

Tailoring new machines' design to various needs

First fully Belarusian dustcart produced in Minsk

By Alexander Svetlov

The MAZ-6902V5 Sapfir rear load dustcart will be used to collect municipal waste, boasting 24 cubic metres of capacity, able to carry at least 15 tonnes. A prototype came off the assembly line some time ago, with technical requirements co-ordinated with the Ministry of Housing and Communal Services.

In 2013, the plant plans to produce at least ten of the new design, which will be destined for ru-

ral areas; its rear drive lacks enough manoeuvrability to negotiate city streets of parked cars. In 2014, a side drive model should come into production — more suitable for cities. Incidentally, the new design is 20-30 percent cheaper than imported Western models, which cost about 150,000 Euros (not including ship-

ping costs or customs duties). The Sapfir is priced at just Br1.1bn.

The plant's new triaxial articulated MAZ-650108-225-000 dump truck is for use in transporting grain, with a convenient unloading platform to the right side. Each trailer can carry 20 tonnes. Its first customer is in Ukraine, explains chief designer

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rankevich, of Mogilevtransmash (Minsk branch). He notes, "Ukraine leads in growing crops and needs an alternative to rail transport. It declared a tender, which the Minsk Automobile Plant won." The technical requirements for the new grain carrier were co-ordinated with the Ukrainian customer. There are plans to produce 1,000 of these grain carriers, with a modified model designed

for the Belarusian and Russian market.



Dustcart MAZ-6902V5 Sapfir designed for collecting municipal waste

Turn-key complex

Israeli investor puts up \$180m to create Centre for Development and Introducing New Agricultural High-Technologies

The investment project to build the Belarusian-Israeli centre was discussed during the third session of the Belarusian-Israeli committee on trade and economic co-operation. The centre is to be located at joint Belarusian-Israeli scientific and production association *BelaGroTeh*, featuring an animal feed mill, a poultry farm, a pig breeding complex, a dairy farm, fish farming, a biogas plant and a centre for training agro-workers.

AgriGo Company is to participate in the project from start to finish, managing and operating the export-oriented enterprise, which is to use the latest achievements in the sphere of agro industrial science. Speaking to members of the Board at the seminar *Development of Public-Private Partnership in the Innovative Field*, Igor Voitov, the Chairman of the State Committee for Science and Technology, noted that innovation infrastructure in Belarus is represented by 11 science and technology parks, 36 centres of technology transfer, 53 scientific, industrial and scientific-practical centres and various holdings. Moreover, the country has 16 business incubators, 518 science technical libraries and 53 developing agencies. The Belarusian Innovation Fund and the High-Tech Park are also involved in innovative activity.

Difficult tasks can be solved

By the end of 2012, Minsk Automobile Works will have updated its entire range of vehicles to meet EURO-4 ecological standards

Since Russia has no plans to extend its manufacture or sale of EURO-3 vehicles beyond this year, Minsk Automobile Works is moving over to EURO-4 standards to allow it to compete on the Russian market. Its entire range is to be upgraded by the end of 2012.

Taking into account the wide range offered by MAZ, the move is no easy task, explains Sergey Zakharevich, MAZ's Deputy Commercial Director for Truck Sales. He notes, "A colossal amount of work is needed, alongside the implementation of a large number of innovations. We are talking about a completely new engine rather than just enhancing the eco-element."

The company currently uses engines made by Yaroslavl Motor Works, which are not compliant with EURO-4 standards. However, a new line is now being built in Yaroslavl, to manufacture new four and six-cylinder engines (530 series) for Belarusian trucks.

MAZ's Deputy Director General for Development Engineering, Dmitry Korotkevich, remarks that, in 2013, MAZ will buy 60 percent of its engines from Yaroslavl Motor Works, 30 percent from Mercedes and 10 percent from Cummins.

Corporate governance essential to ensure fully motivated workforce

State-owned banks ready to introduce and develop corporate governance in Belarus

By Tatiana Grishanova

"State-owned banks should be the first to introduce innovations on corporate governance to Belarus, being the most prepared," stressed the Deputy Economy Minister, Dmitry Golukhov, speaking at a republican seminar dedicated to the problems and prospects of corporate governance.

He is convinced that the world has progressed well over the last decade in terms of corporate governance, with about 100 codes of best practice admitted in 40 countries. Belarus now needs to follow suit, starting off the process, says Mr. Golukhov. He sees the country as being in its infancy in this sphere yet having some experience, since some companies have introduced corporate governance.



Belarusbank sets example of corporate governance development

He is certain that it will play a major role in competitive displays in future, saying, "The fact that Belarus is yet to embrace the issue is the fault of state agencies. However, the Government is keen to improve its system of state management, creating an environment which is both transparent and un-

derstandable to the public, property owners and managers. As owners, we must understand what is under our control, how to manage it and how to improve the effectiveness of our management."

He notes that professional managers are nowadays those people who possess most complete

information, as well as necessary instruments. Mr. Golukhov emphasises that the development of corporate governance is very essential for Belarus. To ensure this, it's vital to understand how best to adjust the incentive system which would enable this system to work in automated mode.