

CAUSES, PRECONDITIONS AND THE ESSENCE OF THE RUSSIAN OIL PROCESSING MODERNIZATION

© 2010 A.V. Solontsov*

Keywords: modernization tasks, efficiency analysis, output structure, efficiency indices, control over modernization, strategic planning.

The article deals with the modern state of oil processing industry. The problems of Russian oil processing plants are revealed in the article. Moreover, the author systemizes the basic causes of their low competitiveness. The algorithm of control over oil processing plant modernization is suggested.

Nowadays, in Russia there are more than 27 large oil processing plants (OPP), 9 of which are among 40 largest plants in the world, nearly 50 small OPP and 2 condensate processing enterprises. The age of the majority of these plants is estimated by the analysts as critical, since their basic production basis was created in 1950-1990-ies. Only 5% of Russian aggregates at OPP have operation life less than 10 years and appreciation of fixed assets is above 80%. The fact of high cost value of Russian oil products is believed to be worth mentioning because the total cost value of all the products received from 1 tons of oil at our plants is 1,5-3 times higher than in Europe and the USA. The following thing is believed to be quite explicable.

More strict ecologic demands that are strengthening in the 20th century has led to considerable changes in the technological structure of foreign OPP, the output of low-octane ethylated petrol has decreased immensely that influenced badly on the Russian oil processing in competitiveness on the international market.

The period of radical market reforms of 90-ies negatively influenced on the development of the Russian oil processing industry. Russian oil companies are still far away from their foreign partners that usually process 1,5-3 times more oil than extract.

A necessity in the Russian oil companies fixed assets renewal is considerable. The output unit weight of secondary processes of oil processing, i.e. competitive on the world market oil products and petrochemical half-finished products in the total volume of produced oil products, makes up nearly 15% in Russia, whereas in the countries of Western Europe the index exceeds 30%, in the USA - 50%.

In conditions of insufficient volume of work on renewal and reconstruction, the prolongation of fixed assets use of objects of oil processing complex is connected with higher resources costs, emergency situations and ecologic dangers that, finally, lead to additional need in money on production and compensation of possible damage. Taking into consideration the existing low technological level of Russian enterprises, investments currency self-repayments into Russian oil processing are 2 times lower than oil extraction within its further export. The basic trend in the development of the Russian oil processing should consist in the modernization and fundamental reconstruction of existing plants with putting special units into operation created for deep oil processing and production of catalyzers, which nowadays are mostly exported by oil companies. The use of modern catalyzers will allow solving one of the most important modernization tasks: an increase in the oil products quality and decrease of their ecologic dangers in the process of production and consumption.

It is exactly these trends that are the basis of the increase in the production costs and production profitability, in other words, they form the factors of oil companies' financial state improvement.

Today the complication of management tasks enforces oil processing enterprises to address to strategic planning directed to quality improvement of this or that technological process and assisting in saving enterprise competitiveness. In other words it is technological systems' modernization planning and separate processes on the basis of regulating in changes of indices that determine the efficient use of material resources and equipment, which is the

* Aleksey V. Solontsov, post-graduate student of Samara State Technical University. E-mail: avs2010@bk.ru.

basic task of strategic decisions in modern economics.

The analysis demonstrates the fact that in spite of the community of modernization preconditions, management decisions concerning the choice of development ways can be different for various OPP depending from investments efficiency for a concrete enterprise.

In fact, nowadays, there is a number of competitive advantages on the market. First of all, it is output competitiveness on the interior market predominantly. Moreover, the presence of

stable solvent demand from the part of interior consumers and from the part of foreign consumers on the series of names of producing products can be traced. Among competitive advantages big amounts of oil resources of Russian oil companies can be named as the base of stable, long-term resource provision. It should be mentioned that from the point of increase in competitiveness of Russian OPP there is a necessity of ensuring not only price production competitiveness but also competitiveness on quality.

Received for publication on 14.10.2010