

Panorama CPC



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A Historic Event in Novorossiysk

IN 2013, THE CASPIAN PIPELINE CONSORTIUM DELIVERED TO NOVOROSSIYSK APPROXIMATELY 34 MLN T OF OIL, AND UP TO 37 MLN T WILL BE DELIVERED THIS YEAR. THIS CAPACITY EXPANSION WILL BE ACHIEVED AS A RESULT OF THE COMMISSIONING OF NEW FACILITIES ON THE TENGIZ-NOVOROSSIYSK OIL PIPELINE. THE FIRST SUCH EVENT WAS THE LAUNCH OF SPM-3 AT THE YUZHNAJA OZEREYEVKA TERMINAL.



Culmination point. CPC Director General Nikolay Brunich engages the "Start" button on the Operations Control Center's control panel



William Simpson, CPC Deputy General Director, Projects & Engineering, briefs the event's participants about the Expansion Project's progress

Located 5 km offshore, its single point moorings (SPM) are barely visible from the windows of the CPC Operations Control Center located within the Marine Terminal. It is a truly historic event – the configuration of the Consortium's basic marine structures now in place will allow handling up to 70 mln t of oil annually.

THE EVENT

It was a sunny noon on February 4, 2014, and the Operations Control Center hosted a cheerful crowd of top people from the Caspian Pipeline Consortium led by General Director Nikolay

Brunich and representatives of Shareholder Companies – Transneft Vice-President Mikhail Barkov, Chevron Neftegaz Inc. President Andrew McGrahan who represented the Eurasian division of Chevron, and Kaz-TransOil Deputy General Director for Development Bulat Zakirov. Guests of honor included Vladimir Chepel, Chairman of the Krasnodar Territory Legislative Assembly's Committee for Fuel & Energy Complex, Transport and Communications, and Andrey Fonarev, Deputy City Mayor of Novorossiysk.

After the dispatcher's report of readiness, CPC Director General

Nikolay Brunich approached the control panel. The countdown rung out: 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... Go! – he commanded in Russian and in English while pressing buttons on a computer mouse. To energetic applause and mutual congratulations, the oil began flowing at an initial speed of 500 m³ per hour into the tanks of the "Energy Skier" vessel. The maximum loading rate reached as high as more than 12,000 m³ per hour, and in 18 hours the 160,000 DWT tanker, the first one loaded through SPM-3, was ready to depart.

TWO PLUS ONE

– Single point moorings are the most important elements of the pipeline system, – Nikolay Brunich explained to the journalists crowded around him. – It is here where the oil, having run 1,500 km through the pipeline, leaves CPC's responsibility zone and the contractual obligations of the cargo shipper are deemed fulfilled. Now, with a third SPM commissioned, we will be able to load two tankers at a time and completely exclude all risks of schedule disruptions or violation of the contractual obligations of our partners.

Now, when one of the SPMs is taken offline for preventive maintenance, the liftings will continue from the two other operating SPMs. As specialists note, SPM-3 features a maintenance-friendly turret design and its buoy is provided with a reliable multistage spill prevention system. Incidentally, CPC's techniques of tanker loading in the open sea aroused genuine interest in our colleagues from Transneft. They said it might be advisable to employ such approaches at Transneft's marine terminals.

The commissioning of SPM-3 was preceded by long and arduous work. The whole story was told in detail in the presentation given by William Simpson, CPC Deputy General Director, Projects & Engineering. First, the SPM, manufactured to a special design at a shipyard in the United Arab Emirates, was delivered to Novorossiysk. Then, the equipment successfully passed system tests and a trial run.

Marine Terminal Regional Manager Alexander Krichun added that all required permits and approvals have been obtained for SPM-3. The facility is duly certified, and is absolutely reliable and safe, he remarked. Highly skilled specialists have been trained on schedule to maintain the facility, and, as Dennis J. Fahy, CPC First Deputy General Director, Operations, stressed, special training programs were organized.

FRUITS OF COOPERATION

The Expansion Project's achievement immediately re-

ceived the highest appreciation from the CPC shareholders.

– The launch of SPM-3 marks the beginning of a whole train of important events which will take place this year and over subsequent years, – Transneft Vice President Mikhail Barkov said, noting the contribution made by our partners from Chevron who set a good example for all Consortium members. – All shareholders are working together as one consolidated team to achieve the earliest arrival of big Kazakh oil in Novorossiysk.

The Russian popular saying “one’s as good as none” is apparently well known also to those CPC partners who come from beyond the territory of the former Soviet Union.

– Today’s success is the result of the closest cooperation with other participants of the project – Transneft and KazMunaiGaz, – Chevron Neftegaz Inc. President Andrew McGrahan concluded.

Of course, the project of expanding such a major and extensive pipeline system would not have been possible without support from the regional administrations. Vladimir Chepel, Chairman of the Krasnodar Territory Legislative Assembly’s Committee for Fuel & Energy Complex, Transport and Communications, assured that the authorities would continue to provide their wholehearted support to ensure the timely completion of the project, which is based on innovative, efficient and environmentally friendly world-class technologies.

KEEP UP THE PACE!

Speakers at the SPM-3 commissioning ceremony pointed to the ever growing importance of the CPC pipeline for the oil industry.

– The Tengiz-Novorossiysk export route is in high demand from Kazakh oil suppliers, and with the years its attractiveness is only going to increase, – KazTransOil Deputy General Director for Development Bulat Zakirov stressed. »



In the Marine Terminal's conference hall: the Expansion Project is the center of attention



SPM-3's commissioning welcomed with energetic applause



Historic moment: Operations Control Center's dispatcher receives the tanker's loading readiness report

This is confirmed by the growth of the terminal's throughput. The amount of oil exported from the Yuzhnaya Ozereyevka port in January 2014 was 18% higher than in January 2013. Since the launch of the CPC pipeline, a total of over 290 mln t of oil have been shipped from Kazakhstan to the Black Sea coast and around 50 mln t of oil have been transported from Russia. The CPC pipeline system is currently receiving oil from such major fields as Tengiz and Karachaganak, to be joined soon by the Kazakh Kashagan and Russian Filanovsky fields.

Therefore, the Expansion Project cannot afford to lose momentum. CPC-K Head Manager for Oil Transportation and Commerce Serikkali Murinov recalled that 88 km of new pipelines have been built, tested and are ready for connection to the system in Kazakhstan, together with comprehensive startup and checkout efforts performed in late December 2013 and early January 2014 at three Russian pump stations – Komsomolskaya, Astrakhanskaya and Kropotkinskaya.

In 2014, plans call for commissioning several more facilities in Russia and Kazakhstan, and CPC shareholders are certain that these events will also take place on schedule. ■

By Pavel Kretov

SPM-3: A THING OF PERFECTION AND UNIQUENESS

Tanker loading in the open sea, 5 kilometers offshore, is something unique for Russia. Single point moorings are connected with onshore facilities by underwater flowlines and are manufactured strictly to individual designs that take into account all local specific factors and sea floor topography, and so are capable of withstanding even the strongest storms.

Like the CPC Marine Terminal's previous two SPMs, SPM-3 was manufactured by the largest Dutch company, Blue Water Energy Services B.V., at a shipyard located in the United Arab Emirates. SPM-3 was shipped to Novorossiysk on the cargo deck of the unique transportation vessel, Atlant Frauke.

SPM-3 features several significant design improvements.

Buoy weight (362 t) allows reducing impact loads during

SPM's contact with a tanker, the so-called "tanker kiss".

SPM-3 features a large berth for boats and a flat deck positioned below the turntable platform level. Thanks to the low positioned center of gravity, the buoy is more stable, and access to it is both easier and safer. All the mechanical and electrical equipment is accommodated in a watertight deck-mounted cabinet which makes its maintenance easier. ■





Dennis Fahy:

«Success comes down to people»

CPC TEAM FACES GREAT AND COMPLEX CHALLENGES THAT, ONCE RESOLVED, WILL MOVE THE CONSORTIUM TO A NEW QUALITY LEVEL. WHAT IS THE WHOLE POINT OF THESE CHALLENGES AND WHAT IS THE FOUNDATION OF TEAM SUCCESS? DENNIS FAHY, FIRST DEPUTY GENERAL DIRECTOR, OPERATIONS WILL GIVE ANSWER TO THIS AND OTHER QUESTIONS.

– Dear Mr. Fahy, what is your view of the significance of the commissioning of the third single point mooring (SPM CPC-3) at CPC Marine Terminal in Novorossiysk?

– The commissioning of SPM CPC-3 was significant for CPC in three aspects. First, another SPM is necessary for the post-Expansion operation when CPC will be loading 67 million tons per year at the Marine Terminal. In order to achieve this volume, it will be required to routinely load two vessels simultaneously, and this will be impossible with only two SPMs in service due to the periodic maintenance and repairs required to keep our SPMs in operation. Secondly, the third SPM will to some extent help mitigate weather related pipeline system shut down risks under current operations during periods when one of the other SPMs is out of service. Finally, and very importantly, placing SPM CPC-3 in operation proves that CPC has the organizational capability to bring together the resources of many entities, such as CPC Expansion Team, CPC Operations, PMC Chevron, Construction and I&E contractors towards the successful

achievement of a common goal. This capability will be crucial as we will continue placing future Expansion facilities into operation.

– Could you tell us please about the main results of the Consortium's operational performance in 2013?

– Our Base Business operation had a very successful year in 2013. The results exceeded all of our objectives, particularly HSE and Operational ones. During 2013 CPC Base Business employees and contractors worked more than 7.3 million hours with no recordable injuries, illnesses, or environmental releases. CPC's Base Business also had only two motor vehicle accidents while driving a total of more than 17 million kilometers. Throughout the year CPC Expansion construction activities were underway at all existing facilities and CPC was able to maintain an overall operating factor of almost 98 %. CPC transported a total of 32.8 million tons of crude oil to the Marine Terminal, with 28.7 million tons originating from Kazakhstan, which was a new record for Caspian volumes. »

– To what extent will the operational capacities of CPC crude pipeline system increase as a result of the execution of Expansion Project activities this year?

– 2014 will be the year where our Company, our Shareholders and our Shippers will begin to see the positive business impact of almost three years of Expansion activity. Besides placing SPM CPC-3 in service, we are in the process of commissioning numerous facilities at Brownfield locations which will directly result in significant pipeline throughput increases this year. We are currently testing such systems and are seeing more than a 15 % increase in throughput capacity for Caspian volumes. Our business plan objective for 2014 is to transport about 40 million tons to the Marine Terminal. We are currently ahead of target for achieving this goal.

Other Expansion milestones which are achievable this year and will add further throughput capacity, and which will allow CPC to significantly exceed its 2014 throughput objectives, include the full commissioning of all Expansion Phase 1 facilities at Russian Pump Stations during this first part of the year, and full commissioning of Expansion Phase 1 facilities in Kazakhstan during in the fourth quarter of 2014. This will increase Caspian throughput capacity by another 20 % before year end.

– What new technologies have appeared on the line section and pump stations in the course of the Expansion Project implementation? What was the impact on the industrial and environmental safety of the crude pipeline facilities?

– The design of the Expansion facilities contains all current standards and best practices to

ensure reliable and incident-free operation. This includes many system-wide engineering improvements, including an integrated surge relief system. This system will detect and react to any pipeline pressure surge, and, if required, provides positive and controlled relief storage. The Expansion design also includes a significantly upgraded Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system with the capability of handling more than 300,000 inputs and outputs to continually monitor performance throughout the system and provide complete control for safe operation of all crude oil transportation and tanker liftings. Additionally, the Expansion design has numerous location specific operability design improvements resulting from CPC's 12 years of experience. When taken as a whole, we are confident that the fully Expanded pipeline system will be capable of performing to an operating factor of greater than 95 % for many years to come.

Panorama Tank farm construction Marine Terminal





Improvement in PS-4 site FSI

– The Company pays a lot of attention to the environmental protection. You have visited all CPC facilities numerous times over the past 8 years. What is your personal impression of CPC's attitude towards environmental protection?

– From the birth of CPC as the Consortium that it is today, environmental protection has been one of our key values. We always strive to mitigate negative impacts on the environment and comply with all environmental laws in Russia and Kazakhstan. This is evident from the initial system design which included such environmentally responsible features as a “tight-line” system operation, crude oil tanks with external floating roofs and rigid tank seals, and loading operations utilizing SPM technology whereby crude oil is safely loaded onto vessels at a distance of more than 5 kilometers from any inhabited locations.

Our Company's attitude towards environmental protection is as strong today as ever. We continue to look for ways

to improve our environmental performance. For instance, we invested in facilities which allow us to operate the Marine Terminal Tank Farm and Shore Facilities on external power, reducing Marine Terminal emissions by more than 70 %. CPC, as an ISO-14001 certified entity, has a structured approach to monitoring environmental parameters using its own and specialized external resources, assessing areas for improvement, and implementing mitigations which result in continuous improvement in our Company's environmental performance.

– Could you please say a few words about the Company's social responsibility?

– Thanks to the Consortium Shareholders' commitment, starting from the very first days of its operation in Kazakhstan and Russia, CPC has been allocating considerable funds towards social investment program and development of municipal and rural infrastructure in all regions crossed by CPC crude pipeline.

The Expansion Project gives additional momentum for the further development of this important aspect of our business – the Shareholders have allocated 1.5 % of the basic Project budget towards funding of social facilities in the regions where pump stations are being reconstructed and constructed, and also in Novorossiysk. CPC's contribution to development of the humanitarian sphere is equally important to both the regions of our operation and the Company, as CPC will be a part of the communities in which we operate for several decades to come. We intend to be a positive part of the communities by supporting a sustainable social and economic environment.

Favorable reports on CPC social projects which I, among others, receive from the regions, speak for the efficiency of our activities in this direction. But we continue to look ahead. As far as I know, this year the Company will be developing new humanitarian programs related, first of all, to the community and environment safety – aspects which have always being a priority to CPC.

– Could you please tell us about the risk management system existing in CPC? What is its principle? What are its feasible results?

– In 2007 CPC established a Risk Management Regulation which defines all processes and procedures to provide CPC with the capability of operating in an incident-free manner on a sustainable basis. The fundamental premise of the regulation is to systematically lower the risk profile of CPC's operation. If you look at CPC's continuous year-on-year improvement in all HSE »

measures, you can see that CPC is well on its way of achieving the goal of incident-free operations. CPC's Risk Management program contains several key aspects: 1) risks are identified at the source; i.e. field operations personnel initiate the process through their direct knowledge of the most significant operational risks facing CPC; 2) risk exposure is measured against a standardized scale which includes probability of occurrence and consequence of an event; 3) risks are prioritized to ensure that CPC applies its resources towards the mitigation of the most significant operational risks; 4) CPC establishes its budgets on the basis of the priority risks, and establishes annual work plans to ensure that pri-

ority risks are eliminated; and 5) CPC management performs periodic checks to evaluate the effectiveness of the entire Risk Management Program. As stated, this program has been under development since 2007, and as a result CPC has achieved continuously improved results, including superior results in 2013.

– Which of the tasks facing the Consortium's team today will you point out as the most important ones, and what needs to be done to complete them?

– It goes without saying that CPC must continue to execute its Base Business operation with excellence, which includes exceeding our 2014 volumetric objectives without any significant incidents. Additionally, as 2014 will be the transition year where we are planning to place many Expansion facilities into operation, we must do so flawlessly and in accordance with an aggressive schedule. This includes not only all Phase

1 pump station upgrades, but also Pump Stations 3, 4 and 7 later this year. We know that there are many technical and operational issues ahead of us, but we also know that we have the capability to solve technical and operational problems and achieve results. However, as with any business, success requires more than just skills, training, regulations and procedures. Success ultimately comes down to people... a workforce that has the attitude and desire to do every task the right and accurate way. In this time of dynamic changes within our Company, it is critical that CPC Leadership continue to foster an environment whereby everyone knows what needs to be accomplished, and wants to achieve superior results. As a Leadership Team, we have to always remember that our most important role is to create an environment in which maximum profit, earn-out of the project and accident-free operation are achieved. This is our mission. ■

On the A-PS-4A they are hard at work



CPC in 2014: the direction is clear and the objectives are set

AT THE MEETING OF THE CPC OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT WHICH TOOK PLACE IN THE AL PASH GRAND HOTEL CONFERENCE HALL IN ASTRAKHAN ON MARCH 5-6, THE CONSORTIUM'S ENGINEERS AND SPECIALISTS SUMMED UP THE RESULTS OF 2013 AND DISCUSSED PLANS FOR THE PRESENT YEAR.



Opening the meeting, Dennis J. Fahy, CPC First Deputy General Director, Operations, remarked that the Consortium's achievements in development are so impressive that it actually enters every year as a new company. And 2013 was no exception.

– We commissioned a third SPM, connected more systems to SCADA, installed and energized surge relief systems along the pipeline's entire route, – he went on to say outlining the Consortium's accomplishments in the past year. – Our current throughput is 20% higher than it was one year ago. These achievements have been duly appreciated by our shareholders and customers.

As it followed from the presentations made by the CPC regional heads, there has been dynamic growth in both economic and environmental performance, while expenditure has been steadily reduced along the pipeline's entire route, from Tengiz to Novorossiysk.

Impressive results have been achieved in industrial security and labor safety too. For example, the Central Region reported zero vehicle accidents, incidents and personal trauma in 2013 and reached the milestone of 1.5

mln man-hours without work time loss incidents.

A large amount of work was performed at all the Consortium's facilities to bring them into compliance with the Federal Law of March 4, 2013 "On Amending the Federal Law on the Industrial Security of Hazardous Industrial Facilities". Specifically, labor safety and industrial security management systems were reworked and emergency oil spill cleanup plans were updated. Certification audit to verify compliance with international standards has been passed successfully.

Energy saving measures continued to be taken at CPC facilities in 2013, including plans for introducing an automated system of electricity consumption monitoring and entering the wholesale electricity market.

Considerable success has been achieved in the improvement of performance indicators related to the implementation of capital projects and in resource management. The Consortium is preparing to pass its next certification in asset management.

Special attention at the meeting was devoted to discussing plans for commissioning new facilities

to be connected to the pipeline system within the framework of the Expansion Project. Upgrades scheduled to be completed at PS Atyrau, PS Tengiz, PS-7 and PS-3 in 2014 will allow increasing the pipeline's throughput capacity by 15%. Noting the importance of the timely fulfillment of this goal, the meeting's participants discussed additional measures to ensure the safe and reliable operation of both newly installed and upgraded equipment.

– We have agreed that personnel for new CPC facilities should be hired 6 months in advance in order to undergo adequate training, – CPC head manager for operations and maintenance Roman Vasilyev said. – Workplaces for them should be organized in leased premises in the Expansion Project's camps.

On the event's second day, representatives of the Operations Department conferred with LLC Starstroy. It was decided to extend the contract with LLC Starstroy which is the main contractor in charge of technical operation of the Consortium's facilities.

The next meeting of the CPC Operations Department is scheduled to be held in the Kazakh city of Atyrau in 2015. ■

By Pavel Kretov



Working together with the region

CPC GENERAL DIRECTOR NIKOLAY BRUNICH MET WITH STAVROPOL TERRITORY ACTING GOVERNOR VLADIMIR VLADIMIROV

During the meeting, Brunich spoke about CPC's current activities, the Expansion Project, and how the territory and its people will benefit from its implementation. Topics discussed at the meeting included the construction of pump stations in the Ipatovo (PS-4) and Izobilny (PS-5) regions (the pump stations will be constructed as part of the pipeline throughput capacity expansion plan), land area allotment issues and current problems. The territory's

head assured that all necessary support will be provided to the Consortium in resolving administrative and regulatory issues related to its activities within the territory.

The parties also discussed HR cooperation, including prospects for job placement of Stavropol specialists with the Consortium and preparation of qualified professionals for CPC.

The meeting set priority lines of cooperation, and the parties

agreed that the territorial administration would determine where CPC's assistance and support would be most useful. From 1998 to 2013, CPC invested around RUB 220 mln in the Stavropol territory's social sphere. In addition to that, within the framework of the Expansion Project it is planned to invest RUB 150 mln in social infrastructure construction in the Ipatovo and Izobilny districts. Construction of a diagnostic and treatment center is currently under way at the municipal health-care institution Ipatovo Central Regional Hospital and construction of an out-patient clinic has been started in the Izobilny district's village of Ptichye. In the past year, CPC sponsored the construction of 2 kilometers of sidewalks, metallic perimeter fence and street lamps in Ptichye.

On a regular basis, CPC supports educational, health care, sports and social sphere institutions in the areas along the pipeline's route and implements a number of programs to support socially vulnerable groups of the population. ■

Environmental engineers exchange experience

A round table meeting held in the Federal State Institution State Fishery Monitoring, Protection and Reproduction Agency (TsUREN) discussed potential human-triggered impacts on aquatic bioresources and measures for their replenishment. Attended by representatives from CPC, Lukoil, Rosneft, ExxonMobil, Rosmorport, RusHydro and a number of other organizations, the meeting focused on coordinating economic activities and developing and

implementing measures aimed at the replenishment of aquatic bioresources and restoration of their habitat. Special attention was given to such issues as coastal engineering, installation of fish protection systems at water intake facilities, artificial reproduction and adaptation of aquatic bioresources and amelioration of water bodies for fish culture.

Participants at the meeting expressed a shared opinion that a number of the existing standards and regulations in this sphere have become obsolete and need to be revised. – TsUREN plans holding

such round table meetings on a regular basis, – CPC-R Expansion Project's lead environmental engineer Alexander Minin said. – It is good to have the opportunity to exchange experience and combine efforts to resolve problems. This time we learned about specific aspects of environmental impact mitigation measures practiced by other enterprises in Russia and the latest legislative initiatives, and this knowledge will be helpful for us in our future work. ■

*Material prepared
by Ekaterina Krapivko*



Viktor Abmayev:

«Moving ahead is a must»

"TO BEGIN WITH, WHAT IS THE CENTRAL REGION? LOOK AT THE MAP: THE EASTERN REGION, WHERE THE PIPELINE BEGINS, IS TO THE RIGHT, AND THE WESTERN REGION, WHERE OIL IS OFFLOADED AT THE MARINE TERMINAL NEAR NOVOROSSISK, IS TO THE LEFT. BUT IT IS NOT ONLY BECAUSE OF OUR CENTRAL LOCATION THAT WE CALL OURSELVES THE CENTRAL REGION. IT IS ALSO BECAUSE OUR TEAM IS THE VERY BEST, THE MOST PROFESSIONAL AND THE MOST SUCCESSFUL ONE".

This is what the Central Region manager Viktor Abmayev said opening his interview with CPC Panorama. But he hurried to add: "It will not surprise me if any other manager also names his team as the best. After all, it is impossible to achieve any progress without having faith in one's team."

– Mr. Abmayev, what have been your team's achievements in the past year and how are things progressing in 2014?

– I'm happy to report that not a single personal injury was recorded at the Central Region's facilities in the last year, and we reached the milestone of 1.5 mln man-hours worked without work time-loss incidents. Not a single vehicle accident occurred in the region in the last year. By optimizing routes and exercising strict control over vehicle movement we achieved a 123,000 km mileage saving.

Most of the Expansion Project's work took place at the Astrakhanskaya and Komsomolska-

ya pump stations. Despite tight working schedules, we did not compromise on safety. All our specialists passed in good time their industrial security and fire safety certifications. Comprehensive exercises on oil spill containment and cleanup were performed in the Astrakhan region and a mock fire drill was performed at the 573 km point of the pipeline.

One interesting thing to note: while the throughput of the Central Region's pipeline section increased 2.5 times since 2002, spending increased in the same period 2.7 times.

This year, 2014, is going to be fairly intense for the Central Region. We are facing serious tasks, including the fulfillment of the oil transportation obligations undertaken by the Company. We must ensure the safe operation of the equipment, and the higher reliability of the pipeline system within the bounds of the Central Region (a 500 km long section from the Kazakh border to the border of the Stavropol territory), and increase the pipeline's »



Central Region's zone of responsibility: this section of the pipeline runs through the vast expanses of Kalmykia and the Astrakhan region

throughput capacity. Incidentally, 120,000 m³ or 96,000 tonnes of oil runs through our pump stations every day – that is an amount hard even to imagine for someone who has never dealt with volumes of this size.

As far as the Expansion Project is concerned, in this year we plan to put PS-3 into operation and to complete construction, installation, startup and commissioning at A-PS-4A.

– What is being done to ensure new facilities are staffed with operators?

– We are very serious about this issue. As of January 1, our team numbered 213 people. We need to hire more people, train them and bring them to work at the new facilities. We are trying our best not to break the good tradition of CPC – to work without accidents or incidents.

Personnel selection in the

region is performed with maximum openness. We publish job offers in the mass media, receive applications, and then we do a strict shortlisting and final selection. Personnel selection competitions are performed not only by our HR and discipline experts but also, if necessary, by specialists from our Moscow office.

The next stage is training those who we have chosen to employ. It includes education and practical training under the supervision of an experienced coach. Only after having successfully passed all these stages can a “rookie” be admitted to real work. We have agreements in place with vocational training centers in Astrakhan, Moscow and St. Petersburg. In addition, our equipment vendors provide operation training for our specialists.

– No doubt, many local people want to be employed by CPC...

– Competition is tough! It's not surprising that so many specialists are seeking employment with the Consortium. As the saying goes: fish look for where it's deeper, people for where it's better. CPC has well-organized labor relations and processes, good labor conditions, attractive salaries and compensation packages – all these factors make the Company so popular among job-seekers. As an employer organization, CPC-R tops the rankings in the regions of its presence, including the Astrakhan region and the Republic of Kalmykia.

– What can you say about your team?

– I've been working in the Central Region for one year now. I'm glad to be here in a team of true professionals who share a common mindset. Many here have long service records, are professionals with a capital “P” and can be relied upon. What pleasantly

Astrakhan is the Central Region's registered office address



surprised me was that shifting responsibility on to others is not practiced here at all.

As technological progress goes on, new equipment is arriving, including foreign-made equipment, and our people take great pleasure in mastering its operation. They are learning, going into detail, and even proposing their own solutions and innovative ideas. We have good technical supervisors – Operations and Maintenance Manager Vladimir Groshev and Lead Mechanic Engineer Oleg Kolesnikov. In fact, all team members, each at his or her place, make appropriate contributions to the common cause. For example, senior engineer for civil defense, emergency response, health, safety and environment Konstantin Govorukhin succeeded in nourishing safety culture in his colleagues, so that now there is no need to persuade anybody that it is necessary to use safety belts in a car or observe other safety rules.

The average age in our team is 45-46 which means it is about time to “refresh the stock”. Aware of that, we are seeking to attract young university graduates to join our ranks. It is well known that the younger generation today is PC-literate and technically advanced, which allows them to quickly learn to operate cutting edge equipment and sophisticated automation systems.

– How are relations developing between CPC and the authorities of the Republic of Kalmykia and the Astrakhan region? What lies at the basis of these relations?

– We have established business and partnering relations with the authorities of both these constituent entities of the Russian Federation. CPC General Director Nikolay Brunich has several times met with the Astrakhan regional Governor Alexander Zhilkin and the head of

the Republic of Kalmykia Alexey Orlov. The partnership is mutually beneficial. The authorities provide us with land allotments, permits and licenses, while the Consortium, for its part, gives jobs to the people, pays taxes and runs community programs aimed at improving the people’s quality of life. While implementing the Expansion Project, the Consortium has considerably increased its contribution to the social sphere in the regions of its activity.

Here I would also like to note that constructive relations have formed between our team and the Consortium’s Moscow office staff. The Moscow office attentively studies all our proposals, there is always feedback, and we receive answers to all our questions. Therefore, our system of business management and control is constantly improving. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



PS Astrakhanskaya: Ready for new challenges!

LOST IN THE WIDE OPEN SPACES OF THE CASPIAN LOWLAND, PUMP STATION ASTRAKHANSKAYA, THE LARGEST IN THE CPC CENTRAL REGION, IS WORKING TO ENSURE THE UNINTERRUPTED FLOW OF OIL THROUGH THE PIPELINE. WITH THE COMMISSIONING OF THE EXPANSION PROJECT'S FACILITIES, ITS ROLE IN THE TENGIZ-NOVOROSSIYSK PIPELINE SYSTEM HAS GROWN EVEN BIGGER.

Thanks to the Expansion Project, the station has undergone substantial modernization and upgrading. With more powerful electric motors installed, a new impeller and a new metering station, Astrakhanskaya now boasts a higher throughput capacity, while the soft start and surge relief systems have considerably increased its operational safety.

– The soft start system allows us to gradually increase power and avoid pressure fluctuations in the pipe, – Astrakhanskaya Manager Sergey Nosov said. It is no exaggeration to say that Sergey knows every nut and bolt at the facility he is in charge of. He came here many years ago, and worked his way up from pump station operator to its director.

Sergey Nosov and his team are happy about the station's dynamic development. And this is not only the matter of professional pride. After all, the commissioning of each new facility brings, first of all, a noticeable improvement in labor conditions for the personnel. Consider, for example, the materials warehouse recently built at the station. It is

a spacious, warm and brightly lit facility furnished with state-of-the-art equipment.

– Our work has become much easier. Each type of



PS Astrakhanskaya Manager Sergey Nosov: We are doing everything for increasing the throughput capacity of our pump station!

equipment – electric parts, mechanical tools, instrumentation – are kept in separate areas, – warehouse keeper Larisa Cherskikh commented. – The warehouse has a convenient access route allowing trucks to drive inside.

In addition to the materials warehouse, the pump station now has a separate warehouse for chemical agents. Nearing completion is the construction of a test laboratory which is planned to be furnished with additional modern automated equipment.

– We are looking forward to moving soon into a new building, – Astrakhanskaya laboratory chief Olga Simashkina joyfully remarked. – There will be more space, and we will be able to arrange our work more effectively. Separate rooms will be allocated for certain kinds of tests.

Compared to such major facilities, an underground radiation-proof shelter may look small. But this “trifle” is an important RF Emercom requirement for all strategically significant projects in the country.

And there is a new canteen! Not very long ago, a room in the administrative building was used as a dining room, which caused a lot of inconvenience for both those having their lunch and those who worked nearby. Now, looking at their new comfortable canteen, the pump station's personnel can hardly believe they're not dreaming. The cooks, too, have everything necessary to show their skills to the best advantage. There is a variety of ovens, refrigerators, kneaders, flour sifting machines, dishwashers, etc.

Looking through the viewfinder of his camera, a CPC Panorama correspondent could not get rid of the impression that something necessary and im-

At the peak of the project work, the canteen of PS Astrakhanskaya provided three meals daily for 150 people, including the station's staff and the Expansion Project's construction workers.

That really was a "hot" time which is still fresh in the memory of all the station's personnel. The sweeping modernization of a 24-hour-operated and potentially hazardous facility required extreme attention and responsibility from everyone.

Over 1,000 work permits were issued by the station's specialists every month. Speaking of high work intensity at that time, it is worth recalling that that up to 16 kinds of hot work

them, and a special traffic movement system was put into effect. Earth-moving work was performed manually to exclude the possibility of damage inflicted on the equipment and communication lines.

– Without doubt, the station's refurbishment was a very useful source of professional education for our team, – Deputy PS Manager Nikolay Tokarev concluded. – The installation of each new module was performed under the attentive surveillance of our specialists. Very soon we will be ready for new, even more challenging tasks, as plans call for doubling oil transportation volume. ■

By Pavel Kretov



*Warehouse keeper Larisa Cherskikh:
It is much more convenient to work at
the new warehouse*



*The canteen – an important part of
the Expansion Project*



*The PS metering station's throughput
capacity has been doubled*

portant was missing from the picture – the cash registers!

Back in 2003, the CPC General Director resolved to provide free hot meals for personnel of remote facilities along the entire pipeline route.

were performed at the station daily. Fireproof tents were installed for welding in the facility accommodating the main pump units. To ensure maximum protection of operating pipelines, additional concrete platforms were installed over

*As at all CPC subdivisions, fire safety
is maintained at the highest level at
PS Astrakhanskaya*



Speeding up

A-PS-4A APPEARS ON THE HORIZON LIKE A DESERT MIRAGE. THE SANDS WHICH SURROUND IT, REACHING AS FAR AS THE HORIZON, GIVE THE CONSTRUCTION TEAM A LOT OF TROUBLE. SANDSTORMS HAPPEN HERE SUCH THAT YOU CAN'T SEE ANYTHING... BUT WORK IS UNDER WAY AT THE CONSTRUCTION SITE, AND EVEN WITH GROWING TEMPO.

"STARTING AND FINISHING!"

Evgeny Gubskiy, Deputy Site Manager of the Project Management Site "R. Kalmykia" (Directorate for CPC Project Management; OAO Chernomortransneft) had arrived at A-PS-4A a week previously from PS Komsomolskaya where he had been from the very start of the Expansion Project through until the successful completion of the project work at PS Komsomolskaya.

– My command sent me here to ensure more attentive oversight of the construction workers, – Gubskiy blurted in military style. – I arrived here to bring the project to completion.

– Have you encountered A-PS-4A before?

– No, but it is not necessary. It is enough that I know the Consortium's other stations fairly well. A similar main line pump station with similar surge

relief system, strainers and buildings... It is important to understand process dynamics, and the availability of human and material resources. In brief, it means starting and finishing!

– Could you compare this station and Komsomolskaya?

– At Komsomolskaya tie-ins were made only into the crude oil main line, while here we will have to make tie-ins into the natural gas pipeline too. There refurbishment was performed without interrupting operations, and we had no choice but to "break into" the process. In this sense, it is easier here because this facility is being built from scratch and we therefore have some freedom of maneuver – we can expedite work at certain moments, as necessary.

– How do you find the people here?

– You can find the right approach to every individual.



The station lost in the sands

I don't have any problems communicating with people here. I've been working for CPC projects for three years now, I have properly set tasks and they are clear to me.

As we walked around A-PS-4A, we saw the ongoing work in full swing everywhere, while Evgeny provided a commentary:

– Around 90 people are involved in the work, of whom some 60 are unskilled laborers and the rest are machine and equipment operators and engineers. There are 27 machines involved in the project. This week, the Directorate, together with CPC, performed an estimation of



Evgeny Gubskiy



Olga Rosol, Mikhail Korostelev, Dmitry Lavrov



Working at height



A-PS-4A: a work day morning

resources needed for achieving the established goals. As a result, the construction contractor was ordered to mobilize an increased workforce. We will manage to expedite construction, – Evgeny stated with conviction. – I will leave the site only after we cut the ribbon.

INCIDENTS & INJURIES FREE

– We understand very well that any emergency situation will detrimentally impact both production, schedule and the Company's image, – CPC-R senior HSE and fire safety specialist Dmitry Lavrov remarked. – We have a program in place called "Incidents & Injuries Free" (IIF) which includes seminars on safe planning and performance of work.

Ensuring safety is the duty of everyone – from top managers to ordinary workers.

– We have a system of

near-miss reporting cards, – Mikhail Korostelev, PMS Astrakhan HSE, fire safety, industrial security, traffic safety and environment protection service head, told us. – The system helps both workers and engineers to learn how to forestall, prevent or avoid potential accidents or incidents. Near-miss reporting cards are filled out on a daily basis. Information from the cards is collected and analyzed to identify weak points in labor safety or the industrial security system and to honor those employees who contribute to improvement of the situation. As a results of these efforts, we had a zero incident rate at the facility in 2013.

Care for those working at A-PS-4A continues out of working hours, all the more so when the people themselves are swarming with creative ideas. They organize chess and ping-pong tournaments and are building up a library. There is a functional volleyball field at the site and a soccer field will appear in summer.

WITH CARE FOR NATURE

All work at A-PS-4A is performed strictly within the limits of the land allotment and with due care for vegetation.

Of course, no construction is possible without waste. A waste sorting approach is applied at the site (construction wastes, household wastes and hazardous wastes of different classes are collected separately). Waste disposal is not limited to just their removal from the site. CPC and Chernomortransneft specialists trace the whole waste treatment cycle.

– We request documents from facilities along the whole waste movement chain, including from waste landfills, and we verify their licenses, – Mikhail Korostelev explained. – We seek to minimize environmental impact. After the end of construction, land remediation and re-vegetation is planned, including planting of local flora species. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



“You are saving lives...”

ALREADY 2,000 YEARS AGO THE GREAT ANCIENT MINDS CAME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE HEART IS THE MOST IMPORTANT PART OF THE HUMAN BODY. ACCORDING TO PLINY THE ELDER, THE BODY'S LIFE STARTS WITH THE FIRST HEART BEAT AND ENDS WITH THE LAST ONE. MODERN MEDICINE HAS CERTAINLY ACQUIRED FAR MORE KNOWLEDGE ABOUT THIS ORGAN.

MATTERS OF THE HEART

In Astrakhan, the high-tech medical equipment purchased for the regional cardiology health center by the Caspian Pipeline Consortium helps the doctors detect ahead of time and cure heart diseases.

- It's no exaggeration to say that your equipment is saving lives, – Sergey Galtsev, the center's head physician, said.
– There have been cases in our practice when nothing but a timely established diagnosis and urgent admission to hospital made a positive treatment outcome possible.

The regional cardiology health center works closely together with the Federal Cardiovascular Surgery Center in Astra-

khan. The impeccable accuracy of diagnoses was at first a great surprise to them. After all, with other medical organizations they usually have to double-check everything, and here all of a sudden an ordinary regional center was having no problem in identifying even the rarest medical conditions, of the sort that can be found in only one in 500,000 people.

– Now the Federal Center has complete trust in the qualifications of our staff and the facilities we have, – Sergey continued. – In 2012-2013 CPC has provided the center with various pieces of equipment worth more than 40 mln rubles.

Astrakhan's cardiologists received such expert devices as a computer diagnostic set for full

assessment of cardiovascular system performance, as well as a diagnostic set for electrophysiological studies that allows to identify pathological conditions in the blood circulatory system. With the help of a 4G studies sector probe (one that is unique for the Southern Federal District) a three-dimensional heart reconstruction is performed on-line to clarify the location and the degree of cardiac valve damage with patients in need of surgical correction.



Yelena Dergatsheva, the head of the cardiology health center laboratory, shows the analyzer for complete blood count bought by CPC

SPACE TECHNOLOGIES

Yelena Dergatsheva, the head of the cardiology health center laboratory, was really pleased to show off the analyzer for complete blood count to the CPC Panorama journalist.

– It used to be a rather laborious procedure. Now with the help of new automatic equipment we can perform up to 60 analyses per hour. It also takes fewer chemicals, the accuracy is much higher, and the human factor is completely eliminated, – she said.

At our center we have an ophthalmological room that is also very high-tech and up-to-date, all at CPC charity expense.

– Very often cardiovascular system problems result in eye damage, and so we created our own ophthalmological room so that our patients do not have to attend multiple special referral clinics, – Sergey Galtsev explained.

Among the rarest pieces of such very high-tech devices eye

care specialist Inna Drozdova listed a pneumatic tonometer for ocular tension measurement, which allows conducting a full contact-free examination. During the era of space exploration one can't imagine modern medicine without space technologies. For the cardiologists of Astrakhan CPC purchased pressure chambers manufactured by the famous Khrunichev scientific center.

– Pressure chamber treatment is prescribed in cases when vital organs that are sensitive to a scarcity of oxygen can't function normally due to lack of oxygen, – said Lyubov Shevchenko, a general physician.

GRATEFUL TO CHARITY PROVIDERS!

The rehabilitation department is also very important for the cardiology health center. In the exercise therapy room the CPC Panorama journalist attracted the attention of As-

trakhan native Vladimir Rykov for a moment from the cycling machine he was exercising on.

– I am a day patient here, following a cardiac muscle strengthening plan: exercise machines, different types of massage and baths, magnetic therapy ... I have personally tried out all the diagnostic and rehabilitation equipment, and I am so grateful to the oilfield workers for equipping my home-town medical centre so well, – he said.

The number of such grateful patients is growing fast. In 2012, more than 2,100 people were examined and rehabilitated in this health center, and in 2013 the number rose to 2,200.

One more fact is also significant: the doctors are improving their professional skills while working with such advanced equipment. With young hopefuls willing to fill openings the average age of the center's staff is a surprisingly youthful 28-29 years. ■

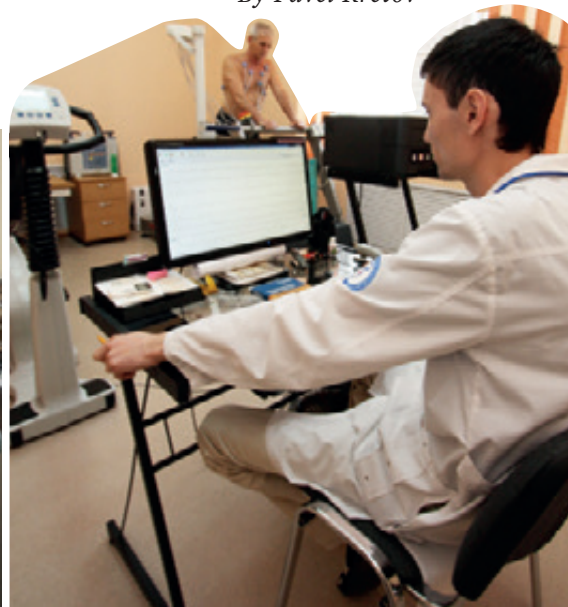
By Pavel Kretov



In the function test room: diagnosis accuracy is 100%! That is the key to successful treatment



Sergey Galtsev, the center's head physician: "In 2012-2013 CPC has provided the center with various pieces of equipment worth more than 40 mln rubles"



In the exercise therapy room. The optimal physical load parameters for the patient are now defined and controlled by the physician

To Kalmykia, with an open heart

EMPHASIZING SOCIAL ORIENTATION IS A HALLMARK OF BUSINESS FOR THE CASPIAN PIPELINE CONSORTIUM. IT IS PART OF A LONG TERM STRATEGY FOR THE COMPANY THAT SEEKS TO ESTABLISH A LASTING AND PRODUCTIVE PRESENCE IN THE REGIONS IN WHICH IT OPERATES.

PARTS OF A BIGGER PICTURE

The oil pipeline is not just about the flow of oil, but also about a continuous stream of charitable activity started by the Consortium back in 1998, long before the date of March 10, 2009 when the Cooperation agreement between CPC and Kalmykia was signed. That document defined the main areas of cooperation between the Consortium and the Republic. Such strategic partnership is a mutually beneficial arrangement both for the Company and for the Federal Subject; in this region it has translated into successfully implemented social initiatives and helped to solve a number of essential community issues for those living along the CPC pipeline route. Today Kalmykia stands as one of the best examples of the effective interaction of the Consortium with regional and local authorities.

The CPC Government Relations department developed a viable, time-tested system of liaising with official bodies that allows it to sustain steady and positive communication with leaders at regional and municipal levels, aiming to create a favorable environment for the work of

the Company in Kalmykia. Community and business are both parts of a bigger picture. Community is like a field that is ready for cultivation: if the soil is inadequate, rocky and arid, it will hardly yield anything good. If, however, it is suitably prepared, irrigated and made fertile, then of course the harvest is plentiful. A healthy and well-advanced society is therefore crucial for business development and success. Hence the call for the business community, if it is to secure further progress, to attend not only to its professional interests but also to the needs of society.

"RESPECT THE OLDER ONES, TAKE CARE OF THE YOUNGER ONES"

In our steppe region the Company's attention focuses on supporting educational, cultural, sporting and healthcare facilities, and organizations for veterans, orphans and the disabled on all levels from the republican to the local. The Company annually sponsors a number of targeted charity events with a special emphasis on the program "CPC for veterans". Military veterans from Elista, Iki-Burulsky and



*Ulyumdzhi Chidzhiev,
Representative, Government Relations,
Republic of Kalmykia*

Chernozemelsky districts are invited to a celebration and entertained by the State Ensemble of Song and Dance "Tulpan". The elderly audience enjoys the dashing, spectacular performances of the famous Kalmyk folk group, and receives special gifts and grocery packages afterwards.

For the last three years CPC has been celebrating those going to school for the first time who live in the districts of the main oil pipeline route or in the capital of Kalmykia, Elista, helping to mark this important occasion in their lives. Every first year pupil on their first day at school receives a brand new school bag with an array of various stationery items.

It is worth mentioning separately the CPC program for gifted children that has already, for 13 years now, been seeking out new talents in the younger generation, providing

opportunities for creative communication and encouraging the work of children's development centers.

Around 2,500 schoolchildren and students in the Republic of Kalmykia in the age range from 6 to 18 have participated in this program since 2001.

Every autumn there is a short-listing competition in the Chernozemelsky and Iki-Burulsky districts where gifted children show their best, performing in the categories "vocal singing", "choreography" and "instrumental music". The best-of-the-best professional jury makes a selection for a gala concert in Elista. And it is worth noting that presents from CPC, in the form of state of the art gadgets that all children so love, are awarded to all the participants, both in the shortlisting competition and in the gala concert.

"New Year and Christmas with CPC" is an annual event that brings real joy to primary school pupils and members of the children's art groups living along the oil pipeline route. CPC comes forward not only with sweets but also with free theatrical performances that create a New Year atmosphere of wonder and fantasy. As a further act of charity, this entertainment is extended to the inhabitants of the home for the old and disabled in Elista.

KNOWING WHOM TO HELP

Apart from such traditional programs the Consortium, together with the Regional Ministry of Health and Educa-

tion, implements a multitude of social support schemes and offers efficient and well focused help.

The Company sponsored the Elista maternity hospital named after O.A. Shungae-va that takes care of 60 % of the births in Kalmykia, buying new healthcare equipment and spending over 12 mln rubles. And through the Ministry of Education a new "Gazel-business" minibus was purchased for the Republic's Children's Development Centre. The Consortium has also paid for transport at the Ut-Salinsk secondary school in Iki-Burulsky district.

YOUR GOOD HEALTH!

In 2012 the Republic's clinic for tuberculosis prevention received a gift from CPC-R in the form of a portable fluorographic unit which cost 11.8 mln rubles. The clinic's doctors sighed with relief – at last this modern portable device allowed them to perform vast outpatient check-ups and diagnose dangerous diseases in their early stages for inhabitants of distant parts of the Republic. With the help of the portable machine 16,186 people in all the districts of the Republic have been examined.

The Company directed special attention to healthcare in 2013. Among the plans successfully carried out was the provision to healthcare institutions of ambulance vehicles worth more than 8.5 mln rubles. This included five fully equipped "Gazel"s and two "UAZ"es for »



Lyubov Piskunova,
junior expert and training coordinator at the District community center in Komsomolsky village, Chernozemelsky Municipal District:

– Since 2001 I have been a regular participant in the CPC program for gifted children, polishing my skills and winning awards at the district and republican levels. And as I loved singing it helped me to choose my profession. I take this opportunity to say how grateful I am to CPC for the support they offer to the young talents in our little Republic.



Irina Ochirova,
head of the Republic's Children's Development Center:

– With the help of CPC-R a new level in children's education and development has been reached. We received the equipment essential for a more efficient teaching environment, gym equipment... With the gift of new transport we are now able to take the children to classes in the workshops of College of Arts named after P.O. Chonkushov in Elista. And the stage for our exam concerts and celebrations has been professionally re-fitted.



Tsebek Tebleev,
honored Doctor of the RSFSR, Chief
Ophthalmologist of the Republic of
Kalmykia, Head of the Ophthalmology
unit at the Republic's Hospital:

– We are very grateful to the Consortium for updating our hospital equipment. The phacoemulsifier acquired allows us to extract the cloudy lens through a very small incision and replace it with an artificial one. Similar devices are used by surgeons, for example in Volgograd, but even they are outdated. We didn't have even those. Now we have the latest, fifth-generation version of the instrument. This generous gift works for the benefit of those living in the Republic. On behalf of our patients and health professionals, I say "thank you" to the Company and wish it well!

paramedics – a significant upgrade of the fleet for the ER unit in Elista and for the central hospitals in Iki-Burulsky and Chernozemelsky districts where the oil pipeline runs.

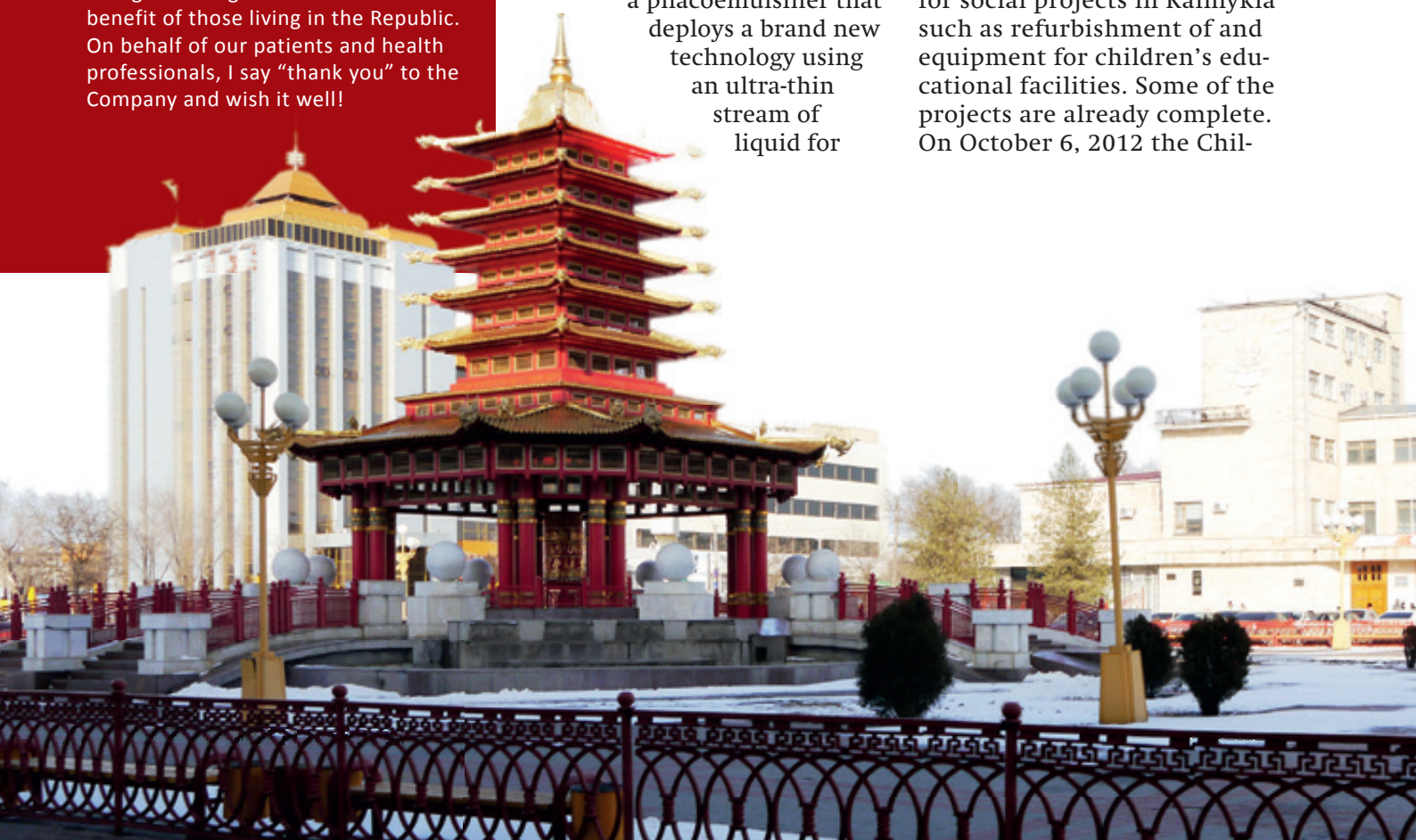
To cap the accomplishments of the year, December 27 – the day of Kalmyk national feast of Zul – saw yet another gift solemnly presented by CPC to the people of the steppe – surgical and diagnostic equipment for the ophthalmology unit at the Republic's hospital. This was a milestone for the people of Kalmykia who thanks to CPC were granted access to modern healthcare, including not only technological advancements in surgery but also thorough diagnostic possibilities. Over 150 ophthalmological surgeries have now been carried out at the Republic's hospital using modern equipment which reduces the chances of post-operative complications almost to zero. There is a device on the equipment list called

a phacoemulsifier that deploys a brand new technology using an ultra-thin stream of liquid for

the removal of cataracts. Before this kind of equipment was purchased the inhabitants of Kalmykia had to travel outside the Republic for their cataract operations, and this created additional difficulties given that it is mainly elderly people who are affected by eye problems.

EXPANDING THE GOODWILL HORIZONS

Increasing the throughput capacity of the Tengiz–Novorossiysk oil pipeline has opened new horizons for the social activity of the Consortium in the region. In November 2011 the Head of Kalmykia and CPC's General Director signed a supplementary agreement concerning the implementation of the CPC-R social program within the scope of the Expansion Project of the Consortium oil pipeline in the Republic. According to this document the Company will allocate an additional 130 mln rubles for social projects in Kalmykia such as refurbishment of and equipment for children's educational facilities. Some of the projects are already complete. On October 6, 2012 the Chil-



dren's Development Centre in the Komsomolsky village of the Chernozemelsky district was triumphantly opened after a refurbishment which cost the Consortium 20 mln rubles.

At the moment there are two more social initiatives being implemented within the scope of the Expansion Project – a complete refurbishment of the kindergarten building in the village of Achinery in the Chernozemelsky district, and the conversion of the building of Community College No. 5 into a primary school in the village of Iki-Burul.

CPC responded to the request from the Government of the Republic of Kalmykia about providing the State Ensemble of Song and Dance "Tulpan" with a new comfortable bus. "Tulpan" is a unique stage group that performs original folk songs and dance of the Kalmyk people and is well-known not only in Russia: audiences worldwide have been thrilled by the famous company. In the summer of last year the oldest group of singers and dancers, a great number of whom have been

awarded the title of Honored Artist of Russia, received from CPC a brand new "Higer" bus with a 49-seat capacity

TRAINING FUTURE STAFF

On May 17 2013 CPC and the Kalmyk State University signed a Cooperation Agreement, the terms of which propose joint measures aimed at making undergraduates and graduates of the University more competitive on the job market, and providing for the recruitment needs of the Company in hiring qualified personnel for entry-level positions. ■

By Ulyumdzhi Chidzhiev



Tyurbya Boskhomdzhev,
director of the Ensemble "Tulpan":

– It was a handsome present from the Consortium – a comfortable bus with a powerful engine well adjusted to the Russian roads, smart and reliable – something not to be ashamed of while on tour. No less importantly, its maintenance and spare parts are taken care of by the federal network of service stations. The first trip our performers made using our new transport was to Amsterdam to take part in a gala night of the Russia-Netherlands Bilateral Year of Culture.





A successful company is an asset to the region

OUR TRIP TO KALMYKIA FELL IN THE LAST DAYS OF FEBRUARY. UPON LANDING IN ELISTA WE WERE INFORMED THAT A MEETING WITH THE HEAD OF THE REPUBLIC'S GOVERNMENT IGOR ZOTOV HAD BEEN ARRANGED FOR US. THAT WAS SOME PRESS LUCK – A CHANCE TO RECEIVE FIRST-HAND INFORMATION!

A few minutes later we were introduced to our distinguished host by Ulyumdzhi Chidzhiev, CPC Representative Government Relations, Republic of Kalmykia. The conversation turned to cooperation between CPC and the regional authorities.

– I had been aware before of the presence in the region of such a company as CPC but only came to know more about it as the Head of the Government, – Igor Alexandrovich began. And I must say that the Consortium does fulfill every requirement for a socially responsible company. CPC supports the Republic in

resolving essential issues that were not attended to before and that are of significant financial importance.

– What are the areas of cooperation?

– First and foremost they are in the social sphere – annual events held by CPC for veterans and children. Next comes supplying healthcare facilities with expensive equipment and instruments. Last year, for example, I was passing on ophthalmological equipment equal to the kind that can be found only in Moscow and St. Petersburg, also ambulance vehicles for our healthcare centers –

all of which would have been hardly affordable for us in the immediate future.

A lot is done by CPC-R for towns and districts; this help is much needed, and all in the public eye. By sticking to its charitable activities the Company assists us in the most pressing social issues – the story of the children's hospital is just one such example. This was a painful legacy that we were left with, and we were powerless to surmount it on our own. CPC-R came to the rescue and together we managed to make a fresh start. This year all the emergencies are covered and we are able to complete repair works within our own budget. The second wing is about to be commissioned and we move forward, receiving an expensive new X-ray from the Company that will allow us to diagnose our young patients more accurately.

Another important aspect of cooperation is cultural, – Mr. Zotov continued. – Last year we asked the Consortium to support the cultural life in the Republic and they agreed. Our famous Ensemble of Song and Dance had been waiting for 10 years to have its own transport. Now they go on tours both nationally and internationally in a bus that was a gift to the performers made by CPC-R as part of the Expansion Project.

– What else does the CPC pipeline Expansion Project bring to the region?

– There is stronger support for the districts in Kalmykia where the Project is implemented – Chernozemelsky and Iki-Burulsky. It is anticipated that

a new kindergarten in the village of Achinery and a new school in the village of Iki-Burul will be opened this year. The problem was that in the course of construction building materials had gone up in price. Fortunately, the Company found a way to allocate additional resources to offset the costs beyond those initially estimated.

As we talked it was hard to overlook how well versed Mr. Zotov was in the details of all the charitable projects of CPC-R.

– It is all around us, people benefit from all these improvements, – Mr. Zotov explained. – Virtually every social undertaking of the Consortium is a milestone for those who live in the Republic.

Take the case of the children's hospital where corruption affected the wellbeing of the young patients. Up until 2010 that healthcare facility was a wreck, but with the help of the Consortium we were able to put the faulty system of 20 years back on to the straight and narrow again...

– ...and relieve social tensions?

– Of course! The same as in almost every other instance, because CPC-R lends a hand where it is most needed. Another positive development is that last year the republican budget received the Consortium's first revenue tax of 70 mln rubles, which is no small matter. We expect a similar contribution this year. We fully appreciate the difficulties the Company faces in realizing a vast Project demanding great expenditure, not boosting

income, and we therefore wish CPC every success in completing its Expansion.

The Head of Government says the leadership of the Republic welcomes the involvement of local experts in the Expansion Project:

– During a recent meeting with CPC General Director Nikolay Brunich we discussed local employment options. He understood our hopes that specialists from Kalmykia would have an opportunity to work for the Consortium and earn decent – at least by our regional standards – salaries. It is worth mentioning that in Kalmykia the management of the Consortium has always been consistent in its social policies.

A successful company is undoubtedly an asset to the region. We follow the construction progress of the new oil pump stations very closely and really look forward to CPC doubling its resources as soon as possible. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



CPC program for gifted children



A bus for "Tulpan"



First day at school with CPC



CPC General Director Nikolay Brunich hands over the car keys from the new "Gazels" to the ambulance team in Elista



Just a station...

IT WAS RATHER LATE WHEN WE ARRIVED AT PS-3. ACCOMMODATED IN A CONSTRUCTION TRAILER, WE FOUND OURSELVES IN FAIRLY COMFORTABLE CONDITIONS TO REST. SIMILAR ACCOMMODATIONS, WITH ALL THE CONVENIENCES CITY RESIDENTS ARE USED TO, ARE PROVIDED HERE TO THE ROTATION TEAMS OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS. THIS LEVEL OF COMFORT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF OTHER OIL PUMP STATIONS WHERE WORK IS BEING PERFORMED UNDER THE EXPANSION PROJECT.

Builders do not care about the weather



Next morning we proceeded with our “immersion”. The sudden worsening of the weather made the mission scenario all the more realistic. The cold drizzle coming down was noticeable through the camera viewfinder and can be clearly seen on the photographs...

– Thank God, the temperature is still below freezing, – the locals tried to console us, – or else you would be up to your knees in mud!

As we walked around the station’s construction site escorted by specialists from the CPC Project Management Directorate, we noted the high level of activity: 350 people were at work there on the day of our visit (February 28).

As we saw, all construction and welding work had been completed at the shutoff valves module, and painting was being performed in preparation for insulation hanging. Quality painting, so that not a single millimeter of pipeline surface is missed, can only be done manually. We approached a woman with a paint brush.

– Nina Tselikh from Omsk, – she introduced herself, without stopping her work. – I’m a finisher, plasterer and painter and my service record is 38 years. Our team is working a second rotation shift here. They bring in the most experienced ones in order to expedite work.

– How do you like it here?

The accelerated rates



In snow, rain or heat



– Regular meals, comfortable accommodation. I have never seen such excellent conditions, – Nina remarked.

– I’ve been here since last October, – the foreman Dmitry Mizin told us. – Now we have expedited work. Of course, the rain is a problem. As soon as the weather improves, we will be moving faster!

Work at PS-3 is organized in two shifts. The second (night) shift is for electricians. Since their work of cable laying is not noisy, the others can sleep well.

The general construction and electrical installation work is nearing completion. Some places at the station have already acquired a tidy look – as if they were already facilities in operation. Here and there we noticed shiny polished pipe covers, and a number of sub-facilities had a finished look. For example, the emergency diesel generator is ready to be connected, four 100 m³ tanks of surge relief system have been tested and installed underground, and a heated material warehouse is ready. We examined four booster pumps, then dropped by the firewater pump station where equipment and piping

have already been installed, and watched how secondary wiring was being installed at UPS.

A rotation camp for operators has already been built, including a sports area. Only some landscaping work still remains to be done. Border stones are already in place; construction of lanes and sidewalks and landscaping will be started as soon as the weather permits. Without doubt, it will be difficult to recognize the station by the time of our next visit.

– Are there any distinguishing features of PS-3 compared to other stations? – we asked the specialists who walked us around the station.

– PS-3?... Well, it is just like all the others of the Consortium’s stations, the same high technical level. Besides, it is conveniently located within 40 km of Elista and 340 km from Volgograd. PS-3 readiness is currently 85 %. The only problem is subsiding soil which has to be promptly removed when it gets wet.

Head of the CPC Project Section in the Republic of Kalmykia

(Chernomortransneft Directorate) Alexander Bright described the effort in greater detail:

- The construction of PS-3 is performed as part of Phase 3 of the Expansion Project. In March we are starting individual tests of the equipment installed. Our immediate goal is to complete, together with the operation team and CPC startup specialists, acceptance of the finished sub-facilities. The Consortium specialists will provide their comments and we will promptly take any necessary corrective action. In May, as per the plans coordinated with CPC, we will be connecting PS-3 to the main pipeline.

After the bitter cold outdoors, it felt like real paradise inside the administrative building. To some extent, the feeling of warmth and comfort was created by the local personnel.

Liliya Kapkayeva is a dispatcher of the CPC Project Section in the Republic of Kalmykia (Chernomortransneft). She has been working for the project for 14 months now. ►

Quality is given special attention



Alexander Bright



Nina Tselikh

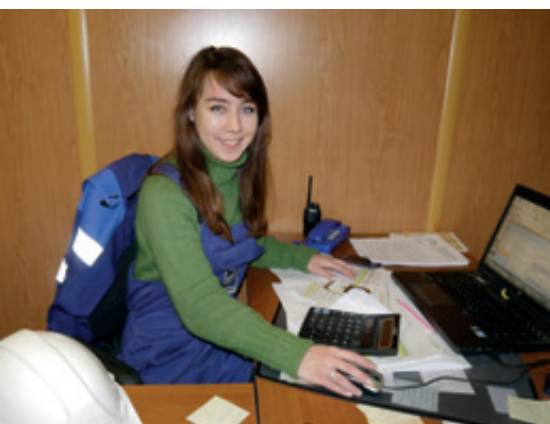


– This is excellent experience! – she remarked. – When I first arrived here from PS Komsomolskaya, only the frames of buildings were standing. So I've witnessed the construction of a new pump station almost from the very start.

The young woman is not afraid of difficulties and says she finds it interesting here.

– After the completion of this construction I will be looking for a job in the oil industry, – Liliya said when asked about her plans for the future. She is a living example of how oil industry professionals are forged at the pipeline construction sites. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



Liliya Kapkayeva



At the heart of PS-3



PS Komsomolskaya nearing completion

SNOWFALL ENGULFED THE REPUBLIC OF KALMYKIA ON THE LAST DAY OF THE CALENDAR WINTER. WE HAD TO FIGHT OUR WAY TO PS KOMSOMOLSKAYA THROUGH MASSIVE DRIFTS OF SNOW, WITH SNOWFLAKES FLYING EVERYWHERE. AS WE FINALLY APPROACHED THE STATION, WE FOUND IT LOOKING VERY UNFAMILIAR: IT WAS ALL DRESSED IN WHITE!.

The construction workers' camp is being dismantled and very soon the land area which it occupies will be returned to its original state. The station looked deserted, since the Expansion Project's construction and installation work had been completed and system tests of the installed equipment performed (the equipment successfully passed a 72-hour trial run with crude oil).

According to local personnel, everything is ready for receiving oil from Lukoil: two vertical steel tanks with floating roofs (RVSPK-4800) have been installed and tested, there is a new oil metering station in place, with crude oil shipping & storage pumps and other equipment. In order to ensure supplies of oil into the CPC pipeline system by 2015, Lukoil launched the construction of a tank farm not far from PS Komsomolskaya.

We walked around PS Komsomolskaya together with Alexander Antonov, PS operation lead specialist (Expansion Project's Commissioning, Startup and Commissioning Group). En route, he briefed us on the current state of affairs at the station:

– Now we are in the completion phase. The facility is to be commissioned for operation. Turbine commissioning is nearing completion. Under our agreement with the supplier of the turbines, Siemens, their specialists are here now monitoring the installation process and actively taking part in startup and Commissioning work and corrective action, where necessary. We cooperate in a similar way with other equipment suppliers. Our group is supervising all these contracts. We maintain close contacts with the suppliers, monitor their work and

engage in the process where necessary. At this moment, we are working together with the Expansion Project's Regulatory Affairs Group to prepare documents required for the facility's commissioning.

Problems such as schedule delays are a thing of the past. In the past year, the Consortium leadership tasked us with overcoming such holdups. We mobilized the contractor, rolled up our sleeves, and by the end of the year we were back on schedule. There should be break here – Mr. Antonov believes that success was largely thanks to the creation of a group at the station headed by a leader with broad decision-making authority.

– This helped to do away with bureaucratic red tape and expedited decision-making, – Alexander went on to say. – Meetings and debriefings took place every day. The Expansion Project's General Manager Vyacheslav Sergeyev was here. He listened to us and then he made clear-cut decisions. There was also an authorized representative of the design institute present who used his expertise to order corrections as necessary. Without doubt, the intensity of work characteristic of rotation teams was important – several shifts and no weekends. Results quickly became evident.

The Expansion Project implementation at PS Komsomolskaya was particularly difficult because all refurbishment and upgrading was performed in the conditions of the station's continued operation, i.e. oil was permanently flowing through it. The role of the station's dispatchers in coordinating construction and operational activities deserves special mention. Therefore, we could not miss visiting the station's "holy of holies" where we met Nikolay Boikov, who was sitting at the dispatcher desk. Despite his young age, Boikov has the reputation of an experienced specialist

among his colleagues. He came to work to PS Komsomolskaya from Rosneft three years ago. Boikov received the relevant education from Astrakhan State University, acquired priceless practical skills while working with various oil industry establishments, and has grown into a true professional.

Asked how he liked working at the pump station, Nikolay replied:

– It's OK! Rotation shift is 15-16 days, living conditions are excellent, and there is an exercise room to flex your muscles in during free time.

All processes taking place within the pump station are reflected on the dispatcher's office monitors in full detail. The clear picture on the dispatcher room monitors is the result of painstaking work by engineers and technicians, specifically the all-respected instrumentation engineers. The coaching system widely employed at CPC is very helpful for forging true professionals.

While in the switch room, we witnessed how excited intern Fyodor Sorokin was while absorbing experience from his coach – instrumentation & controls engineer Nikita Zosimov. It has to be noted that the newly installed equipment requires the highest qualifications from the station's personnel.

The work performed at PS Komsomolskaya under the Expansion Project, specifically the installation of the high performance Siemens turbine sets, has made oil transportation through the station even safer and more environmentally friendly. Siemens turbines satisfy the strictest Russian and international environmental standards in terms of emissions. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



Oil transportation is safe and environmentally friendly



Alexander Antonov: Team work gives results



Nikolay Boikov: Everything is under control!



Nikita Zosimov and Fyodor Sorokin take instrument readings at the turbine console

The long-awaited facility

SOCIAL PROJECTS WORTH 150 MLN AND 130 MLN RUBLES ARE BEING IMPLEMENTED IN THE ASTRAKHAN REGION AND THE REPUBLIC OF KALMYKIA RESPECTIVELY, WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE CPC EXPANSION PROJECT. PRIORITY IS GIVEN TO EDUCATION AND HEALTH CARE.



Who is soon going to a new kindergarten? – Me!!!

– Responding to requests from the regional administrations, CPC thoroughly studies each proposed social project for relevance and simultaneously performs a detailed analysis of the social situation in that region, – Petr Mamykin, Representative, Regional and Local Authorities (Astrakhan), Regulatory Affairs RF Group, said. – Therefore, each community project implemented by CPC is guaranteed to resolve a certain pressing problem in one or other municipal district.

We interviewed Petr Mamykin at a construction site in the village of Achinery of the Chernozemelsky district of Kalmykia where an old brick building is being refurbished to accommodate a kindergarten for 55 children.

Work was in full swing: the building's second floor was being completely demolished, generating tons of broken stone and other construction rubbish to be removed. Representatives from CPC-R, the local authorities and the construction contractor arrived at the site to monitor the progress of the work and make urgent decisions if needed.

– We are putting in every effort to complete the project on time so that the kindergarten could be open by the beginning of the next school year, – Mr. Mamykin remarked. The project, he added, is worth 28 mln rubles.

– The village residents are waiting impatiently for the kinder-

garten to be opened! Currently, the kindergarten is accommodated on the premises of local secondary school. Do you want to have a look at it? – Achinery municipal administration head Roman Shavartayev offered.

So together we went to a nearby building. The kindergarten occupies part of the school's premises. There is definitely not enough space for its 30 children to study, play, eat and sleep. Partitions separate the "offices" of the kindergarten's director and paramedic, and the kitchen area is there too. Together with the children's parents, the personnel have done their best to make the premises as cozy as possible.

As a child, Roman Shavartayev studied in this school too. Smiling, he led us into a small room.

- This used to be the Young Pioneers' headquarters with all its drums and horns and the Young Pioneers' Banner, – he recalled. – Now, as you can



Work in full swing at Achinery's main construction site

see, there are washstands and potties...

Then, as the afternoon rest time ended, we were touched to watch how the elder kids helped the smaller ones to get dressed. We too were attentively watched by the curious children's eyes.

Moving with difficulty through the narrow aisles between the children's tables and chairs, day-care assistant Valentina Erdnieva complained:

– That is the way it is. Imagine me doing my job here with kids aged one to six. When we arrange parties with the parents invited, we remove the folding cots and turn the bedroom into a party hall. The same room accommodates a Christmas tree at Christmas. It's no surprise that the new kindergarten is being talked about by everybody. We have 22 requests filed by parents seeking a place in the kindergarten. Now CPC has given us hope: by September 1 we will all be moving to a new location! Incidentally, most kids in the kindergarten come from large families, because large families make up the majority in the village.

I have five children myself. Look over there –

these two kids are mine, – Valentina noted.

The presence of a major company such as CPC serves to change life in remote regions for the better. The construction of a new social facility usually inspires local residents towards further improvements.



The ascetic lifestyle of kindergarten residents

– Simultaneously with the construction of the kindergarten, which is a gift from CPC, we will be doing the landscaping at our own expense, – Roman Shavartayev said. – There will be beautiful alleys and trees, and we will restore the fountain by the time the kindergarten opens. We are also attentively watching the construction of PS-2 and I visit it from time to time, – he went on to say. – Six people from our village work there on

rotation as drivers and assistant workers. I hope that candidates from among our village residents will be considered when the time comes for staffing the station with operational personnel. Some of our people have the relevant education and are now working far away in various parts of the oil and gas industry throughout the country. Many of them would be happy to return if they would have an opportunity to work at the CPC facilities. ■

By Ekaterina Suvorova



A turnkey preschool facility is a serious project!



Roman Shavartayev: Well, we will take care of landscaping

In the land of pastoralists

WITH A POPULATION OF 200, STEPNOE IS BY NO MEANS A BIG COMMUNITY AND YET DUE TO ITS AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE THE VILLAGE IS WELL KNOWN NOT ONLY IN THE ASTRAKHAN REGION BUT EVEN IN THE COUNTRIES OF THE CUSTOMS UNION. ITS FAME ALSO COMES FROM THE SPORTING ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE VOLLEYBALL TEAM "AIBAT". THEY TRAVEL TO MATCHES IN A SPACIOUS AND COMFORTABLE BUS PRESENTED BY CPC AS PART OF THE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY PROGRAM OF THE EXPANSION PROJECT.

The Head of the Municipal Unit of Stepnoe local council Khasietulla Beisov believes in the equal importance of a friendly environment in both work and in sport. So even the most remote herder's stations belonging to the "Aksaraisky" farm run by the village have solar panels, boilers, wind power generators and even internet. Every comfort afforded by civilization! It is no wonder then that jobs on the farm are much sought after, and there is serious competition to fill a vacancy in a place where highly educated people fluent in several languages can often be found working as ordinary camel drivers.



Stepnoe agricultural produce is well known even as far as the countries of the Customs Union

Camel breeding is the main work sector in Stepnoe. To date the double-humped herd count numbers more than 2,000 heads, which is almost twice what it was in 2008. Camels being a pedigree stock, it is a serious business with a long selection process.

– Almost all my ancestors dedicated their lives to stock-breeding. My father Mukarim was a well-known selection specialist around here and a chief veterinarian at the "Aksaraisky" farm. So all the members of the Academy of Sciences who were occupied with breeding the Soviet variety of cross-bred sheep for both wool and meat would come to our home night and day, – Khasietulla reminisces. – Grandfather was a camel breeder and herder, many times delegated to take part in the All-Russian congress of stock-breeders.



An event of regional importance: receiving a bus from CPC



The Head of the Municipal Unit of Stepnoe local council Khasietulla Beisov believes in the equal importance of a friendly environment in both work and in sport.

Even with all their hard work the villagers of Stepnoe do not forget exercise and excel amazingly in sport. Thus a herder from "Aksaraisky" Murat Akhmedov became a multiple winner of the Russian Minister of Agriculture and the Astrakhan Duma camel racing awards.

– There is no doubt that the brand new bus – the gift of CPC – had a lot to do with the results shown by our sports team, – says Khasietulla Beisov.

– When sportsmen know that someone cares and makes an effort to improve their environment, there is a great deal of difference in their attitude to the game – they fight for victory furiously. ■

By Pavel Kretoy



Camel breeding here is a skill passed down over generations



At the editors' request Baychha Mantyeva was photographed wearing a traditional folk costume

THE "GOLDEN" DRINK

THE ORIGINS OF TEA-DRINKING CULTURE HAVE ROOTS STRETCHING BACK INTO ANTIQUITY. THE DRINK IS FIRST MENTIONED IN A WRITTEN SOURCE IN CHINA BACK IN 2700 BC. THE ENGLISH AND THE JAPANESE TRADITIONS ARE WIDELY KNOWN TOO, BUT TEA IS ALSO AN INTEGRAL PART OF THE CULTURE OF KALMYKIA.

visitors has been preserved up to the present day. This special attitude to tea predetermines the specific character of the Kalmyk tea ceremony. Traditionally Kalmyk tea is served freshly brewed and is offered with both hands at chest height. That is the custom, showing a sign of respect and heartfelt affection towards the guest.

The Day of Kalmyk tea is celebrated on the third Saturday of May each year. In the main stadium of Elista citizens and visitors to the city can enjoy a splendid celebration with a gala where джомба and bortzoks are served.

Here in Kalmykia we have a belief that I totally share: if a person doesn't manage to have at least one bowl of Kalmyk tea a day, then he'll start to feel worse and get a headache. Our ээджа (grandmother) makes particularly delicious tea, so we never turn down a bowl of fresh tea with hot bortzoks whenever we visit our old folks. In my family I try to make freshly brewed tea every day to treat my husband and our little daughter. I may not have time for it every morning, though – making Kalmyk tea calls for a special state of mind and no sense of hurry. But for supper Kalmyk tea is absolutely a must, as my husband and daughter can hardly wait to have it. ■

By Baychha Mantyeva,
Secretary, Government Relations, RF,
CPC Office. Elista

Recipe for making Kalmyk tea

Pour cold water over brick-pressed tea, bring it to the boil and keep boiling for five to ten minutes; pour in milk or cream and boil for five more minutes. In the process of brewing, stir the tea with a ladle for two to three minutes, strain it and add salt, butter and ground nutmeg. Serve in pialas (bowls).

For 10 serves:

Brick tea	- 40 gr
Milk or cream	- 0,5 L
Butter	- 50 gr
Water	- 1,5 L
Salt, nutmeg	- to your liking

Recipe for bortzoks

Mix rich unfermented dough and let it rest for 1-1,5 hours before kneading. The shape of bortzoks can vary. The dough must be soft and puffy. Bortzoks are fried in large amounts of fat.

For 1 kilo of bortzoks:

Flour	- 700 gr
1 egg	
Milk or kefir	- 300 gr
Sugar	- 30 gr
Baking soda	- 1 tea spoon
Salt	- 2 tea spoons



Kalmyk tea (джомба) is the most widespread drink of the steppe region. No holidays pass without it, and it is consumed both before and after meals. The Kalmyks say that flavorsome джомба can quench the thirst, keep you warm on cold winter days and make a full meal if coupled with bortzoks.

A poem titled "Kalmyk Tea" by the poetess Bosia Sangadjieva truly and accurately portrays the Kalmyks' love of tea and its meaning for each and every steppe-dweller:

Which century was it and which
Kalmyk was it
That came up with what I am
about to praise?
Every day I get up at dawn and
make the golden brew ...

The tradition to first of all offer tea to respected family members, honored guests or just occasional

Through the prism of names



... NO ONE, AFTER ALL, WHETHER OF LOW OR HIGH DEGREE, GOES NAMELESS ONCE HE HAS COME INTO THE WORLD; EVERYBODY IS NAMED BY HIS PARENTS WHEN HE IS BORN...(HOMER, "THE ODYSSEY")

Human names can have very deep roots. Anthroponymy (the science of names) suggests that they can be classified as among the most ancient words that have brought down core cultural and historical information over the centuries to people living today.

The very first names were perceived as magical characters, and people believed in their special power. We still have "avert" (warding off) names, and "wish" names are still relevant. The ancient Turks worshipped the heav-

ens. The most frequent female name component [gul] (flower) alludes to the wish that the girl grows up tender and beautiful as a gorgeous flower (in the Russian transcription it can be written as [gul'] or [kul']). Nowadays this element is perceived as simply a female name tag. That is why if we investigate the deeper aspect of the names of some of CPC's female staff, we find ourselves in a miraculous flower garden.

Let's meet the staff in the Atyrau office. The name of **Aygul' Sadykova (1)**, the chief account-

ing with documents. The name of **Almagul' Kemalova (2)**, the chief tax specialist, can be translated as "apple blossom". Just as an apple tree is gentle and beautiful in blossom, our Almagul' is a stylish sophisticated girl keen on gymnastics and dancing. She is very demanding of both herself and others.

Bakytgul' Khamitova (3), an economist, has not been with CPC-K for long. Her first name component [bakit] translates as "happiness", so her full name means "flower of happiness". And that is what we wish her, happiness and luck! **Nazgul' Khibasheva (4)**, an asset accountant, has the greatest experience with the CPC female team, more than 10 years. A part of her name (naz) is adopted from Iranian and translates as "coquetry, trifling, charm". This name is given to a girl to wish her to grow up as graceful, charming and elegant as a flower.



enly bodies and especially honored the Sun and the Moon that later came to be seen as symbols of beauty. The names with the components [ai] (moon), [kyn] (sun), [zhuldiz] (star) are popular with all Turkic-speaking peo-

ple. The most frequent female name component mentioned above, and she is our "moon flower". This pretty girl has a sense of humor but loves precision in work and is very painstaking of the accounts payable group, consists of the two most popular components mentioned above, and she is our "moon flower". This pretty girl has a sense of humor but loves precision in work and is very painstaking

Gul'zhan Musagalieva (5) works as a documentation clerk. The second component of her name [zhan] can appear both in male and female names meaning "soul", even though in names it more often means "flower-like

child". That is exactly the meaning for this case; when her parents named their daughter, they wished her beauty and tenderness. Our Gul'zhan is young and can afford to be childishly spontaneous.

The next "flower" in our office "garden" is **Gul'zada Kapakova (6)**, the chief HR-management specialist. The meaning of her name is similar to the previous one – "a child, pretty like a flower"; the second component of her name translates from Iranian as "baby, child". Gul'zada has a vivid strong personality, and great organizational skills.

Gul'zat Kurmasheva (7) is an operator of the transport department. The second part of her name means "origin", so altogether we have "born as a flower". At work Gul'zat mainly deals with drivers, and she handles their schedules very efficiently. At home she is a tender mother and affectionate grandmother.

The name of **Aygerim Kulbarakova (9)**, our payroll accountant, really suits her. It consists of an exclamation [ai] and the word kepim, together expressing the fascination, "Oh, what a beauty!" The name [Eigerim] was mentioned by the classic Kazakh author Mukhtar Auezov in his novel "The Path of Abai".

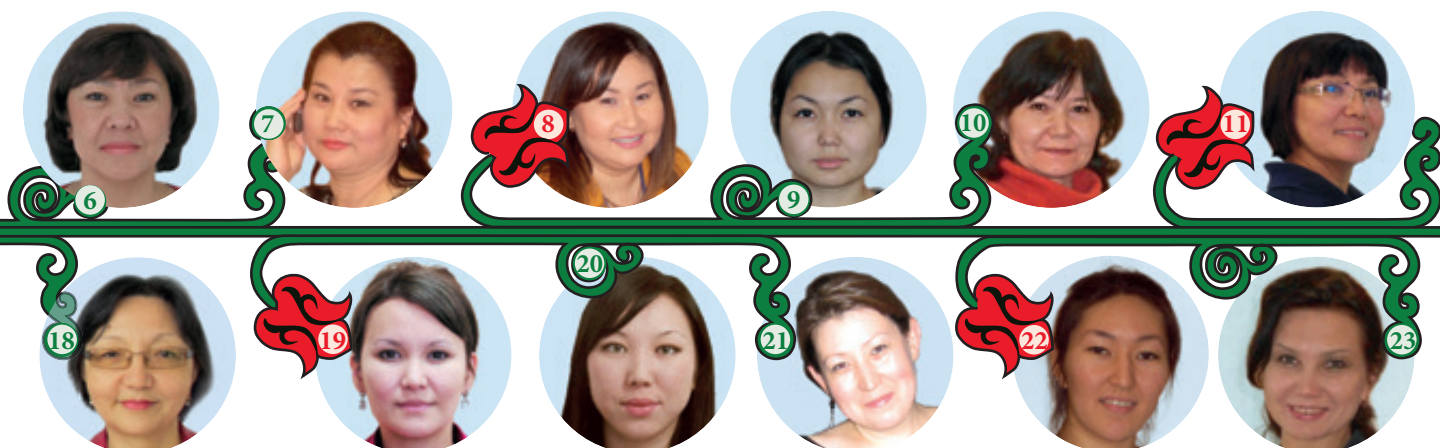
Akmaral Aytuarova (10) is the head tax specialist. Her name contains the Kazakh adjective [ak] (white), which in this case has the special symbolic meaning of "pure, ideal, light". The Caspian red deer (or maral) is a sacred animal worshiped by nomadic tribes. [Akmaral] is an ideal of beauty, grace, mystery and pride, which is very true about our colleague. She is a very responsible person.

Maral Taskinbaeva (11) is another "graceful and mysterious" lady who works at the PS Atyrau testing laboratory.

literally translated as "weaned", meaning a "grown-up girl". By the way, our Batima recently married off her daughter.

The name Gaukhar means "diamond". At CPC-K we have three ladies with that "precious" name. **Gaukhar Esimova (13)** is an accountant for material record and assets. The other two (**Gaukhar Alpamysova and Gaukhar Shagirova (14, 15)**) are lab technicians at the PS Atyrau testing room. Our "diamonds" amaze everyone with their beauty and professionalism.

Zhanar Kalmukhanova (16) is a tax specialist. [Zhanar] means "glitter in the eyes" and it symbolizes the love of life, the desire to move forwards and upwards, and to shine with beauty. Our site preparation material accounting specialist has a name that sounds very similar – **Zhainar Ibat (17)**. This name is the expressions of the parents' wish for



Gul'ziya Kanatkaliyeva (8), a Learning and Development professional, is the "new flower" at the Atyrau office. Her name Gul'ziya includes an Arabic word *ضيء*, meaning "glitter, shine", and so it translates as "shining flower".

Our head payroll accountant **Butima Tulekeshcheva (12)** has a name that is sacred for all Muslims. It is a phonetic variant of the Arabic name Fatima, the favourite daughter of the Prophet Mohammed. It is

their daughter to blossom and shine in a luxurious and bright manner. One more name that is similar in sound and meaning is [Zharkin], meaning "bright, radiant, shining". **Zharkyn Kenzhebaeva (18)** is interpreter, »

and her name is very becoming.

The most widespread name at CPC-K is Zhanna. It is an ancient Hebrew name meaning “grace of God, a dove”. It is perhaps used in Kazakh families because of its consonance with tradition-

Among Kazakhs one often finds those with abbreviated Russian names (Kostya instead of Konstantin, Raya instead of Raisa).

Lisa Igaliyeva (24), the senior specialist for commodity –transport operations, explains her name with her mother’s words:

When translated from Arabic, the name Saltanat means “brilliance, luxury, celebration”, and has the same root with the word “sultan”. The environmental engineer **Saltanat Saparova (Djar-ekenova) (27)** is still very young, but she is aiming to reach the



al national names like Zhanar and Zhannat. Let me present our “doves”, the lovely ladies bearing this international name: **Zhanna Dusaliyeva (19)** (interpreter), **Zhanna Kulzhigitova (20)** (HR specialist), **Zhanna Shegebaeva (21)** (transportation specialist), **Zhanna Zhanalyeva (22)** (site preparation payables specialist). These are all cheerful beauties, but very responsible at work.

The name Inessa (“undisturbed”) became popular in the 1920s, when the traditional Russian naming system was being loosened; the name was given after Inessa Armand, a notable figure in the international Communist movement. In our team the name belongs to the regional manager receptionist **Inessa Naydenova (23)**. Given that she has the graceful body of a model some colleagues jokingly call her Inegul’ (from the Kazakh word [ine] – “needle”).

there had been only boys in the family before her, and her parents were so happy to have a long-awaited daughter that they agreed to give her a “different”, non-Kazakh name suggested by elder relatives. It was supposed to serve as an “avertor”.

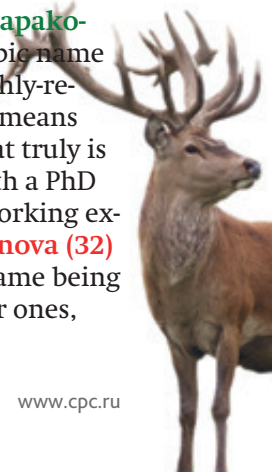
Everyone knows and understands the meaning of the Russian name Lyubov. In the same way everyone in CPC-K and many people in Atyrau and the surrounding region know **Lyubov Evstifeeva (25)** who is the face of our company’s charity work. Her generous heart is lavish with love of people.

Nelly Sarsengaliyeva (26) has the most mysterious name in the office. The name Nelly is borrowed from Europe and has many and varied interpretations: “new, sunny, light, the pet form of the name Helen, Elena”. Our Nelly embodies all the name’s mystique, style and sense of aristocracy.

top in her field and I believe she will do so. Our office administrator **Sandugash Tleubaeva (28)** bears the ancient Turk name [Sandugash] (meaning “nightingale”).

The name Tatiana, praised by Pushkin himself, is thought to be ancient Greek and means “organizer”. There are two in the Eastern region: the senior specialist for financial accounting and analysis **Tatiana Bratanova (29)**, and the lab technician at the PS Atyrau testing laboratory **Tatiana Kanina (30)**.

We have a double-name bearer working in the PS Atyrau laboratory – **Alyazhanat Shapakova (31)**. [Elia] is the Arabic meaning “precious, highly-respected”, while Zhanat means “lovely”. And Alyazhanat truly is a valuable specialist with a PhD degree and extensive working experience. **Anastasia Tunova (32)** also works there, her name being one of the most popular ones,



translating from Greek as “re-born, resurrected”. It is formed from the same stem with the word “anesthesia”. We hope that Nastya will never have to resort to anesthesia in real life, and her only pains will be pleasant ones.

Arabic as “honey”. We have one more sweet “honey” girl working in the Atyrau office, the interpreter **Asel’ Doszhanova (39)**.

Galina Maslova (40) also works at the PS Tengiz laboratory.

base. Her name is connected with the female form of the Arabic word [Amir/Emir] (“sovereign”) and with the European name Elvira (“protected”). Kazakhs can easily use the stem they like to produce new names like Gul’mira, Aymira, Al’mira, Nurmira, etc.



Zoya translates from Greek as “life”. **Zoya Dmitrievna Pavlova (33)**, a lab technician at the PS Atyrau laboratory, is highly respected and people only address her by her full name and patronymic. “Fresh light breeze” – that is the meaning of her colleague’s name **Samal Tureshova (34)**.

The testing laboratory of PS Tengiz also has its own beautiful “bunch”, with girls who have flower names: **Ayankul’ Ashimbekova (35)**, **Badagul’ Djubaeva (36)**, and **Raushan-gul’ Bolzhanova (37)**. The word [aina] (mirror) within a name serves as a symbol of purity and sincerity. The first part of the name [Bagdagul] – [Bagdad] is translated from Iranian as “gift of God”. Raushan is also an Iranian name, meaning “bright, clear, and light”. Such are our laboratory girls – gifts of God, bright, sincere and pure people. **Asel’ Sarsenova (38)** also works there; her name translates from

Her name is Greek, meaning “calm, windless, silence”, and the name bearer herself possesses these qualities of tranquility and calmness that are so necessary in a team. Another name of Greek origin is Elena; it has the meaning of “sunlight, beautiful, shining”. We have a little “sunshine” in each of the laboratories – **Elena Mukhaeva (41)** and **Elena Motina (42)**. Shine always, shine everywhere! – almost in Mayakovsky’s words. This motto is shared by the name Svetlana, praised by V. Zhukovsky in a ballad with the same title. Kazakhs like this Russian name; it was especially popular in the 1960s-70s, when the short version “Sveta” was also often used. We have two in the team – the lab technician at the PS Tengiz **Svetlana Ischanova (43)** and the logistics base warehouse **Svetlana Tulenova (44)**.

Elmira Panargaliyeva (45), a materials accounting specialist, also works at the logistics

Gul’nara Saurambaeva (46), the assistant secretary of the Director General responsible for liaison with the Government of the Republic of Kazakhstan, works in the Eastern region office which is in Astana, the capital city of Kazakhstan. Her name means “pomegranate blossom”. Outside work, Gul’nara is the caring mother of three children.

These combinations of earthborn and heavenly beauty, refinement and the tenderness of wonderful flowers, light breeze and silence, graceful red deer and wondrous birds, light and shining, vitality and mystery on the one hand, and clear mind, responsibility, strictness and demands on oneself and others on the other hand – such is our lovely “garden”, the female part of the CPC-K team.

*By Mardjankul (Pearl) Diarova (47)
Eastern region
Office Atyrau*

Making the World Better

THE 123-DAY OLYMPIC TORCH RELAY PRIOR TO THE SOCHI WINTER OLYMPICS BECAME THE LONGEST RELAY IN WINTER OLYMPICS HISTORY. THE EVENT INVOLVED APPROXIMATELY 14,000 TORCHBEARERS, AND ONE OF THEM WAS OUR COLLEAGUE VIKTOR ANTsupov, INSTRUMENTATION MAINTENANCE ENGINEER FROM PS ASTRAKHANSKAYA.

In the application form he filed to become a torchbearer, Viktor Antsupov wrote: "To improve the world around them people need to begin with themselves. First of all, one has to put things in proper order and harmonize one's own inner world. If everyone does that, our world will definitely become better..." The idea was endorsed by thousands of people who voted for him on the website, including the famous pole-vaulter, two-time Olympic champion and holder of

28 world records, Yelena Isinbayeva, who personally selected candidates in the final stage of the contest.

The Olympic torch arrived in Astrakhan on January 26 as the relay entered its final stage. By then, the torch had traveled to the North Pole, been flown into space, raised atop Mount Elbrus and descended to the bottom of Lake Baikal. The combined distance traveled by the Olympic torches – on motor cars, trains,

airplanes, Russian troikas and reindeer sleighs – exceeded the length of the Equator.

Out of the 22-kilometer run to be made by the torch through the city of Astrakhan, Viktor Antsupov's share was only 188 meters. But each of these 188 meters, in front of the eyes of the whole city, relatives, friends and colleagues, was something to remember! To get properly prepared, he arrived at Astrakhan's central stadium early in the morning, well in advance, and watched the lighting of the Olympic Cauldron and the first of several torchbearers carrying the torch.

– I'm seriously into the sport of running, and it was not hard for me to run with the 1.800 kilo torch held high in my hand. And I was overwhelmed with strong emotions. It was as if I was taking part in the Olympics, – Viktor said.

Viktor's emotions were shared by his colleagues, many of who came to cheer him on along the route.

– We understood that Viktor was taking part in a historic event, something to be remembered for a lifetime. We were sincerely proud of him, – PS Astrakhanskaya head Sergey Nosov remarked.

After the race, the torch carried by Viktor Antsupov was bought from the organizers for the museum of the CPC Central Region office where the consortium's employees and partners are now able to admire this truly priceless trophy. ■

By Pavel Kretov



Viktor Antsupov (left) takes the Olympic torch



Commemorative photo with Transneft President Nikolay Tokarev

«Grandiose, breathtaking, unforgettable!...»

THE 2014 SOCHI WINTER OLYMPICS WERE A TRIUMPH FOR RUSSIAN SPORTSPEOPLE. THE "HARVEST" OF GOLD MEDALS WAS SOMETHING EVEN THE USSR TEAM HAD NEVER MANAGED TO ACHIEVE AT WINTER OLYMPICS IN THE PAST. WE TAKE THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE OUR COLLEAGUES FROM TRANSNEFT ON THE OCCASION OF THE RUSSIAN NATIONAL BOBSLEIGH TEAM (OF WHICH TRANSNEFT IS THE GENERAL SPONSOR) WINNING THE 13TH GOLD MEDAL FOR RUSSIA.

According to the International Olympic Committee, the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympics attracted many more television viewers than the preceding event in Vancouver in 2010. In many countries, broadcasts from Sochi exceeded TV shows and series in popularity. Of course, the largest audience was in Russia where more than 35 million people watched the live broadcast of the Opening Ceremony.

Some CPC employees, including our colleagues from

the CPC Moscow office, managed to visit the site of these fierce sporting battles. They immersed themselves in the unforgettable atmosphere of the sporting festival and got plenty of positive emotions which they shared with a CPC Panorama correspondent.

– I've always dreamed of visiting a sporting event on such a large scale, – project control specialist from the Russian Section Pump Stations Group Maxim Desyatnik said. – In our country, the Sochi 2014 Winter

Olympics can be compared perhaps only with the Moscow 1980 Summer Olympics, but I was only two years old then... That is why I suggested to my colleagues that we should go to Sochi for a weekend. We just could not miss that chance!

The Olympics capital greeted the CPC group with sunny summer weather, 25°C, which particularly impressed senior construction and repair engineer from the Russian Section Pump Stations Group Vladimir Tyuryukhanov, a third-generation native of Siberia.

– Heading for a Winter Olympics, we found ourselves in the subtropics, – he remarked. – The winter clothes we brought with us were only useful for visiting sporting events which took place high in the mountains.

But what impressed the CPC team even more were the modern high-tech facilities built in Sochi for the Olympics. The airport is something worth seeing – the equal of the very best in the country. And the cities too, Sochi and Adler, have »



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changed beyond recognition in recent years.

– I’m proud of my country and of those people who worked here for seven years to achieve these tremendous results! – lead procurement specialist of the Russian Section Pump Stations Group Ksenia Borokina remarked emotionally. – What we saw here was grandiose, breathtaking and unforgettable! – she added.

Those involved in law enforcement deserve special mention. Our colleagues noted that all the security officers servicing the Olympic facilities were polite and smiling – something, to be frank, not commonly found in Russia. However, there is always a fly in the ointment. Sometimes,

the vigilance of the security services was a bit obtrusive.

The energetic cheers coming from our colleagues could not but affect the results achieved by the Russian short track speed skaters! An important event of the same day was the Russia-U.S. hockey match

– They inspected my bag some 300 times in two days, which, of course, somewhat disturbed me. For instance, you cannot take your bottle of water and sandwich with you when you move to a different facility. I was

particularly disappointed by the security staff when, due to being delayed at an access control point, I arrived late to join the group photograph with Transneft President Nikolay Tokarev, – Public and Mass Media Relations Consultant Alexander Detkov complains.

But let’s go back to sports. First, the CPC “delegation” watched short track events which took place in the Olympic Park at the Iceberg Winter Sports Palace.

– This kind of sport is unusual for us, and we found it a bit boring in the beginning as nobody could understand what was going on. But gradually we got to grips with the rules. There was a very real battle



1. The "field kitchen" for guests.
2. Hurrah! We are here at last! In Sochi! The capital of the Olympics!
3. We had to climb high up the mountains to root for our skiers.
4. Vladimir Tyuryukhanov particularly liked the Olympic snowboard track.
5. Fans were allowed to come close to the ski-track to cheer their favorite skiers.

as the Russian short trackers fought to win, – Maxim Desyatnik recalls.

The energetic cheers coming from our colleagues could not but affect the results shown by the Russian short track speed skaters. There was no stopping Russian short trackers Viktor An and Vladimir Grigoryev. They skillfully crowded out their rivals and deservedly won the gold and silver medals, respectively.

Another important event on the same day was the Russia-U.S. hockey match. The CPC people watched the match on the monitors installed in the fan-zone. As everyone knows, the match ended with penalty shootouts where fortune did not favor the Russian side.

– At the most dramatic moment after the penalty shootouts, the organizers for some reason decided to end the broadcast and switched to an entertainment program. But this decision caused a very negative reaction from the 15,000-strong crowd, and the mistake was promptly corrected, – Detkov noted with a laugh.

On the following day, our colleagues went to Krasnaya Polyana to watch snowboard and alpine skiing events.

– I reached the conclusion that alpine skiing is better watched on TV. Even though you are at the location, you still cannot see the whole track. In fact, you can't see more than you normally see on your television screen.

It is worth coming here only if you want to see or cheer your favorite sports person, – Alexander Detkov concluded.

Vladimir Tyuryukhanov, who is seriously into snowboarding, particularly liked the Olympic snowboard track. He decided that he would return here soon with his snowboarding gear.

Now our colleagues plan to visit another important sporting event of the year – the world ice hockey championships which take place in Belarus in May. Let's wish them more bright impressions! ■

By Pavel Kretov
Photographs by Nikolay Remizov

However different, mothers are always special

There is always a fresh child's drawing pinned above the desk of the Moscow office senior accountant, Accounts Payable Group **Julia Melnikova** – the creative work of her seven-year old daughter Anya. Our staff writer was very much impressed by the portrait of her beloved mom and we decided to put this page together. Look what wonderful mothers work for CPC!



We have received three drawings at once from the children of **Olga Chernikova**, secretary-translator at the Western Region Operations Department: it was a collective effort from her daughters. Each portrait retains a host of individual characteristics – in one she is a kind mom, in another she is focused, in a third smiling... The hobbies of the young artists are equally wide-ranging. Eleven-year old Eleanor loves history, reads a lot and collects stamps. The younger twins, eight-year olds Polina and Amalia are into dancing and eurythmics.

Yana, the eight-year old daughter of maintenance administrative assistant **Yuliya Ershova** (Moscow) apparently had some difficulty fitting her mom's portrait onto a single sheet of album format paper. It seems this child, if given half a meter of drawing paper, could have painted over every inch of it – such is the importance and authority enjoyed by Yuliya in the life of her girl. Yana's other interests include singing and dancing, swimming and figure skating and she is hard to beat at chess.



The daughter of the administrative assistant to the Moscow Training Department **Marina Kostomarova** rendered her mother's portrait in a way similar to the drawings of stage designers: Xenia is a great admirer of theatre, although a very young one at five and a half. Perhaps in the not so distant future she will herself appear on stage to show her dancing skills before an admiring audience.



And here is a portrait of our colleague Elena Evdokimova, document control specialist from the Expansion Project records office in Moscow. She is a happy mother of three: her eldest son Gleb will soon turn five and a half and the younger ones, Nina and Stanislav are both one and a half. Gleb is very fond of everything medieval, so in the drawing he fancied depicting his mom as walking a dragon.



Judging by the portrait of **Gaukhar Yessimova**, accountant, materials and fixed assets record in the CPC Atyrau office, it is her beauty that 11-year old Ali cherishes in his mom, but no less her calmness and confidence – qualities that are truly priceless both in family life and at work.



Artur, ten-year old son of **Inessa Naidenova**, secretary-clerk of the CPC Eastern Region Operations Department in Atyrau, has achieved a great likeness in his mom's portrait. The boy is clearly artistically gifted and versatile in his talents: he is, among other things, a successful player on the Atyrau children's hockey team "Beibarys". Artur dreams of being able to play like Malkin and Ovechkin.

Eastern Region economist **Bakytgul Khamitova** from the CPC Atyrau office comes across as a beautiful fairy princess. Her five-year old Khamila and four-year old Batyrkhan – mother's little helpers – are growing fast! ■

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While this issue was in production: On March 26-29, CPC General Director Nikolay Brunich made a business trip to Kazakhstan

