

## OIL SHALE NEWS

### **Viru Keemia Grupp opened a new oil shale processing plant in Estonia**

On December 21st, 2009 President of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves officially opened VKG new oil shale processing plant based on state-of-the-art solid heat carrier technology. VKG-s plant is the largest private investment into Estonian shale oil industry ever made.

The construction period of the new plant was 2.5 years, most of the equipment was manufactured in Estonia, all erection and installation was implemented by Estonian companies. The process and equipment design and engineering was done by Russian, Finnish and VKG engineers.

Although the plant Petroter is based on the well known solid heat carrier technology, modern engineering solutions have been used everywhere and number of technical solutions are new and first of the kind. The design capacity of the plant is 3000 tonnes of oil shale per day, resulting in annual production of more than 100 000 tonnes of shale oil, 30 million m<sup>3</sup> of high-calorific gas and 150 GWh of steam.



The owners of the Viru Keemia Grupp and the President of the Republic of Estonia Toomas Hendrik Ilves opening the new plant.



New oil shale processing plant Petroter.

The new VKG plant is the biggest Estonian capital based private investment into Estonian industry. Total cost of the project reached 1.1 billion Estonian kroons.

The Chairman of the Board of VKG Oil AS Mr. Nikolai Petrovich: „Start-up and commissioning works ongoing at the new plant have clearly demonstrated that design and building of our unit are of high quality. It takes at least a half year to start up such a big plant, but we have reasons to believe the project is being successfully implanted.”

The Chairman of the Board of VKG Priit Rohumaa in the inauguration ceremony on December 21: „Today we really have a special day – VKG has opened a new and modern plant which was constructed by our people and based on their knowledge. VKG as the true heir of the First Oil Shale Processing Industry of Estonia takes care of the development of this branch, and now we can definitely say we have taken a new step towards this target”.

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