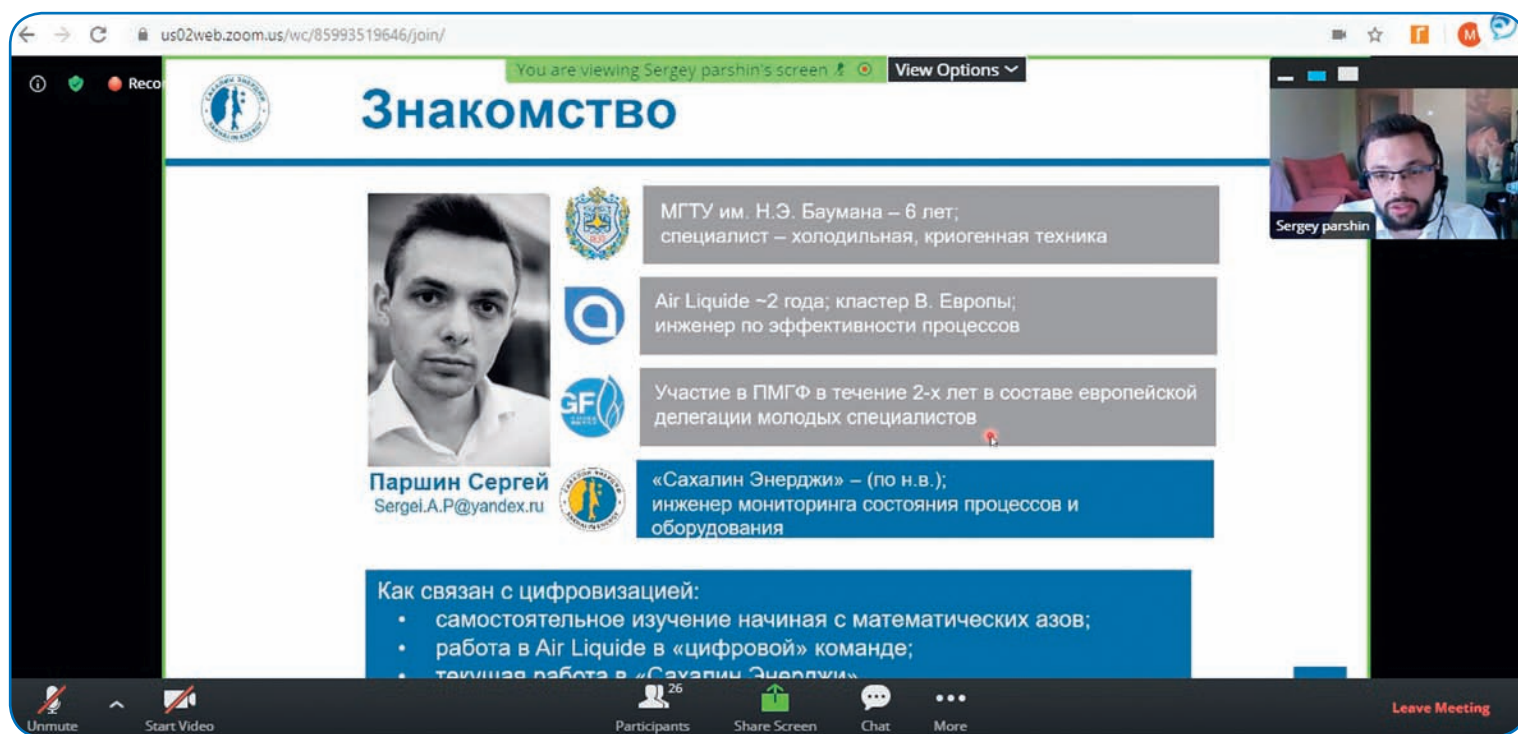
"We had long wanted to talk with Kazan students and tell them about the development programmes, the advantages of employment at the company and living in the Sakhalin Oblast. It is no secret that KNRTU graduates look for work mainly in their republic and are focused on the local labour market. We are trying to make them understand that they need not limit themselves to their home region and encourage them to participate in various competitions, including those held by Sakhalin Energy," said Alexander Morogov, Head of the HR Subdivision.

The webinar was attended by representatives of 12 companies and about 150 students. During the online meeting, specialists from the Human Resources Directorate told KNRTU undergraduates in detail about employment opportunities at Sakhalin Energy and possibilities of building a career in the Sakhalin-2 project.

Today the HR Subdivision is negotiating delivering another thematic lecture jointly with FEFU and considering the possibilities of cooperation with other universities and youth projects.

We hope that the online initiative will not only take root in our company, but will also help many young people to find their vocation and to make the right decision when choosing a career.

■ Maria Nikolaeva



Online session of Sergey Parshin with FEFU students

Best of the Best

Since 2004, the company has been holding an annual Scholarship Programme Contest for Sakhalin Oblast school-leavers.

This year, many things are different. School-leavers will definitely remember the year of 2020, when the normal study and exam procedures underwent radical changes. Despite the unfavourable circumstances, the company, represented by the Human Resources Directorate, decided to hold the Scholarship Programme Contest as usual, albeit in the remote format. So, talented young people from Sakhalin can rest assured: they can count on financial support this year. It will be available to children who plan to go to universities training engineering specialists for the oil and gas industry and related industries.

The urgent task to change the format of the competition and to hold it remotely was set before the Skill Pool Creation and Development Subdivision, or, to be exact, Ilona Kuznetsova and Elena Ilkina. To ensure equal conditions for the applicants and objective assessment of their knowledge and abilities, a



"I was not put off in the least by the remote format of the contest – this only added intrigue, because we could not see the performance of our rivals. During the contest, I got a lot of positive experience and new knowledge. I am really happy that I took part in it and, moreover, reached the finals!"

Nelly Gorbunova

contest commission was set up, which was composed of representatives of the Production, Technical and HR Directorates.

The commission received 16 applications for participation in the contest from Sakhalin school-leavers. Each participant had to go through several stages: writing an essay, an interview,

defence of a project, and an English-language test. This year, the contest included a newly introduced stage – professional testing to assess the analytical abilities of the contestants.

Based on the results of the contest stages, the commission selected six winners (and, therefore, the future potential employees of the company), namely: Yana Kim (Kholmsk), Nelly Gorbunova (Korsakov), Semyon Vybornov (Troitskoye), Boris Dushchenko, Andrei Rusetskiy, and Timur Samatov (Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk). Although these boys and girls have not yet passed their final exams, they already know that they will go to the university of their dreams. On our part, we are confident that they will be excellent students!



"The contest helped me to learn more about Sakhalin Energy and to communicate with people working for the company. A number of interesting stages of the contest broadened my horizons; so did the project activities – it was a great opportunity to show my personal creative qualities."

Andrey Rusetskiy

Innovation is Our Everything

Contrary to the popular belief that the oil and gas industry is hindering the development of high technology, there is plenty of evidence that the greatest achievements of mankind are in fact associated with the oil and gas industry. Some examples include the creation of the internal combustion engine after the discovery of coal gas or the emergence of nanotechnologies as a result of the development of methods for catalytic oil processing. And even the first geophysical model of planet Earth was created by L.S. Leibenzon, the founder of the theory of development of oil and gas fields.

It is well known that the oil and gas sector is important to the Russia's economic structure. This is why the country has an objective need for high-tech and effective development of the sector in accordance with international standards of science, technology, and innovation. Innovation is a discovery which should serve to increase the efficiency of processes or improve product quality. In addition to market relevance, innovation should meet current socio-economic and cultural needs.

At the time when oil prices were booming, Russian oil companies extensively increased their resource base, paying little attention to introducing innovations into the processes and activities of the oil and gas industry. At the same time, many global oil and gas corporations were investing heavily into research that could affect the efficiency and continued performance of companies.

process extra-heavy oil and oil contained, for example, in tar sands. As a result, the share of offshore oil fields in total production has more than doubled over the past 20 years.

One of the most important tasks is to bring the cost of extracting hydrocarbons from hard-to-reach formations down to the level of production from traditional deposits. The number of depleted deposits is increasing, therefore it is necessary to look for ways to reduce risks and costs during exploration. It is assumed that the use of new technologies will lead to cost reductions by 30–50%.

Increasing the oil recovery coefficient is another important factor in improving the operational efficiency of oil and gas companies. Within one company, the changes may be insignificant, but if we consider an increase in oil recovery by 1% on a global scale, this could mean satisfying the demand

42% of its total production volume goes to gas refineries, 40% to generate electricity at state district power plants, and about 18% is used for various purposes and flared. Many companies re-inject gas into the reservoir in order to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, as well as to increase oil recovery – what is known as gas-lift well operation.

Oil refineries often receive as raw materials heavy, sour crude oils with a sufficiently large amount of impurities. This negatively affects the operation of equipment, reducing its service life. Sulphur compounds lead to metal corrosion, which necessitates an increase in the cost of repair and replacement of worn parts. Accordingly, the need for new research and development is growing. A variety of secondary processes are used to increase processing depth, for example, coking, deasphalting, and thermal cracking: they help to ensure high processing depth.

trol can be seen as another good example of the company's innovative activity. The method is designed to increase the amount of LNG output by increasing the efficiency of the liquefaction cycle. This has been made possible by optimising the process of controlling the composition of the mixed refrigerant. This innovation is successfully used in the company.

The company also implements a digitalisation strategy and a proactive approach to maintenance, which includes, among other things, a predictive monitoring system. The main tool in this area is specialised software that uses individual equipment models and advanced methods of pattern recognition, machine learning technology, and learning the unique profile of the installation operation, taking into account the actual load and operating conditions. The program compares historical data on the operation of equipment with operational data in order to detect minor changes in the operation of equipment and is able to detect changes in the behaviour of the system long before the emergency protection system is activated, giving operators more time to analyse the situation and take the necessary preventive measures.



The Prigorodnoye production complex

According to statistics, international American and European companies are leading in the world in the total amount of funding for scientific research. The top positions here are held by ExxonMobil, an American company, and Total, a French oil and gas company.

When oil prices began to decline significantly, the issue of development, application of new technologies, implementation of the results of scientific research and scientific and technological developments at all stages of production, from geological prospecting to generating petroleum products, gained additional momentum, both in the world and in Russia. Investment risks in the hydrocarbon production industry are growing due to the increasing remoteness of fields from consumption areas, the expansion of the offshore exploration zone, and the cost of construction of facilities for new fields.

New technologies help to solve these problems and make it possible to extract and

for two to three years. Thirty years ago, the oil recovery coefficient across the globe averaged 15–20%. Currently, overall, this figure is about 35%. But in different regions and at different fields it is different: in the regions where innovations are applied, the oil recovery coefficient can reach (or even exceed) 50%.

Throughout the entire cycle of exploration, development, and production, drilling still remains the most expensive element. However, there are technologies that help reduce costs here too. An example is the use of environmentally friendly small-diameter wells, which reduce operating costs and capital investment by 40%. Cluster drilling and drilling horizontal, deviated, and multi-lateral wells can reduce the number of wells and increase oil uptake. In addition, making improvements to drilling equipment can significantly reduce drilling time.

Another promising area is the use of associated gas produced in the fields. Currently,

One of the main tasks of Russian gas and oil refineries is the modernisation of equipment. A significant number of industrial technologies that are competitive in the global market have already been developed in the country, and Sakhalin Energy has become a pioneer in solving a number of industry problems.

In particular, a new method for coating high-temperature process pipelines with thermally sprayed aluminium (TSA), which creates a protective layer against corrosion under insulation, was tested at the LNG Plant. The main advantage of this method is that the TSA coating is resistant to a wide range of ambient temperatures and surfaces, which increases the service life and warranty period. The introduction of this method significantly increases the resistance of process pipelines to corrosion under insulation, and also reduces the cost of periodic restoration of the coating.

Sakhalin Energy's patented innovation in the area of natural gas liquefaction con-

New technical solutions created and implemented in the production activities of the company not only make it possible to optimise technological processes and achieve high production indicators, but also to form the company's intellectual portfolio. And this means competitive advantages in the long run in both the domestic and global markets.

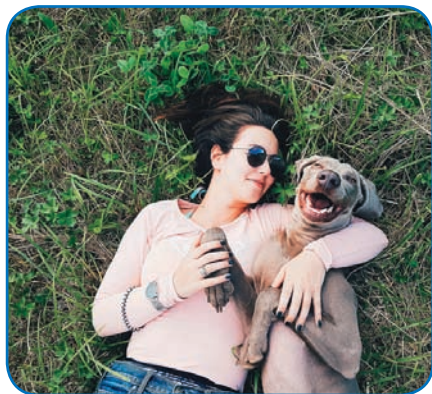
The creation, development, and implementation of new technologies today helps oil and gas companies withstand the global crisis and even rise to a new level of development. To increase innovation activity, Russian enterprises need a favourable climate, including the creation of infrastructure and the organisation of training and retraining of personnel.

The future of oil and gas companies lies with the development of new technologies, and Sakhalin Energy is proof positive of this.

■ Prepared by Alexander Kiselev based on the materials of: www.ng.ru, ru.wikipedia.org

Little Strokes Fell Great Oaks

“My most hated phrase in a store is “Take a plastic bag, it’s free!”
Ekaterina Korzinina talks about how she minimises waste.



— I was a typical urban child. The Robinson-type life never appealed to my parents. My views changed when my friend and I began to travel around Sakhalin. The more we travelled, the more I liked it. This discovery, however, led me to think about how people treat the precious gift of the extraordinary nature of the island. We preferred to travel off the beaten track, but, sadly, wherever we went, we saw human traces, even in the most hard-to-reach places: polyethylene bags, plastic bottles, pieces of paper, packaging, and other rubbish scattered around. To me, the sight of it causes almost physical pain.

To study the problem more deeply, I began to watch the National Geographic channel. I was virtually shocked by some facts about the human footprint on the planet. I could not but agree with the statement that man is the most dangerous predator on earth. I have a visual personality, so when I notice some disturbing actions, I immediately see a depressing picture in my mind’s eye and get really scared. For instance, a person takes a plastic bag in a store to put the purchases in. The bag will serve him

only twenty minutes — the time necessary to bring the purchases to his home, but it will take more than a dozen years for it to decompose. As for me, I have fabric and string bags in all my handbags and backpacks. By the way, string bags are all the rage now. I am told they are made by blind people; there is even a project, A String Bag Gives Hope, which addresses the topical environmental problem and, at the same time, provides employment for people with disabilities. Sometimes I forget to take a fabric or string bag when leaving home. Then I try and buy fewer goods, and carry them in my hands. Of course, people look at me in an odd way, probably, suspecting me of inadequacy.

I must say that I am happy to work for a company that cares about the environment — not only in a global sense, but also at the household level. Sorting of household waste has long been organised for the company employees in our offices, residential camps and complexes. It’s a great pity that similar attempts taken on Sakhalin in this area have been insignificant so far. I would love to sort garbage at home, too, but we don’t have such practice yet. Some companies turn up time and again, claiming that they are ready for recycling waste, but we do not see any clear-cut realistic strategy.

For several years now, I have been participating in environmental campaigns organised by Sakhalin Energy twice a year, and I am impressed that more and more people are willing to spend their personal time to make a difference and change a little part of the world for the better. Our employees bring their relatives and friends to take part in Voluntary Community Work

Days, even though some of them do not work for the company. It is a pity that COVID-19 prevented the organisation of the campaign this spring, but I hope that we will have an opportunity to catch up this autumn.

Unfortunately, self-isolation does not involve any decrease in the volume of household waste. We cook more often and have more time for cleaning. All this leads to a growth of garbage amounts. We buy more food, detergents, and all of them come in plastic packaging. The time when we went to the store with our own can for milk or sour cream is history.

I am looking forward to the moment when the quarantine is finally lifted and our life is back to normal. When I go to my office, I intend to take food in glass containers, so as not to use lunch boxes. I am already used to doing so. It is very easy to wash them later. I even take my own mug and plate to tea parties so as not to use plastic tableware. I cannot avoid using plastic completely, but at least I do my best to minimise its use.

I do not have a recipe that would help to solve the problem of waste globally, but at least I try to take small steps in this direction. I hope the saying “Little strokes fell great oaks” is true, if a bit non-environmental. I do not think that prohibitions will yield considerable results. Any compulsion gives rise to resistance. In this particular case, a personal example is much more effective. It will help turn the minority into a majority and introduce a new social norm — to love and protect nature for real.

■ By Elena Gurshal

ecosphere

The Best Time to Plant a Tree



As that old Chinese proverb would say, the best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The next best time is now. Sakhalin OPFC team joined forces to mark the World Environment Day (5 June) by planting 100 evergreen trees in the camp for the future park project, office area and alongside of walking trails. This is how the team has joined, as a participant, the nation-wide eco contest called “Green Spring 2020”.

Additional activities for the month of June included environmental and biodiversity awareness via videos, posters, and toolbox talks across the site, inspections of the water faucets to prevent leaks and maximize water conservation. Great initiative and team effort!

Plastic less life!

3 July is Plastic Free Bag Day. To view the problem broader, it is not only about to refuse using plastic bags (thought it is very important), but to stop using any polymers and reduce the volume of poisoning garbage that ruin our planet.

Because of the pandemic, the issue of excessive waste generation became even more critical. Many employees of Sakhalin Energy work remotely. Consequently, they and their families spend most of their time at home. As a result, they produce more household waste. An average family of 3–4 people throw out more than two garbage bags per day, and over 50% of this waste is made of plastic — one of the biggest threats to the environment. It takes plastic over 400 years to decompose; but when burned it releases toxic fumes and inhibits gas exchange in soil and water bodies.

Unfortunately, today we cannot completely avoid plastic. What we can do is significantly cut down its use following these simple rules:

- Buy products without unnecessary packaging (especially if it is unmarked plastic). All packaging without the recycling symbol and identification of the type of plastic ends up in landfills.
- Whenever possible, choose reusable products and containers (use replaceable shoes instead of shoe covers, replace the plastic bag with a comfortable eco bag, etc.);
- Don’t use plastic straws, disposable razors, lighters, plastic bags, etc.
- Carry your own water bottle.
- Choose reusable coffee capsules over single-serve.

An opinion survey about one’s readiness to reduce plastic waste was conducted among the company’s offices employees. About 30% of the total number of employees working in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk took part. Among the respondents, more than 60% are ready to refuse drinks in plastic bottles, disposable tableware and containers, and to use an individual wastebasket. In addition, 17% have already abandoned drinks in plastic containers, 35% refused from disposable tableware, and 4% — from an individual waste bin.

• Brew loose-leaf tea at home! Did you know that most tea bags contain plastic? Polymers are added to make them sturdier. According to some tea producers, most consumers don’t realise the pouches have polypropylene fibres in them. As a result, a simple tea bag is actually not fully biodegradable and up to 20–30% of its materials linger in the environment.

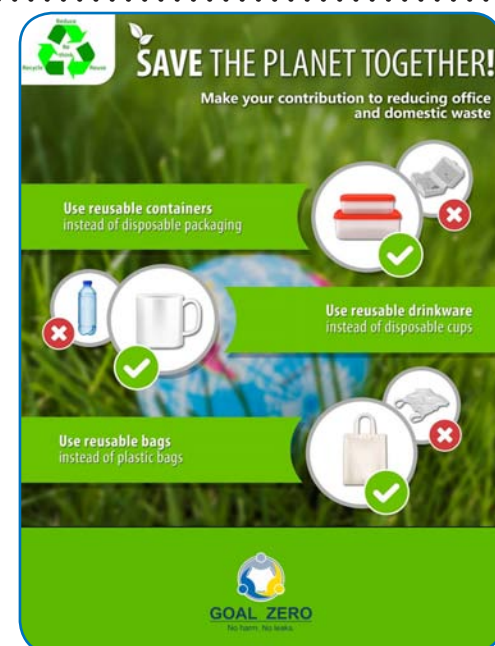
In cases when you have no choice but to use disposable items, afterwards you need to submit them for recycling. Recycling grants a second life to plastic goods that have already served their purpose: such waste is used to manufacture various packaging (bottles, containers, buckets, flowerpots, etc.), car and engine parts, medical drips, shoe covers, monitor and TV casings, stationery products, and so on.

Sakhalin Energy takes a number of actions to minimise the generation of plastic waste: where possible, production assets completely

or partially refused to use disposable tableware, replaced plastic bottles with drinking water coolers. At all company facilities, such waste is collected in separate containers and then transferred to specialised contractors for further handling. Annually, the company submits about 115 tonnes of polyethylene and polypropylene packaging waste for recycling. This takes a lot of efforts and resources: work of the staff that collects and stacks these materials, as well as their transportation to the recycling site. Which is why it is so important to strive to produce less waste.

In our households, we are the ones responsible for generating plastic waste and its subsequent disposal in landfills or, even worse, for them making their way to the environment.

Each of us should think first: do I really need this one-time thing? Do I know how to properly dispose it after use? Do I have to put my purchases in a plastic bag in the supermarket?



There is an organisation in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk that accepts plastic waste from the public. You can learn more about minimising waste at the Internal web site.

Let’s be considerate towards nature and practice personal responsibility.

■ By Elena Kurochkina, Marina Moruga

International plastic bag free day is a global initiative that aims to eliminate or radically reduce the use of single-use plastic bags in the world and to make society aware of the over-consumption of plastic bags and disposable products and work towards developing more responsible and more environmentally friendly habits.

Constantly Fight and Constantly Win

“I am sure everyone will agree with me that no object is more worthy of a thinking, inquisitive person’s attention than the inner world and everyday life of every thinking person,” believed Nikolai Pirogov. The hero of our column is Alexander Ochkin, the Molikpaq platform doctor, who considers the great Russian scientist and outstanding surgeon to be his moral example.

— Alexander, we cannot help asking you the traditional question: “How did you choose this profession?”

— I was born and raised in the town of Chekhov (now a village) in the Kholmsk District on Sakhalin. I spent my childhood on the shore of the Tatar Strait. That is why I dreamed, just like many of my peers, of becoming a captain — the romance of sea travel made this profession irresistible to me. Nevertheless, my close relatives, Aunt Galina Makarovna Yakusheva and Uncle Vitaly Ivanovich Yakushev, well-known Sakhalin doctors, somehow managed to persuade me to focus on medicine.

— That is, they encouraged you to become a pilot of the human body instead of a sea captain?

— You could say that. When I left school, I applied to the Khabarovsk Medical Institute and was admitted. After graduation with a degree in Anaesthesia Resuscitation, I knew that I was destined to work as a doctor. I will conditionally divide my speciality into “anaesthesiologist” and “resuscitator” for you to better understand what each of the specialities involves and why these two aspects are combined into one. Many people think that an anaesthesiologist is a physician who just “drugs and anaesthetises” a patient. In fact, this doctor plays a much more significant role: an anaesthetist protects the patient in the operating theatre, monitors the progress of the surgery and all vital functions of the body. As for resuscitators, they work with pa-

icine, and requires profound knowledge and impeccable practical skills.

— What were your first steps in medicine?

— After graduating from the medical university, I worked as an anaesthetist-resuscitator in a maternity hospital in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk. In 1996 I moved to Krasnogorsk (now a village), where I worked in a similar position in the city hospital.

— How did you come to work on Sakhalin-2 project?

— When I was taking my annual holiday in 2007, I was offered to work on the Piltun-Astokhskoye-B platform as a shift doctor. When I was approaching the facility on a helicopter, I was impressed by the size of the offshore facility. I had nev-

— Why did you decide to quit work in the state healthcare sector and get a job with International SOS, a medical company which provides services to operators of offshore projects, among other clients?

— Actually, it was a blessing in disguise. Due to the “optimisation” of the budgetary healthcare system in 2014, there was staff reduction in the Krasnogorsk hospital. My position was eliminated, I was laid off, so I had to look for work elsewhere. Since I had experience in working on offshore projects, I joined International SOS without much hesitation. Thus I have been working on the Molikpaq platform since 2015. The platform team is friendly and close-knit. You know that you are working with professionals who will help you any time you need it, so you can always count on them.

— Have you had any difficult cases in your work? If so, how did you deal with them?

— Of course there have been some challenging situations, but I would prefer not to talk about any of them specifically. The main problem is bad weather conditions which often make it impossible to evacuate a patient to the shore, so it is necessary

Of course, the current situation poses new challenges for us all. The working time of the rotational shift personnel has increased, which has led to a growth of stress experienced by employees. In this difficult situation, a physician also has to be a psychologist, because some problems cannot be solved with pills – sometimes a heart-to-heart conversation is much more effective.

precedented, extremely difficult situation: the coronavirus has turned upside down many of our ideas regarding personal safety, changed our attitude to doctors and our health...

— Of course, the current situation poses new challenges for us all. The working time of the rotational shift personnel has increased, which has led to a growth of stress experienced by employees. In this difficult situation, a physician also has to be a psychologist, because some problems cannot be solved with pills – sometimes a heart-to-heart conversation is much more effective.

— How does your family feel about your choice to work as a doctor on an “iron island”? How did they adjust to the long periods of separation, the inability to live like other families do?

— With understanding. It is very difficult indeed. My son is 13 years old. Of course, I would like to always be there for him, to support him, to share his joys and sorrows, to help him overcome the challenges of growing up. But it has turned out differently. I am grateful to my nearest and dearest for being my mainstay, my harbour. They always look forward to my return from the shift, and the day of my arrival is a holiday in the family. I still live in Krasnogorsk. I do not intend to leave Sakhalin – it is my small homeland.

— Could you name a person who would serve as a moral example for you?

— Of the famous doctors, I have always looked up to Nikolai Pirogov, the founder of military field surgery. Many of his methods in emergency medicine are still relevant. His motto “To live in this world means to constantly fight and con-

stantly win” is my credo in life.

— What are the main qualities of a good doctor?

— Dedication. Without it, a person cannot possibly be a good doctor. This profession imposes certain self-obligations: if you feel that you are not capable of self-sacrifice, you had better find a different job.

— What would you like to wish to young doctors who are making the first steps on their career path?

— They must understand that they should not try to cope with all problems on their own. They must consult with experienced colleagues more often. They must remember that they are working alongside kind and approachable people, professionals, who are always ready to help.

■ By Elena Gurshal



Many people think that an anaesthesiologist is a physician who just “drugs and anaesthetises” a patient. In fact, this doctor plays a much more significant role: an anaesthetist protects the patient in the operating theatre, monitors the progress of the surgery and all vital functions of the body. As for resuscitators, they work with patients who are in a terminal state – this is a reversible condition in which a person is between “heaven and earth”, figuratively speaking, so the task of a resuscitator is to bring this patient back to life, and do it as soon as possible at that. This occupation is closely connected with all branches of medicine, and requires profound knowledge and impeccable practical skills.

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er seen anything like that before. In fact, I had worked at offshore facilities for 2 or 3 months during my holidays since 2005. During that period, I visited many sites of the project: the offshore platforms, the Prigorodnoye production complex, the pipeline construction site.

to provide full medical aid on site. This, of course, requires the doctor to have comprehensive knowledge and practical skills. Another problem is that patients come to the medical room with a variety of health problems and sometimes need help of a specialist doctor. On the shore, you can refer a patient to the appropriate specialist for consultation. On remote facilities, it is not always possible to arrange this, so you have to be a “Jack of all trades” at times. My experience of work in a small rural hospital, where I had to do the work of a surgeon, a therapist, an obstetrician-gynaecologist and sometimes even a dentist, was of great help to me.

— Your experience in practical medicine helps to solve everyday problems related to health. Today, however, doctors face an un-

From Zero Gravity to the Treadmill

Recently, a group of Prigorodnoye production complex employees put forward an unusual initiative – to hold a sports tournament which, by analogy with the Ready for Work and Defence (RWD) standard, was named RWP. This newly-coined abbreviation means “Ready for Work and Production”.

Strange as it may seem, it was COVID-19 which prompted the idea of the RWP tournament. At the same time, there is nothing surprising about it – unfortunately, the coronavirus pandemic has had a serious impact on both our production activities and daily life. Whenever we face challenges, we seek advice from wise men of the past. One of these men, Aristotle, suggested choosing the lesser evil, and Cicero, another outstanding philosopher, added: “Among evils one ought not only to choose the least, but also to extract even from these any element of good that they may contain.”

In actuality, the entire Prigorodnoye production complex team is working on a rotational basis. Before the employees of a new shift are admitted to work, they spend two weeks in quarantine under observation. Even though the company has done everything possible to create comfortable conditions for the period of forced ‘doing nothing’, staying in isolation is hard on everyone.

“You cannot possibly run a marathon in

your room, so you walk from your bed to the TV set and back instead,” says Evgeny Kovalyov, Head of Corporate Safety Division. “When your self-isolation period is finally over, you trudge out as if you had lost the ability to walk. Like after a space flight with zero gravity.”

A lack of exercise always leads to putting on extra weight. These are the two problems that the RWP tournament is designed to solve. Having always supported initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle and create a favourable psychological climate in the team, the company enthusiastically supported this one, too. Thus, despite the challenges of the time, the Prigorodnoye management team arranged a gym in the territory of the Yunona rotational shift camp which is run by Victor Usov, a sports instructor. It was he who was appointed the RWP Chief Consultant.

The tournament is open to all employees of the Prigorodnoye production complex (medical contraindications are the only restriction). Everyone willing to participate should register first. The sports part of the

competition includes running on a treadmill, exercising on a stationary bike, doing bar dips, push-ups, flexibility exercises, crunches, and pull-ups. For each stage, competitors will be awarded points, which will be added up at the end of the tournament. Those who want to lose weight can compete in a special event in which the winner will be the one who has lost more kilograms. For this purpose, contestants must keep to a healthy diet and undergo a weekly weigh-in. There is one strict condition: if any of the contestants does not lose at least a kilogramme per week, they will be excluded from the competition.

Victor Usov is ready to provide all necessary help. He advises participants on how to complete the tournament events successfully, suggests how to do the exercises correctly, helps to develop a diet plan, and distributes memos with useful tips for losing extra kilograms. “By virtue of my profession and my personal conviction, I am a supporter of a healthy lifestyle, and I am also happy to promote all related initiatives,” Victor explains.

The sports and fitness tournament is a good opportunity for mental relaxation after a busy day; it helps to relieve stress and anxiety, as well as to re-establish emotional balance.

“Working on a rotational shift is very much like running a marathon,” compares Nikolay Nosov, a participant in the tournament. “It is important to distribute your energy correctly,



Gym in the territory of the Yunona rotational shift camp

in order to be as efficient as possible along the entire distance and reach the finish line as the winner. Exercising helps a lot to achieve this.”

The winners of the RWP tournament will be awarded with diplomas and valuable prizes on 11 July.

■ By Elena Gurshal

Safety in Colours and Emotions

Boys and girls attending the Children’s Centre in Zima Highland Residential Complex made brightly coloured and expressive posters for the Safety Corner, when communicating with one another and their teachers remotely. The important point is that all the rules illustrated by the children also apply to us, adults, and not only on Safety Days at that.



The children’s parents actively supported the teachers’ initiative: they helped their sons and daughters to design funny collages and send the creative photographs of their young “photo models”. In most cases, these were truly family projects jointly created by all household members.

It is worth noting that the workers of the Children’s Centre constantly search for effective approaches to working with their students.

For this purpose, they regularly discuss issues of safe behaviour and developing useful habits in children. Safety Minute meetings during the week, preparation of thematic information stands, arranging Safety Holidays with the cartoon hero Senya have long become important components of the developing programme in the Children’s Centre.

■ By Irina Nemykina



safety

Survey Is Over. Questions Remain

Two months ago, a survey was conducted on the effectiveness of communications during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sakhalin Energy continues an active information campaign aimed at ensuring personnel's awareness about our work in the conditions of strict anti-epidemic measures.

What regulations govern employees' arrival in Sakhalin? What can be sent to them when they are self-isolating in a Temporary Accommodation Facility? Where can one be tested for COVID-19 in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk?

You can find answers to these and many other questions on the special COVID-19 page of the company's internal corporate website. The banner leading to this section is on the home page.

The section presents information messages from the General Coordinating Committee. More than 40 such messages were published in the period from February to June. They contain up-to-date information about the anti-epidemic rules that apply to the company staff and those regulating people's life and work in the territory of the Sakhalin Oblast.

In this section, you can also find federal and regional decrees and orders that impose certain limitations on our actions in the time of the pandemic.

We all went through exceptionally stressful days, attentively watched the speeches of the President of Russia and the Sakhalin Oblast Governor, listening for answers to our questions. Governor Valery Limarenko continues to communicate with the population on a regular basis, giving updates on the situation with the coronavirus disease in the region in the format of live broadcasts. Statements and summaries of all relevant meetings (as well as all materials on the COVID-19 page) in Russian and English are promptly posted in 'Statements and Meetings of the President of the Russian Federation' and 'Information from the Government of the Sakhalin Oblast' sections.

'Information Materials' section is one of the largest. It begins with a block diagram of the General Coordinating Committee chaired by the Chief Executive Officer. The diagram represents the structure and composition of all Task Forces

which daily monitor the assurance of the company's business continuity in the current environment.

This section provides a lot of material for rotational shift personnel: a memo with important information to be read before leaving for the rotational shift, a brochure with all the necessary guidelines for quarantine in the corporate temporary housing areas, a list of online training courses that can be completed during the 14-day self-isolation period, instructions for online training and work in the Olimpoks system.

There is another document, relevant to each of us: the rules for entry into the Sakhalin Oblast. The requirements for those arriving in the region changed many times during May. An updated summary of the requirements is available in 'Entry into the Sakhalin Oblast' memo, so each of us and our family members can keep abreast of the latest information.

The hotline received more than 350 calls in the period from 23 March to 23 June.

The same section contains thematic presentations: Coronavirus and Preventive Measures, Remote Work and Self-Isolation, Chronic Fatigue Prevention, Information Security. The latter is especially important in the conditions of increased preparedness for emergency situations and once again reminds us that we must not publish photos and videos of the production and administrative facilities of the company, including Temporary Accommodation Facilities, send or post them on social media and messengers.

On this page, you will also find some useful links: links to the websites of the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation, the Russian Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Wellbeing (Rospotrebnadzor), and Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, which provide updates on COVID-19 world statistics in real time.

The Answers to Frequently Asked Questions section contains the largest amount of information. It is arranged in thematic blocks: Self-Isolation, Quarantine, Remote Work; Rotational Shift Work; Medical Assistance, Sick Leave, Testing for COVID-19; Organisation of Shift Personnel Rotation.

A strong corporate culture is of utmost importance during the pandemic. The company leadership makes every effort to keep up the team spirit in the challenging time by holding art



COVID-19 web page on the Intranet

contests, in particular, 'World in Focus' annual photo contest which will continue until 1 August and 'Coronatales' contest being a new contest of drawings and stories about the coronavirus (the deadline for application is 25 June). All entries prepared and submitted by us, company employees, and our children — photographs, drawings, fairy tales — are available on the web pages of the contests. This is truly an interesting section that will certainly amaze you and bring a smile to your face.

Almost all information posted on the Sakhalin Energy Intranet is duplicated on the company's external website, for the rotational shift personnel, employees of contracting and subcontracting organisations to have convenient access to the information.

The epidemiological situation in the Sakhalin Oblast remains alarming. We still have many unanswered questions. If you do not find information you need on the COVID-19 page, do not hesitate to call the hotline. It continues to operate around the clock. The phone number is the same: +7 914 759 4711.

Keep informed and take care of your health!

Participate in the Survey – Support the Company



Sakhalin Energy has been repeatedly honoured with awards in the field of personnel management. For example, in the jubilee year of 2019, we won the contest of the Ministry of Energy of the Russian Federation for the best socially oriented company in the oil and gas industry; later we received an award for talent pool development in the

All-Russian contest of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs.

This year, we decided to compete for top positions in the annual ranking of employers which has been compiled by HeadHunter, a major Russian on-line recruitment company, since 2013. This is one of the most prestigious and large-scale ratings in the country. In the assessment of employers, it takes into account international best practices. The performance of each participating company is analysed from three aspects: external evaluation (by potential applicants), internal evaluation (by full-time employees), and assessment of the HR processes development at the company.

The analysis procedure is quite simple. An e-mail is sent to an employee, requesting him/her to take part in a survey. The employee is asked to follow the link provided in the letter and answer a few questions. The survey is anonymous, and all information received from respondents is strictly confidential.

Sakhalin Energy is participating in this rating for the first time. The study is conducted using the Employee Net Promoter Score (eNPS) — an indicator that measures the loyalty of employees to the organisation they work for.

We invite direct-hire to take part in the survey and answer seven simple questions. Your responses will help us to analyse the current situation and determine the future strategy and priorities of the company in the area of personnel management. You can complete the on-line survey by 30 September, using the QR code or clicking on the link that will be sent to you by e-mail. This will take you no more than five minutes.

Thank you for helping the company become better!

By Maria Nikolaeva

English for Employees and Other People

training

There is hardly any field of activity in the company that does not require the knowledge of English. English language skills are of vital importance for the assurance of internal work processes, participation in the meetings of the Tender Board, inter-functional meetings, and many other events. In addition, many professional training courses that company employees are nominated for are conducted in English.

As regards office workers, they can learn English in our training centre. Employees working on a rotational basis do not have such an opportunity. Therefore they study the language at training centres at the place of their permanent residence or online. There are a lot of offers on the Internet, but it is important to make a correct choice so that the provider of training services is professional and reliable.

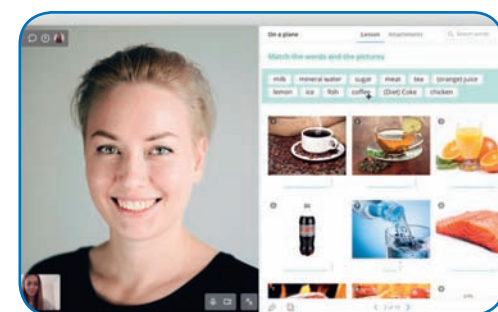
Skyeng Online English Language School cooperates with Russian and international companies such as Rosatom, Gazprom Neft, Yandex, Sberbank, Mail.ru Group, Wargaming, Epam, and many more.

The management of the school has offered a discount of 39% to Sakhalin Energy employees*, their children, relatives, and friends.

To view the school's platform, determine your English proficiency level, and sign up for training, go to corporate.skyeng.ru/sakhalinenergy. It is recommended to use the latest versions of Chrome, Opera, Mozilla browsers and your personal mobile devices.

*In accordance with the Personnel Learning and Development Standard, the company reimburses the cost of training for employees working on a rotational basis, if this training has been planned in advance.

By Natalia Do



Источник: corporate.skyeng.ru

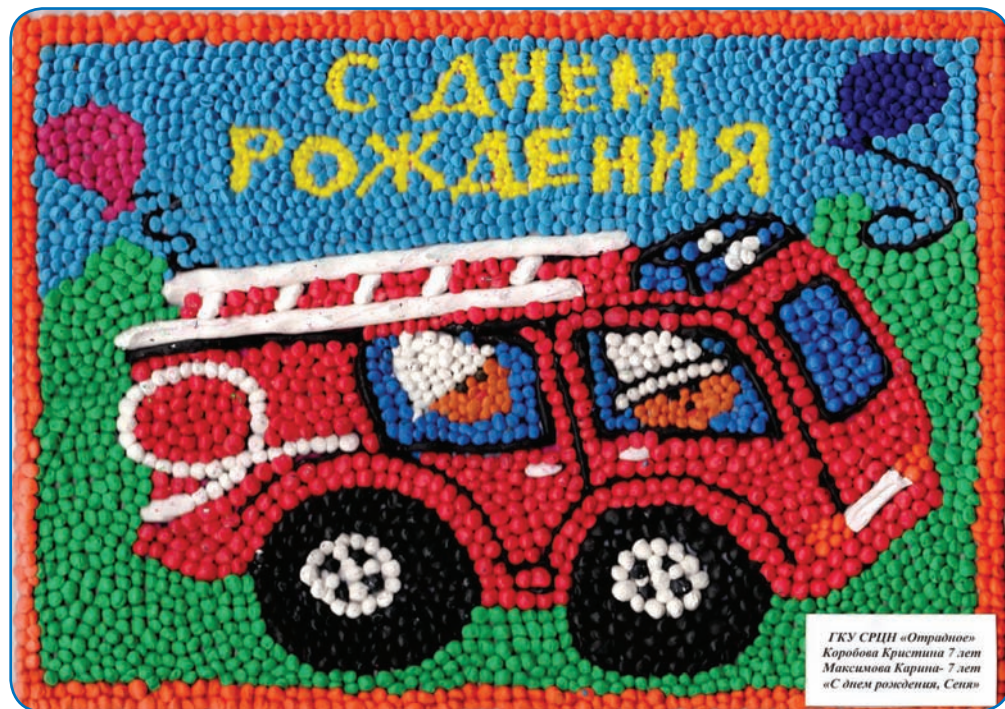
Happy Birthday, Senya!

Safety Is Important! partnership programme and its hero Senya celebrate their 15th anniversary. Congratulations are accepted as part of Happy Birthday, Senya! art contest.

According to Anna Lygina, Lead Specialist of the Sakhalin Energy Social Performance Subdivision, the popular cartoon hero has already received drawings, postcards, posters, poems, a song, and even video greetings. Entries were submitted for the contest not only by residents of Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, but also by people from the Aniva, Dolinsk, Korsakov, Nevelsk, and Kholmsk Districts.

“People of all ages – from children under six to adults over 50 – are writing to Senya. Our hero is really happy receiving each congratulation. After all, the more like-minded friends he has, the safer our life will be,” Anna Lygina added.

If you want to send your greetings to Senya, you still have time to do so: congratulations are accepted until 30 July at senya_spasatel@mail.ru. Works in hard



Congratulation poster from a creative team of International Collaboration Informational Centre of Sakhalin Regional Library

copy can be sent by the same deadline to the following address: 35 Dzerzhinskogo Str., Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 693020.

We remind you that you can show your artistic skills and imagination in five categories: Greeting Card (3+), Congratulatory Poster (7+), Video Greetings (10+), Literary Greetings (7+), Congratulatory Song (7+). For more detailed information about the conditions for participation in each category, see the Contest Regulations posted on the company's website www.sakhalinenergy.ru.

You can send either an individual or team application to the contest. Entries

prepared by the whole family are highly welcome. The excellence of execution is not a primary criteria for evaluation. The main requirement is originality. Your creative ideas will be evaluated by a professional jury. Winners will receive valuable gifts.

Please note that all entries will be posted on Senya_spasatel Instagram page (with #Senyakonkurs15 hashtag). The most interesting and sincere congratulations will be chosen by voting, and their authors will also be awarded prizes.

■ By Pavel Ryabchikov

announcement

Digital Care

Sakhalin Energy has announced a call for applications for a new grant competition – Digitalisation of Educational and Social Services. The competition is for non-profit organisations, including state-financed institutions, working in the field of education and social support.

The competition is held by the Energy Social Initiatives Fund and is aimed at mitigating the adverse impact of the coronavirus pandemic and developing innovative activities of non-profit organisations.

The goal of the competition is to support NPOs and institutions that are willing to adapt to new conditions and challenges of the time and implement online/remote methods of working offering new ways to assist in the education and social support to the most vulnerable population.

Districts involved in the competition – Nogliki, Tymovsk, Poronaysk, Makarov, Smirnykh, Dolinsk, Aniva, Korsakov, Kholmsk, Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

The winners will receive financial support of up to 600 thousand rubles.

This competition will finance socially significant projects in two areas:

- Digitalisation in education (support for education projects).
- Digital care (support for vulnerable population care projects – the elderly, the disabled, children left without parental care, the poor, etc.).

Consideration of applications and decisions on funding shall be made on a monthly basis. All applications received during the previous month will be considered until the 10th of each month (i.e. until 10 July, we will consider all applications that are received during June and further applications received before 30 September will be considered until 10 October).

For advice on the competition participation conditions, please call +7 4242 66 2774 or send an e-mail to fondenergy@mail.ru.

For the competition regulations and application form, visit the company website www.sakhalinenergy.com.

bookshelf

Legends of the Uilta

Legends of the Uilta is digitally published on the Sakhalin Energy website.

The company has prepared this one of a kind edition for Elena Alekseevna Bibikova's anniversary. She is the Uilta storyteller who for years contributes immensely to the cultural development of one of the smallest ethnic group in the world.

Elena Alekseevna recalls her childhood in the taiga and tells us the background of the two legends, Ainu Girl and The Ongon Spirit, which are handed down from generation to generation: “Our parents were afraid to death if children got lost, so, every story told in the taiga was filled with the warning: don't go deep into the forest – it's dangerous! One such bogeyman from the cautionary tales was oŋrēŋa, an evil spirit. Grandma Olga shared with us the legend of what happened to those abducted by oŋrēŋa.”

One more instructive legend is about a young Ainu woman who never saw her son again. Elena Alekseevna has heard this story from Olga Nikolaevna Semenova, a storyteller from Val village. These unparalleled literary works have some special narrative rhythm; for sure, they will catch the eye of both the common reader and anyone specifically interested in the culture of the Sakhalin ethnic groups. The book is available in Russian, Japanese, and Uilta, owing, in particular, to Elena Alekseevna Bibikova and Irina Yakovleva Fedyaeva, the Uilta storyteller, who have translated the legends into their native tongue. Photos of the life of the indigenous ethnic group illustrate the edition. They complement expressive drawings by Veronika Osipova, a famous Uilta artist.



World in Focus: Summer Rhapsody

“We are going on a hike with a song about summer, the best song we’ve ever heard...”
Do you remember this jolly song about summer? Does it remind you of any unforgettable moments associated with summer?

Summer is a truly wonderful season. This is the time of the year when the world is suddenly painted with bright colours like a picture book and becomes absolutely fabulous. Even though some of us have another favourite season, we all look forward to summer, knowing for sure that it will be full of new adventures and memorable experiences. In summer, many people like to go hiking or take trips into the nature, stay in their country cottage or visit their grandparents in the countryside, spend time

More than 100 entries have already been accepted in 11 categories of the photo contest. Today we present some of them to your attention.

by the sea or on a river bank. This is a great opportunity to relax, get some fresh air, swim to their heart’s content, and store up strength for the long cold winter.

Generous nature gives us only three months to enjoy the sunshine, the scent of aromatic wild flowers, the soft ripple of rivers, the singing of birds. Everything around is beautiful — a feast for the eyes. One cannot resist picking up a camera and



The road

taking pictures. The main thing is to have an eye for beauty and to capture the fleeting moment. After all, it will never happen again — next time, it will be an entirely different story, different impressions, and a different world.

You can share your photos and stories about the precious moments of summer by participating in The World in Focus corporate photo contest. Entries are accepted until 1 August 2020.

We thank everyone who have actively taken part in the previous contests for your enthusiasm and creativity, bold ideas and desire to share a piece of your soul with others. People say that each work of art is part of the artist’s world. And it is per-



The ideal life



The team



A window to the Nature



A bumblebee on a flower

fectly true. So take your camera and go for it! We are looking forward to your new photos and stories.

We are looking forward to see new photos and new participants! Please send your entries to the following e-mail address: ea@sakhalinenergy.ru. Please do not forget to include the subject of the letter: Photo contest

For more information, see the terms of the photo contest on the company’s intranet site. If you have questions about participation in the contest, please call: 66 2544, 66 2711.

■ Yulia Vatulina and Evgenia Diamantidi

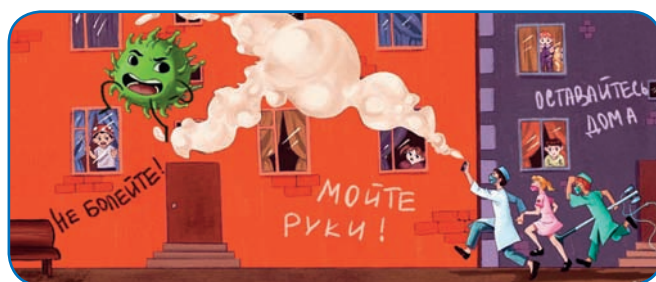
Sunny Coronatales

In April, when it became clear that we would have to live and work in special self-isolating conditions imposed by the pandemic of the notorious coronavirus, the Corporate Affairs Department decided to launch Coronatales contest for all Sakhalin-2 project employees and their families, in order to keep up the team spirit, as well as to help everyone rethink, in a creative way, what was happening.

The rules of the contest were simple: use your imagination and draw a picture or tell a story about a hero who destroys the coronavirus; above all, think positively, be creative and witty.



Fairies vs COVID, Angelina Tsarkova, 10 years old



Doctors, fighting for our lives, Anna Gorlacheva, 19 years old

The idea worked perfectly: all entries submitted for the contest turned out to be absolutely brilliant — kind, sincere, and with a twist. We have been convinced yet again that our employees are full of humour and optimism. This means that we can cope with any adversity.

Opening the competition, we hoped that we would all gather in the office on 1 June and laugh at the insidious tiny virus which confined people around the globe to their homes and dramatically changed their way of life.

Two months later, however, the invisible enemy was still roaming freely all over the world: the virus had evidently liked it so much that it had decided to stay out longer and unscrupulously disrupt our plans for the summer. Then we received numerous requests to postpone summing up the results and extend

the term of the contest, since participation in it gave our colleagues an opportunity to get distracted from the new reality and to direct, albeit for a while, the inexhaustible summer energy of their children towards a peaceful creative activity.

How could we refuse? How could we deprive our participants of their chance of winning? For example, young and inquisitive Gleb Yusifov who practically made up a quest novel but did not have time enough to polish it by 25 May.

As a result, the deadline for the acceptance of entries was put off until a month later. We hope that in early July we will sum up the results of the contest, decide where and when to award prizes to the participants, and share the fairy tales with our colleagues. Most of all we hope to do this off-line. In the meantime, you can see the participants’ entries on the contest website. They will surely raise your spirits!

■ Evgenia Diamantidi, Alena Olovyannishnikova



Fearless Assol, Christina Olovyannishnikova, 7 years old



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