



Autocomplex 2016 displays stable Russian fuel market

Russia's fuel retailing industry met at the Autocomplex trade show at the start of November. Although the country is still suffering from a severe economic recession, the economy is starting to show signs of recovery and the fuelling business remains stable.

The 23rd Moscow international exhibition Autocomplex 2016 was held in Pavilion 7 and on the open fairgrounds of the Exhibition Centre Expocentre on November, 1-3, 2016. The trade fair for the fuel retailing industry in Russia and the CIS is organized by ACS-EXPO with the support of the Moscow government, the Russian Fuel Union and the assistance of Expocentre.

Autocomplex, the leading Russian trade fair for the fuel retailing industry, focuses on equipment, technologies and turn-key solutions for fuelling complexes, service stations, garages, parking lots and roadside service facilities. Moreover, it is a platform for industry decision makers, experts and professionals to interact, present their latest solutions and technologies, and offer a wide range of services for drivers.

Over 80 Russian and international prominent manufacturers presented their cutting-edge equipment and innovative solutions to the market at this year's Autocomplex. As customers become more aware of the 'design' element, store and site rebranding is a growing business that can effectively attract new customers. This key trend was showcased at the trade fair by the increasing number of companies related to the business.

Raising the efficiency of multifunctional roadside service stations; stimulating related services and convenience sales; and developing garage and parking infrastructure were some of the key topics discussed during the seminars.

One of this year's highlights was the presentation of an electric vehicle (EV) charging device manufactured by the Ryazan State Instrument-making Enterprise (RSIE). It was the first time EV charging technology was included in the exhibition, with representatives from the EV equipment manufacturing sector meeting to discuss the challenges and opportunities ahead.

The executive manager of the Russian Fuel Union, Mr. Grigory Sergienko, assessed the current

situation of the Russian fuel market as quite stable, noting that for the last two years there have been no drastic changes or disturbances.

As far as any substantial changes in the industry, they can only be seen within the major retailers: Rosneft has acquired Bashneft, yet it has had practically no effect on the general situation in the market whatsoever.

The exhibition was divided into 16 main subject areas that included 'Gas as motor fuel', 'Transportations and logistics', 'Construction and equipment for filling stations', 'Oil and gas companies', 'Multifunctional roadside service complexes', 'Alternative fuels' and 'Carwash', among others.

The 24th Autocomplex show will take place November 1-3, 2017 in Moscow.

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