

## **ZAPORIZHSTAL – a symbol of domestic metallurgy**

Today, as well as some decades back, to be a Zaporizhstal worker is honourable. It means, the person is sure of not only the present but also has confidence in himself and his family in the future. The Works in the region is considered to be a guarantee of a happy future for each of its workers.

Of course, in seventy years different things have happened, even if the war and restoration of the Works are not to be taken into account. Examples of mass heroism in those years have already been described by authors of different generations, and much still is stored in archives, and in the memory of those who participated in the events in different years. But if one analyses all that has been published it will not be difficult to allocate the basic features inherent to different generations of Zaporizhstal workers.

Certainly, without collectivism, feelings of comradeship and friendly aid, it hardly would have been possible to speak about significant successes. At such a powerful enterprise egoists had to submit to the common rules of honesty, decency and mutual assistance. You have been helped – help others! It has become a standard of behaviour which still exists and develops today, despite of the introduction of market relationship. The management of Zaporizhstal has managed to keep the best achievements of the socialist system, which coincide with Christian morals, helping people hold the responsibility for themselves and their own conscience, their comrades and their native enterprise.

The same feeling of responsibility has allowed to generate one more quality inherent to all the Zaporizhstal generations of workers, and that is constant creative search. Many overlook, and some do not even know, that Zaporizhstal throughout its history was, is and, there is no doubt, will be an original ground for the introduction of progressive ideas and technology in the field of metallurgy.

It is enough to recollect that Zaporizhstal was the first and the only enterprise in the USSR where according to modern technology thin cold-

Zaporizhstal has greatly contributed to the development of the production technology of rolled sheets of complex alloyed steel for the defence industry. At the beginning of the 60-ties, for the first time in the country, the Works mastered the production of rolled products of high-tensile non-magnetic steel for submarines, and high-tensile steels for aviation. For the development and organisation of the production of rolled sheets of special high-temperature steel for jet engines, the Works and the Head Science Research Institute of Ferrous Metallurgy were awarded the State Prize of the USSR. In those years the best and the most modern was used to strengthen the defence potential of the country. And this Prize means a lot.

For the first time in the country Zaporizhstal began production of cold-roll formed sections. Zaporizhstal was the first in domestic metallurgy to use natural gas and oxygen in the blast furnace and steel production.

Zaporizhstal occupies a special place in the history of domestic metallurgy for mastering new carbon and special steels: low-carbon semi-killed steels with aluminium additions – non-ageing steel 08Yu. Many compositions of chromium and chromium-manganese stainless steels underwent necessary testing and finishing of the technology at Zaporizhstal before they were included in the State Standards and technical specifications.

In 1973, for the first time in the USSR, polymer-coated rolled products – metal-base laminate were produced at the Works according to the technology of the Science Research Institute of Ferrous Metallurgy on an aggregate designed by “Uralmash”.

There are not sufficient pages in the magazine to name all the achievements of Zaporizhstal workers. However, even for a person who is not an expert the above mentioned is enough to understand, what value at the enterprise is given to the creative approach to work at each workplace, starting from the steelmaker helper down to the Director General.

Owing to the Director General, Vitaly Antonovich Satskiy, the spirit of innovation predominates over the enterprise. Vitaly Antonovich came to the Works in 1986 when renovation started. After declaration of

consideration the age of the Works) technical revamping, introduction of power saving technologies, mastering of new kinds of metal products, improvement of its quality. Today with the use of modern achievements blast- and open-hearth furnaces, sintering machines and rolling mills are being reconstructed. Reconstruction of the thermal department of cold rolling shop for annealing cold-rolled coils in dry hydrogen has begun. The next in turn is the introduction of ladle metallurgy in the open-hearth furnace shop and pickling with hydrochloric acid in the cold-rolling shop.

Ecological and social problems are solved. In particular the monthly average salary is one of the highest in the region and it is paid in due time. There has never been a delay in payment at the Works. All this occurs due to careful calculations and zealous approach to business.

**Information:** In November 2000 Zaporizhstal concluded an agreement for medical insurance for metallurgists on the base of the Works' clinic. Due to this not only the workers but also the Works' veterans (for the first time in Ukraine) have got an opportunity to obtain expensive medicine, to pay for operations from the insurance.

First aid centres of the main production shops have become a base for organizing mobile sanatorium-dispensaries, which are very popular among Zaporizhstal workers.

More than 2000 metallurgists are treated in the after-work sanatorium, which is located on the picturesque Khortitsa Island. The recreation base "Metallurg" is also located on the island.

There is a wonderful boarding house "Metallurg" on the Azov Sea shore, where each year about 4000 Zaporizhstal workers rest, including more than 1000 children. The youth of the Works also has its own recreation base "Brigantina", located on the Bayda Island.

The Works' Board and Trade Union provide the metallurgists who need medical treatment with accommodation cards at a reduced price.

The Board and the Trade Union Committee pay great attention to the improvement of the working conditions, and the life of the metallurgists. All the shops have cloakrooms with lockers and showers. Zaporizhstal has

“Molodaya Gvardiya”.

Zaporizhstal workers have a remarkable training-sports base “Metallurg” and a modern track-and-field athletics arena where international competitions on track-and-field athletics are held. 54 years in succession annual games take place, which strengthen the health of the workers.

Zaporizhstal workers also have their own Palace of Culture. It consists of 26 collectives of amateur talent activities and 15 amateur associations of various interests. Creative workers of the Palace together with metallurgists revive national traditions. Not a single celebration at the Works is held without their participation.

The Works does not forget the pensioners either. Over 7000 veterans are listed in the Council of Veterans. In the difficult minutes of their life aid always comes from the charity and health fund.

For many years Zaporizhstal looks after the base educational institutions - technical training college № 8, schools - gymnasiums № 46 and № 47, and boarding-school № 9. The children's home "Solnyshko", the children's orphanage "Nadezhda", and the society of children - invalids in the Zavodskiy area also get help from the Works.

Zaporizhstal has its own agricultural production. It includes a cattle-breeding farm for fattening ten thousand heads of pigs per year, a slaughterhouse, a powerful feed preparation shop, a reactor installation, modern purification works, and also 6 mini-factories for processing milk, hard cheese, mayonnaise, butter, flour, sunflower and soy-bean oil, sausages and bakery products. All these products are produced on modern equipment and according to the advanced technologies. The products are in great demand, due to their high quality and reasonable prices, which are lower than the prices of competitors.

The position of Zaporizhstal in the world rating of the largest producers of metal strengthens year by year. The volume of the Works' export makes the Works one of the best in Ukraine. Today hot-rolled and cold-rolled sheets and coils are exported to tens of countries of Europe and Asia, Africa and America. More and more foreign firms learn about Zaporizhstal as of a prosperous enterprise and offer co-operation.

of Zaporizhstal JSC. In February 1999, according to the Decree of the President of Ukraine, L.D.Kuchma, V.A.Satskiy was awarded the title Hero of Ukraine. In March 2000 Vitaliy Antonovich as the finalist of the VI All-Ukrainian Open Rating of Popularity and Quality "Golden Fortune", was decorated with an order " For Labour Achievements ", and became the holder of " The Crystal Horn of Plenty ". At the same time the International Personnel Academy awarded him with a medal "For Efficient Management". It should be mentioned that Vitaly Antonovich has become the laureate of the State Prize of Ukraine twice.

This is an estimation of outsiders but for Vitaly Antonovich the opinion of Zaporizhstal workers is more important. They are proud of his deserved awards but for him the workers' support of their leader is more valuable, their belief in him and the future of the Works.

Care of a person is the basic policy of the present management of the Works. And, certainly, it is impossible without training qualified staff. Young, competent specialists with healthy ambitions come into power. It's for them to determine the destiny of the Works in the XXI century. No doubt, they will continue and improve all the most progressive and good traditions of the Works with honour. First of all, they are Zaporizhstal workers by spirit and way of life!

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