

Welcome address to the visitors, participants and organizers  
of the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the International Exhibition  
for Equipment and Technologies for the Oil and Gas Industry  
Neftegaz 2018

Dear friends,

On behalf of the Russian Ministry of Industry and Trade and on behalf of my own let me welcome the participants in the 18<sup>th</sup> edition of the Neftegaz International Exhibition for Equipment and Technologies for the Oil and Gas Industry and the National Oil and Gas Forum.

The oil and gas industry plays a key role in the economy of Russia, in ensuring energy security, driving progress in science and technology, and creating better living standards of our people.

Neftegaz is a high-profile platform for networking, experience exchange, and showcase of the latest technologies and equipment.

It is important to note that supporting events are traditionally aimed at promotion of Russian-made technologies and equipment which are necessary to improve the competitiveness of the Russian oil and gas industry on the international scene.

The Russian Ministry of Industry and Trade places great emphasis on the development of the Russian oil and gas sector and considers the Neftegaz international exhibition as an important industry event.

The co-location of Neftegaz 2018 and the National Oil and Gas Forum expands opportunities for sharing opinions and experience and finding solutions to the challenges facing the industry.

I would like to wish all participants in the trade show and the Forum good mood and effective and fruitful cooperation.

Denis Manturov  
Minister of Industry and Trade  
of the Russian Federation