



International Arctic Forum 2019 to Focus on Developing Global Shipbuilding

A separate session will be devoted to developing the construction of modern vessels as part of the ‘Open Ocean’ theme of the business programme of ‘Arctic: Territory of Dialogue’ 5th International Arctic Forum.

At present, the shipbuilding industry is actively developing advanced engines that run on more eco-friendly and cost-efficient fuels along with materials and structures, onboard systems, and technologies to protect vessels from ice and reduce the ice load. There has also been innovative activity to design devices for the automated and remote control of large vessels to transport hazardous goods and to make shipping cheaper. Four icebreakers are to be built by 2024 that run on liquefied natural gas and can ship raw materials year-round from the port of Sabetta.

“Shipbuilding is a sector of the economy on whose development the potential for trade and economic relations between Russia and the leading countries of the world, and, as a result, improvements to the global economic situation as a whole depends”, Adviser to the Russian President Anton Kobyakov said. “Today, most of the attention is being focused on the construction of an atomic icebreaking fleet to expand opportunities for commercial shipping in the Russian Arctic. As part of the business programme of the International Arctic Forum 2019, participants will learn about achievements in the industry and also conduct serious work on innovative projects that will help make a breakthrough in Russian shipbuilding”.

United Shipbuilding Corporation (USC) President Alexei Rakhmanov will take part in the session. “Even though USC is actively working to further develop the export of our products, the Russian market is the core market for us. This is why we will be extremely active at the Forum, exchanging experience with our colleagues on the introduction of the latest innovative solutions and discussing international projects that we need to implement in the coming years”, Rakhmanov said in comments on his company’s participation in the International Arctic Forum.

Another session at the International Arctic Forum will be devoted to the production and use of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the Arctic, which is closely related to shipbuilding. Russian Minister of Energy Alexander Novak is expected to take part in the discussion. Experts and managers from all companies and agencies involved in the development of the LNG market will discuss projects for expanding one of the most promising areas in the gas industry.

With the launch of LNG projects in Yamal, experts believe that Russia now has a real chance to become one of the world leaders in this market. LNG is expected to make up half of the planned cargo traffic via the Northern Sea Route.

Cutting-edge technologies in shipbuilding will also be demonstrated as part of an event organized by Sovcomflot, which will take place on the sidelines of the International Arctic Forum 2019 on one of its vessels from the ‘green’ large-tonnage tanker *Aframax* series. Company officials will

show off the cutting-edge technologies of this newest tanker, which has already set a new standard of safety and quality for the world shipping industry that is consistent with Russia's state programme and directives from the country's leaders on accelerating the introduction of gas-engine fuel in modes of transportation.

'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum will be held in St. Petersburg on 9–10 April 2019.

Official Forum website: forumarctica.ru

For reference:

'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' 5th International Arctic Forum

The 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' International Arctic Forum is one of the key platforms for the discussion, at a global level, of problems and prospects for the Arctic region. The Forum is an opportunity for members of the international community to pool their efforts to ensure the efficient development of the Arctic and higher living standards for populations living in Arctic territories. The 'Arctic: Territory of Dialogue' Forum was first held in 2010 and was devoted to contemporary problems of the Arctic region. The second forum was held in 2011 and focused on issues of developing transport systems in the Arctic. In 2013 the key themes considered included environmental protection, while in 2017 the Forum's theme was 'People and the Arctic'. The key theme of the forthcoming 5th International Arctic Forum will be 'The Arctic: An Ocean of Opportunity'. Three pillars will form the basis of the business programme: 'Coastal Regions', 'The Open Ocean', and 'Sustainable Development'.

The Roscongress Foundation is a socially oriented non-financial development institution and a major organizer of international conventions, exhibitions, and public events.

The Roscongress Foundation was founded in 2007 with the aim of facilitating the development of Russia's economic potential, promoting its national interests, and strengthening the country's image. One of the roles of the Foundation is to comprehensively evaluate, analyse, and cover issues on the Russian and global economic agendas. It also offers administrative services, provides promotional support for business projects and attracting investment, and helps foster social entrepreneurship and charitable initiatives.

The Foundation's events draw more than 80,000 participants each year from 195 countries, with more than 10,000 media representatives working on-site at Roscongress' various venues. The Foundation benefits from analytical and professional expertise provided by 2,500 people working in Russia and abroad. In addition, it works in close cooperation with economic partners from 75 countries worldwide.

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