

Sergey Linkevich, 26, Tyumen

Vice-Chairman, Committee for Youth Entrepreneurship OPORA ROSSII

In addition, he:

- has a small son;
- goes in for sports (football, boxing, judo, jogging, swimming, volleyball);
- in 2015, planned to start preparations for the Iron Man race;
- had an internship in Israel from the Tyumen Region.

Thanks to OPORA ROSSII, during two years of fruitful efforts, I:

- met amazing people from all parts of the country;
- became a member of the Council for SME Development under the Governor of the Tyumen Region;
- became a member of the Coordination Council for SME Development under the City Mayor;
- became Head of the Leisure and Entertainment Entrepreneurship Association;
- became a member of the organising team for the federal Forum “Convention of Successful Entrepreneurs”;
- took part in all kinds of forums and roundtable discussions.

“The thought of becoming an independent entrepreneur occurred to me when I was still at school: I realised that it was possible to buy cheaper and sell at a higher price. My first official business experience was providing cartridge refill services for legal entities. At the age of 19, without an office, employees, materials or experience, I refilled 20 cartridges a month.

At 20, I had to leave my primary employer and lose stable earnings for the sake of developing my own business. After buying a special cartridge refill vehicle, I drew attention to my business and bought my own TAB. Now the total number of serviced cartridges exceeds 1,000.”

Another line of business in his student years was a bike and jumper rent chain. The key emphasis was on the quality of the services provided. His rent points were the first in Tyumen to be equipped with CCTV cameras, a fridge with soft drinks and children’s bike chairs, and clients could choose the bike class they preferred. Sergey worked four years in this business and then sold it as an up-and-running project in 2014.

At present, he is developing three lines of business:

- PCS service centre – computer and office equipment maintenance;
- Transport company PRIORITY (refrigerator truck transporting from 1 to 20 tonnes of hazardous (fuel) and other freight all over Russia);
- Land reclamation and remediation, levelling of land parcels, landscaping of driveways, areas around residential buildings and a lot more.

“Many people around me are afraid to take the first step and leave their comfort zone, but those who believe in their idea and dying in the last ditch are fated to succeed! I liked one phrase at the Day of Entrepreneur in Yalutorovsk: ‘Entrepreneurs work harder than anyone else during their first years on the market, but then can afford a living standard that nobody else can, for the rest of their lives’.”