

Shchekinoazot: Business for the Benefit of the Community

Our region confronts COVID-19. Everyone has joined in the fight against the insidious virus: doctors, who are at the forefront of the battle, members of the public, volunteers, and businesses. A high level of corporate social responsibility is of utmost importance these days.



Governor Alexey DYUMIN presented Boris SOKOL, President of Shchekinoazot, with the Tula Region Medal "For Dedication and Unity"

The PANDEMIC is a serious challenge. Today, everyone seems to understand that the coronavirus threatens people's health and life, undermines the economies of countries and regions, and therefore has a negative impact on social policy. The whole world – companies, organizations, and people – is fighting a new danger. They are combating COVID-19 using all possible means and methods.

... In early December, the Governor handed out awards to those who were courageously fighting coronavirus. Along with the dedication and the highest qualification of doctors, the management and staff of two major manufacturing companies were also recognized. The Governor emphasized that a high level of corporate social responsibility was of utmost importance.

"We've managed to come together, carry out consistent work, unite in the face of a common threat. And today we continue fighting together," he said.

Compliance with all preventive measures

Boris Sokol, President of Shchekinoazot, received the Tula Region medal "For Dedication and Unity" from Alexey Dyumin.

The company, headed by Boris Alexandrovich, is consistently notable for its high level of social responsibility. Its projects encompass all spheres of social life – from supporting young talents to large-scale development. It is noteworthy that the COVID-19 pandemic, which has negatively affected all companies, did not force Shchekinoazot to postpone its production development programs and social projects. On the contrary, care for people has only increased in such difficult conditions.

Of course, the Shchekinoazot team understood the importance and seriousness of the task from the first days of the lockdown introduced to prevent the spread of the virus. A company with a continuous

production cycle simply cannot afford to ignore the prescribed measures.

A self-isolation regime was introduced for workers aged 65 and above. The company also introduced remote work to those who could perform their duties off-site.

The company also introduced the use of personal protective equipment and disinfectants – all employees are provided with masks, shields, gloves, and appropriate disinfectants at the company's expense. Air sanitizers were installed everywhere. Social distancing is strictly observed. Every working day starts with a non-contact temperature check. Mandatory wet cleaning and disinfection of all rooms are carried out according to a strict schedule, drawn up according to recommendations of doctors and occupational safety experts.

The working committee, which consists of department heads, monitors compliance with all requirements to prevent the spread of the virus. The seriousness and importance of measures taken are underlined by the fact that the working committee is headed by the company president.



The company's medical unit consists of a clinic, four first-aid stations, and an emergency medical service

Health comes first

THIS IS WELL-UNDERSTOOD at the enterprise. Over the past decade, new state-of-the-art production facilities were put into operation. Their launch not only increased output but also significantly improved working conditions.

Shchekinoazot employees are provided with a good rest.

And care for the health of staff remains a priority. The company has a medical unit that comprises a clinic, four first-aid stations, and an emergency medical service. This means that an employee who feels unwell at work will always be taken to a doctor.

Today, patients can visit not only general practitioners but also specialists at the clinic. The clinic recently welcomed four new members of staff. It is prestigious to work in the medical unit as its employees are given the same care as those working at core production units. And during the pandemic, medical staff is provided with the necessary protection. In addition to safety goggles, gloves, and facemasks, doctors and nurses use protective suits (the company bought a significant amount of PPE).

Shchekinoazot spends over 20 million rubles on the medical unit every year. The company is now finishing major repairs in the medical unit; 7.2 million rubles was invested in eleven months of this year alone. State-of-the-art equipment is being purchased. Patients can undergo ultrasound examinations in the medical unit. The latest digital diagnostic system has already been purchased for the X-ray room (7.6 million rubles). There is also an ultrasound scanner (2.6 million rubles) and world-class dental equipment.

Such significant expenses are justified – the clinic has noticeably changed for the better.

Ksenia Perepechina, Chief Physician of the medical unit, is negotiating a contract with a laboratory that will allow taking PCR tests at the clinic. This will speed up medical care in case COVID-19 is detected.

Helping those in need

THIS is another fundamental rule for Shchekinoazot. Taking care of the company's veterans and Shchekino veterans of the Great Patriotic War, helping educational and cultural institutions, supporting sports, and developing community infrastructure are an integral part of the company's social policy.

The pandemic has made the healthcare system the number one issue to focus on.

And the chemical company was among the first ones to show compassion and concern.

Shchekinoazot's management supported the initiative of Tula Region Governor Alexey Dyumin to convert the Infectious Disease Department of the Shchekino District Hospital No. 3 in Pervomaisky into the Department of Differential Diagnosis of Pneumonia. The company funded the repairs. The amount of work performed required co-financing of one million rubles.

Thanks to Shchekinoazot, residents of Bolshaya Troena and Myasoedovo villages will have access to primary medical care. The company funded the purchase and installation of two modular paramedical and midwifery stations. The total cost of these stations, along with the preparation of sites for their installation and landscaping, amounted to almost five million rubles. The company also upgraded the water supply system in Myasoedovo to comply with high sanitary and hygiene standards.



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Shchekinoazot's management is always attentive to requests for help, especially if they deal with people's health and well-being. The company has helped buy air sanitizers for the children's art school at the Community Center of Yasnaya Polyana and the Tula Suvorov Military College. The company also helped many organizations purchase personal protective equipment and sanitizers. Of course, the company is also going through hard times. However, it is steadily operating and implementing three large investment projects. Nevertheless, the company always fulfills all its social obligations.

Boris Sokol, President of Shchekinoazot, always emphasizes that business can be considered successful only when it is benefits society. And the company's staff do their best to follow this principle.

Uliana PANINA



Shchekinoazot clinic receives new state-of-the-art X-ray equipment