

Gazprom Calls Tender to Buy \$3.7M Tablet Computer for CEO

By The Moscow Times

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Gazprom announced a tender for assembling a tablet computer for its CEO Alexei Miller, saying it is ready to pay almost 120 million rubles (\$3.7 million) for the device.

The gas company started collecting bids Monday, and participants can apply until July 22, according to the tender documents posted on Gazprom's website.

The maximum price for the device should not exceed 119.7 million rubles, with the winner to be announced on July 31, the documents said. Gazprom also said the computer would help Miller "make management decisions and increase the efficiency of Gazprom's operations."

The tender documents also outlined the details of the future device's technical parameters and functions. The tablet computer — to be based on the iOS platform — must support 3G, GPRS and WiFi standards.

According to another requirement, the time necessary to open an application must not exceed five seconds. The tablet must also be able to work around the clock, while the efficiency restoration time in case of a system default must not be more than four hours, the documents said.

The tender was announced months after the Audit Chamber started an investigation into the gas giant's spending — the first one over the last five years. The company is well-known for its extravagant purchases. In 2008, it announced a tender for supplying tanning cabins for horses to be delivered to one of the Moscow region's villages for the company's needs.

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