

# City authorities debut technology of waste recycling

Bio-gas production launched at domestic waste and sewage sludge recycling plant in Brest

By Irina Kovalevskaya

A factory to recycle solid domestic waste and sewage sludge is being piloted in Belarus, using biological processes to break down waste. It is the country's first such mechanical-biological facility, able to an-

nually recycle 370,000 cubic metres of silt and sewage. It uses technology designed by German Linde-KCA-Dresden GmbH.

According to its business plan, the first and second stages of the plant are costing 63m euros, with the project running two years.

It envisages the launch of a unit to recycle silt and sewage sludge, as well as facilities to recycle 100,000 tonnes of solid domestic waste per year.

The project's realisation in Brest will bring almost waste-free recycling of communal waste and sludge.



Production Head Igor Bereznev and an operator at the plant's central control panel

# Investments from abroad and domestic specialists involved

Construction of logistical centre near Minsk National Airport could begin later this year

By Anna Overina

Belarus' Transport and Communications Minister, Ivan Shcherbo, and the Executive Manager of Belgian AOI NV, Freddy Opsomer, recently met to discuss the project. A step-by-step schedule for the investment project's realisation has already been developed — to be signed in the near future. "The participants of the

talks have agreed that the documents should be registered as soon as possible, since this will allow work to begin in December," the Transport and Communications Ministry's Press Service tells us. AOI NV is to fully supervise the design of the external and internal infrastructure while Belarusians will physically construct the site. The Belgian company is actively

liaising with other foreign investors and, recently, met with Lufthansa and Deutsche Bahn to discuss the financing of the project.

During the talks, Mr. Opsomer noted that the transport-and-logistics park envisages that cargo will not only transit but will be initially processed before travelling on to the next destination. He stresses the importance of ensur-

ing a connection between the transport-and-logistics park and the rest of the world, primarily with the National Airport.

Belarus and Belgian AOI NV (Antwerpse Ontwikkelings en Investeringsmaatschappij NV) have concluded an investment agreement to establish a transport-and-logistics park — Airpark Minsk — at Minsk National Airport. The total volume of investments amounts to 289m Euros. Universal infrastructure is planned, allowing cargo to be processed, collected and stored before travelling by air, rail and road. Additionally, it is to provide various logistical services, alongside other services and goods. The first sites at the transport-and-logistics park should become operational in 2013, with the whole site complete by 2021.



Logistical centre to be built near Minsk National Airport

# Domestic agrarians to grow 'green' foods

Belarusian farmers taught organic agriculture

According to the Programme Director of the Centre for Environmental Solutions, Yevgeny Lobanov, the project is due to be implemented jointly with Swedish Coalition Clean Baltic. "A school for farmers is being set up to teach the major methods of organic farming, avoiding the use of chemicals," explains the expert. Farmers will be joined by state owned and private agricultural companies to study world experience. Mr. Lobanov notes that domestic

agrarians are keen on such events. The project is now being registered, with its launch planned for the near future.

Organic farming avoids synthetic fertilisers, pesticides, regulators of plant growth, feed additives and genetic modification. Previously, the Ministry for Natural Resources and Environmental Protection declared that this branch should receive attention, insisting on a detailed assessment of land which could be used for the project. Pilot organic farming projects are only possible if local agrarians show interest.

# More active presence on external markets

By Galina Kotova

Belshina plans to open trading house in Brazil

A new trading house is to expand Belshina's economic presence in the region, promoting Belarusian tyres in Brazil and other Latin American countries while developing the company's commodity distribution network.

The company has sent a package of registration documents to lawyers in Brazil, with the registration process due to be complete in November.

Belshina believes that

Brazil is the most promising and developing market in Latin America and has been supplying its products there since 2002. Sales volumes have been steadily rising, with tyres for haulers, buses, tractors and agricultural machinery the largest of its exports to Brazil.

Most of Belshina's production is sold abroad, with customers in around 60 countries in South and North America, Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa and the CIS. From January-August 2010, tyres made up 75 percent of all Belshina's exports.

# Successful manoeuvre

By Anna Yeremenko

Belarusian Railways to buy 12 cargo mainline electric locomotives from China National Electronics Import and Export Corporation and Datong Electric Locomotive Company

The purchase of the new electric locomotives is a result of the increased transit flow via Belarus. Cargo trains arriving from Russia weigh 7,000-9,000 tonnes,

while those operating in Belarus can only manage 4,700-5,500 tonne loads. Heavy carriages are being broken at Orsha station, creating an obstacle to quick movement and manoeuvrability and incurring extra expense.

Each Chinese electric locomotive boasts 9,800kW capacity, so can pull trains of the necessary weight. These are produced jointly with leading transport machine building company Alstom (France).

# Borders disappear for scientific community

Belarus eager to join EU supercomputing projects

Belarusian scientists have been developing supercomputers jointly with their Russian colleagues but are now keen to liaise with European experts on similar projects. The possibility is being examined, explains the Deputy Director General of the United Information Technologies Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Vladimir Anishchenko. "We are evaluating the prospects of joining the PRACE project (Partnership for Advanced Computing in Europe), which unites Europe's leading universities and research centres. The project is focused

on developing supercomputer technologies," he notes. "The possibility of taking part in this project as an associated partner is being discussed."

At present, most European programmes aim to set up research consortiums to develop supercomputer technologies. "Our goal is to prove our cutting-edge knowledge, attracting interest from Eu-



Computer with ability to 'reason'

creating joint virtual spaces and the use of supercomputers to handle new tasks, while developing innovations in metallurgy and healthcare. He mentions that our Belarusian biologists have been using supercomputer technologies to create a medication to treat AIDS. "Business circles, not scientists, need to sell supercomputers," Mr. Anishchenko stresses.