

PRESS RELEASE  
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PRESIDENT OF UZBEKISTAN AWARDS ORDER OF FRIENDSHIP TO VAGIT  
ALEKPEROV

Shavkat Mirziyoyev, President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, decorated Vagit Alekperov, President of LUKOIL, with *Dustlik*, the State Order of Friendship, today.

The high award was conferred on Mr. Alekperov for his outstanding contribution to the development of the oil and gas industry, and for making the use of hydrocarbon resources in Uzbekistan more efficient. The awarding decree also highlights the merits of LUKOIL in the introduction of state-of-the-art technologies and innovations in the sector, in boosting the export potential of the republic, and in the training of highly qualified local staff.

Uzbekistan is one of LUKOIL's key regions of operations. Since 2004, the company, Uzbekistan's largest foreign investor, has been expanding its presence in the republic.

"It is a great honor for me to receive this award in recognition of LUKOIL's consistent efforts to develop Uzbekistan's gas fields. It is also a sign of great trust in us on the part of the respected President of Uzbekistan", Mr. Alekperov underlined.

*Information:*

*LUKOIL operates in the Republic of Uzbekistan under production sharing agreements signed for the Kandym-Khauzak-Shady and Gissar projects. LUKOIL's strategic partner in these projects is Uzbekneftegaz National Holding Company (NHC). LUKOIL is also implementing social projects in healthcare and education, including active cooperation with the Tashkent branch of the Gubkin Russian State University of Oil and Gas.*

*The Dustlik State Order is awarded for achievements in the promotion of friendship, mutual understanding and harmony among representatives of all nations and nationalities of Uzbekistan, for the development of all-round cooperation of its people with the peoples of other countries.*