

The committee of the RSFSR State Inspection Service found that the investigated ports and logging enterprises had failed to do what was necessary to implement the general instructions and guidelines for increasing the competitiveness of export products and servicing the orders for their manufacture on a first priority basis.

The audit also revealed that the directors of the All-Union "Eksportles" Foreign Trade Association of the USSR Ministry of the Timber Industry (General Director Yu. V. Vardashkin) are failing to monitor adequately the industrial and administrative activities of the Novorossiisk and Leningrad timber ports, and are of little help to the ports in the matter of establishing good working relationships with the timber suppliers.

This suggests that the time has come for the management of "Eksportles" to grant to the timber ports the right to go to the world markets independently and to assume full responsibility for completing assignments pertaining to earnings of foreign currency. Moreover, for the more successful conduct of export deliveries of timber it would be expedient to form self-financed associations that should be an integral part of the ports and the interested enterprises supplying these products.

"It is not only foreign currency that we are losing, but prestige as well" - a specialist comments

Our correspondent asked the deputy head of the Novorossiisk timber trading port (exports and commercial affairs) V. Yasyuchenko to comment on the results of the audit by the committee of the RSFSR