

Mechel OAO
Form 6-K
July 29, 2008

FORM 6-K

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20549

Report of Foreign Private Issuer

**Pursuant to Rule 13a-16 or 15d-16
under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934**

July 29, 2008

Commission File Number: 333-119497

MECHEL OAO

(Translation of registrant's name into English)

Krasnoarmeyskaya 1,

Moscow 125993

Russian Federation

(Address of principal executive offices)

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant files or will file annual reports under cover of Form 20-F or Form 40-F:

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Form 20-F Form 40-F

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(1):

Yes No

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(c) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted solely to provide an attached annual report to security holders.

Indicate by check mark if the registrant is submitting the Form 6-K in paper as permitted by Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7):

Yes No

Note: Regulation S-T Rule 101(b)(7) only permits the submission in paper of a Form 6-K if submitted to furnish a report or other document that the registrant foreign private issuer must furnish and make public under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the registrant is incorporated, domiciled or legally organized (the registrant's home country), or under the rules of the home country exchange on which the registrant's securities are traded, as long as the report or other document is not a press release, is not required to be and has not been distributed to the registrant's security holders, and, if discussing a material event, has already been the subject of a Form 6-K submission or other Commission filing on EDGAR.

Indicate by check mark whether by furnishing the information contained in this Form, the registrant is also thereby furnishing the information to the Commission pursuant to Rule 12g3-2(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934:

Yes No

If Yes is marked, indicate below the file number assigned to the registrant in connection with Rule 12g3-2(b):

MECHEL ANNOUNCES AN ACCIDENT AT ITS SOUTHERN KUZBASS OAO SUBSIDIARY S LENIN MINE

Mezhdurechensk, Russia July 29, 2008 Mechel OAO (NYSE: MTL), one of the leading Russian mining and metals companies, announces that a flash of methane has occurred at its Southern Kuzbass OAO coal subsidiary s Lenin Mine.

Today at 11:03 a.m. local time (7:03 a.m. Moscow time), a flash of methane occurred at Southern Kuzbass OAO s Lenin Mine (Mezhdurechensk, Kemerovo Region), while repair work was being performed at the depth of 310 meters. At that time, 41 miners were in the flash area. All of them safely rose to the mine s surface. As of 2:30 p.m. local time 17 miners were being treated for burns at local hospitals.

The production area is equipped with modern mining and face equipment. At the moment of the flash, in-seam degasification was being performed by means of a surface vacuum-pump station and a continuous feed of nitrogen with an inert foam to the face mined-out area though the nitrogen feeding pipes from the underground gasifier along the belt and air headings.

Operations are currently being carried out to eliminate the accident s after-effects according to the approved emergency plan. All mining operations at the mine have been suspended. Mechel OAO CEO Igor Zyuzin and Mechel Mining OAO CEO Igor Khafizov traveled to the place of the accident, Mechel Management OOO Chief Executive Officer Vladimir Polin commented.

Mechel OAO

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Mechel is one of the leading Russian companies. Its business includes three segments: mining, steel, and power. Mechel unites producers of coal, iron ore concentrate, nickel, steel, rolled products, hardware, heat and electric power. Mechel products are marketed domestically and internationally.

Some of the information in this press release may contain projections or other forward-looking statements regarding future events or the future financial performance of Mechel, as defined in the safe harbor provisions of the U.S. Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. We wish to caution you that these statements are only predictions and that actual events or results may differ materially. We do not intend to update these statements. We refer you to the documents Mechel files from time to time with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission, including our Form 20-F. These documents contain and identify important factors, including those contained in the section captioned **Risk Factors** and

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements in our Form 20-F, that could cause the actual results to differ materially from those contained in our projections or forward-looking statements, including, among others, the achievement of anticipated levels of profitability, growth, cost and synergy of our recent acquisitions, the impact of competitive pricing, the ability to obtain necessary regulatory approvals and licenses, the impact of developments in the Russian economic, political and legal environment, volatility in stock

markets or in the price of our shares or ADRs, financial risk management and the impact of general business and global economic conditions.

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

MECHEL OAO

By:	/s/ Igor Zyuzin
Name:	Igor Zyuzin
Title:	CEO

Date: July 29, 2008