PLASTIC PIPES 2014 INDUSTRY NEWS

RADIUS REACHES RUSSIA

## **Tatiana Chekanova**

Since November 2013, Radius
Systems electrofusion fittings
have become available on the
Russian market. This is a very well respected brand from the European producer. Radius Systems Ltd is the leader of the

British market and the major supplier of electrofusion fittings to British Gas.

Electrofusion fittings: couplers up to 315 mm, reducers up to 250 mm and elbows and tees up to 180 mm are available in Russia. The fittings come with 4 mm pins (which are common in Russia) for welding with any electrofusion machines. Radius fittings are distinguishable by visible wires.

Extensive work has been done to secure full approval for Radius fittings in Russia, including a technical data sheet in Russian and a full range of regulatory documentation (a GOST certificate comprising approval for use in the gas industry and official registration for drinking water). Marking of fittings on the packaging is in Russian and includes bar codes for product scanning and welding parameters for manual input.

The POLYPLASTIC Group intends to continue its successful cooperation with Georg Fischer Piping Systems, its strategic partner with a similar range of products. The Group also aims to enhance its competitiveness in the economy segment by promoting its own products (Radius Systems has been a part of the POLYPLASTIC Group since 2012) and widening its range of electrofusion fittings. The price of Radius fittings will be 15-20% lower than its premium Swiss equivalent. This will give customers more options, not only when they opt for open or closed wiring, but also when choosing premium or economy brands.

The most popular Radius products are scheduled for production at the Klimovsk Pipe Plant in 2014.

## OMSK PIPE PLANT INCREASES PRODUCTION

The Omsk Pipe Plant (OZTI), part of the POLYPLASTIC Group since January 2012, has increased its production output to 14.6 thousand tonnes, a 50% increase on 2011.

Staff numbers at the Omsk Pipe Plant rose to 379 in February 2013 – a 21% increase on February 2011. Labour efficiency increased by 66% thanks to higher production growth.

The average wages at OZTI in the second half of 2012 increased to 23.3 thousands rubles per month -37% higher than the average wages in the first quarter of 2011 (18.5 thousand rubles).

OZTI aimed to produce 19 thousand tonnes of pipe products by the end of 2013, doubling their production output since joining the POLYPLASTIC Group.

Press Centre of POLYPLASTIC Group