Higher local content in procurement is on the list of Gazprom Neft’s priorities, with the company both implementing solutions available in the market and supporting the development of new products. A substantial number of import-substitution projects are run by partner companies.

The testing of BURINTEKH’s RUS-GM-195 rig was a good example of import substitution in 2020. This import-substituting product drilled a directional interval with a length of more than 1,900 m at the Yuzhno-Priobskoye field. The technology called for unique scientific solutions, from the selection of ultra-reliable materials to prototyping and testing in real conditions.

Institute for Initiatives in Oil and Gas Technologies

Gazprom Neft, SIBUR Holding and TATNEFT founded the Institute for Initiatives in Oil and Gas Technologies autonomous non-profit organisation (ANO) in 2020, in order to provide systematic support for import substitution and realise the export potential of Russian solutions. The organisation was created to harmonise the efforts of Russian and foreign oil and gas companies to develop and approve uniform industry standards for use in engineering, design, procurement and the evaluation of potential contractors. The Russian companies Transneft and LUKOIL, as well as the foreign partners Uzbekneftegaz and ADNOC, have already joined the organisation as observers.

Student associations

In 2020, in order to move from import substitution to import outstripping, Gazprom Neft supported the establishment of energy clubs – student associations to provide career guidance and support for new, high-tech projects – in five leading St Petersburg-based universities (Peter the Great St Petersburg Polytechnic University, ITMO University, Saint Petersburg State University of Aerospace Instrumentation, Saint Petersburg Electrotechnical University, State Marine Technical University). An inter-university accelerator was launched for these energy clubs, with 15 student projects joining the programme in an attempt to address the technology challenges faced by the company.