EuroChem is one of the leading, vertically integrated producers of nitrogen and phosphate fertilizers in Russia and one of the three largest producers of fertilizers in Europe. The company puts special emphasis on occupational safety, the creation of a safe and accident-free work environment across the whole organisation and the reduction of occupational injury rates. In order to continuously develop in these areas, EuroChem worked with experts from DuPont Sustainable Solutions (DSS) to bring about a qualitative improvement of the internal safety management system.

EuroChem chose NAK Azot located in Novomoskovsk, in Tula Oblast, as a pilot site for this improvement project. Representatives from senior and line management were trained by DSS using best international practices. More than 300 managers and specialists took part in learning sessions about Conscious Attitude to Safety and Production Processes Safety. A body of internal corporate trainers was established in EuroChem to provide further training and mentoring in other divisions of the company in order to develop a conscious attitude to safety among employees.

All in all, DSS experts ran more than 30 individual mentoring sessions focusing on occupational health and safety for senior and mid-level management at EuroChem and NAK Azot, directly at the pilot production site.

Based on the recommendation of DSS, an integrated safety committees’ framework was set up in the Fertilizer Division for the prompt solution of issues relating to occupational health and safety at all levels of the organization. In the course of the project, new methodology, aimed at the prevention of injuries was introduced at NAK Azot. The site began carrying out behavioural safety audits and risk assessments in the workplace, helping to identify and eliminate a large number of hazardous situations that could potentially lead to injury. Employees started using new techniques for investigating the root causes of accidents. The NAK Azot site changed its approach and interaction with contractors. In addition, it improved the quality of internal communications in terms of safety. Following the success at NAK Azot, the decision was taken to replicate the success of the pilot project at other Fertilizer Division sites.
Aleksandr Savenkov, executive director of NAK Azot, commented on the results of the project as follows:

“...We understand that the transformation of culture and achievement of sustainable results in safety management takes several years. But, even now we see a positive change in the attitude of managers and employees to safety issues. Involvement of managers in the daily efforts on injury prevention has increased. The work environment is becoming more trust-based and open, allowing us to identify hazards and risks at earlier stages, thus preventing accidents and injuries.”

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DuPont Sustainable Solutions (DSS) is one of 12 DuPont businesses. Bringing customers the benefits of an integrated global consulting services and process technology enterprise, DSS applies DuPont’s real-world experience, history of innovation, problem-solving success, and strong brands to help organisations transform their workplaces and work cultures to become safer, more operationally efficient and more environmentally sustainable. For additional information about DuPont Sustainable Solutions and its commitment to protecting people and the environment, please visit: www.sustainablesolutions.dupont.ru

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