

While it is performing, the machine itself is invisible - it is inside the pipe. It finishes welding one joint and it moves along the pipe to the next: it completes five to six joints an hour by producing a high-quality seam. The foreman from Nadym, N. Martynov, is satisfied: everything works fine.

The builders of the pipeline have placed their trust in the Sever. But there was a time when its introduction was opposed both by the welders and some supervisors. Now that the conversation has touched upon past difficulties, it must be said that the burden of introducing this machine was put on the shoulders of the engineers from Pskov. The North needed new equipment. The factory manufactured it. A number of design flaws were detected at the pipeline, which was quite a normal - it was a basically new design and more complicated than any other welding equipment manufactured in our country. Not waiting for instructions from above, the management of the factory took the risk of putting together a group of top specialists for the purpose of modernizing the installation. Now the Sever is more reliable, simpler to build and work with, it weighs 5 tonnes less and is smaller in size.

The factory shops are already putting into effect a new design at the E.O. Paton Institute of Electric Welding - an internal machine for contact welding of pipes with half the diameter of those welded by the Sever.

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