

Russian Mining Company Partners With China to Develop Massive Titanium Deposit in Arctic



Representatives of Rustitan and the China Communications and Construction Company signed a cooperation agreement. (Source: *Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs*)

A major Chinese construction and engineering company agrees to help develop Russia's largest titanium deposit located in the Russian Arctic. Expansion of an Arctic deepwater port and a new railroad to the port are also part of the development plans.



TEXT
MALTE HUMPERT

POPULAR

LATEST

Swedish MFA to HNN: The NATO Ball Is in Turkey's Court

Feb 03 2023 - 13:17

Norwegian PM Støre: We Should Be Able to Find Solutions With Russia

Feb 05 2023 - 14:26

Faith in Norway's Russia Competence

Chinese investment and interest in Russia's Arctic natural resources continues unabated. In addition to receiving regular shipments of LNG and crude oil, one of China's major engineering and construction companies is partnering with Russian Titanium Resources to develop a massive mineral deposit in the Russian Arctic.

Russian Titanium Resources (Rustitan) and China Communications and Construction Company [signed an agreement for the development of the Pizhemskeye mining project](#) in the Komi Republic.

The cooperation extends beyond the mining of titanium and includes a host of related infrastructure development including expansion of the Arctic deep water port of Indiga and construction of the Sosnogorsk-Indiga railway connection. The region's mining cluster extends beyond titanium into other minerals, including zircon, iron ore, and gold.

A key aspect of the project is the transport component allowing for the export of materials through Urals and Siberia and funneling cargo onto the Northern Sea Route (NSR).

Rustitan was founded in 2007 focusing primarily on the mining of titanium and quartz raw materials. The company discovered the Pizhemskeye deposit, located in the Ust-Tsilemsky district of the Komi Republic, in 2021. The field is home to Russia's and the world's largest titanium ore reserves. Pizhemskeye contains more than 80 percent of the country's titanium ore reserves.

We have reached an agreement with our Chinese partners on the establishment of a joint company.

– Rustitan representative

China Communications and Construction Company has been involved in a number of the country's Belt and Road Initiative projects, though it has repeatedly faced scrutiny for its financial practices and has been subject to U.S. sanctions for more than a decade.

More cargo for the NSR

The Pizhemskeye project is a key component of the Kremlin's official 2020 Arctic investment plan, also called "Strategy of Development of the Arctic Zone of the Russian Federation for the period to 2035."

An expanded deep-water ice-free seaport of Indiga would become an additional point of cargo volume for the Northern Sea Route. Similarly the Sosnogorsk-India railway is a strategic transport lane to increase the flow of mineral resources toward the NSR.

According to the Northern Sea Route administration it expects Indiga to handle up to 30m tons of cargo before the end of the decade with up to 80m tons in the 2030s.

In addition to the meeting between Rustitan and China Communications and Construction Company, a [second meeting took place](#) with the China Railway Construction Corporation, the second largest state-owned construction company in China.

"We have reached an agreement with our Chinese partners on the establishment of a joint company, and today such an Agreement is at the development stage. Combining the accumulated competencies of our organizations, both in construction and in financing infrastructure projects, will have a significant synergistic effect for the domestic market," a company representative explained.

Feb 05 2023 - 19:43

Russian Mining Company Partners With China to Develop Massive Titanium Deposit in Arctic

Feb 06 2023 - 09:01

NEWSLETTER

Stay on top, click here for our weekly newsletter:

SUBSCRIBE

In additional news related to the project, Rustitan announced last week that it had been [granted a patent related to the beneficiation](#), or processing, of titanium ores from the Pizhems koye deposit specific to the metallurgy present at the deposit.

World's largest titanium exporter

China is the world's largest producer and exporter of titanium and as a result is also one of the leading importers of titanium ore required to produce the alloy.

Lightweight titanium alloys are used extensively in the aerospace and defense industry during the production of jet engines, missiles and spacecraft.

Prior to western sanctions Russia's largest producer VSMPO-Avisma supplied around 30 percent of titanium needs for the global aerospace industry, with US' Boeing [receiving 40 percent of its titanium from Russia](#) and its European rival Airbus [procuring up to 60 percent](#) from Russia.

ALSO READ



[**China Receives Late-Season LNG Deliveries from Russian Arctic Capping Off Record-Breaking Year**](#)



[**Russia Reroutes Arctic Oil To China and India as Result of EU Sanctions**](#)

TAGS

[Titanium](#)

[Rustitan](#)

[CCCC](#)

[Pizhems koye](#)

[Indiga](#)

SHARE



ABOUT US

High North News is an independent newspaper published by the High North Center at the Nord university. High North News follows the Norwegian Press Code of Ethics and is edited according to the Association of Norwegian Editors – Rights and Duties of the Editor. High North News is not responsible for the content or opinions expressed on external web pages.



POSTADRESSE:

High North News
Nord universitet
Postboks 1490

EDITOR IN CHIEF:

Arne O. Holm

E-MAIL:

arne.o.holm@nord.no

TELEPHONE:

(+ 47) 905 29472

E-MAIL EDITORIAL STAFF:

8049 Bodø
Norway

hinn@nord.no

Copyright © 2018
High North News. All
Rights Reserved.

Powered by Ramsalt Media