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**L.S. LEBEDYANSKYI: THE LAST YEARS OF LIFE
AND LEGACY OF REMARKABLE LOCOMOTIVE DESIGNER**

Summary

Designer L.S. Lebedyanskyi has proven for the several times his ability to work with the various projects maintaining the highest level of quality. He was known as the genius designer of steam locomotives, then as the diesel locomotives specialist, and later as the creator of the first gas turbine locomotive in the former Soviet Union. Unfortunately, while the projects of former major designer of Kolomenskyi plant are well-known, the facts about his life remain mostly unknown. All the information that may be found about L.S. Lebedyanskyi is closely related to his projects, for instance, in articles that describe locomotives or in huge handbooks dedicated to locomotives' description. So, the main goal of this research is to review the life of L.S. Lebedyanskyi and reveal unknown before or mostly unknown facts about the designer. This research focuses on the last years of L.S. Lebedyanskyi's life and his legacy.

To find the missing information the periodical of the town Kolomna and sources from Kolomenskyi plant were used. Due to these sources various facts about the last years of life of L.S. Lebedyanskyi were figured out. First of all, due to the research it

was clarified why the former major designer of Kolomenskyi plant was so fierce protector of the gas turbine locomotive program development. It became obvious that work with the gas turbine locomotives may be considered as the project of the whole life for L.S. Lebedyanskyi. He used all his knowledge, skills, and experience to start this work on Kolomenskyi plant. Everything for the gas turbine locomotives' designing and building were created because of L.S. Lebedyanskyi initiative and support. No wonder that L.S. Lebedyanskyi felt the great disappointment when director of Kolomenskyi plant told him about the discontinuation of gas turbine locomotive program.

In addition, due to the research, two different reasons for the discontinuation of the gas turbine locomotive program were found, and as the matter of fact, two reasons for L.S. Lebedyanskyi retirement. Unfortunately, arguing with the Kolomenskyi plant director did not result in any positive way for L.S. Lebedyanskyi. He was retired with the serious health problems. The remarkable designer was living his last days struggling against the disease. Talking about the last years of L.S. Lebedyanskyi's work, it should be mentioned that these ones were more than productive. During the last eight years of work the former major designer has finished five locomotive projects: two gas turbine locomotives and three diesel locomotives.

Finally, the research made it possible to look at the legacy of great locomotive designer. And it should be mentioned, that the legacy of L.S. Lebedyanskyi is not only his projects, such as: steam locomotives «L», P36; diesel locomotive TEP60; gas turbine locomotive G1-01. It is also a new generation of designers that were taught and supported by L.S. Lebedyanskyi. Some of these designers are widely known for their great achievements.

No doubt that the legacy of L.S. Lebedyanskyi had a huge influence on the future of locomotive industry. That is why, in my opinion, it is reasonable to continue researches. Moreover, there are all possibilities for it, such as collaboration with Kolomenskyi plant, Museum of Kolomenskyi plant and library of Kolomna town.

Furthermore, there is a possibility to get to know more about the remarkable designer from his descendants.

Key words: *L.S. Lebedyanskyi, Kolomenskyi plant, designer, locomotive, legacy.*