

Locomotive Repair Shop

New life to old equipment

One of the oldest operating loco in the plant, manufactured back in 1971, has been changed beyond recognition. This is not big news. You can see everywhere such examples and how equipment of

workers checked the engine and made the necessary adjustments. At first glance it seemed that the work had been done. But it had not.

The loco was in normal technical condition but it

even more – they insisted everything to be done as soon as possible. And this was not only because there was a necessity – the technological flow in the plant needs two dozens of locos to be non-stop at the front line of the production, but also because of the pure wish to see the abilities of the

deserved a decent final. And it was a matter of pure ambition to avoid things being blown up exactly at the end. We engaged in the activity everyone who was free at a certain moment, even the loco engine drivers, so we can say the merit belongs to the whole workshop, said master Kozovski.

We have to note one more important fact – the loco repair went on parallel to their routine work. Inspections, routine preventive maintenance, more serious repairs – one workday can offer a lot of things. But then, there

Master Plamen Kozovski has been working in Department Railway Transport for more than 14 years. He was assigned to be in charge of the timely finalization of the repair work. This cost him a lot of efforts but he confessed that in the end satisfaction is greater than hardship.



This locomotive was manufactured in 1971. With the united efforts of the workers from the Locomotive Repair Shop it is in its rejuvenation and is again on the railroads of the plant.

advanced age can faithfully serve if well maintained. However in the case of the Locomotive Repair Shop there is something different. The loco had to undergo a regular repair – an operation which is required for every machine in the park of the Locomotive Repair Shop, according to normative regulations. However, this seemingly routine operation became a real mission for the staff of the shop to make the loco look like a new one.

And so was it done. The workers who repair the chassis dismantled the whole kinematics bolt by bolt, made inspection of the condition of the elements and knuckled down to repairs of the destroyed assemblies. They checked the axle-shafts, the drives, replaced the break shoes and the wheel-band. They inspected also the springs, the axles were thoroughly inspected and lubricated. At the same time other

somehow did not catch the eye. And then the logical decision came – the loco should be entirely cleaned and painted anew. The management fully supported the idea,

available staff of the shop. Plamen Kozovski was appointed to be the major person in charge of the undertaking. He now recalls the task with a smile but during its accomplishment he did not feel like that. Moreover, the efforts of the team for nearly a month

always can be something more – to go beyond the limits of the obligations of the routine workday and do something more with willingness and diligence. And not the least of it – you gets the satisfaction that you have done something good – new life is inspired in one machine.



Mechanical fitters Sashko Dimitrov, Neno Nenov, Nedko Dimov and Master Rumen Spasov have done the major repairs of the chassis.

"Civil Defence"-Sofia made

Inspection of the readiness for actions in case of natural calamities and accidents

On July 15 the Territorial Directorate of "Civil Protection"- Sofia inspected the readiness of Kremikovtzi for taking actions according to the requirements of the Law for protection against natural calamities. The inspection was ordered by Valeri Mladenov - Director of "Civil Protection"-Sofia and it certainly originated from the fresh incident with the ammunition dumps in Chelopechene". The objective of the

inspection was to check the readiness of the plant units for action in case of extreme situations, industrial breakdowns and accidents.

Major attention was paid to planned and taken measures for the protection of the employees of the company and the adjoining areas in cases of natural calamities and planned and taken actions for maintaining steady development of the plant in crisis situations.

The gas cleaning system of Converter 3 is ready

The specialized teams of the Base for Metallurgical Repairs /BMR/to Sofia Engineering Company have thoroughly repaired the gas cleaning system of Converter 3 in the Steel-making Plant by working nonstop according to round-the-clock schedule. Their work was made easier by the low rate of operation of the Converter Shop due to shortage of raw materials these days. This enabled them to find the necessary technological time for the repair work. The gas extraction chute and gas cleaning are important for the normal operation of the Converter. This is why there is a constant attention paid to it. This opportunity made it possible for the team of the Base, the SMS specialists and the plant repair teams to elaborate an hourwise plan for the realization of different operations in sequence. The necessary materials had been provided beforehand and some of the constructions were made in the BMR shops and the rest of them were made in the Repair Mechanical Plant /RMP/.

Allocation of shifts was made to cover 24-hour nonstop operation.

The good coordination and the experience of the staff made possible the



Converter 3 is of prime importance to SMS for the realization of the steelmaking production schedule.

realization of the repairs plan. The consolidation of the gas chute of the Converter provides for the necessary safety operation of it and the operation of the entire Converter Shop.

Prophylaxis of the Power Substation

Safety for external users too

The preventive maintenance of the Power Substation started with a repair offensive in "Electrical and Distribution Production" /EDP/. By tradition it is in summer that inspection and repair of the equipment of the power system of the plant is made. But in this case we speak about a more special operation.

The Power Substation is situated outside the plant. It is also known by its old name "The Ore-mine Substation" which by itself explains its basic function – to supply electricity to the ore-mine of "Kremikovtzi". Despite that the ore-mine has not been working for years, practically the elec-

tricity has not been stopped because it should feed the powerful pumps of the so called Water Extraction Tower of the big crater, which constantly pump out the underground water. Otherwise the ore-mine could become a real sea. Power engineers consider the site to be a first category one which means that the electricity supply should be incessant and guaranteed. This is the exact reason why it is so difficult to stop the operation of any equipment of the substation for repair.

All the more, the substa-

tion is feeding electricity to a number of external companies in the neighbourhood. These circumstances necessitated a strict plan to be made for the sophisticated operation, they said from EDP. Necessary materials and parts for the prophylaxis have been provided beforehand. The entire repairs staff and operation staff of EDP has been mobilized. This is the only condition for the successful start of the repair operations.

In essence, the prophylaxis plan includes inspection and checking of the



110 KV outdoor distribution installation and all commutation devices – 110 KV switches, circuit breakers.

A thorough inspection will be made of the 110/6 KV power transformers with capacity of 12,5 MVA. The

level and the insulation strength of the oil is checked and for that reason the laboratory of the Oil Storage is engaged. The repair work should be done by the end of August. EDP people are firm that the quality prophylaxis will result also in safe electricity supplies to the external companies which obtain their electricity from this substation.

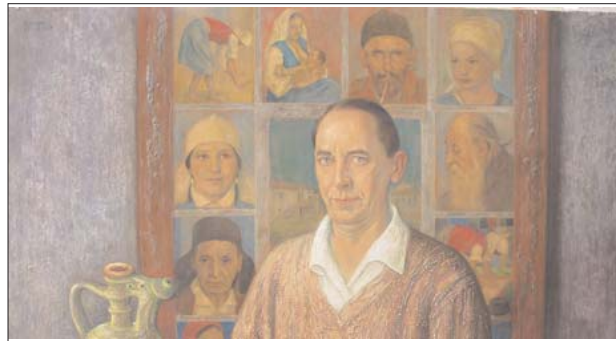
After the present repair work, according to the schedule of EDP, there will be made a stage-by-stage prophylaxis of the rest substations in the plant and this will be an element in the preparation of the equipment for work in winter conditions.

A Unique Exhibition in Sofia Art Gallery

"Self-portrait. Visual image and hidden meaning"



Nothing can give you more energy and calm than a visit to a good exhibition. An interesting one is awaiting you in the oldest art gallery in the capital - Sofia Art Gallery on 1 Gurko Str. Not many thematic exhibitions include pieces of art that have been created in a period of almost one and a half century like the collection "Self-portrait. Visual image and hidden meaning." The exhibition contains more than 200 paintings of 190 artists who have reproduced their own portraits by means of different techniques. The self-portraits were created from the late 19th C, during the 20th C



and in the early 21st C, and cover various genres -

full-height, shoulder-height, waist-height or head portraits- in different postures and angles. The self-portraits also include more images, objects and garments. The portraits of Elisaveta Konsulova-Vazova, Ivan Nenov, Lyuben Zidarov, Andrei Daniel and Vihroni Popnedev stand out, but the exhibition also shows self-portraits of a number of unknown persons or some almost forgotten names of the Bul-

garian art. More than that, the gallery appears to be a cool asylum in the summer heat for at least an hour. The Gallery is open Monday - Saturday - 10.00-18.00 and on Sunday - 11.00-17.00. Admission free.

Sofia Art Gallery On 22 October 1928 there was created Sofia museum by virtue of an order of the Mayor of Sofia General Vladimir Vasov. The museum had three departments - museum section, library and archives. Originally the library and the museum occupied the no longer existing building near the corner of Graf Ignatiev street and G.S.Rakovski street. In 1941 the library, the museum and the archive were moved to a building on 3,Banski Square where the first standing art gallery was arranged. Nowadays the Art Gallery has one of the most considerable collections of Bulgarian art: 3168 paintings, 675 sculptures and 2711 drawings.

A mega concert

Georgi Hristov in the Open-air Theatre in Varna

If you happen to plan during your vacation a visit to our seaside capital in the coming several days, you will have the chance to enjoy the live performance of the famous Bulgarian pop star Georgi Hristov. After his phenomenal performance in Plovdiv a month ago, he is going to perform his newest show for the citizens of Varna and the visitors to this city. He is going to sing the greatest hits from his album The Best-3 and the re-makes of songs of his colleagues.. His performance will be accompanied by his musicians from Black and White ,the band



that has been giving concerts with him since the beginning of his career. The show will take place in the Open-air theatre starting at 20.00. The audience in Varna will hear for the first time the new single of Georgi - "How do you leave, friends..." which premiere was at the big performance in Sofia. For many of the songs Georgi Hristov has prepared dances and his partners will be the dancers from Veda Junior Ballet. They have been working with him for the past several years and assist him in almost all his appearances. Only a few days left before the big show, Georgi Hristov is in the perfect shape the audience have become used to see him. Director of the show is Georgi Hristov himself. He has arranged the program and directs the show.

At the seaside

Festival of sand statues in Bourgas

The town of Bourgas acquired its own attraction. The official opening of a Fantastic Sand City took place on 4 July. The sand fantasies are situated

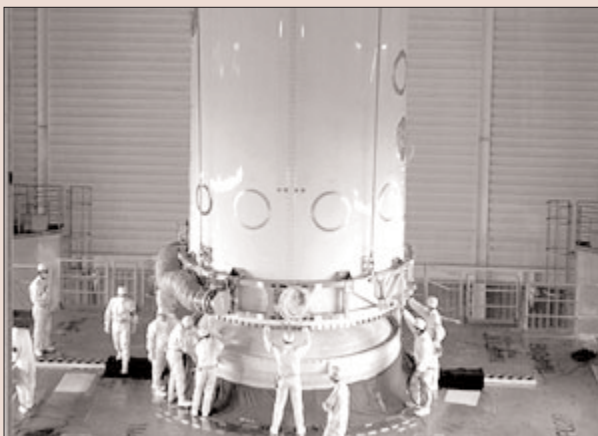
between the tennis court and the horse riding club. On a territory of 5000 sq.m. one can see castles and towers which seem to emerge from fairy tales, mermaids, pirates and other mystic creatures. A private company has provided 2500 tons of special rain-resisting sand. The first Festival of Sand statues in Bulgaria features world-known authors of this art which is not very popular in Bulgaria. Among these names one can detect Pavel Zadanyuk, Russia and Gianni Skimarini, Italy, who have been awarded prestigious prizes. Other participants are sculptors from France, Great Britain, India and Ukraine. Bulgarian artists and sculptors have also presented their works. The local attraction has no competitive character. You can see the original creations till the end of the tourist season. The organizers have provided a special lighting and round the clock security of the unique sand city. Tickets vary from 5 leva for adults to 3 leva for children.



India is almost ready for its Moon expedition

The Indian Space Research Organisation is almost ready for its first moon mission. The launch of Chandrayaan 1 is planned for the third quarter of 2008. The Chairman of ISRO Madhavan Nair has announced that the technical equipment on the spaceship will consist of 11 basic elements, 5 of them being manufactured in India, and the rest are developed by scholars from USA, Great Britain, Sweden, Germany and Bulgaria. Chandrayaan is primarily supposed to join the moon orbit at 1000 km from the Moon and then it will come to a working height of 100km. The exploring drill will work there for two years, taking detailed pictures of the surface of the Earth satellite. Special attention will be paid to the regions around the Poles where traces of water and mineral resources will be searched for. The equipment of the satellite is 560kg and will permit a three-dimensional map-

ping of the moon surface. The program of the satellite includes a plan for undertaking three tests, developed by Indian scholars, two joint projects



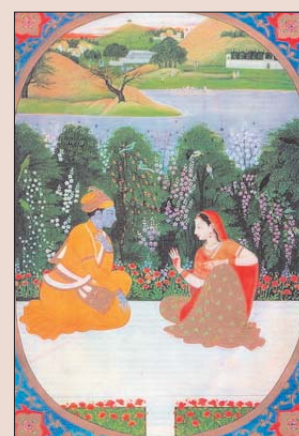
with international space agencies and four more entirely foreign projects. The space device is currently in the testing premises of ISRO in Bangalore. The drill will be put into orbit from Shriharikota cosmodrome by PSLV-C9 - an Indian modernized

carrier rocket. ISRO is already planning a piloted space launch awaiting only the approval of the government. According to Nair the Indian space

industry will need about 7 years for this purpose." We are absolutely able to develop and launch in orbit a two-seated spaceship. We only need corresponding financing and the answer of the government is expected in due time, said Nair.

Shekhavati - the open-air gallery of India

The region of the painted cities Shekhavati is situated in the triangle, formed by the cities Alvar, Jaipur and Bikaner. Irrespective that they have lost their importance as trading centres from the times of the passing caravans, nowadays they have turned into a real tourist attraction. The numerable painted houses, surrounding the narrow streets make this place the greatest open-air gallery in the world. The paintings cover almost everything - walls, balconies, arches, colonnades, roofs and even wells. The name Shekhavati was given to the city in honour of its ruler Rao Shekha who lived during the 15th C. With the money earned from the trade the rich people of Shekhavati started building residences - havels, with no analogy in the world. These real fortresses of luxury had been designed to provide security where women were undisturbed by curious people while having a



rest, washing themselves or cooking in the fierce summer heats in that region. The most spacious havels had 4 inner courts and 6 storeys. The entire life of Shekhavati at that time was depicted on the walls of the havels in magnificent scenes from the then lifestyle - mythology, national traditions, erotic motifs and battle scenes. There is one more curious fact - most of the Indian millionaires and billionaires come from this region.

