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ACADEMICIAN VASILIIY SERGEYEVICH BUDNIK – ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF SPACE
INDUSTRY OF UKRAINE

Abstract

A Doctor of Engineering Science, Professor, Academician of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine, Hero of Socialist Labor Vasiliiy Sergeyevich Budnik (1913-2007) is one of the pioneers of space rocket engineering in the Soviet Union and Ukraine, one of the founders of Yuzhnoye State Design Office and Yuzhny Machine – Building Plant. V.S. Budnik made a great personal contribution into the formation and development of Dniepropetrovsk space rocket center and space industry of Ukraine. In 1945-1946 he, being a member of a team of specialists headed by S.P. Korolev, worked in Germany in order to study the German rocket technology. Since 1946 V.S. Budnik was a Deputy of Chief Designer, S.P. Korolev, for rocket design. He directly participated in the development and commissioning of the first Soviet ballistic missiles R1, R2, R5. For their serial production, a rocket plant was set up in 1951 in Dniepropetrovsk on the base of an automobile plant. V.S. Budnik was appointed a Chief Designer of the plant according to S.P. Korolev's proposal. A team formed and headed by V.S. Budnik developed a principally new ballistic missile SS-4 on hightemperature propellants with autonomous control system and became a basis of the Special Design Office OKB-586 (Yuzhnoye Design Office) set up in 1954. Mikhail Kuzmich Yangel was appointed a Chief Designer of OKB-586 and Vasiliiy Sergeyevich Budnik – his First Deputy. Under the supervision and with direct participation of V.S. Budnik, the middle-range ballistic missiles of principally new type – SS-4 and SS-5 were developed, as well as the world's first heavy intercontinental ballistic missile SS-7, powerful ballistic missiles SS-9 and SS-18, Cosmos and Cosmos- 2 space launch vehicles.