

# Hydrographic Society Russia

## News

### Russian Northern Sea Ports

The Hydrographic Society of Russia together with the Russian Geographical Society and the St. Petersburg Society of Geodesy and Cartography held a "round table"™ on 21st December 2004 with as theme navigating and hydrographic maintenance of design, construction and operation of seaports. HSR president Dr N. Neronov gave a report in which he outlined the problems connected with port construction in Russian Arctic regions. He emphasised that for conformity to modern international standards and the tasks of sea transportation under harsh conditions northern ports required serious modernisation. It was also necessary, he said, for mines to be cleared and for a great amount of hydrographic, geological and hydrological research to be undertaken to determine the functions of terminals and to study ecological and social problems.

Dr Tatyana Gorokhova, of the Scientific Research Institute of St. Petersburg State University gave an interesting report on the development of seaports on the Arctic-ocean coast. She said that since existing northern ports were not designed for mineral oil transportation, many problems of modernisation had emerged. Moreover, there was an apparent necessity for the construction of new ports in the immediate region of oil production. First of all, it was worthwhile examining the problems of port construction in Ob Gubah in the vicinity of Jamburg settlement in Jamal-Nenets autonomous region. These problems touched upon the economic, social and ecological interests of a number of governmental departments within the Russian Federation, Scandinavia and Western Europe. Solutions would involve initiation of an international project to address rational organisation of transportation by the Northern-sea route. A considerable amount of both national and foreign investments could be attracted for this.

Round-table discussion led participants to a conclusion concerning the importance of one problem connected with development of the country's oil & gas complex. It was decided that information on this question be prepared and published.

### Honorary Diplomas

The sixty-third session of HSR Council took place on 24th February. After a brief report by HSR president Dr N. Neronov, the applications of two persons to become members of the Society were considered and accepted. Solicitation by the Directorate of the Admiral Makarov State Maritime Academy (SMA) for the award to three graduates of the "Professor A. P. Belobrov Diploma"™ instituted by the HSR was then considered. Official SMA representative associate professor Dr Yury Firsov, present at the session, confirmed this solicitation for the graduates, saying that this year the group of specialist-hydrographers graduating from the Academy was unusually strong and it was therefore a thoroughly appropriate decision to award the HSR Diploma to all three graduates. It had been taken into account and was an exception that the Council should award the "Professor A. P. Belobrov Diploma"™ to the three young hydrographers: Ilia Logvinov, Denis Markevich and Dmitry Gusev (see photograph). The three received their honorary diplomas from the HSR president during a solemn Academy graduation ceremony on 5th March.

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