FROM THE EDITOR

SCIENTIFIC-TECHNOLOGICAL FORECASTING

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Abstract. The editorial board of the journal RENSIT announces one of the most important principles of publishing policy of the journal is the publication of the materials researches having the character of scientific-technological forecasting. As a first experience of such publications in the present issue of the journal a series of articles on researches into low energy nuclear reactions (LENR) in Russia is represented.

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Issue of the journal, which we offers readers is thematic. But it's not just a compilation of articles with a specific theme of researches. We believe that the material presented can serve as a basis for long-range forecasting of scientific-technological forecasting of energetic in the future.

The word "forecast" in a literal translation from the Greek means "before knowledge", i.e. before there will be real knowledge (observation) of an object or phenomenon, before the event occurs. In the Russian language synonyms of the forecasting are the words "foresight, prediction".

Innovation activity, about which so much talk lately, requires presence of scientific-technological forecasting of development of society as a whole and its separate parts. A number of techniques and methods, which enable with varying degree of probability to predict the development of separate fields of human activity are developed and used. It is, essentially, a kind of extrapolation. Such forecasting allows you to put the always limited means (resources) to the development of individual directions on a fairly limited time frame in the hope to get effective result.

Wide, but still "until skyline" the forecast usually goes something like this. "The new technological revolution in ... at the turn of the 20...-20... years will lead to the creation ...... Tasks that will be addressed by one agency, will be relevant to other directions. The typical approach of experts and managers: it is necessary to develop "a road map" that is applicable to the widest possible circle of recipients of high-tech industries. As a result, will provide a concentration of resources and development of competence centres...."

In other words – is the work "until skyline". There are methods to rise "higher" and thus move the skyline, but go out beyond the skyline such methods as a rule do not allow.

In our opinion, the most interesting is what there is namely the beyond the skyline. For such an forecasting "beyond skyline" are necessary inmost knowledge and nonstandard thinking plus intuition. Is usually not under force to one person, but a group of people with nonstandard-critical thinking, as experience shows, allows for such "beyond skyline" forecasting.

Scientific-technological forecasting is a form of knowing of the future, it is a special kind of
scientific activity. The forecast, which is discussed here is the forecast of phenomenon. Such scientific-technological forecasting, by definition, should be out-departmental, interdisciplinary.

But herewith the problem arises – how to go between Scylla of vast array of science fiction literature on the one hand and the Charybdis of the so-called "pseudoscience" on the other. The main condition of success – the composition of the participants forecasting. It should be well-qualified specialists, which along with in-depth knowledge in a particular fields, have the ability broad vision, the ability to go beyond their narrow areas.

In this journal issue we make an attempt to implement such approach and to submit scientific-technological forecasting in the area of energetic of the future – the most acute problem of humanity. Our authors in their articles persuasively demonstrate the perspectivity of low-energy nuclear reactions in the quality an energy source and method of obtaining stable isotopes. At the intensive development of works in this direction could will be to go to an principally new level of energy development.

About the quality and significance of what was get of our attempt – not by us to judge. We would be grateful to anyone who will wants to express their opinion in one form or another on the issues raised in this issue of our journal.

What is the efficiency of such a forecast? What are the possible consequences of its use? Who needs to will perceive it? Whom is addressed it?

To these questions are difficult to answer now. In the case of conventional departmental forecasts such addressee always there is – it appropriate management structures. Probable consumer of here submitted forecast must be structures of strategic planning. In what measure the interaction with them will be fruitful - time will tell.

With publications in the present issue of the journal we hope to open (start) the publications of a series of materials on various aspects of interdisciplinary scientific-technological forecasting. We hope that readers take an active part in the discussions of questions raised in this issue of the journal, will share their critical remarks and suggestions on the further development of this topic. If necessary, we are ready to open in the next issues our journal a special discussion section.

With regard to the theme cold transformation of chemical elements ("cold fusion" – the biting expression of journalists), raised in this issue of journal we have every confidence that if at least one-hundredth share of what is here set out, - is reality, then it will can to provide humanity with energy for many centuries ahead.