

Northwest Russia: Facts and Events

Newsletter by the Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg

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Swedish Culture Week in St. Petersburg



On 29
September
– 3 October
famous
Swedish
designers,
musicians
and DJs

came to St. Petersburg to take part in the Swedish Culture Week. The event was arranged by ArtEast Service together with the Swedish Institute and Consulate General of Sweden in St. Petersburg. The Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg provided support in contacts with mass-media.

The programme of the week included an exhibition on Swedish industrial design (*Källemo* company), seminars on design and music industry in Sweden, as well as a number of concerts and parties by popular Swedish artists. The event was also attended by representatives from the City of Stockholm.

In connection with the Swedish Culture Week, Calle Nathanson, Culture Administration, the City of Stockholm, Torgny Sandgren, Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs, Goran Lagerberg, Association Fritz Corner, and Mats Bjerde, Studieförbundet Bilda met the St. Petersburg Committee on Culture. Viktor Vorotnikov, First Deputy Chairman, and Olga Balandina, Head of the International department, participated in the meeting.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg, stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru

4th Festival *International Conservatoire Week*

The 4th Festival *International Conservatoire Week*, arranged by the St. Petersburg Conservatoire, took place in St. Petersburg on 20-27 September 2004. This year's festival, dedicated to Mikhail Glinka's 200th anniversary, brought together musicians, students and professors from Russia, a large number of European countries, China and USA.



The programme of the festival represented all the trends of the contemporary music art and consisted of various concerts, master classes, lectures, seminars, as well as the international scientific conference Mikhail Glinka. Music of the Epoch: 1804-2004.

Source: Lidia Volchek, St. Petersburg State Conservatory, e-mail: volchek@conservatory.ru

The 5th International Forum *Future of the Baltic Ports*

The 5th International Forum *Future of the Baltic Ports* is taking place in St. Petersburg on 11-12 October. The event is arranged by AS Bi-Info company with the support of, in particular, the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation and Baltic Ports Organization (BPO). The conference will gather transport and commerce specialists from Russia, Europe and Asia at Lenexpo exhibition center. The main issues of the conference will be the attraction of cargo flows and investments, the development and extension of port facilities, the cooperation and competition within the transport industry. Among the speakers at the conference will be Christel Wiman, Managing Director of Ports of Stockholm and Chairman of the Board, BPO. Ports of Stockholm will also be represented by Kurt Lilja, Head of Marketing and Sales Section.

Source: www.bi-info.ee

Stockholm International Fairs at *Russian Industrialist 2004*

On 27-30 September the 8th International Industry Forum *Russian Industrialist* was held in St. Petersburg. The Forum was arranged by the City of St. Petersburg and the Leningrad Region, exhibition centers *Lenexpo*, *Restec*, *Promexpo* with the support of the Government of the Russian Federation and the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs of St. Petersburg. *Russian Industrialist* combined a number of specialized expositions, conferences and seminars.



This year for the second time the stand of Stockholm International Fairs was presented at the Forum in accordance with the agreement between Stockholm International Fairs and Restec exhibition center. The Cooperation Agreement stipulates stand exchange at priority fairs. The delegation of Stockholm International Fairs, consisting of Björn Delin, Ingrid Lorentzon and Annika Hols visited St. Petersburg and participated in the official opening of the fair in the VIP group that was headed by Valentina Matvienko, Governor of St. Petersburg. The St. Petersburg Industry Support Fund awarded Stockholm International Fairs and the Stockholm Region Office medals for the contribution to the exhibition/fairs branch development in St. Petersburg and in honour of the 175th anniversary of Russia's first industrial fair.

About 350 companies from 10 countries of the world and 30 regions of the Russian Federation were represented at *Russian Industrialist* last year. In 2003, the Forum attracted over 12 000 visitors. This year's Forum included such sectors as machine building, metal working, instruments and equipment.

Source: Stockholm Region Office in St. Petersburg, stockholm.office@stockholm.spb.ru

Budget Guarantees for Exporters in 2005



According to German Gref, Minister of Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, the state budget for the year 2005 will provide 150 million USD on credit interest

rates for exporters, and

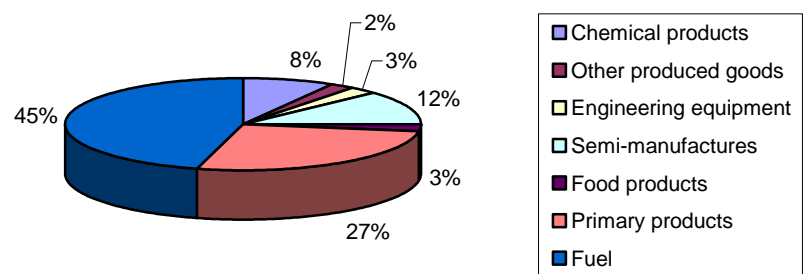
100 million USD for granting of export credits. "We should understand that export support without budget expenses is impossible", - emphasized German Gref in the report to the State Duma.

Besides fiscal measures, non-fiscal measures will be also provided. In particular, import duties on components and products, which don't have analogues in Russia, are expected to be decreased.

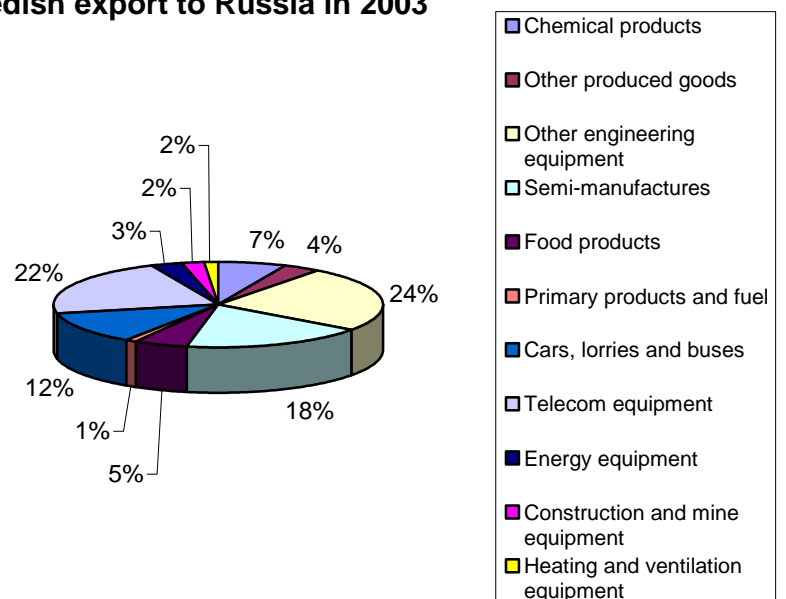
Source: Delovoy Peterburg, 23 July 2004.

Swedish Trade Figures

Swedish import from Russia in 2003



Swedish export to Russia in 2003



Source: Delovaya Panorama, 7-13 June 2004

Sida to Finance New Project by Early Intervention Institute



On 7 September 2004 a delegation of SIDA representatives visited the Early Intervention Institute at its new premises in St. Petersburg. The delegation was headed by Anders Hedlund, Head of the Division for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, who announced that Sida would support the new project *Development and Implementation of Standards of Early Intervention*. The goal of the project is to develop and describe standards of professional support using Swedish experience and investigating needs of families having children with disabilities. The idea is that these standards should be used around Russia. The implementation of the project started on 4 October 2004 with the study visit to Ersta Sköndal University College.

Since Sida started supporting the development of Early Intervention Institute in 1995, a number of successful joint projects have been carried out.

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Early Intervention Institute



The Early Intervention Institute, founded in 1992, provides competence development for specialists working with habilitation within healthcare, education and social security sectors. For families having children with disabilities it is an alternative to the institutional care.

The Institute works mainly in Northwest Russia, but is also active in other regions of Russia, in Byelorussia and Ukraine.

In 1991, by order of the City of St. Petersburg, a programme *Habilitation of Small Children* was developed by the institute specialists. The implementation of the programme started in 1992. Currently, in accordance with the agreement with the St. Petersburg Committee on Labour and Social Security the Institute is supervising 20 early intervention services at district polyclinics in St. Petersburg. Now EII specialists run courses in physical therapy not only for professionals working with babies and young children but also with older children and adults.

During the last 10 years a large number of professional programs have been created for families and children in St. Petersburg, Novgorod, Arkhangelsk, and other Russian, Ukrainian and Byelorussian cities. Many families have received professional support using the early intervention services. A lot of projects and programmes were carried out in cooperation with foreign partners. The cooperation with Swedish organizations, such as Sida and Rädde barnen is especially close.

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Art Crafts, Consumer Services and Folk Crafts Fair

The interregional fair of art crafts, consumer services, and folk crafts will be held at the St. Petersburg Culture and Exhibition Center Eurasia on 16-22 November 2004. The fair is arranged by SIVEL exhibition company, Craft Chamber of Leningrad region and sponsored by the City of St. Petersburg and the Government of the Leningrad Region.



The major goals of the exhibition are to preserve and develop the best national art crafts traditions, facilitate experience exchange between different craft schools, provide information about vocational training programs in Russia and abroad, create favorable conditions for business communication between representatives of small and medium businesses, select production to be involved in the system of centered orders from Russian and foreign wholesale organizations and enterprises.

During the fair master-classes, technologies and equipment demonstration of arts and crafts production manufacturing, presentation of regional programs for support of small business in the sphere of folk arts and crafts are planned to be arranged.

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Action by Greenpeace Activists in St. Petersburg to Promote Separate Garbage Collection

Within the scope of the worldwide action *Clean the planet off garbage*, members of Greenpeace in St. Petersburg recently showed the city's inhabitants how they should sort the rubbish in different containers so that it could be recycled into useful products, for example office paper and envelopes, pens, books and even coats and jackets. During the action, spectators could watch how ordinary everyday garbage was transformed into secondary raw material and thereby into goods for general use.



A load of garbage was dumped in the street. The sign says: "Collect your garbage separately".

Greenpeace activists swiftly sorted out the pile of rubbish into multicolored containers specifically designed for separate waste collecting.



The multicolored containers were marked: packages, paper, and other waste.



Products made of recycled garbage were demonstrated in the street.



Source: www.interpress.ru, www.greenpeace.org/russia

The archive of the newsletters can be found at <http://www.stockholmregion.org/tpl/topic.asp?ID=457>

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