

PEOPLE

VLADIMIR YEFIMOV 70

Vladimir Yefimov was born on April 13, 1932 in Estonia (now Pechora District of Pskov Region, Russian Federation). In 1949–1954 he studied at Tallinn Polytechnical Institute (now Tallinn Technical University) and obtained the diploma of an engineer in specialty chemical technology of fuel.

V. Yefimov started his engineer's career as a foreman and a shift superintendent and at Rutchenkovsk and Donetsk by-product coke plants in Donbass (Donetsk coal basin).

In 1958 he returned to Estonia and began to work at the oil shale processing plant in the town of Kohtla-Järve (now RAS *Kiviter*), first as a shift engineer, then shop superintendent and deputy chief of the industrial department.

That was the time of rapid development of the world's most advanced oil shale industry in Estonia, and its high level has not been surpassed by other countries. V. Yefimov took part in application of new technologies of a more effective, non-conventional use of crude products of oil shale processing in tunnel furnaces, chamber furnaces, and high-capacity *Kiviter*-type retorts with daily throughput rate of 1000 and more tons of oil shale.

In the 50s Estonia supplied Leningrad with household oil-shale gas. After its replacement with cheap natural gas, scientists of Leningrad and Estonia (Institute of Chemistry of the Estonian Academy of Sciences, and Oil Shale Research Institute) together worked at solving the problem of advancing oil-shale industry in the towns of Kohtla-Järve and Kiviõli in Estonia, as well as in the towns of Slantsy and Syzran in Russia to provide the former U.S.S.R., in addition to fuel products, with specific oil-shale raw material and goods. V. Yefimov participated in this work supervising the construction and launching of the modern units for shale oil processing. Together with his colleagues from Oil Shale Research Institute R. Joonas and T. Purre, he mastered the production of electrode coke for manufacturing graphitized electrodes, construction graphites, as well as of valuable polymer resins and individual aromatic hydrocarbons.



V. Yefimov was one of the organizers of large-scale event – the United Nations International Symposium on Oil Shales held in Tallinn in 1968 as a representative of the Ministry of Oil and Chemical Industry of the U.S.S.R.

In 1988–1997 V. Yefimov worked as a chief technologist of Main Technical Board of Fuels, Lubricants and Oils at the Ministry of Oil and Chemical Industry of the U.S.S.R. and of Russia.

Due to his great experience and managerial abilities acquired in Estonia V. Yefimov rose to the chief technologist of the production department of oil shale industry of the Ministry of Oil and Chemical Industry of the former U.S.S.R. and became the head of the production department of the All-Union Production Association *Soyuzslantsepererabotka* (1966–1985).

V. Yefimov co-operated with Krzhizhanovski Power Engineering Institute, design institutes of Leningrad and Estonian scientific and production institutions on development and industrial application of the modern technology of processing oil shale fines using the solid heat-carrier (*Galoter*), process (units SHC-500 in Kiviõli Oil Shale Plant and SHC-3000 in the town of Narva, Estonian Power Plant). Two Estonian SHC-3000 are the largest in the world successfully processing fine-grained oil shale. V. Yefimov has always had good contacts with the authors of this technology – B. Tyagunov, V. Chikul, and L. Elenurm etc. – and has promoted industrial application of their developments.

Today V. Yefimov strives for preservation and modernization of oil-shale processing plants operating in Russia; he is a member of the Board of Directors of the joint-stock company *Slantsy* and of the Syzran Oil Shale Processing Plant.

He has supported feasibility studies on modernization of the Syzran Oil Shale Processing Plant (for obtaining a new product – thiophenes) and of a power-and-technology complex including three SHC-3000 in the neighborhoods of the town of Slantsy. Its construction will be effected within the next few years.

V. Yefimov has maintained close connections, warm feelings and good relations with his former colleagues from Estonia who respond him with the same.

Estonian oil shale chemists wish him good health and further fruitful years.

OIL SHALE Editorial Board and editorial staff add their best wishes and congratulate Vladimir Yefimov on his jubilee.