



POLYETHYLENE PIPES CONFERENCE

The conference took place in mid-February and was the largest industry gathering in the polymer pipes and feedstock industry in recent years, bringing together 86 companies, including 53 Russian pipe plants that process polymer feedstock.

The All-Russia Scientific Conference "Polyethylene Pipes Market: Future Outlook" was organised jointly by Gazprom StroyTEK Salavat, a leading supplier of polyethylene pipes to oil and gas facilities in Russia, and METACLAY, a manufacturer of compounds. Participants from among pipe feedstock suppliers included Gazprom Neftekhim Salavat, Stavrolen, TAIF Group (Kazanorgsintez and Nizhnekamskneftekhim), Basell, and SIBUR. The latter showcased its most latest polyethylene pipe grades.

A STRONG FOCUS WAS ON THE EXPANSION OF THE GRADE RANGE, LAUNCH DATES AND TECHNOLOGIES FOR NEW PRODUCTS, AND SIBUR POLYLAB'S ACTIVITIES.

Condensed to just one day, the conference offered a rich and diverse business programme. Chem-Courier, an information agency, provided valuable insights into major trends in the Russian polyethylene market. Members of the Pipeline Systems Manufacturers Association (PSMA) shared their way of combating fake and counterfeit pipe goods. The organisers presented innovative products for manufacturing polyethylene pipes, such as a fire retardant, a reinforcement agent for polymer pipes, and polymer modifying additives.

SIBUR was represented by Andrey Yakimov, Key Account Manager at SIBUR's Basic Polymers Division. "The Skolkovo conference is the most popular event in the pipe industry over the recent years. It offers an extensive business programme and themed round tables to discuss the most pressing issues such as mandatory repeated markings for pipes.



Scientific conference Polyethylene Pipes Market: Future Outlook. Photo courtesy of sk.ru.

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As for SIBUR, particular interest was seen for the expansion of the grade range, launch dates and technologies for new products, and SIBUR PolyLab's activities. PolyLab hosts a leading competence centre to train experts and exchange practices, collaborate on developing new products and test them to optimise partners' costs."

SIBUR also provided participants with comprehensive information about its customer and logistics services such as formula-based prices, technical service visits, lab support, collaborative development of products or mixes, supply guarantees including emergency stock, and bundle supplies.