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ChemChina Deals with the Earthquake Disaster

The 7.8M Sichuan Wenchuan earthquake that occurred on May 12, 2008, caused serious losses to ten of ChemChina’s firms:

In Sichuan:
• Southwest Chemical Machinery Co. in Shifang city
• BlueStar Chengdu 6914 Electronic Equipment Factory in Dujiangyan city
• Chonche Group Sichuan Danchi Parts & Components Co. in Danling county
• Deyang Haohua Qingping Linkuang Co. in Deyang city
• Southwest Research & Design Institute of Chemical Industry in Chengdu city
• China BlueStar Chenguang Research Institute of Chemical Industry in Chengdu city
• Southwest China Haohua Chemical Co., Ltd.
• Research & Design Institute of Carbon Black Industry in Zigong city

In Gansu:
• Chonche Group 7452 Factory
• Chonche Group 6913 Factory in Tianshui city

ChemChina attached the greatest importance to the earthquake and made immediate emergency responses. ChemChina President Ren Jianxin organized a team in headquarters to keep close contact with the companies and started disaster relief promptly.

All firms suffering from the earthquake responded quickly. In some severely hit companies such as the Southwest Chemical Machinery, Qingping Linkuang and Chengdu 6914 Factory, the company directors went to site to see how to prevent further loss. They made every effort to survey the site, rescue the injured, resettle the residents and make the best use of every second before the local government’s rescue team arrived.

ChemChina President Ren Jianxin presided over a meeting for ChemChina leadership and the directors of earthquake-related subsidiaries to discuss further arrangements. He asked the firms to make every effort to rescue workers, console employees and their families, clean up the site, and handle the hidden hazards to avoid further loss. In addition, all firms were required to prepare for rebuilding housing and utilities and resuming suspended operations.

The severely hit Southwest Chemical Machinery, Qingping Linkuang and Chengdu 6914 Factory each received a RMB100,000 rescue fund. As the disaster relief is under way, their daily life is going back to normal step by step.

According to the latest report, by 13:48 pm on May 14, 2008, the “5.12” Sichuan Wenchuan earthquake killed 34 ChemChina employees, and injured more than 100.

Chenguang Institute to Ensure Drinking Water Supply to Wenchuan

At around 9:00 am on May 14, Zhonghao Chenguang Research Institute of Chemical Industry was required by the government to aid in the drinking water supply for the earthquake areas of Wenchuan, Sichuan Province. In order to ensure that 10 tons of water will be promptly supplied to Wenchuan, the director of the institute immediately arranged for the task, and urged the institute’s “Chenguang Water” business unit to operate at full capacity. The photos show Chenguang’s staff handling the production line.

Southwest Chemical Machinery Strives to Minimize the Earthquake Impact

The “5.12” earthquake cracked 12 workshop buildings and the office building in Southwest Chemical Machinery Co., Ltd. As a result of a building collapse, three workers were killed, and another 14 were severely injured, eight of whom have already been sent to a hospital in Chengdu.

In the evening following the quake, the company organized a disaster relief center, and appointed General Manager Zhang Zeshun as the chief director. The temporary headquarters comprises six teams trained in rescue, epidemic prevention, life security, safety and guarding, self-rescue, and reporting. Now the disaster relief work is under way.

Qingping Linkuang Severely Struck; Rescue Measures Taken

It was reported that Deyang Haohua Qingping Linkuang Co., Ltd., which is located at Jiangou Village, Hanwang Town, Mianzhu, Deyang City, Sichuan Province, was badly hit by the powerful earthquake, as it is near the epicenter. A hill collapsed and the sliding earth and rock blocked the road to the mining zone, blocking normal access and communications. The sales office of the company at Hanwang Town was collapsed, killed seven people. Three entrances to the 17 mines were broken down, and it was estimated that several dozen people were buried. In addition, seven dormitory buildings were leveled, injuring dozens of people.

At press time, the disaster rescue troop has arrived at Hanwang Town, outside of the hill zone, but has not reached the mining zone. Most of dormitory buildings are hazardous. More than 5,000 employees and their families were suffered. The mining zone is short of food and medicine.

ChemChina continues to report the situation to related government agencies and ask for help and rescue.

Guilin Latex Plant Shipping Surgical Gloves to Wenchuan

At 10:30 am on May 14, a truck filled with 100,000 pairs of surgical gloves produced by ChemChina Guilin Latex Plant left the factory to support Wenchuan, the epicenter and one of the areas most severely damaged by the “5.12” earthquake.
On April 17, 2008, Mr. Cheng Siwei, former Vice President of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress (SCNPC) and the incumbent Chairman of China National Democratic Construction Association (CNDCA), paid a visit to ChemChina headquarters. ChemChina President Ren Jianxin accompanied him.

At the meeting, Cheng Siwei watched a video about ChemChina entitled “Wide Road.” Ren Jianxin introduced the development of ChemChina, especially with relation to IT solutions, overseas mergers and acquisitions, major projects such as energy conservation and emission reduction, the move toward “zero discharge” and the restructuring of the business. Cheng Siwei frequently asked for details, showing he was no stranger to ChemChina’s development.

He spoke highly of ChemChina’s growth and commended Ren Jianxin for his efforts to lead the group as a trendsetter in Chinese industry. Mr. Cheng also expressed his confidence about the future of ChemChina. As a former leader of the previous Ministry of the Chemical Industry, Mr. Cheng also gave some valuable advice to ChemChina.

Catches the Eye at ICIF 2008

From April 23 to 25, ChemChina participated in the 9th China International Chemical Industry Fair (ICIF 2008) in Shanghai. ChemChina last attended the fair in 2006. Located at a prominent place in the exhibition center, the ChemChina booth attracted many traders and potential clients asking for corporate brochures and negotiating future business, which highlighted its leading position in the chemical industry and impressed visitors.

It is reported that more than 3,000 visitors called at ChemChina’s booth, while 260 discussed business opportunities directly with ChemChina representatives.

At the tradeshow, ChemChina exhibited its recently restructured business scope covering six industry sectors. The advanced technology and high-performance products of ChemChina’s subsidiary enterprises and institutions were the highlights of the exhibition, in particular advanced chemical materials, specialty chemical materials, basic chemical raw materials, rubber processing machinery and rubber products. In addition, quite a few projects with predominant technical advantages caught the eye of chemical players worldwide. Also, the company’s information services and its online communication platform became hot topics due to their specialty and industrial dominance.

As China’s first group corporation advocating “zero discharge,” ChemChina aims to drastically change public attitudes toward chemical players - who are now widely regarded as major producers of pollution. Visitors praised ChemChina’s idea and practice of building its reputation as a “Zero Discharge Brand.” They unanimously said that for a giant corporation like ChemChina to take more environmental responsibility, is in keeping with development trends in the global chemical industry.

The ICIF tradeshow is held every two years and has great influence in the chemical industry, both domestic and overseas. The layout of this year’s show provided for several industrial areas, including areas for the overseas and petrochemical sectors; a specialty area for the basic organic and inorganic chemical raw materials sector, the dyestuffs and pigments sector, the fine and specialty chemicals sector; areas for the phosphorus chemical industry, fluorine chemical industry and water treatment chemicals sectors, etc. In recent years, the number of overseas exhibitors at ICIF has grown dramatically.

With a view to save registered capital and cut export costs, ChemChina notified its subsidiaries to work with the Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), directing ChemChina subsidiaries to fully understand the requirements of REACH and respond. This will require staff training, structure building, network management, regular discussion, technology upgrades, innovation, using alternatives for restricted chemicals, manufacturing environmentally friendly products, analyzing economic efficiency, assessing products, product pre-registration and reduction of registration costs.
Construction of Enterprise IT Solutions Phase II Completed

The ChemChina Enterprise IT Solutions Status Meeting for the second phase of the project was held at ChemChina headquarters on April 19. ChemChina President Ren Jianxin, ChemChina Deputy CCP Party Secretary Fu Xiangsheng, directors of ChemChina’s functional departments and managers from all its subsidiaries, as well as the project director from Atos Origin attended the meeting.

Based on Chinese law and its experience of the best SAP solutions in the chemical industry, Atos Origin reported its overall layout for the running of ChemChina and the common operation of the subsidiaries. It also introduced details of projects related to Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP), continuous transformation, procurement transformation, financial transformation, data center/IT infrastructure and the new business model. ERP and continuous management transformation (continuous transformation, procurement transformation and financial transformation) were the key deliverables in the second phase of the project. Two firms under China National BlueStar (Group) Corporation - Shenyang Chemical Co., Ltd. and Harbin Petrochemical Co., Ltd. - have benefited the most from the pilot projects.

According to the plan, the first ERP system will go online at the end of this year and be fully adopted by BlueStar in 2009, to be then followed step-by-step by target users selected from other subsidiaries of ChemChina.

BCMC Exports Caustic Soda Unit to Thailand

A 10,000 t/a electrolyzer and its 20,000 t/a auxiliary engineering, both manufactured by BlueStar (Beijing) Chemical Machinery Co., Ltd. (BCMC), underwent a pilot run on March 22 at a Thai-owned plant. This success makes Thailand another foreign market for BCMC, after Vietnam, Myanmar and Syria. The ionic exchange membrane electrolyzers manufactured by BCMC have also been well received in these countries.

After this 10,000 t/a caustic soda unit went on stream at the Thai-owned plant 50 km from Bangkok, the soda lye streamed continuously from the outlet hose, which marked success for the unit’s first operation and was welcomed with a storm of applause from the Thai party.

In appreciation of BCMC’s continual support, the manager of the Thai firm thanked the BCMC engineers on site for their diligent work and sent his acknowledgment and appreciation to BCMC headquarters.

At present, the market for caustic soda in Russia, Southeast Asia and West Asia is in an initial stage. The Thai firm’s designed capacity is 20,000 t/a, and the success of the first commissioning has created a solid foundation for BCMC to win the contract for the remaining 10,000 t/a project.

GRMF to Manufacture the Biggest Vulcanizer

On April 7, Guilin Rubber Machinery Factory (GRMF) signed a contract with Japanese Bridgestone Corporation to manufacture several 200-inch mechanical vulcanizers, currently the biggest vulcanizer in the world. The contract, valued at over RMB100 million, is the biggest in GRMF’s history.

The 200-inch mechanical vulcanizer has a complex structure and is difficult to manufacture, requiring advanced technology. The signing of the contract signifies that GRMF has made further progress in product R&D, and technical innovation and spells an increase in foreign exchange earnings.

Shenyang Chemical Holds Information Collection Competition

Shenyang Chemical Co., Ltd. recently held an information collection competition in order to encourage employees to know more about the chemical market and understand their responsibilities.

The candidates were required to use the telephone, Internet, radio, newspaper and magazines to collect information about the operation, management and technology of the firm’s upstream suppliers and downstream clients, as well as its competitors, both in China and abroad. A panel was formed to assess the validity and value of the 2,000 pieces of information collected by 300 candidates. Ten candidates won the top prize for “Most Valuable Information Collectors” and another 10 won the prize for “Valuable Information.”
On April 9, 2008, Michael Smith, CEO of Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ) visited ChemChina and met with ChemChina President Ren Jianxin, who briefed the guests on the development of ChemChina and expressed his thanks for the financial support provided by ANZ. Michael Smith spoke highly of the growth of ChemChina and expressed his desire to cooperate further with ChemChina. They discussed issues related to going public and the global economy.

ChemChina Receives ANZ Guests

On April 6, 2008, Mr. Hsu Cheng-Kuan, President of Formosan Rubber Group Inc., visited Hunan Yiyang Rubber & Plastics Machinery Group Co., Ltd. Xu Yunbo, Chairman of the board of directors and General Manager of Yiyang Rubber showed the Taiwanese guests around the processing workshop and the assembly workshop of its ShuangLong™ internal mixers and YiShen™ hydraulic tire vulcanizers.

Taiwanese Guests Visit Yiyang Rubber Machinery

The Changsha Taiwan Merchant Association had invited Hsu Cheng-Kuan for this visit. Formosan Rubber Group Inc., formed in 1952, is a renowned listed company in Taiwan, and it's also the largest rubber and plastic producer in Asia. Hsu Cheng-Kuan has also served as the Chairman of Taiwan Rubber Industries Association.

Guests from Abu Dhabi Visit ChemChina

On April 15, 2008, Nasser Bin Ahmad Al Suwaidi, Chairman of the Department of Planning and Economy of Abu Dhabi visited ChemChina. Ren Jianxin met the delegation. During the meeting, both sides expressed their willingness for further cooperation. Mukhtar Hussain, Global Investment Executive of HSBC, visited ChemChina at the same time.
BlueStar

Puts 40,000 t/a POM Unit on Stream

After 12 months of work, construction has been completed on a 40,000 t/a POM project in Shanghai, and the unit yielded its first output on March 29.

Listed by BlueStar among its most important projects of 2007, the POM project involved an investment of RMB1.25 billion. It was organized as 29 sub-projects in the 12 months, including the construction of a formaldehyde unit, a dioxolane unit, a trioxane unit, a polymerization facility and an incinerator area.

This project was a huge engineering feat - building a 53,000 m$^3$ area for workshops and steel-frame buildings, laying more than 80km of process piping and an underground pipeline network, paving 4.2 km of factory roads, pouring 110,000 m$^3$ of concrete, laying another 19km of various underground pipelines, setting 420 drain wells, installing 860 devices, using 7,300 tons of steel (plus tank area manufacture), installing more than 13,000 process valves and meter valves, setting 6,200 meter-control and loop-display points in the equipment, building six substations and planting a green area of 35,000 m$^2$.

On January 19, 2008, the formaldehyde unit passed its pilot test and on February 25, the dioxolane unit was commissioned. Then on March 5, the trioxane unit notched up another success, and finally on March 29, the POM complex finalized its connection of the process flows and the polymerization unit begin its first production operation.

Haohua

Yuanping Chemical Expands Methanol

On April 8, the upgrade of a 200,000 t/a methanol unit was completed and the unit put into operation at Haohua Yuanping Chemical Co., Ltd.

About a year earlier, on April 12, 2007, Haohua Yuanping had laid the foundation of expanding its methanol capacity to 200,000 t/a. The project was well supported in every phase, from the feasibility study, assessment and approval, and construction, to the final equipment installation and commissioning, with particular emphasis on financing. Although faced with adverse factors such as an unsteady supply of coal, power and oil, as well as logistical hardships and rocketing feedstock prices, the company has done a creditable job on both operation and construction.

Mostly relying on its own ability, the company completed the construction of the project in a safe, efficient and rapid way, and realized success in its first commissioning.

Zhonglan Yima

Building Capacity for Chromium Salts

In March, Zhonglan Yima Chromium Chemistry Co., Ltd. completed a 2,000 t/a chromium oxide green project for its 10,000 t/a clean production line for chromium salts, and the project has now entered the combined operation stage. After the start of the commissioning on April 1, the 500 ton Nm$^3$/H hydrogen gas unit (using a methanol decomposition process) yielded qualified hydrogen gas on April 12; and then on April 14, with the use of the hydrogen gas, the first batch of chromium oxide green was generated in the reduction furnace, creating a solid foundation for the industrialization of the new process for clean production of chromium salts.

This new process is well known for its resource and energy efficiency, as well as its “zero discharge” of chromium residues, which is significant for commercialization and economies of scale of clean production of chromium salts. In the last year, Zhonglan Yima connected all process flows together and actualized consecutive operation. Aiming to increase capacity and balance profits and loss for better operation quality and higher profits, the company has engaged in the chromium oxide green project from last October to this March and started commissioning in April. The economic operation data recorded and the experience gained in this pilot run will also be useful for the subsequent construction of a 100,000 t/a chromium salt production base.
Harbin Petrochemical to Reduce Water Discharge

This year, Harbin Petrochemical Co., Ltd. continues to move forward on reducing water discharge through resource control, reconstruction and operation.

In resource control, all workshops generating wastewater are fitted with sampling points at the major sewage water outlets. After defining the allowed discharge indexes at each workshop, the company monitors the discharge data every day and posts the data on its intranet. The workshops that discharge more water than specified by their design are required to find the reason and take measures to correct it. In addition, the judging of awards for safe production takes the workshops’ energy conservation and emission reduction performance into consideration.

In terms of reconstruction, Harbin Petrochemical has paid more attention to reengineer its sewage water treatment equipment and facilities. For example, in order to maintain good aeration in the regulation pool, they replaced badly corroded air supply pipelines with anticorrosion stainless steel pipes; to improve processing efficiency, they reconstructed the air-dissolving and dosing subsystems in the dissolved air flotation (DAF) system and added another air dissolving system. Also, some on-line analysis apparatus and water discharge monitors were installed in the regulation pool to realize real-time control of the pH value and temperature, to make sure they are relatively stable.

Training was provided to all operators of the two plants, directing them to operate the equipment strictly in accordance with procedures. In addition, regular inspections have been strengthened to guarantee equipment availability, ensuring stable operation. Meanwhile, management of the wastewater treatment plant is emphasized as part of the highlighted terminal management.

So far, the company’s COD (chemical oxygen demand) discharge has already been judged as first rate under the national standard, and the firm will continue to strive to improve recycling of intermediate water.

BlueStar’s Tianjin Branch

Moving Forward on 11 Projects

BlueStar Petroleum Co., Ltd. Tianjin Branch is moving forward on a total of 11 projects planned for energy conservation and emission reduction this year. Once all the projects are completed, they will yield direct benefits exceeding RMB15 million to the company.

In order to make sure that the projects are completed on schedule, Tianjin Branch started the process of technical improvement for energy conservation and emission reduction at the beginning of this year. The preparation of the early stage technical exchange, process design and equipment ordering have been accomplished for some key projects including the reengineering of the regenerator of a catalysis unit for the 500,000 t/a heavy oil facility, the reconstruction of the crude oil electrical desalting processing system and the reengineering of the process pipelines of the catalysis unit. All the above-mentioned projects will start construction as soon as the overhaul is complete, and will be put into operation in early May.

As the most important project, with an investment of RMB9 million, the reengineering of the regenerator of the catalysis unit will add capacity to the No.1 combustion unit, based on the existing regenerator. The reengineering will allow more efficient operation of the regenerator, increasing processing capacity by 70,000 t/a and therefore generating RMB9 million annually.

Cangzhou Dahua

Reducing Emissions Further

Hebei Cangzhou Dahua Co., Ltd. is stepping up efforts to reduce emissions in response to the Notice on Emission Reduction issued by the local government.

At the beginning of this year, the company began to examine its emissions and define detailed measures. For the major operations that discharge waste, the company has sent its experts to site for field inspections. The experts are required to help find cleaning solutions. In addition, the company has installed monitoring devices and is working with the local Environmental Protection Agency for the ongoing real time inspection.

The company also defined detailed assessment measures for emission reduction. They have special inspection and appraisal measures in place.
Ozone depletion due to polluted air has made the development of UV (ultraviolet) absorbents a hot issue in the polymer material auxiliaries sector and a development orientation for textiles in the Eleventh Five-Year Plan (2006-2010). These UV absorbents can be used in fiber and textile industries. The Dalian Research & Design Institute of Chemical Industry (DRDICI) has committed itself to the development of new UV absorbents in recent years. Its new type of UV absorbent applied in performance fibers has recently been awarded the honor of “National Advanced & Key Product,” and has been listed in the “2007 National Advanced & Key Products Program.”

Compared with other traditional UV absorbents, the product shows higher UV absorptivity, providing maximum protection for polymer materials from photosensitive degradation. It adopts an environmentally friendly process using water instead of the traditional alcohol, and offers a number of advantages including high molecular weight, low volatility, non-extraction and easy processing, etc. As an advanced and high value-adding product with independent IPR, it is unprecedented in China and a state invention patent has been applied for. This new product can be used individually, but if used together with other benzotriazole type UV absorbents, it performs even better.

Beijing Research & Design Institute of Rubber Industry (BRDIRI) recently announced the success of pilot production for the giant steel engineering radial tire in a Shandong firm, which uses the BRDIRI designed two-stage tire-building machine. The machine was co-developed by BRDIRI and Fujian Jianyang Lungcheung Technology Development Co., Ltd. The tire-building machine was designed based on the processing data of the giant steel engineering radial tire that had been developed by BRDIRI’s Tire R&D Center. It is capable of manufacturing giant steel engineering radial tires with 1244.6-1447.8 mm (49-57 inches) in bead wire diameter.

Henan Junma Chemical Industry Group launches new products every year. Recently, the firm developed a new rectification tower, reactor, and sulfur-melting boiler - the core devices for dimethyl ether (DME) production. The devices, which have been received well by users, can help save money as well as cut down on sulfide emission.
Endless Innovation

-- Peng Zhishen's story

Peng Zhishen, senior engineer of Yiyang Rubber & Plastics Machinery Group Co., Ltd., is walking on air. She was honored as National Female Star Player, won an award for innovation granted by Hunan Province, and was recently nominated as a candidate for a National May 1st Medal.

In 1989, Peng Zhishen graduated from Qingdao University of Science & Technology, majoring in polymer materials and engineering. As a leading member of the development project for internal mixers, the key product of the company, she has done a great deal to update the technology, enabling the products to sell well in the global market. The mixer technology is currently experiencing rapid improvements worldwide. The GK internal mixer was well accepted for its energy efficiency, high performance and environmental friendliness. In order to upgrade the products and boost sales in the global market, Peng Zhishen and her teammates focused on the innovation based on GK internal models, and developed about a dozen new models that could be used to process all-steel radial tires. In China, both the smallest and the biggest internal mixers are made from her design.

Peng Zhishen began her work from the rotor, a core part of the internal mixer. She designed the ZZ-2 rotor, spindle rotor and single-direction spiral rotor with cooling water channel for mixing of various rubbers and plastics, thereby raising the products to a higher level.

Peng Zhishen also developed a hydraulic ram of the internal mixer, which was the first hydraulic ram made by a Chinese company. Her innovation made radial tire reduction possible for China, taking the country’s internal mixer quality to a new height. Her innovation was granted a patent and recognized as one of the Top 10 Innovations in Hunan Province.

Her GE-250 model is praised as a masterpiece by customers, especially those from Europe. According to some Chinese, it helps enhance the overall reputation of China’s companies.

This large Banbury mixer, equipped with assembled intermeshing rotor (PES3) with spiral flute cooling, can be used to mix all kinds of rubbers without overheating. Completed in 2004, the device played a key role in quite a few projects in China. It is also one of the innovations listed in China’s Tenth Five Year Plan. The first model was sold to a customer in Italy. It was the first rubber machine ever sold to the European market by a Chinese manufacturer. In 2005, the effort was recognized as an innovative project and Peng Zhishen and her teammates received a number of awards.

In addition, in order to help the large radial tire customers with their energy- and space-efficiency, she and her assistants developed the GE 580 model. The model combines advantages from both the GK and F models, such as the Z-blade, YCH hydraulic cylinder dustproof seal, and PES5 intermeshing rotors. Completed at the end of 2007, the model became the mixer with the largest capacity in China and is hailed as an aircraft carrier among rubber mixers.

In recent years, Peng Zhishen and her teammates achieved seven breakthroughs nationwide. Her GK model was listed as one of the items on China’s Key Advanced Products Program, and the Torch Plan. Patents were granted for many other ideas developed by Ms. Peng, who has committed herself to innovation.
Details Matter

Wang Qi

It has been some time since I was sent to the Tianjin Branch of BlueStar Petroleum Co., Ltd. to report on the work there. The overhaul work was well underway and I would go to the overhaul site with the technicians when I did not have to work as a newsman. The reason is that on the one hand, I could learn something about machinery; on the other, I could do some work within my power. During that period of time, what impressed me most is the wisdom that detail is the key to success.

When measuring the size of a cooler in the pumping chamber, I saw a sign hung on a valve. It read: "Someone inside, don't close the valve." A simple, common sign like this may be the key to the safety of the working technicians. When a content gauge is to be replaced, you have to pay much attention to the sequence and torque used to tighten the nuts. It takes a lot of care. The content gauge is made of glass and can be dropped and broken if you make a mistake about the order or the force. The technicians would spread an asbestos wire gauze and sand on the manhole cover. If any negligence is detected, the technicians will cover it as soon as possible because a fire may be caused if a spark falls in.

These may seem trivial details, but it is the details that make sure the overhaul can progress smoothly. We should pay attention to the trivial things in our daily work, as they are the key to success.

I am on the Night Shift

Zhao Lin

Night shift is no longer a strange term to me as I am on my first night shift. I was sent to Harbin Petrochemical Co., Ltd. more than half a month ago. After safety training, I was assigned to the third shift and began my experience as a night worker.

It is the first time that I have seen the hour hand go sleepily past the number 2. There are 6 hours ahead. It is huge challenge as a fit of dizziness comes over me but deep down I am still excited. It is my first experience of a night shift, and besides, I have two helpful elder female workmates with me.

In front of me are annunciators, panel and interphone. I try to focus on the indicators of liquid level, temperature, and pressure. Sleeping is strictly prohibited for people on the night shift. My discomfort told me how important regular sleep is.

Night work is unusual for me, but to many colleagues who have worked here for a couple, even dozens of years, it is commonplace. Some parents assigned to night shift have to take care of their kids in turn.

By the gathering light of dawn, I see the end of my first night shift approaching. During my stay in the company, I tried to learn as much as I could and the experience proved very valuable.

Before the 50th anniversary of the company, Shandong Dongda Chemical Industry (Group) Company invited some retired employees to pay a visit. They could not hold back their tears as they fondly recalled the efforts and energy they put into the company as young men and women. (Photo by Zhao Minghua)