



Alexei Dyumin awarded the company's president, Boris Sokol, the Ministry of Industry and Trade medal 'For Labour Valour'.



The Governor's Brass Band put every guest in a good mood at the official ceremony near the Palace of Culture in Pervomaisky.

Larisa Timofeyeva.
Photos: Alexei Piryazev.

On 1 June, the employees of Shchekinoazot celebrated their professional holiday. On that day, the Khimik Palace of Culture in Pervomaisky honoured the most outstanding workers of 2018.

Shchekinoazot is a recognised leader in the Russian chemical industry. It was founded in 1955. Since then, a small factory has turned into the town's core enterprise. In the autumn of 2018, the workers of Shchekinoazot will launch four ambitious projects of national significance: an M-450/A-135 methanol-ammonia

complex, a sulphuric acid installation, a perfume-quality dimethyl ether production site (in association with Petro Carbo Chem) and new treatment facilities. The company believes that 2018 will be a landmark year in the history of the industrial development of Tula Region and Russia as a whole, and the history of Shchekinoazot.

The governor of Tula Region, Alexei Dyumin, came to congratulate the factory's personnel. He said that the chemical industry is rightly seen as the pride of the region. Today, it is implementing large-scale projects, introducing the latest technology and creating jobs. The government supports the industry's development. Proof of this is the memorandum signed at the recent St. Petersburg International Economic Forum by the administration of Tula Region, the management of Shchekinoazot and the Russian Minister of Industry and Trade, Denis Manturov. The document envisages the conclusion of a Special Investment Contract to build two new facilities at Shchekinoazot: an M-500 methanol production site and a nitric acid and ammonium nitrate complex.

"Your enterprise makes steady, significant contributions to the development of the economy and community of Tula," said Alexei Dyumin. "It's safe to say that Shchekinoazot is one of the leaders of the chemical industry in Russia. Its products successfully compete with those from other countries on all global markets. The basis of any industry, any company, is people, true professionals, who care about the results of their work. Entire dynasties of employees work at Shchekinoazot. The company is known for the way it

takes care of them, which is why new generations of chemists come here to replace their parents, reinforcing traditions that have lasted many years".

The governor honoured the most notable workers with corporate and regional awards.

The company's president, Boris Sokol, received the Ministry of Industry and Trade medal 'For Labour Valour'. Boris Aleksandrovich spoke about the future of the enterprise.

"We always look forward to the Day of the Chemist with excitement and trembling. Over the past year, we worked as a responsible, well-coordinated and highly professional collective. We're going to launch four new facilities in the early autumn. We're looking forward to this moment impatiently and anxiously – it's going to be memorable for all of us. This will be a first in the history of our company, which will be turning 65 in two years! Four advanced high-tech facilities! A new era for Shchekinoazot is about to begin. But we can't relax yet, much less rest on our laurels. Summer is going to be hot, and I don't mean the weather. I wish everyone success, optimism and confidence in the future."

Two Shchekinoazot workers were awarded the title of 'Honoured Chemist'. One of them, Vladimir Yegorkin, services auxiliary machinery in the boiler-and-turbine shop. In 1989, Vladimir was hired at the Pervomaisky TPP, which became part of Shchekinoazot in 2011.

"I chose this job by chance, just saw the vacancy and applied. But it turned out to be the place for me," smiles **Vladimir Egorov**. "We have

got a great team of wonderful people, understanding management you can approach with any question. With a team, a company like that, going to work is a pleasure! For me, the title of 'Honoured Chemist' is important because it'll make my wife and children proud. My family is my wife Svetlana, son Nikita and daughter Varvara."



Vladimir Yegorkin

tor Mazur. "I followed him to the school and then was invited to work at Shchekinoazot. I love where I work, and in all these years, it has never occurred to me to change anything. I feel really good here. The work is interesting, stable and secure, the team is amazing. Today I also feel proud for us, I'm happy!"



Viktor Mazur

All the guests at the ceremony were shown a documentary about Shchekinoazot. Among others, it features the company veteran Viktor Petrovich Neznamov, who worked here for 43 years.

"I always remember my young years and my work here with great pleasure," says Viktor Neznamov. "Being young is always great! It's nice



Viktor Neznamov

that the factory doesn't forget about us, the veterans. And we're happy to share our experience and knowledge with young people. To folks who come to work at Shchekinoazot, I wish you work you can put your whole selves into. Good luck and good health to everyone, and prosperity to the factory. As I said in the film, the factory is the future of our region. It's the future of the many people who will devote their lives to it."

The next day, the celebration continued on the town square. Artists from Tula performed for the citizens and guests of Shchekino. The headliner of the night was the famous Denis Maidanov, who treated the crowd to his best hits and energised the audience for the year to come.



Alexei Gubanov

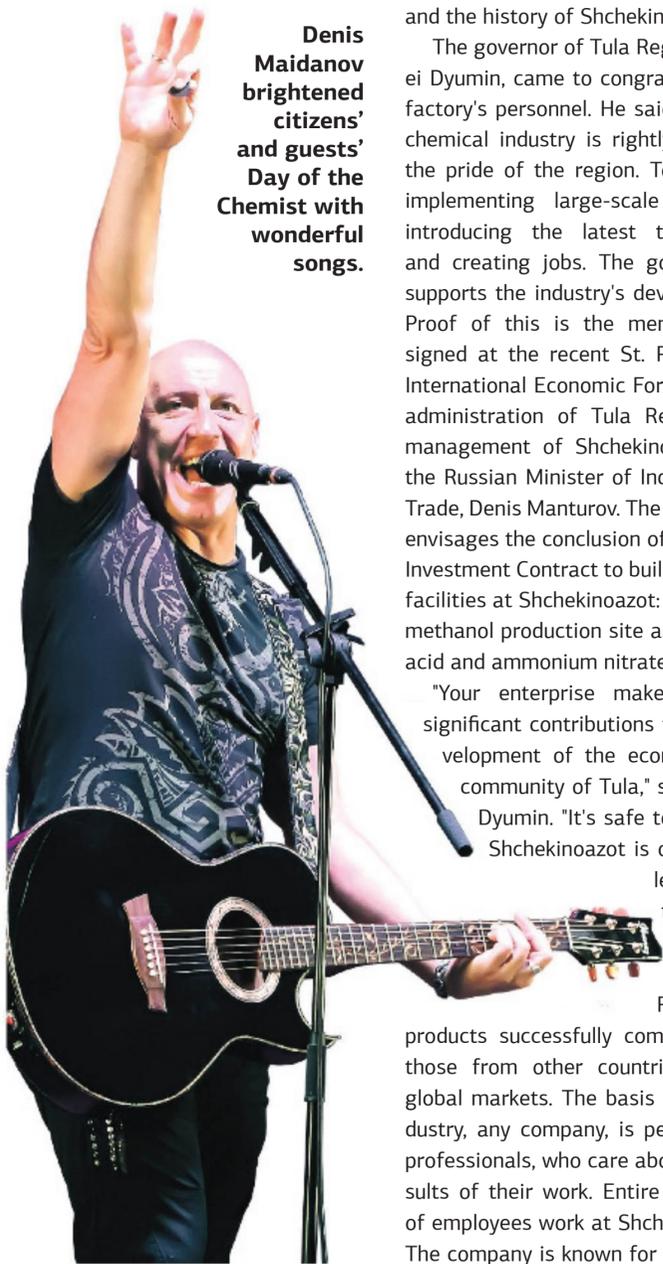
Viktor Mazur, Alexei Gubanov and Alexander Shmonov received letters of gratitude from the governor of the Tula Region.

Alexei Gubanov has been working as a caprolactam synthesis operator for 20 years and has been at Shchekinoazot for more than 40.

"I came to work here when I was young, and ever since then I have been convinced that this is the best," says **Alexei Gubanov**. "I'm from Shchekino myself, I live here. My son worked at this company, and my mom did, too, in her time. Shchekinoazot is a respectable company. It's so great here, I feel confident in tomorrow. Receiving a letter of gratitude straight from the governor's hands is very nice and a great incentive to work even better."

Viktor Mazur is an instrumentation technician in the automation shop. He's been with the company, in this very shop, for 36 years.

"My older brother went to school to study control and measuring equipment. At home he told me about his studies, and it inspired me," says **Vik-**



Denis Maidanov brightened citizens' and guests' Day of the Chemist with wonderful songs.