

Press release

On 29 July 2008 the Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan R.N. Minnikhanov shall attend a meeting with Mr Jean Laronze, CEO of *Saint-Gobain* for Russia, Poland and Ukraine.

List of participants:

Jean Laronze	CEO of <i>Saint-Gobain</i> Russia
Gilles Sébihi	CEO of OOO GSO
Emmanuelle Jézéquel	Head of Commercial Development at OOO GSO
Shamil Gafarov	Chief of Staff of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Tatarstan
Marat Safiullin	Minister of Economy of the Republic of Tatarstan
Alexandr Kogoguin	Minister of Industry and Trade of the Republic of Tatarstan
Ainur Aideldinov	Head of the governmental non-profit organisation “Venture Capital Fund of the Republic of Tatarstan”
Timur Shaguivaleev	Head of the Commission for the Development of Small and Medium Business in the Republic of Tatarstan
Oleg Antonov	Director General of OOO Vassilievski Glassworks
Iskander Muflikhanov	Assistant Prime Minister of the Republic of Tatarstan for Foreign Economic Affairs

The French company *Saint-Gobain* was established 350 years ago by a royal decree of Louis XIV, the Sun-King. Today *Saint-Gobain* is active in five different areas: construction materials, high-tech materials, flat glass, glass containers, construction materials distribution.

The concern owns over 1 400 companies in 55 countries and employs over 207 000 people.

Construction materials (number one globally). Types of activity: manufacturing of plaster-based construction materials, acoustic and thermal insulation materials, exterior finishing materials, construction mixtures and adhesives, pipes, acoustic ceilings.

Construction materials distribution (number one in Europe). Types of activity: distribution of construction materials in Europe, integrated solutions for residential construction, renovation and interior decoration.

High-Tech materials (number one globally for abrasive materials, thermal and mechanical treatment for ceramic and plastic, reinforced and woven materials). Types of activity: abrasives, ceramic and performance plastic, glass fibre, glass mesh and filters, crystals.

Flat glass (number one in Europe and number 3 globally). Types of activity: flat glass manufacturing, glass treatment and distribution for the construction, automobile and transportation industries, manufacturing of specialised glass.

Glass containers (number one in Europe and number 2 globally): Types of activity: manufacturing of glass bottles and jars.

Saint-Gobain's plaster division began commercial activities in Russia in 1998. In 2000 the concern acquired the licence for subsoil exploitation at the Gomzovskoe plaster and anhydrite deposit in the Nizhni-Novgorod region. In 2007 *Saint-Gobain* signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Nizhni-Novgorod regional government.

Saint-Gobain currently has 2 production plants, 6 distribution offices and 11 commercial branches spread all over Russia.

<http://prav.tatarstan.ru/rus/prensa/news-release.htm/press-release/76042.htm>