

A PRODUCTION OF MEMBERS NETWORKING MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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# **MESSAGE FROM THE CEO**



#### **Dear Valued OPAL Members,**

As we come to the end of another dynamic period here at the Oman Energy Association (OPAL), I would like to highlight the remarkable progress and accomplishments we have made together.

This past month has been marked by a series of significant events and partnerships that underscore our commitment to advancing the energy sector in Oman. We began with a celebratory note, as OPAL, in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, held a Graduation Ceremony for several Training for Employment and On-the-Job Training programs delivered over the past two years. The ceremony saw 272 graduates from seven training institutes successfully placed in jobs across 21 companies in various sectors, a testament to our ongoing efforts to equip Omani youth with essential skills and knowledge for the labor market.

We inked a crucial agreement to finance employment training and on-the-job training programs as part of our continued cooperation with the Ministry of Labor. This initiative aims to enhance the employability of Omani youth holding bachelor's degrees, college diplomas, and general education by providing them with the necessary training to actively participate in the workforce.

Another noteworthy event was the Oman Road Safety Forum 2024, organized in co-

operation with Oman Shell and under the patronage of His Excellency the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology for Transport. The forum provided valuable insights into national traffic accident statistics, vehicle safety specifications, and best practices to reduce accidents. It also reviewed the stages of implementation of the Road Safety Strategy (2023-2030) and the updated version of OPAL's Road Safety Standards.

The 13th Leadership Safety Forum, held in collaboration with Petroleum Development Oman (PDO) and under the patronage of His Excellency Mohsen Al-Hadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, focused on operational safety in the energy sector. The forum deliberated on a number of critical measures that are essential for the improvement of health, safety, and environmental standards. This serves as a testament to our commitment to upholding industry-leading safety standards.

Mental health at the workplace was another crucial topic addressed this month. OPAL participated as a supporting partner in the 10th GCC Wellbeing Conference, under the theme "Total Wellbeing: Mental Health at The Workplace," and under the patronage of H.H. Sayyid Faris Bin Faher Bin Fatik Al Said. The conference highlighted the impact of mental health on productivity and professional performance and explored the best strategies for managing psychological stress in the workplace.

In a bid to improve workplace safety, OPAL signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the American Heart Association (AHA) to implement a standardized first aid curriculum. This initiative aims to create safer and more prepared workplaces within the energy and minerals sectors, as well as other industries.

Our commitment to sustainability and innovation was further reinforced through a sponsorship agreement with AL-Ghalbi International Engineering & Contracting Company, marking them as the diamond sponsor for upcoming industry events. This collaboration signifies the unwavering dedication of OPAL's members to driving sustainability within the sector.

In line with our road safety initiatives, OPAL signed a Memorandum of Collaboration with RTITB Middle East to provide road safety training and quality assurance services. Endorsed by RTITB as its international awarding body, this partnership aims to enhance road safety awareness and practices across the Sultanate, ensuring adherence to the highest standards of road safety and training.

The official induction of the "Process Operation Training" program, organized in collaboration with Enerflex Middle East LLC and funded by the Ministry of Labour, aims to enhance employment opportunities for 24 Omani graduates with Bachelor's and Diploma degrees. Takatuf Petrofac Oman (TPO) will deliver the program over 13 months, ensuring direct employment for trainees upon successful completion of the requirements.

Similarly, OPAL, in collaboration with Hi-Tech Inspection Services LLC, organized the induction of the "Non-Destructive Test Inspector and Mechanical Draughtsman" training for employment program, also funded by the Ministry of Labour. The Technical and Administrative Training Institute (TATI) will deliver this program over six months, aiming to enhance employment opportunities for 38 Omani graduates with diploma degrees.

Moving forward, OPAL remains committed to fostering partnerships and initiatives that drive progress in the energy sector. Together, we can continue to make a positive impact on our industry and community.

Warm regards, Juma Al Mughairi GM Planning Internal Support Oman Energy Association (OPAL)





### **OPAL NEWS**



Monday, June 3, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) and AL-Ghalbi International Engineering & Contracting company signed a sponsorship agreement as diamond sponsor for upcoming industry events as part of their commitment and contribution to sustainability. This collaboration signifies OPAL's members' unwavering commitment to driving sustainability and innovation within the sector.



Tuesday, June 4, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) participated as a supporting partner in the 10th GCC Wellbeing Conference, held under the theme "Total Wellbeing: Mental Health at The Workplace." under the patronage of H.H. Sayyid Faris Bin Faher Bin Fatik Al Said. The conference aims to discuss the impact of mental health on productivity and professional performance, as well as the best strategies used in managing psychological stress in the workplace.

**OPAL NEW MEMBERS** 

OPAL WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR FAMILY.

We are glad to have you on board as one of our members, and we wish you succes and prosperty.

- Maha Jedat Al Harasis Trading & Contracting Co
- Al Nahdha Overseas LLC
- Q Five Partners Management Consultancy LLC
- Oman Electricity Transmission Company S.A.O.C
- Al Shumoos Medical Center



Monday, June 3, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) signed a Memorandum of Collaboration with RTITB Middle East to provide road safety training and quality assurance services. This partnership, endorsed by RTITB as its international awarding body, ensures adherence to the highest standards of road safety and training. Through this collaboration, OPAL and RTITB aim to enhance road safety awareness and practices across the Sultanate, contributing to safer roads and more competent drivers.



Wednesday, June 5, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) signed a Memorandum of Cooperation with the American Heart Association (AHA) to implement a standardized first aid curriculum, aiming to achieve safer and more prepared workplaces in the energy and minerals sector, as well as other sectors.



Sunday 9 June 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) in collaboration with Hi-Tech Inspection Services LLC, organized the official induction of "Non-Destructive Test Inspector and Mechanical Draughtsman' training for employment program funded by the Ministry of Labour. The program aims to enhance employment opportunities for 38 Omani graduates with diploma degree. The program will be delivered by Technical & Administrative Training Institute (TATI) for a period of 6 months. Trainees will be employed directly after successfully completing the requirements of the program.



Tuesday, June 11, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL), in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, held a Graduation Ceremony for a number of Training for Employment and On the Job Training programs delivered in 2022 and 2023. A total of 272 graduates from 7 training institutes were placed in jobs across 21 companies in various sectors. This collaborative effort aims to equip Omani youth with the skills and knowledge necessary to actively participate in the labor market.

#### DIAMOND SPONSOR





### **OPAL NEWS**



Wednesday, June 12, 2024, under the patronage of His Excellency the Undersecretary of the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology for Transport, and in cooperation with Oman Shell, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) organized the Oman Road Safety Forum 2024. The forum shed light on national traffic accident statistics, vehicle safely specifications, and best practices to reduce accidents. It also reviewed the stages of implementation of the Road Safety Strategy (2023-2030) and the updated version of OPAL's Road Safety Standards.



Thursday, June 13, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) and Ministry of Labor signed an agreement to fund employment training and on-thejob training programs. This collaboration aims to equip Omani youth holding bachelor's degrees, college diplomas, and general education with the skills and knowledge necessary to actively participate in the labor market.



Sunday 23 June 2024, Oman Energy Association OPAL) in collaboration with Enerflex Middle East LLC, organized the official induction of "Process Operation Training" training for employment program funded by the Ministry of Labour. The program aims to enhance employment opportunities for 24 Omani graduates with Bachelor's and Diploma degrees. The program will be delivered by Takatuf Petrofac Oman (TPO) for a period of 13 months. Trainees will be employed directly after successfully completing the requirements of the program.



Thursday, June 27, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) organized the 13th Leadership Safety Forum in collaboration with Petroleum Development Oman (PDO), under the patronage of His Excellency Mohsen Al-Hadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. The forum discussed operational safety in the energy sector and took several necessary measures to enhance health, safety, and environmental standards.



# CONGRATULATIONS

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Oman Energy Association and OPAL members, we extend our sincere congratulations to

# Ashraf bin Hamed Al Mamari

on his appointment as OQ Group Chief Executive Officer. We wish you all the best and success in your new position.

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#### MEMBER NEWS

# GLOBAL CONSORTIUM EXPLORES OMAN'S GREEN FUEL POTENTIAL

A group of global companies, including Dutco (Dubai Transport Co), Sumitomo Corporation Middle East, Automobili Lamborghini, Airbus, and Oman's OQ Alternative Energy, have formed the Oman Sustainable Cars and Aviation Refuelling (OSCAR) consortium. The OSCAR consortium's aim is to study Oman's potential for producing alternative fuels such as e-Gasoline and e-SAF (Sustainable Aviation Fuels). The proposed concept study will explore the production of e-fuels (e-SAF and e-Gasoline) in Oman on a pilot scale, with the possibility of scaling it up to a commercial-size project later. The study will focus on identifying the most appropriate pathways for production, utilising qualifying hydrogen and CO2 sources. An agreement signing ceremony was held in the presence of H E Eng Salim Nasser al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals; H E Said bin Hamoud al Mawali, Minister of Transport, Communications, and Information Technology; Eng Naif Ali al Abri, Chairman of Oman Civil Aviation; and Ashraf bin Hamed al Mamari, Acting Group CEO of OQ. The joint study agreement was signed by Najla al Jamali, Chief Executive of OQ Alternative Energy, and Ahmad Sharaf, CEO of Dutco's Energy Division. The ceremony was also attended by Sami Kamel, CEO of Dutco's Cleantech Division; Rutigliano Stefano, Strategy Director at Automobili Lamborghini; Hideki Suruga, Deputy CEO and CFO of Sumitomo Corporation Middle East; and Mikail Houari, President of Airbus Africa and Middle East. Electric Natural Gas OQ Alternative Energy and Tree Energy Solutions (TES), a Europe-based global green energy company, have also entered into a joint study agreement to assess the development of an electric natural gas (e-NG) facility in Oman. The agreement was signed by Najla al Jamali and Marco Alverà, CEO and Co-Founder of TES. Electric natural gas is derived from green hydrogen. Oman has been at the forefront of developing a green hydrogen economy, aiming to produce over 1mn tonnes per annum of green hydrogen by 2030. The country's abundant renewable resources, particularly wind and solar, combined with a one-stop-shop implementation framework under Hydrom's directives, have positioned Oman as one of the most promising green hydrogen production hubs in the region. e-NG, a green hydrogen-based molecule, is chemically identical to natural gas. It is



produced by combining green hydrogen with CO2 through a methanation process known as the Sabatier reaction, resulting in green methane. This process leverages existing infrastructure for liquefaction, regasification, transportation, and storage. Importantly, it offers a seamless transition for industrial usage, gradually replacing natural gas. In a press statement, Najla al Jamali expressed enthusiasm for the collaboration with Tree Energy Solutions (TES) on the e-NG joint study agreement. She said, "At OQ, we are committed to advancing Oman's energy transition through building partnerships, creating innovative solutions, and implementing sustainable practices. This collaboration marks our dedication to innovation, sustainability, and shaping the future of energy. Collaborating on the study helps us move forward to identify additional downstream opportunities and diversify markets for green hydrogen. Marco Alverà, CEO and Co-Founder of TES, said, "This agreement with OQ Alternative Energy underscores our dedication to advancing the global energy transition and strengthens our commitment and leadership presence in the Middle East. By harnessing the expertise of OQ Alternative Energy, we are enabling the production of green hydrogen at an industrial scale, making e-fuels accessible and cost-effective."

### PDO EVALUATING BIDS FOR TWO 100 MW WIND PROJECTS

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO), the country's biggest oil and gas producer, has announced progress in the development of a string of renewable energy projects designed to support the decarbonisation of its operations in key areas of its expansive Block 6 concession. Notable is a pair of wind power projects - the first by the majority state-owned energy company - and a new solar Independent Power Project (IPP) planned in the north of its concession. The two wind energy IPPs, dubbed Riyah-1 and Riyah-2, are of around 100 MW capacity apiece, and are proposed to come up at Amin and Nimr West in the southeast of PDO's concession. They will capitalize on exceptional wind resources characterized by wind speeds averaging 8 metres/second. "A 12-month feasibility study, including a site measurement campaign, was conducted to identify the best wind farm lay-out, position and most suitable wind turbine model, and ultimately calculate the expected energy yield," said PDO, adding that the study also "determined our concession area has excellent wind potential". Following a Request for Proposals (RfP) floated in April 2023, PDO is currently evaluating technical and commercial bids received from a number of developers. Work on the two wind farms is slated to be completed by Q2 2026. Also under development is the North Solar IPP, a 100 MW utilty-scale solar photovoltaic scheme to be established close to Qarn Alam Airport near Saih Nihyada in the north of Oman. The project is targeted for completion in Q4 2025. North Solar IPP will be modelled on the lines of PDO's landmark 100-MW Amin Photovoltaic Power Plant - Oman's first utility-scale solar PV plant - which was launched in May 2020. Located near Nimr, the Amin project is also the world's first utility-scale solar project to have an oil and gas company as the sole buyer of electricity. Currently in the



fourth year of operations, the plant enables DO to reduce its dependence on fossil fuels as part of a broader energy transition. "This transition to a full-fledged energy company also means leveraging new technology, greater collaboration and improving our overall energy efficiency and water management," the company said. "By transitioning to cleaner technologies, implementing rigorous emissions reduction strategies and investing in renewable energy sources, PDO aims to not only reduce its carbon footprint to net-zero emissions (NZE) by 2050 but also set a precedent for sustainable practices within the industry. Our current power target is to source 30% of our power capacity from renewable sources by 2026 and we are aspiring to reach 50% by 2030." it stated. Also as part of this low-carbon journey, PDO has financed the introduction of solar power at three of its airports, while also commissioning solar rooftop systems atop six buildings at its Mina Al Fahal complex. Furthermore, buoyed by the success of its pioneering Miraah solar project for the generation of steam for its enhanced oil recovery project at Amal, PDO is also exploring opportunities for wider adoption of renewable energy, notably in electrical and molten salt heaters, it added.



# **COMPASS – INVIGOUR NEW TECHNOLOGY DAY**

Crown Plaza Hotel, Muscat.







**NEW TECHNOLOGY FOR INCREASING OIL PRODUCTION OF OMAN** 



#### Thank You!

Thank you to everyone who attended Compass-Invigour's New Technology Open Day. Your enthusiasm made the event a huge success!

#### **Get to Know Our Organizers**

#### Compass Oil Services

Compass Oil Services, an Omani company (headquarters in Muscat) with a rich history in the oil and gas industry since 2012, is a trusted provider of reliable, innovative, and highly technical well placement services. Our extensive experience and expertise enable us to offer complete navigation solutions. including Directional Drilling, Motors, Engineering Planning, MWD/LWD, High Accuracy Gyro Survey and Production Logging Services, both cased hole and open hole, to onshore and offshore Oil and Gas companies. Compass Oil Services is ISO 19001 certified.

www.compassoilfield.com

#### Invigour Energy

Invigour Energy, a dynamic oil and gas service company established in 2015, with its headquarters in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. We provide cutting-edge, innovative solutions and technology in drilling and production services, consulting services, training (accredited by CPDUK), and digital technology. Invigour Energy, a pioneer in innovation, is ISO 19001 certified and has received grant awards and innovation awards for its groundbreaking research and development of digital technology.

www.invigourenergy.com

# **Event Highlights:**

#### **Expert Presentations**

Keynote speakers shared insights on emerging trends and the transformative impact of our new technologies.

#### **Technologies Highlighted During the Open Day:**

- TRIL Downhole Chemical Compartment Device
- **TEM (Transient Electro Magnetic) Exploration Technology**
- Ceramic Coated Erosion Resistant Downhole Sand Screen Technology •
- Sand Production Management Technology
- **Artificial Lift Technology**
- Synergy's Proprietary Jet Pump

# **Networking Opportunities**

 Attendees connected with industry experts, peers, and our team, fostering valuable relationships and collaborations.

#### **Our Esteemed Guests:**

- MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND MINERAL OMAN
  - Petroleum Development Oman
    ARA PETROLEUM • ENI
- TETHYS OIL • OCCIDENTAL OMAN
- CC Energy Development
  - MAFRAC ENERGY LLC
  - \*\*Thank you for joining us and making the event a remarkable success.\*\*

"The Open Day offered a glimpse into our industry's future with inspiring live demos and expert insights."









Stay Connected For more information or any inquiries, please contact:

#### SETO BRAMONO

- OQEP **o GATES OMAN**
- INTAJ OMAN

# Senior Manager (Oman)

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#### MEMBER NEWS

# AL-GHALBI INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING AND CONTRACTING

Since its founding in 1998, Al-Ghalbi International Engineering and Contracting Company has begun to achieve significant progress in local value, in addition to focusing on recruiting and qualifying national cadres. Until the end of 2023, the company employs approximately 599 people, at a rate of up to 48%. The company is also keen to assign many From businesses to SMEs, we place special emphasis on maximizing their annual purchases of local services, during the year 2022-2023 they were able to achieve clarity in the local value criteria in addition.

#### The most prominent services that the company specializes in:

• Establishing integrated electrical, engineering and mechanical stations for oil and gas flow lines.

• Maintenance and ensuring the integrity of the pipeline, including corrosion.

Create a tight lining for HDPE activities.

• Providing a specialized, qualified crew for support services in oil and gas fields. .

· Technical monitoring of corrosion of oil and gas pipelines

• Pipeline valve repair with a number of materials and techniques. A speech by the CEO, Dr. Ahmed bin Salim Al-Junaibi

In line with the National Vision for Local Content (2030), which came under the royal directives of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tariq (may God protect and preserve him), and in implementation of the strategy of local added value in the energy and minerals sector, Al-Ghalbi International Company continues to achieve distinguished achievements and focuses on maximizing benefits and achieving ratios. We are highly qualified in the various pillars of local content, and what we are proud of is the Omanisation rate in leadership positions in the company, which reaches 98%. They are national cadres with extensive experience and high qualifications, We are also



keen to systematically develop employees in various work sites and provide them with skills that increase their capabilities and gualify them to advance in the career field. We work with the purchasing department to develop lists of local products and goods to be our first choice in the purchases required by work sites in the oil concession areas, as we directed. We limited the small and medium-sized companies that hold a Riyada card and that can provide their services to the company in various specializations and locations. Praise be to God, we were able to provide business to a number of these institutions with sustainable work contracts. Ensuring the implementation of local added value programs and standards in companies and government institutions is to maximize the economic and investment movement within the national economy, and its benefit will spread to all members of society and its institutions, especially those small and medium enterprises that will grow and expand if they are supported and given priority in sustainable tenders and contracts.



# CONGRATULATIONS

Oman Energy Association (OPAL) would like to congratulate our People & Culture Manager

# Ilham Al Eisri

for being accepted into the Royal Academy for Management's Eitmad program, a National Leadership Programme for Omani Middle Management in the private sector.



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#### **MEMBER NEWS**

### NAMA WATER SERVICES EXPANDS NETWORK, INCREASES CAPACITY OF MAIN TREATMENT PLANT

Nama Water Services is ramping up wastewater infrastructure across the Of Sultanate of Oman. This includes expanding sewer networks and upgrading treatment plant capacity. These efforts aim to boost the efficiency of the entire water and sewage system in the governorates served by Nama Water Services. The company recently implemented sewerage projects in Wilayat Al Seeb. The projects include expanding the main treatment plant and increasing its capacity from 62,000 to 82,000 cubic metres per day. Additionally, new connections are being built to link 87 government, residential, and commercial buildings to the sewage system, bringing in an estimated 21,400 cubic metres daily. The project also includes treated wastewater connections for 63 facilities, providing them with a combined capacity of over 24,560 cubic metres per day. Eng Ahmed bin Mubarak al Araimi, Acting Water and Wastewater Operations and Maintenance General Manager, said: "Projects of Nama Water Services in Wilayat Al Seeb, Governorate of Muscat, reflect the company's dedication to sustainable water and wastewater management. The company implements best global practices and innovative solutions to ensure residents have access to reliable sanitation services. This commitment keeps pace with the growing community's needs and aspirations." "The projects being implemented in Seeb contribute to strengthening the sewerage infrastructure in the Wilayat in light of the increasing population and urban growth. These projects aim to tackle several key challenges: reducing pollution from outdated systems, preventing the spread of disease, and protecting vital groundwater sources. The plan includes establishing new sewage networks, treated water transmission lines, and expanding treatment plants. Treated wastewater will become a valuable resource, supplementing ground-

water and supporting irrigation, industry, and other sectors." Eng. Al Araimi added. For his part, Engineer Qais bin Saleh al Farsi, Director of the Seeb Sewage Treatment Plant, explained that A multi-stage project has bolstered the Wilayat's sewerage system New networks and sewage treatment plants now serve parts of Al Khoudh and Muscat International Airport. The Oman Botanic Garden has also been connected. To handle the increased capacity, the main treatment plant has been upgraded, to increase the processing of sewage water daily (from 62,000 to 82,000 cubic metres). Additionally, 63 facilities in Seeb now have access to treated water, thanks to the construction of six pumping stations, 14 kilometres of main transmission lines, and 36 kilometers of distribution networks. The project also boasts a 16.5-kilometer treated water network within the Wilayat. He further elaborated that Wilayat Al Seeb boasts the most extensive sewage network in Muscat Governorate, stretching over 490 kilometers. This network efficiently channels wastewater from over 30,000 properties in Al Mawalih, Al Khoudh, Al Maabela, and Seeb's coastal areas to a state-of-the-art treatment plant. Opened nine years ago, the plant has a daily capacity of 62,000 cubic metres and currently treats around 60,000 cubic metres of wastewater daily.

### OMAN REMAINS A SIGNIFICANT PLAYER IN THE GLOBAL LNG MARKET



The Sultanate of Oman has quietly but firmly established itself as a reliable and significant player in the global LNG market. The latest 2024 World LNG Report from the International Gas Union, released last week, shows Oman's impressive strides and contributions to the global energy scene. Last year, Oman exported 11.43 million tonnes (MT) of LNG, making up 3% of the world's total LNG exports. This feat places Oman comfortably as the ninth-largest LNG exporter globally. Despite the market's ups and downs, Oman managed to increase its exports slightly from 2022's figure of 11.29 MT, a testament to its resilience and strategic planning. Oman's LNG found its way to a variety of key markets, highlighting its crucial role in the global supply chain. The biggest share went to South Korea, which received 5.08

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MT, followed by Japan with 2.19 MT, and China with 1.08 MT. India also received a fair share (0.88 MT), along with Thailand (0.63 MT) and Taiwan (0.41 MT). Even smaller volumes reached places like the Philippines, France, Spain, and Turkey, showcasing the breadth of Oman's market reach. The report also shows how efficiently Oman's liquefaction plants have been operating. In 2023, they ran at an impressive 110% utilisation rate. Oman's three main liquefaction trains - Oman LNG T1, T2, and T3 Qalhat - combine for a capacity of 10.4 MTPA. Using AP-C3MR liquefaction technology, these plants are known for their high reliability and performance. With T1 and T2 each boasting a capacity of 3.55 MTPA, and T3 Qalhat at 3.30 MTPA, Oman's high utilisation rates highlight its strong operational capabilities and its ability to meet global LNG demand efficiently. The 2024 World LNG Report also paints a broader picture of the global market. Currently, 20 exporting and 51 importing countries are connected through the LNG market. Supply limitations still loom large, influencing market growth. After two years of significant turbulence, the LNG market has found a new, albeit fragile, balance. Global LNG receiving capacity has grown significantly, hitting 1,029.9 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) by the end of February 2024, with nearly 70 MTPA added in 2023 alone, marking the highest year of new additions since 2010.

AL-GHALIBI INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING & CONTRACTING LLC



#### Who We are:

Al-Ghalbi International Engineering & Contracting was founded in 1998, by national capacities with extensive management experience that works with a vision to enhance the company's role innational development, the company has more than 780 employees, Omanization reached 46% in the company, and national cadres occupy leadership positions in the administrative, professional, technical, financial and service departments of the company.

The company accomplished many projects during its path in the field of laying and maintaining oil and gas pipelines in various fields and concession areas in the Sultanate of Oman, as well it obtained certificates of excellence in performance, and certificates for doing business without time-consuming from its major strategic clients, such as Oman Petroleum Development Company (PDO), Occidental Oman(OXY), OQ, Daleel Petroleum, ARA Petroleum, and CCED. Vision:

Pioneer and First Choice in providing best services and solutions to all Oil & Gas Industry Requirements.

#### Mission:

To be the pioneer company in providing best services and solutions to off plot projects, delivery & Flow pipe line integrity and maintenance.

> Location Map Major operational Areas

> > Sohar

Duqum

Headquarters

#### Accreditations / Certificates / Memberships

- ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System (QMS)
- ISO 14001:2015 Environmental Management System (EMS)
- OHSAS 18001:2007 Occupational Health & Safety Management System
- OPAL Membership
- OPAL Compliance Verification Certificate (CVC)
- OPAL Health Safety & Environment Management System (HSEMS)
- Joint Supplier Registration System (JSRS).



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### SECTOR NEWS

# PROMISING GREEN HYDROGEN INVESTMENT POTENTIAL IN OMAN'S NORTHWEST

Scientists at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU), the preeminent higher learning and research institution in the country, have identified significant potential for green hydrogen development in Oman's northwest - an area presently not included in official zonal maps prioritized for green hydrogen investment. Titled 'The Techno-Economic Assessment of Green Hydrogen Production in Unexploited Landlocked Northern-Western Region of Oman to Realize the National Sustainable Strategy, the research study uncovered evidence of promising potential for green molecule investment in five key locations in the country's northwest: Bahla, Fahud, Ibri Jibal, and Sunaynah. Taking part in the study were: Noman Raza Sial, Hilal al Abri, Muhammad Abdul Qyyum, Rashid al Abri and Ala' al Muhtaseb of SQU's Sustainable Energy Research Center (SERC), as well as the College of Engineering. The study was supported by local up stream energy firm Daleel Petroleum through a research grant. Announcing the publication of the study in a post, Hilal al Abri, SQU Research Assistant who is also Developmental Planning Engineer at Petroleum Development Oman (PDO), noted: "This is the first article that assesses the implementation of green hydrogen production in the northern-western region of Oman. In this article we have done an extensive study to assess the feasibility of green hydrogen deployment in the northern western regions of Oman." Hydrom, the orchestrator of Oman's green hydrogen sector, currently oversees a massive 50,000 km2 of acreage distributed primarily in the central and southern parts of the country, and deemed optimal for green molecule investment. Of this figure, around 2,300 sq km - amounting to less than 5% of the total - has so far been awarded to developers in a pair of successful auction rounds conducted by Hydrom. As part of their study, the research team assessed the potential of green energy at the five locations in question, based on their renewable potential, land availability, and proximity to demand cen-



tres. A techno-economic assessment, accompanied by sensitivity analysis, was conducted to evaluate the economic performance and critical parameters of the systems. The levelised cost of hydrogen (LCOH) - a key metric for assessing the bankability of green hydrogen production - was benchmarked against the LCOH values recommended by international organizations, such as IEA and IRE-NA. Additionally, the scientists looked at the performance of solar, wind and hybrid renewable energy systems in each of these areas, the cost of producing and transporting ultra-pure deionized water to the sites for electrolysis, and the types of electrolyzers suitable for these locations, among other factors. Citing some of their findings, the scientists reported that Bahla exhibited the least potential for wind energy, necessitating a larger wind farm of over 1000 MW compared to other locations. The largest wind potential was recorded at Fahud and Jibal. In the case of standalone solar energy systems, all the locations demonstrated the same potential, with the exception of Bahla, which has a slight advantage attributable to its consistently hot and dry weather. "The outcomes of this study will not only significantly assist in identifying the technical and economic viability of green hydrogen production systems in the northern-western region but will also help create green investment opportunities, thereby boosting Oman's green hydrogen drive," the scientists said in conclusion. "These contributions will positively impact the energy transition targets outlined in the Oman Vision 2040 and the National Net-Zero Strategy of the country. Henceforth, aligning this study with Oman's efforts towards achieving the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), particularly SDG7 (affordable and clean energy) and SDG 12 (responsible consumption and production)," they added.

# 9 BIDDERS PREQUALIFIED FOR RO 155M IBRI ILL SOLAR IPP

Nama Power and Water Procurement Company (PWP), the sole buyer of power and water output in the Sultanate of Oman, has prequalified nine international companies to participate in the competitive tender for the development of Ibri III Solar IPP - a 500 MW project estimated to cost 0 155 million. The prequalified parties are: Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company (Masdar), ACWA Power, Al Riyadh National Trading and Korea Midland Power ("KOMIPO"), Jinko Power, Sembcorp Utilities, TotalEnergies Renewables, EDF Renouvelables and Korean Western Power ("KOWEPO"), International Power SA (Engie) and Sumitomo Corporation. The procurement of this solar project is part of the Omani government's policy to diversify energy resources to meet the growing demand for electricity. The implementation of this project will follow the successful precedent PP model established in the Sultanate of Oman and involves a fair and transparent competition process with the objective of awarding the contract to a highly gualified private sector developer with a view to deliver world class technology solutions to advance Oman's renewable energy and energy resource diversification goals. In response to its request for qualification floated in January this year, Nama Power and Water Procurement Company received twelve submissions for qualification submitted by local and international developers. Nine applicants have been either conditionally, or unconditional-



ly qualified. The developers are from Sultanate of Oman, United Arab Emirates, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, China, South Korea, Singapore, France, and Japan. "After a rigorous evaluation process, Nama Power and Water Procurement is pleased to announce the unconditionally prequalified and conditionally prequalified applicants; said PWP in a press statement. "Nama Power and Water Procurement Company is currently working to finalise the Request for Proposals which will soon be issued to the above-listed prequalified applicants upon receipt of the relevant approvals," it added. Ibri III Solar IPP is the fourth solar IPP that has been tendered by Nama Power and Water Procurement Company following Ibri I Solar IPP (operational since summer 2021) and Manah I Solar IPP and Manah II Solar IPP (under construction). Nama Power and Water Procurement Company is working along with Ministry of Energy and Minerals and the Authority for Public Services Regulation to achieve the energy renewable targets set in Oman Vision 2040.





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### **INSIGHTS INTO LEADERSHIP**



Naif Al Awaid Chief Executive Officer Kunooz Oman Holding S.A.O.C

#### How would you describe your leadership philosophy, and how has it evolved since you began leading Kunooz Oman Holding SAOC?

For us in KOH leadership philosophy acts as a guiding light and provides insight into the leader's perspective that takes the whole organization team spirit to a new horizon of opportunities and success and to achieve that we must have:

Gives clarity in decision-making: in this case leadership philosophy provides clarity in the face of complex decisions and empowers the team to drive these decisions to achieve the intended results.

Consistency: we must be consistent in our performance and apply the best practice to create a culture of new changes and improvements.

Inspiration and motivation: motivation and empowerment our teams with right tools

Resilience in challenges: to achieve what we plan to do, the main key success factor is the involvement of end-users, plus we diversify our business streams, and this enable us to create resilience within our business to cope up with any future challenges that we may face.

And eventually creating an alignment and unity that enhance the collaboration and teamwork spirit within our subsidiaries and associate's companies

expectations. Another critical goal is to invest in our people by providing

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more opportunities for professional development and ensuring a workplace that nurtures talent and creativity. Ultimately, I aspire to steer Appness Technology towards being a company known not only for its technological excellence but also for its positive impact on the community and industry. In conclusion we are focused on transformational leadership while maintaining our Omani culture and values within our communities where we work by increasing local content and aiming to increase in-country values that impacts our environment positively and our main assets (people) to achieve the optimal objective where safety, people, process, and growth are developed to reach the aimed results.

#### What strategies do you use to inspire and motivate your team to achieve excellence and stay aligned with Kunooz Oman holding SAOC 's mission and values?

Our strategy involves setting clear goals and vision where we set regular clear objectives with timelines to achieve our mission and vision.

Creating healthy environments is one of key factors for work and life balance, Safety has been a priority for KOH and our people. We celebrate wins acknowledge and reward our team achievements this keep the positive reinforcement and boose moral and encourages continuous efforts towards our goals.

Also, regular communications, listening to ideas, feedback and concerns and two-way flow of information ensures everyone feels involved in the business.

We stand on our success; by rewarding and celebrating and we stand on areas where we can develop and improve it through learning curves to bring consistency and development to our teams and processes.

#### How does Kunooz Oman Holding SAOC prioritize employee well-being and work-life balance, and what initiatives have you implemented to support this?

We have prioritized well-being in many ways and the first one putting safety, health, security and environment as our top priority in which we take care about our people as employees and other stakeholders, we have implemented rigorous risk assessments process and aligned all risk mitigation and measures to achieve our safety parameters. As an example, we celebrate safety days in annual bases for all our subsidiaries, also we have taken measures in noise control where we

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operate, dust control, operators HSSE training and medical insurance for all our staff and their families. KOH applies all local labour requirements and working hours standards, in addition to that implementing flex schedules and other initiatives that encourage staff to work in a friendly environment. We have promoted work-life balance through flexible schedules, leave policies etc. Remember, a company's commitment to employee well-being is an ongoing journey, and Kunooz Oman Holding SAOC continues to evolve its practices to support its workforce, and all stakeholders.

#### Given the fast-paced nature of the mining and quarrying industry, what advice do you have for other leaders on how to effectively navigate industry changes and maintain a competitive edge?

I believe each company has its own situations, culture and challenges however there are many common challenges for mining companies in Oman and need to focus on such common ones is like Safety /HSSE, it's main one to save company assets and community, second important factor is the people (main asset for any organization) development, training and talent attraction, then sustainability which mean if the local mining company are not supported by the government they will face major risk in sustainability and business continuity. We need to focus on creating ICV and downstream we must create a value from what we do instead of consuming raw materials. KOH is already in this field through many real examples and we will continuity our aim to reach 100% ICV in the upcoming years.

#### Looking ahead, what are your key leadership goals for Kunooz Oman Holding?

Safety first and always for our stakeholders, and community where we do our work. Our people development and talent management focus. Enhancement of our processes towards business growth, ICV (In-country Value) and Net-Zero Solutions

#### Interviewed by:

Sama Al Zadjali Events & Media Specialist OPAL





# **Himaya Digital HSE Platform**

Discover the transformative power of the "Himaya" Digital HSE Platform, expertly crafted by the Oman Energy Association (OPAL).



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#### **SECTOR NEWS**

# 0Q8 POWERS UP SUSTAINABILITY WITH 47,048 M2 OF SOLAR PANELS

0Q8 has announced in its 2023 Sustainability Report that its refinery in the Special Economic Zone at Dum draws renewable power from 47,048 square meters of solar paneling installed across its facilities. David Bird, CEO of 0Q8, stated in the report, "In addressing our environmental obligations comprehensively, we have implemented various initiatives focusing on water usage, biodiversity, air quality, and waste management. Despite being one of the most modern refineries globally, we remain committed to further enhancing energy efficiency through operational excellence and technological investments." Operational since January 2023, 0Q8's extensive solar panel system has generated a substantial energy output of 3.541 gigawatt-hours (GWh). The panels, installed on all accessible rooftop areas along with 295 standalone solar-powered streetlights, represent a proactive approach to energy efficiency. This investment in renewable energy underscores 0Q8's dedication to sustainability and reducing reliance on traditional energy sources. The company's transition from the commissioning phase in 2022 to full operations in 2023 saw its energy consumption double-a typical increase during such transitions. However, OQ8's strategic addition of solar energy as a third source of power highlights its forward-thinking approach. By integrating solar energy into the refinery design, 0Q8 aims to meet its energy requirements while minimizing its carbon footprint. 0Q8's environmental initiatives extend beyond solar energy. The company monitors and evaluates its greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions to understand its environmental impact, set targets, and guide future actions. The transition to full operational capacity in 2023 resulted in a doubling of GHG emissions, an anticipated outcome in line with projected design emissions. By establishing a baseline through detailed tracking and assessment, 0Q8 aims to effectively manage and mitigate its environmental impact. In addition to its solar energy initiatives, 0Q8 has implemented a Flare Minimization Plan (FMP) developed according



to international standards. This plan ensures that flaring events occur only during upset conditions and emergencies, with operational adjustments made to process units to prevent flaring. The refinery design also includes a flare gas recovery system, which consists of a specialized compression package to recover and repurpose gases typically burned during flaring, further contributing to environmental sustainability efforts. The company has installed a Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to recycle water consumption. This system is designed to collect and manage aqueous emissions from the refinery, ensuring compliance with environmental regulations and standards. The treated wastewater, discharged into the sea, adheres to specified limits, reinforcing 0Q8's dedication to minimizing water contamination and conserving resources.

### OMAN'S PRODUCER PRICE INDEX DECREASES BY 1.7% IN Q1

The producer price index in the Sultanate of Oman recorded a decrease of 1.7 per cent in Q1 2024, compared to the same period in 2023, according to data issued by the National Centre for Statistics and Information (NCSI). The prices of the mining and quarrying group decreased by 1.4 per cent, as the prices of crude oil and natural gas products decreased by 1.5 per cent, stone and sand products by 1.4 per cent, while the prices of metal ore products increased by 16.4 per cent. The prices of the manufacturing industries group also decreased by 2.6 per cent, as most of the sub-group prices decreased by varying percentages, most notably the prices of the transportable goods group by 4.6 per cent and the metal products, machinery and equipment group by 0.2 per cent, while food products, beverages, and textiles increased by 0.1 per cent. The prices of the water production group increased by 5.6 per cent and the electric energy group by 0.5 per cent.





### HEART DISEASE DURING SUMMER

Heart disease can be particularly concerning during the summer months due to several factors that

can exacerbate cardiovascular conditions. Here are some key points to consider:

#### Heat and Dehydration

**Heat Stress**: High temperatures can lead to heat stress, which forces the heart to work harder to

cool the body. This can be particularly dangerous for individuals with pre-existing heart conditions.

**Dehydration:** Dehydration can thicken the blood, making it more difficult for the heart to pump,

increasing the risk of blood clots and potentially leading to heart attacks or strokes.

#### **Electrolyte Imbalance**

**Sweating:** Excessive sweating during hot weather can cause the body to lose essential electrolytes like potassium and sodium, which are crucial for proper heart function. An imbalance in these electrolytes can lead to irregular heartbeats and other cardiac issues.

#### **Increased Physical Activity**

**Outdoor Activities:** People tend to be more active outdoors during summer, engaging in activities like hiking, swimming, and sports. While exercise is beneficial for heart health, overexertion in hot weather can strain the heart, especially in individuals with cardiovascular disease. Heat-Induced Blood Pressure Changes Blood Pressure Variability: Heat can cause blood vessels to dilate, leading to lower blood pressure. However, this can sometimes result in sudden drops in blood pressure, causing dizziness or fainting. For people with heart disease, these fluctuations can be risky.

#### **Medication Considerations**

**Medication Sensitivity:** Some heart medications, like diuretics, beta-blockers, and ACE inhibitors, can affect the body's ability to regulate temperature and hydration, increasing the risk of heatrelated problems.

#### **Preventive Measures**

**Stay Hydrated:** Drink plenty of water and avoid excessive alcohol or caffeine, which can contribute to dehydration.

**Dress Appropriately:** Wear lightweight, loose-fitting clothing and a hat to stay cool.

**Limit Sun Exposure:** Avoid being outdoors during peak sun hours (10 AM to 4 PM) and seek shade when possible.

**Monitor Activity Levels:** Gradually acclimate to outdoor activities and take breaks in a cool environment to prevent overexertion.

**Check Medication:** Discuss with a healthcare provider how to manage heart medications during hot weather.

#### **Emergency Signs**

**Recognize Symptoms**: Be aware of signs of heat exhaustion and heat stroke, such



as excessive sweating, dizziness, nausea, confusion, and a rapid heartbeat. Seek immediate medical attention if these symptoms occur.

Taking these precautions can help individuals with heart disease stay safe and healthy during the summer months. If you have any specific concerns or symptoms, it's always best to consult with a healthcare professional.

#### By Dr. Matlooba AL Zadjali

Sr. Consultant Public Health Cardiovascular Disease (Heart Failure Specialist)

Managing Director Heart Vascular Disease HVC Oman

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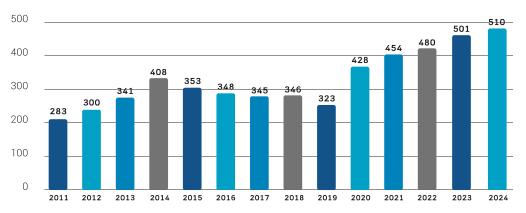
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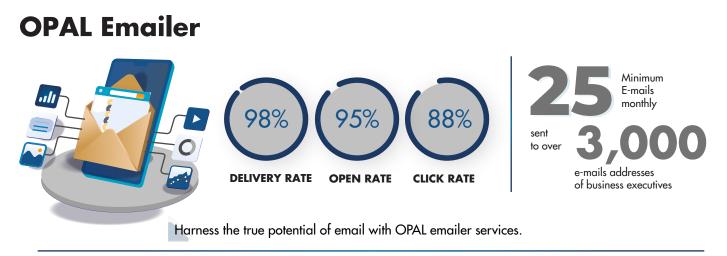
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