mainstay Apresyan (En-Ru)

['meinstei] n

1) мор. грота-штаг

2) главная поддержка, опора, оплот

he was the mainstay of the organization - он был оплотом (нашей) организации, на нём держалась вся организация cotton is the mainstay of the surrounding country - хлопок даёт средства к жизни населению всей территории

mainstay

Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary 8th Ed.

main-stay [mainstay mainstays] BrE ['meɪnsteɪ] ** NAmE ['meɪnsteɪ] ** nous usually singular ~ (of sth)

a person or thing that is the most important part of sth and enables it to exist or be successful

- · He is the mainstay of our theatre group.
- · Cocoa is the country's economic mainstay.
- · Love songs form the mainstay of his act.

mainstay

Longman DOCE 5th Ed. (En-En)

main stay /'meɪnsteɪ/ BrE * AmE * noun

the mainstay of something

a) an important part of something that makes it possible for it to work properly or continue to exist:

Agriculture is still the mainstay of the country's economy.

b) someone who does most of the important work for a group or organization:

She was the mainstay of the team.

mainstay

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