

# BUDENNOVSK: ANOTHER FIRE AT STAVROLEN

A fire broke out on 26 February at the ethylene gas separation unit at Stavrolen in Budennovsk.

15 people suffered a range of injuries and multiple burns. Four were taken to hospital and the remainder were treated locally. The fire was put out several hours later.

Production was stopped as a result of the emergency. The cause and nature of the fire, the scale of the damage and a plan for the return to production will be determined after an investigation of the special committee involving Government supervision authorities.

A criminal investigation has also been launched to assess the violation of health and safety rules at a dangerously explosive facility.

Stavrolen (part of LUKOIL) is the second largest HDPE producer in Russia after Kazanorgsintez and third in PP production output after Nizhnekamskneftekhim and Tomskneftekhim.



According to Vladimir Kapustin, General Director of VNIPIneft, LUKOIL will need about a year to restore production at Stavrolen.

Stavrolen previously had an emergency in December 2011 which stopped production as a result. On that occasion, Stavrolen restored PP production by temporarily purchasing raw materials from Karpatneftekhim (part of LUKOIL) and a number of other Russian producers. The pyrolysis unit was launched at the end of September.

Source: Interfax, rupec.ru

# POLYPLASTIC AND BASF SIGN A STRATEGIC COOPERATION AGREEMENT

*Press service of POLYPLASTIC Group*

POLYPLASTIC Group and BASF have signed a Strategic Cooperation Agreement on the development of innovative compound stabilisation systems for the car industry.

The document was signed by Miron Gorilovskiy, President of POLYPLASTIC Group and Sergey Andreev, Head of BASF Representation Office in Russia and CIS countries.

Both companies plan to actively participate in the implementation of joint projects aiming to improve the quality of POLYPLASTIC products and compliance with international standards, and widen the range of compounds available for car industry projects. BASF will develop and supply

POLYPLASTIC Group's stabilisation systems – antioxidants and light stabilisers which protect polymers from damage caused by temperature, mechanical impact, light and other exposure.

“The goal of cooperation is, first of all, to create a team of managers and research scientists to develop innovative materials and modern technologies that comply with advanced car industry manufacturing and ensure a responsible approach to the environment. We have no doubt that the cooperation of POLYPLASTIC and BASF can solve the difficult task related to the stabilisation properties of polymers during operation, and raise the

competitiveness of Russian composite materials,” said M. Gorilovskiy at the end of the ceremony.

In response S. Andreev said: “As a part of the new BASF strategy in Russia and CIS markets, the company is intending to expand its presence in the region through cooperation projects with its partners. We believe that cooperation with POLYPLASTIC will further enhance their success in the localisation of compounds production and support the development of the car industry in Russia and CIS countries.”

The agreement between the companies was signed during the Interplastica 2014 exhibition.