

On March 15 – 17, 2011 St. Petersburg hosted a successful 2nd international exhibition of equipment and machines for sheet metal working - BLECH Russia 2011

The trade show was participated by 150 companies – Russian and foreign manufactures suppliers of metal working equipment and machines. The exhibitors have demonstrated modern machine tools, software and the latest technologies for cutting, welding, bending, forming, fastening and stamping sheet metal. The exhibition featured the well-known brands representing 21 countries over the world: ThyssenKrupp, Galika, Schuler, Metalforme, Corrada, Kjellberg, Rosenberger, Bystronic Laser, Abamet, CL Engineering, Robur and others (see the full list of exhibitors at the website www.restec.ru/blechrussia).

For the three days the trade show was visited by over 4,000 trade specialists working in the following industry sectors: automotive industry, railway engineering, shipbuilding, construction and metal structure manufacture, machine tool building, metallurgy, manufacture of ventilation and heating systems, and home appliances as well.

The BLECH Russia 2011 business events included the Assembly of Top Technologies dedicated to *Advanced technologies of sheet metal working. Sheet metal for the automotive industry* where specialists have discussed the most current issues concerning manufacture of high quality metal for the automotive industry, development of new methods of contact welding of the automotive body sheet, modern laser technologies and many others.

The business program also featured corporate presentations of the exhibitors where they have demonstrated the latest achievements in the field of sheet metal production, its processing and process quality controlling.

An important event of the business program was a working meeting of Mikhail Oseevskiy, Vice Governor of St. Petersburg, Head, St. Petersburg Governor's Administration and participants of industrial clusters of St. Petersburg. The meeting was attended by representatives of GENERAL MOTORS, HYUNDAI MOTOR, BOSCH, MAGNA and others. The most pressing issues and problems of the industry were announced there for St. Petersburg government authorities could comment them.

A business seminar *Doing business in Russia: legal and tax aspects* was organised for the foreign participants of BLECH Russia 2011. European manufacturers and participants from Asia could meet the basic issues arose while cooperating with Russian companies.

According to first testimonials, BLECH Russia 2011 trade show had a success proving all the expectations and forecasts, and fostered main objective of BLECH exhibitors – to promote and sell equipment and technologies for sheet metal working. Over a half of our exhibitors have agreed contracts at the venue, for example, metal bending and cutting machine tools of CFIndustry were sold and conveyed to the customer right at the stand.

Most exhibitors and visitors of BLECH Russia 2011 have confirmed that they intend to participate in the next year exhibition that will take place on March 13-15, 2013 in St. Petersburg.

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