



NEWSLETTER

A PRODUCTION OF MEMBERS NETWORKING MANAGEMENT DEPARTMENT

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EDITORIAL TEAM RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADAPT THE TEXTS TO SPECIFY THE COORDINATE FORMAT AND IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF PUBLICATION.



MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



Dear OPAL Members, Partners, and Colleagues,

It is with mixed emotions that I announce my departure from Oman Energy Association (OPAL) as CEO. After an incredible four and a half years, I have accepted the exciting opportunity to become the new Chief Executive Officer at Integrated Gas Company (IGC).

Leading OPAL has been a privilege and a highlight of my career. Together, our collaborative efforts have yielded remarkable accomplishments.

Our strategic initiatives have propelled OPAL's annual income to increase by

243% in contrast to pre-2020 levels. Furthermore, we managed to double our cash reserves by 200%, while our membership base has flourished with a notable 72% expansion.

Through our diversified portfolio of products and services, we now generate 82% of OPAL's revenue streams. This transformation has firmly established OPAL as a beacon of excellence within the energy sector, fostering robust partnerships with governmental and private stakeholders at the highest levels.

By strategically positioning OPAL as an information hub, we have cultivated eight platforms catering to the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, the wider industry, and our esteemed members.

Our international conferences addressing critical topics such as health, safety, and environmental issues have drawn participation from thousands, showcasing OPAL's expertise and enhancing Oman's global standing.

We have played a vital role in supporting the energy sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, and we've facilitated the creation of approximately 2,900 job opportunities.

These remarkable achievements stand as a testament to the unwavering dedication and exceptional talent of the entire OPAL team. I am immensely proud of our collective accomplishments and the lega-

cy we have forged together.

While I'm thrilled about this new challenge, leaving this team is undoubtedly difficult. Your unwavering spirit, passion, and commitment have been truly inspiring.

I have complete confidence in my successor and the leadership team to propel OPAL's success even further. The future is bright, and I'll be your biggest supporter from the sidelines.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for everything. It has been an honor and a privilege to work alongside each and every one of you.

I would also like to extend my sincere gratitude to the following for their unwavering support: HE the Minister of Energy and Minerals, the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, the Ministry of Labor, the Ministry of Social Development, the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Higher Education, Research and Innovation, the Ministry of Commerce and Investment Promotions, OAAAQA, Tax Authority, Civil Aviation Authority, Oman Chamber of Commerce, Labor Federation of Oman Workers, Occidental Oman, our valued OPAL members, our Elite Members, the dedicated OPAL Team, and the OPAL Board of Directors.

God bless you all!

**Warm regards,
Abdulrahman Al Yahyaee**

CONGRATULATIONS

The Board of Directors and the employees of the Oman Energy Association (OPAL), extend our sincere congratulations to

Abdulrahman Al-Yahyai

on his new appointment as Chief Executive Officer of the Integrated Gas Company (IGC).

We are proud to have worked under your leadership and we are confident that you will continue to achieve more successes and accomplishments in your new position.

We wish you all the best and success in your professional career.

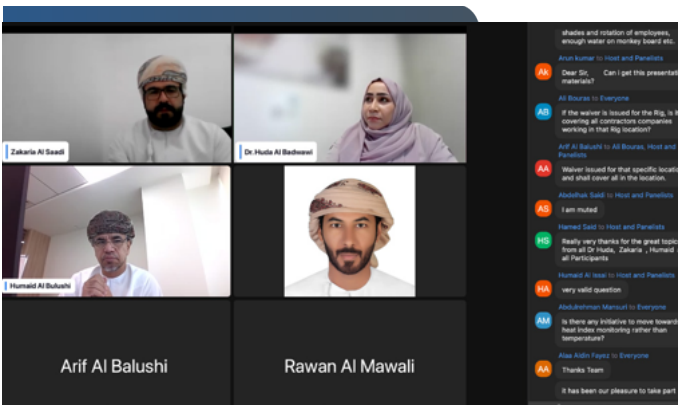




Wednesday, May 1, 2024, for the third day, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) continues to welcome visitors at the exhibition accompanying the Oman Sustainability Week. Among OPAL's efforts to support sustainability is its contribution to the sustainability of corporate social responsibility through its advanced platform, which is the first of its kind in the Sultanate of Oman in terms of using modern technology and the best standards for selecting sustainable projects with an impact on society and the environment, and encourages joint investment between private sector companies. CSR.opaloman.om



Friday, May 10, 2024, The CEO of Oman Energy Association (OPAL) along with Eng. Ali Al Lawati Sib Global HR Director visited Sib's research and development center in Boston, USA, to learn about the latest developments and research in the fields of clean energy, production efficiency, net zero efforts and environment initiatives.



Wednesday, May 15, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) in collaboration with the Ministry of Labour, organized the 3rd Summer Mitigation Forum, which was held as an online webinar. This annual forum aimed to raise awareness about heat stress risks and prevention measures during the hot summer season, underscored the importance of worker welfare, and fostered the HE culture in the workplace. The forum attracted participation from over 180 attendees from both within and outside the Sultanate.



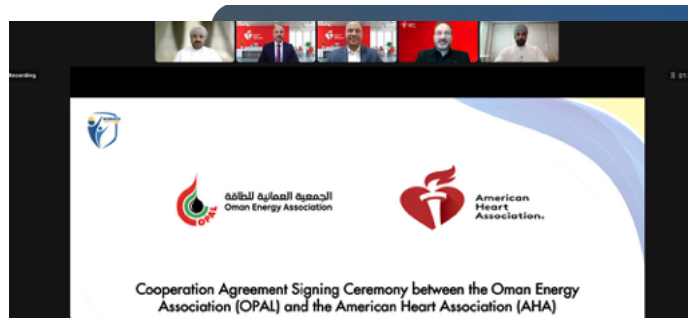
Sunday, May 5, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) organized the official induction for the fourth batch of the "Emdad" Internship Program funded by Petroleum Development Oman (PDO). The program aims to enhance employment opportunities for 120 Omani graduates with bachelor's and diploma degrees. The program will be delivered in partnership with 17 contracting companies for a period of 6 months.



Tuesday, May 14, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) announces that AA Group has adopted the OPAL Himaya HSE Digital platform. AA Group subscription represents a significant endorsement of OPAL's advanced HSE systems and underscores their commitment to embracing technological innovations for enhanced HE practices.



Wednesday, May 22, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) announces that United Engineering Service LLC (UES) has adopted the OPAL Himaya HE Digital platform. United Engineering Service LLC (UES) subscription represents a significant endorsement of OPAL's advanced HE systems and underscores their commitment to embracing technological innovations for enhanced HSE practices.



Wednesday, May 29, 2024, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) signed a memorandum of cooperation (MoC) with the American Heart Association (AHA) with the aim of providing standardized first aid curriculum targeting the creation of safer and more prepared work environment in the energy and minerals sector and other industries

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OMANTEL SIGNS STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT OMAN'S DIGITAL ECONOMY

Omantel yesterday signed 11 strategic partnership agreements with major international technology companies to attract the latest technologies and innovations to enhance the digital transformation system and support the digital economy in the Sultanate of Oman, on the sidelines of its participation in the COMEX 2024 exhibition. Talal bin Saeed al Mamari, CEO of Omantel, said on the sidelines of the announcement of these partnerships that Omantel maintains its leadership as a major enabler of digital transformation for government institutions and the private sector by possessing a solid infrastructure of communications services and digital technologies, as the company sought to consolidate its leadership in the local market by shifting from a communications services provider to an integrated provider of digital solutions and services. The partnerships included a partnership with Amazon Cloud Services with the aim of establishing the first sovereign cloud services center that will provide this type of cloud services through local omantel data centers. This service will provide technical solutions available within the Sultanate of Oman instead of its current hosting outside the Sultanate, and includes: This partnership also operates an integrated e-commerce platform in the Sultanate of Oman, builds a center of cloud excellence and provides solutions in generative artificial intelligence, as well as its strategic partnership with Google to establish the first center for edge cloud computing services as the first center in the Middle East and North Africa region, and also to provide generative artificial intelligence services and solutions. Modern in the field of data analysis and its partnership with MERB, which aims to benefit from Microsoft's artificial intelligence solutions to drive digital transformation at Omantel, its subsidiaries, and the local market. It was also represented by its partnership with Virtusa for Managed Services for empowerment and institutional development, through the signing of a major contract for the IT operating model. This partnership represents an important addition to the efforts undertaken by Omantel regarding the application of Agile/DevOps methodologies, which contributes to enhancing the company's presence in the market and enhancing the standards of service provision, including providing empowerment applications to companies and institutions, in addition to operational support for IT applications and IT infrastructure. In the context of promoting digital transformation locally, the Supreme Judicial Council and Omantel signed an agreement to provide communications services and digital exchange for the Council,



which would enhance productivity and improve the efficiency of internal and external communications. In addition, this agreement aims to provide a distinguished experience for auditors and provide high levels of security through. Advanced digital systems. This agreement is an essential step towards more advanced technical solutions. It also signed an agreement with the Oman Housing Bank related to supporting the transfer of the bank's entire data to cloud computing systems, which makes it the first bank in the Sultanate of Oman to take this important step for digital transformation, and this agreement paves the way for the bank's employees to reach Smoothly and efficiently access advanced cloud services. The agreement will enable Oman Housing Bank to enhance its ability to process customer data with unprecedented speed and efficiency, while providing innovative solutions specifically designed to meet the needs of banks and customers. It also signed an agreement with Bank Dhofar to transfer its core Islamic banking services to cloud computing systems, which makes Bank Dhofar the first major bank in the Sultanate of Oman to migrate its core Islamic banking platform to cloud computing. The agreement was signed by Engineer Aladdin bin Abdullah Bait Fadel, Chief Commercial Officer at Omantel, and Tariq Taha, Chief Information Technology Officer at Bank Dhofar. It also signed an agreement with Bank Nizwa, in order to provide innovative technical solutions such as cloud computing technologies to rationalize spending, improve efficiency, enhance cybersecurity aspects, and provide the bank with smart solutions that are compatible with modern banking services. Omantel signed an agreement with OQ Gas Networks, the exclusive operator of the natural gas transportation network in the Sultanate of Oman, for their cooperation to benefit from the services of ETCO Space (the strategic partner of Omantel) to provide satellite images, as this cooperation will provide satellite images from the Omani satellite. AMAN-1 and related data analytics along with AI-powered monitoring solutions enable OQ Gas Networks to manage its projects with high efficiency.

PDO BOOSTS IN-COUNTRY VALUE WITH \$2.5BN INVESTMENT

Petroleum Development Oman (PDO), the sultanate's leading energy company, celebrated a significant milestone in its commitment to In-Country Value (ICV) during its biannual ICV Day on Wednesday. The event marked the 12th anniversary of the ICV programme and highlighted PDO's impressive achievement of \$2.5bn of retained value in 2023, which is equivalent to 40% of its total supply chain spend, according to an Oman News Agency report. Notably, \$900mn was allocated for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), while national industries received \$422mn, benefiting 30 manufacturers in Oman. PDO realised 11 opportunities in manufacturing, construction, and renewable energy. The event, organised under the auspices of H E Eng Salim Nasser al Aafi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, took place at the JW Marriott Hotel, with several officials from both the public and private sectors in attendance. Praising PDO's efforts to enhance ICV, H E Aafi said, "I commend the diligent work undertaken by PDO across its business to elevate ICV. The achievements made in 2023 exemplify its pivotal national role in supporting the objectives of Oman Vision 2040, which aims to foster economic diversification, encourage entrepreneurship, and bolster Omani industries within the sultanate." He added, "PDO possesses pioneering expertise in the realm of ICV, encompassing legislative, regulatory, and executive dimensions that have evolved over the years." The ICV Day marked PDO's inaugural low-carbon event, embodying a practical application of environmentally sustainable practices. The event incorporated eco-friendly materials throughout, from venue selection to energy-efficient lighting and equipment to responsible waste management. This initiative aims to raise societal awareness and provide practical models for everyday sustainability practices, aligning with PDO's 2050 net zero emissions goal. Dr Aflah Said al Hadhrami, PDO's Man-



aging Director, said, "The celebration of ICV Day serves as a moment to reflect on past achievements and heralds a new chapter aimed at enhancing ICV. This initiative aligns with Oman Vision 2040 objectives to enhance the energy sector's contribution to GDP, meet local energy demands, and promote sustainability in all its facets. "The focus on ICV not only echoes the company's strategy and its national and social responsibilities but also fortifies its partnerships with local communities. Efforts to boost ICV include increasing local expenditures, supporting SMEs, empowering entrepreneurs, and encouraging the procurement of local goods and services," he said. As the main theme of ICV Day, PDO announced the five recipients of its ICV Awards, honoring exceptional performance among PDO's contractors and subcontractors across five award categories: Best Local Manufacturing Facility, Best National Objectives Employer, Best Contractor in ICV Delivery, Best Performing Local Community Contractor, and Best Performing SME. During ICV Day, PDO signed a Memorandum of Collaboration (MoC) with several government and private entities to develop and implement the ICV enabling ecosystem initiative. The initiative aims to address the key challenges faced by local companies interested in investing in ICV, such as access to demand, infrastructure, finance, technology, and an enabling legislative framework. The system is designed to strengthen relationships aligned with public interest principles and foster collaboration between the public and private sectors.

**THE UNSEEN
FORCE
WITHIN REACH**



Ibrahim Al Balushi
Chief Operating Officer
Al Dhahirah

Nestled within the captivating landscapes of Oman lies the Al Dhahirah Governorate, a region rich in untapped potential and natural beauty. Recognizing this, Aldhahirah Company emerged in 2021 as a beacon of progress, committed to unlocking the region's unique strengths and fostering sustainable development. Founded as a closely held joint stock company, Aldhahirah Company stands as a testament to the power of community-driven initiatives and the transformative impact of strategic investments.

At its core, Aldhahirah Company embodies inclusivity and empowerment. With nearly 2,400 shareholders, comprising

members from three wilayat of the Al Dhahirah region, the company represents a diverse tapestry of voices, united in their vision for a thriving future. By offering opportunities for local residents to become shareholders, Aldhahirah Company not only shares the fruits of progress but also fosters a sense of ownership and pride within the community.

Ibrahim Al Balushi, Chief Operating Officer of Aldhahirah Company, emphasizes the company's commitment to sustainable growth, stating, "Our mission goes beyond mere economic development; it is about fostering a sustainable legacy that benefits both the region and the nation as a whole. By focusing our investments on key sectors such as oil & gas, minerals, manufacturing, tourism, and agriculture, we aim to catalyze growth while preserving the natural heritage of Al Dhahirah."

Indeed, sustainability lies at the heart of Aldhahirah Company's investment philosophy. From harnessing the region's rich natural resources to promoting eco-friendly tourism initiatives, every endeavor is guided by a commitment to environmental stewardship and social responsibility. By prioritizing long-term value creation over short-term gains, Aldhahirah Company seeks to build a legacy that transcends generations.

Furthermore, Aldhahirah Company serves as a catalyst for economic diversification, driving innovation and prosperity across multiple sectors. By nurturing local talent and fostering strategic partnerships, the company aims to create a vibrant ecosystem of growth and opportunity. Through initiatives such as skills development programs and entrepreneurship support, Aldhahirah Company is paving the way for a more inclusive and resilient economy.

As Al Dhahirah Governorate continues to evolve and flourish, Aldhahirah Company remains steadfast in its commitment to excellence and integrity. With a clear vision, a strong sense of purpose, and the unwavering support of its shareholders, the company is poised to shape the future of the region and leave an indelible mark on Oman's economic landscape.

In the words of Ibrahim, "Together, we have the opportunity to build a brighter tomorrow—one that honors our past, celebrates our present, and embraces the limitless possibilities of the future."

Aldhahirah Company stands as a testament to the power of collaboration, innovation, and community-driven progress. As it continues to chart new frontiers and break barriers, one thing remains certain: the journey towards sustainable development is not just a destination but a shared commitment to building a better world for generations to come.

MEMBER NEWS

SUHAR INDUSTRIAL CITY SIGNS DEAL FOR RO5.4MN SAROOJ PRODUCT FACTORY

Suhar Industrial City, affiliated to the Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (Madayn), has signed a cooperation agreement with Middle East Calcined Clay Company to establish a factory for manufacturing the Omani Sarooj product. The Sarooj product is used as a material in restoration, urbanisation and decoration. The project is set to be situated on an area of 45,000 sqm with an investment of RO5.4mn, according to a press statement. The agreement was signed by Eng Abdullah bin Ahmed al Mayasi, Director General of Suhar Industrial City, and Eng Abdulaziz bin Said al Maqbali, Project Manager at Middle East Calcined Clay Company. This factory comes in the framework of the innovation project in the mining sector undertaken and financed by the Ministry of Energy and Minerals. The Industrial Innovation Academy has played a key role in conducting laboratory and market analyses, and practical experiments on the product's efficiency for commercial production, particularly in the restoration of forts and archaeological sites, in cooperation with the Ministry of Heritage and Tourism. Yahya bin Ahmed al Kharoosi, Director of Local Content and Business Opportunities at the Industrial Innovation Academy, emphasised the role of Sarooj product in enhancing the added value of Omani natural resources. He noted the significant impact of research and development in utilising local materials while empowering companies to produce



marketable products efficiently. Kharoosi also emphasised the academy's contribution to developing the product using top global standards specifically designed for restoration purposes. On his part, Eng Abdulaziz bin Said al Maqbali, Project Manager at Middle East Calcined Clay Company, commented on the significance of this cooperation to compete in international clay and construction materials markets. He said, "The factory features two production lines with a combined annual capacity of approximately 250,000 tonnes, incorporating energy-saving technologies and automated production processes. Additionally, the factory features a modern laboratory for sample testing and quality control. Initial production operations are expected to commence in the first quarter of 2025, providing employment opportunities for nationals and aligning with the goals of the National Zero Neutrality Programme by reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

DHL EXPRESS TO INVEST OVER €32MN IN NEW GATEWAY FACILITY AT MUSCAT AIRPORT

DHL Express, the world's leading logistics provider, celebrated the groundbreaking ceremony of its new state-of-the-art gateway facility at the Muscat International Airport on Sunday. The ceremony was held under the patronage of H E Eng Saeed bin Hamoud al Maawali, Minister of Transportation, Communications and Information Technology. H E Eng Omar bin Hamdan bin Hamoud al-Ismaili, Executive President of the Transportation Regulatory Authority, Sheikh Aimen bin Ahmed al Hosani, Chief Executive Officer of the Oman Airports Management Company, Nour Suliman, Chief Executive Officer of DHL Express MENA, and Moustafa Osman, Country Manager, DHL Oman were also among the distinguished attendees. The ceremony marked a significant milestone in DHL's commitment to strengthening its footprint and service offerings in Oman. The new facility, representing an investment of more than €30mn (approximately RO12.4mn) over 20 years, will serve as a comprehensive logistics hub encompassing a service centre, gateway for import and export shipments, customs clearance capabilities, and a dedicated country office for DHL Express Oman. "This groundbreaking ceremony represents a new chapter in our commitment to the sultanate," Nour Suliman, CEO of DHL Express MENA, said in a press statement. "Our new, ultramodern facility signifies our unwavering confidence in Oman's economic potential and our dedication to providing world-class logistics solutions that will empower businesses of all sizes in the country to flourish in the global marketplace." Spanning a plot size of 12,621 sqm and featuring an expansive built-up area of 8,074 sqm, the new gateway will cater to the growing needs of over 4,200 DHL customers in Oman. It will boast a processing



capacity of 2,400 shipments per hour, ensuring fast and efficient handling of both domestic and international shipments. The new DHL Express Gateway will be equipped with several cutting-edge features to ascertain efficient operations. At its core lies an intelligent countrywide distribution centre featuring an intelligent bi-directional conveyor system that can seamlessly process up to 3,000 shipments per hour. In-house customs clearance, bonded storage, and a direct vehicle loading facility will further streamline processing, while a logistics fulfilment and storage centre will offer tailored solutions for select customers. As highlighted by Suliman, the new gateway has been designed with a keen focus on sustainability. "The new gateway will incorporate sustainable features like solar power generation, energy-efficient lighting, and state-of-the-art climate control systems. This reflects our dedication to environmental responsibility and positions us as a leader in sustainable logistics."

NAMA PWP SIGNS FOUR POWER AND WATER PURCHASE DEALS WORTH RO500MN



Nama Power and Water Procurement Company (Nama PWP), the sole procurer of Oman's power generation and water desalination capacities, has signed new power and water purchase agreements with four electricity generation and water desalination plants operating in Oman, with a total cost exceeding RO500mn. The agreements were signed on Tuesday between Nama PWP and four companies: Barka 1 Independent Water and Power Plant, Barka 2 Independent Water and Power Plant, Al Rusail Power Plant, and Manah Independent Power Plant. The official signing ceremony was held under the patronage of H E Abdulsalam bin Mohammed al Murshidi, Chairman of Oman Investment Authority. The event was also attended by Eng Ahmed bin Hamad al Subhi, Chairman of Nama Group. Nama Group said that these new agreements complement the efforts of the government in enhancing the private sector's role in fostering

growth through strategic collaborations. In a statement to Oman News Agency, Nama PWP explained that the total contracted capacities under these four new agreements exceed 1,500MW of electricity and 200,000 cubic metres per day of desalinated water for up to nine years. The agreements allow these companies to continue operations of the four critical plants in the sultanate. These agreements aim to ensure that the sultanate's main electricity network is provided with capacities to meet the increasing demand for energy and to secure capacities to supply water networks to meet the growing demand for desalinated water. As per the agreements, Barka 1 will provide 427MW electricity and 91,000 cubic metres per day of desalinated water; Barka 2 will provide 703MW of electricity and 120,000 cubic metres per day of desalinated water; Al Rusail Power Plant will provide 184MW of electricity; and Manah Independent Power Plant will provide 254MW of electricity. Speaking on the occasion, H E Murshidi said, "These agreements are a step to provide stability to those involved in the energy sector, including the owners of power generation stations, investors, and the banks financing these power and water desalination plants. The sector will provide sustainability and stability and will ultimately lead to better service for end consumers." By signing these new agreements, Nama Group achieves several main objectives, including: reducing the cost of providing energy and enhancing investor confidence in the stock market through companies listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange, and enhancing the confidence of global developers and financial institutions to invest in energy production and water desalination projects in the future. Ahmed bin Salim al Abri, Acting CEO of Nama PWP, explained that the signing of these contracts establishes a new phase of constructive cooperation between the public and private sectors, and enhances the confidence of developers, financiers, and owners of electricity production and water desalination plants in Oman.



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OUR VISION

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CB&I BAGS MAJOR CONTRACT FOR MARSA LNG STORAGE TANK IN OMAN

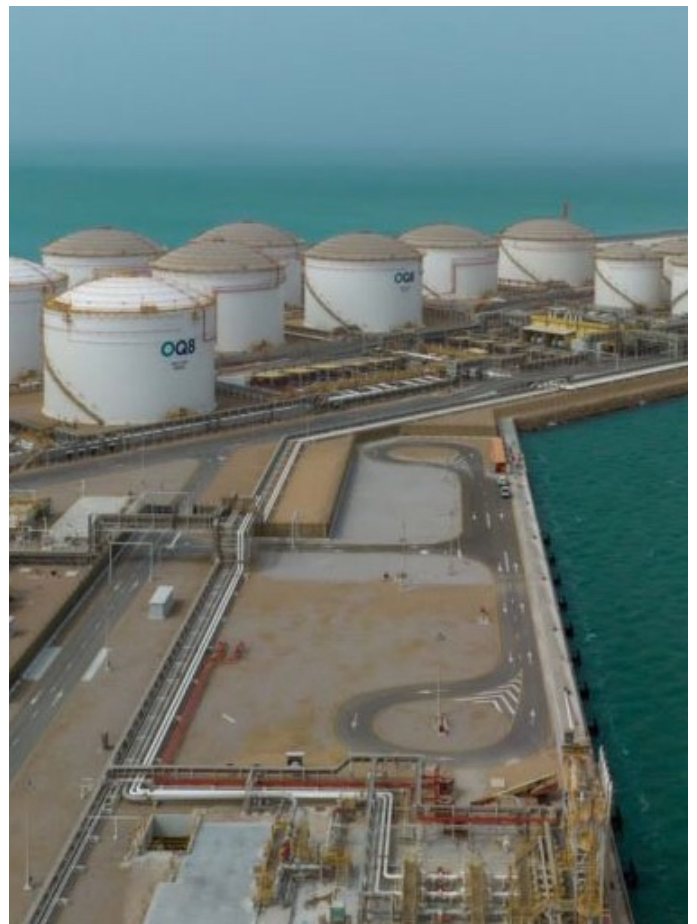
CB&I, a wholly-owned subsidiary of the US-based McDermott, has been awarded a 'significant' contract by Marsa LNG – a joint venture between TotalEnergies and OQ – for the engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) of a full containment concrete LNG storage tank located in the Port of Sohar. CB&I is the world's leading designer and builder of storage facilities, tanks, and terminals. It defines a 'significant' contract as between \$100mn and \$250mn. The Marsa LNG project is an integrated LNG project which is being jointly established by TotalEnergies and OQ at Sohar Port with an estimated cost of \$1.6bn. TotalEnergies and OQ recently announced their Final Investment Decision for the Marsa LNG project. Under the scope of its contract, CB&I will provide turnkey EPC services for a 165,000m³ full containment concrete LNG storage tank and associated piping to grade. Project delivery will be executed in Oman, where CB&I has been continually present since 1968, with support from CB&I's Dubai office. "Through this project, CB&I will contribute to the construction of one of the lowest greenhouse gas emissions intensity LNG plants ever built and the energy transition market in Oman," Cesar Canals, President, and CEO of CB&I, said in a press statement. He said, "It supports our ambition to build storage for projects that will help provide reliable energy to markets with a reduced environmental impact. It will also pave the way for similar storage opportunities



in the future and continue our long history of execution excellence in the Middle East, specifically Oman." CB&I said that the work is expected to commence with construction activities in the fourth quarter of 2024. The project is targeted for completion in 2028. The Marsa LNG project, 80% owned by TotalEnergies and 20% owned by OQ, combines upstream gas production, downstream gas liquefaction, and renewable power generation. In April, Technip Energies, a leading French engineering and technology company, was awarded a major EPC contract by TotalEnergies and OQ for the Marsa LNG project. The contract covers EPC of a natural gas liquefaction train with an LNG production capacity of 1mn tonnes per annum. The Marsa LNG plant will use electric-driven motors instead of conventional gas turbines and will be powered by renewable electricity from a planned nearby solar farm, which will cover 100% of the annual power consumption of the LNG plant.

OMAN'S PUBLIC REVENUES DROP 12% IN FIRST QUARTER

Oman's total public revenues amounted to RO2.826bn in Q1 2024, marking a significant decline of 12% compared to RO3.217bn recorded in Q1 2023. This decrease is mainly due to a decline in net oil and gas revenues and current revenue, according to the Ministry of Finance. The sultanate's net oil revenue decreased by 1% to RO1.688bn in Q1 2024 compared to RO1.707bn in Q1 2023, as shown in the ministry's Fiscal Performance bulletin. Oman's average realised oil price stood at \$83 per barrel, with average oil production reaching 1.014mn barrels per day, as per the data. At the end of Q1 2024, the net gas revenue amounted to RO444mn, down by 38% compared to RO720mn in Q1 2023. This decrease is attributed to the deduction of gas purchase and transport expenses from the total revenue collected from Integrated Gas Company, the ministry explained. The current revenue amounted to RO691mn, down by RO96mn compared to RO787mn in Q1 2023. On the other hand, Oman's total public spending decreased by 4% or RO103mn to RO2.664bn during Q1 2024 compared to Q1 2023. By the end of Q1 2024, the current expenditure of civil ministries amounted to RO1.978bn, a decrease of RO49mn compared to the RO2.027bn registered for the same period in 2023. The development expenditure of ministries and government units amounted to RO200mn. The total contributions and other expenses rose by 78% to RO486mn in Q1 2024, compared to RO273mn in Q1 2023. This increase is primarily attributed to the implementation of the social protection system, coupled with subsidies for oil products, amounting to RO140mn and RO72mn, respectively, by the end of Q1 2024. Additionally, RO100mn was allocated towards future debt obligations. By the end of Q1 2024, the Ministry of Finance had repaid over RO206mn to the private sector. This repayment is indicative of the payment vouchers processed through the e-financial system, completing the documentary cycle.



Diabetes and heart disease are closely linked, with each condition significantly increasing the risk and severity of the other. Understanding this connection is crucial for managing both conditions effectively.

Diabetes Overview

Diabetes is a chronic condition characterized by high levels of glucose (sugar) in the blood. It primarily comes in two forms:

- 1.Type 1 Diabetes:** An autoimmune condition where the body's immune system attacks insulin-producing cells in the pancreas.
- 2.Type 2 Diabetes:** A metabolic disorder where the body becomes resistant to insulin or doesn't produce enough insulin.

Heart Disease Overview

Heart disease, also known as cardiovascular disease (CVD), encompasses a range of conditions affecting the heart and blood vessels. Common types include coronary artery disease, heart attacks, and strokes.

Link Between Diabetes and Heart Disease

- 1.Increased Risk:** People with diabetes are 2-4 times more likely to develop heart disease or suffer from a stroke than those without diabetes.
- 2.Common Risk Factors:** Both conditions share several risk factors, such as obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, and a sedentary lifestyle.
- 3.Impact of High Blood Sugar:** Chronic

high blood sugar can damage blood vessels and nerves that control the heart, contributing to the development of heart disease.

4.Inflammation and Insulin Resistance: These conditions, often present in diabetes, contribute to atherosclerosis (hardening and narrowing of the arteries), a major cause of heart disease.

Management and Prevention

- 1.Blood Sugar Control:** Keeping blood glucose levels within the target range is crucial. This can be achieved through medication, diet, and exercise.
- 2.Healthy Diet:** A diet low in refined sugars, saturated fats, and high in fiber can help manage both diabetes and heart disease.
- 3.Regular Exercise:** Physical activity helps maintain a healthy weight, lowers blood pressure, and improves insulin sensitivity.
- 4.Medications:** Statins, antihypertensives, and other medications might be prescribed to manage cholesterol and blood pressure levels.
- 5. Regular Monitoring:** Frequent check-ups with healthcare providers to monitor blood sugar, blood pressure, and cholesterol levels are essential.
- 6.Lifestyle Changes:** Quitting smoking, reducing alcohol intake, and managing stress are important steps in reducing the risk of both conditions.



Conclusion

Diabetes and heart disease are interrelated conditions that require a comprehensive management approach. By addressing common risk factors and maintaining a healthy lifestyle, individuals can significantly reduce their risk of complications from both diseases. Regular consultations with healthcare providers are crucial for personalized care and effective management strategies.

By Dr. Matlooba AL Zadjali

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

Managing Director Heart Vascular Disease HVC Oman

DID YOU KNOW?

PRODUCTS AND SERVICES

IVMS FOUNDATION & ORIENTATION COURSE



The objective of this course would be to provide selected staff with a broad-level orientation on the IVMS technology, application, and operations. This course will be designed to create required awareness and education on the IVMS solution concepts for a better understanding of the Industry and technology.



الجمعية العمانية للطاقة
Oman Energy Association



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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Training Compliance Tracking

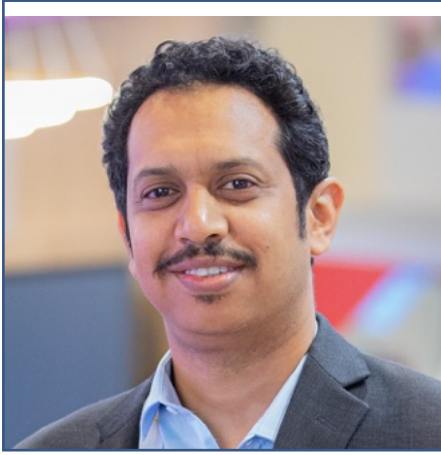


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Mohamed Elsadig,
Chief Executive Officer
Appness Technology

How would you describe your leadership philosophy, and how has it evolved since you began leading Appness Technology?

When I first started leading Appness Technology, my leadership philosophy was centered on innovation and customer satisfaction. Over time, this philosophy has evolved to include a stronger emphasis on empathy, collaboration, and empowerment. I believe in leading by example, maintaining transparency, and fostering a culture where every team member feels valued and heard. This approach has not only helped in building a cohesive team but also in driving creativity and innovation, which are the cornerstones of our success.

What strategies do you use to inspire and motivate your team to achieve ex-

cellence and stay aligned with the company's mission and values?

Inspiring and motivating a team begins with clear communication of our mission and values. At Appness Technology, we set ambitious yet achievable goals and celebrate every milestone. I prioritize regular feedback and recognition, ensuring that achievements, both big and small, are acknowledged. We also invest in professional development, offering training, certifications and growth opportunities to our employees. By creating a positive and inclusive work environment, we encourage our team to take ownership of their work and strive for excellence.

How does Appness Technology prioritize employee well-being and work-life balance, and what initiatives have you implemented to support this?

Employee well-being and work-life balance are crucial for sustained productivity and job satisfaction. At Appness Technology, we have implemented flexible working hours and remote work options to help employees manage their personal and professional lives effectively. Additionally, we encourage our employees to take regular breaks and vacations, understanding that rest and rejuvenation are vital for long-term success.

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

Staying ahead in the tech industry requires a commitment to continuous learning and adaptability. I advise other leaders to stay informed about emerg-

ing technologies and industry trends through constant research and networking. Encourage a culture of innovation within your organization by fostering a safe environment for experimentation and risk-taking. Collaboration with other tech companies, attending conferences, and participating in industry forums can also provide valuable insights and opportunities for growth. Lastly, always listen to your customers and be willing to pivot your strategy based on their evolving needs.

Looking ahead, what are your key leadership goals for Appness Technology?

Looking ahead, my key leadership goals for Appness Technology in the short to medium term include focusing our operations regionally as our market in the region is very promising, while continuing to be the leading Odoo partner in Oman, and leading provider of business process automation solution. I aim to drive further innovation in our product offerings and enhance our customer service to ensure we consistently exceed client expectations. Another critical goal is to invest in our people by providing 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.

Interviewed by:
Sama Al Zadjali
Events & Media Specialist
OPAL

OPAL NEW MEMBERS

OPAL WOULD LIKE TO WELCOME YOU TO OUR FAMILY.

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

- Akthar Al Khaleej Trad & Cont. Est
- Oman Water and Wastewater Services Company SAOC
- Elixir Engineering
- Future Pipe Industries LLC
- GE Power Solution
- Knowledge Automation Services LLC
- Canadian Scottish CO LLC
- Advanced Oilfield Technology Company LLC
- Al Taraf Trading
- Sohar Industrial Training Institute (Sohar Aluminum LLC)
- Meinhardt Engineering Consultancy LLC
- Quality Training Institute Services LLC
- Al Amal Medical and Healthcare Centre LLC
- Dareen Global LLC

HAIMO TECHNOLOGIES OMAN CELEBRATES 20TH ANNIVERSARY WITH VISION FOR FUTURE SUCCESS AND GROWTH

In a momentous celebration marking Haimo Technologies Oman's 20th Anniversary on 23rd of April, 2024, the Founder/Co-CEO Mr Dou Jianwen expressed profound gratitude and optimism for the company's journey thus far and the promising road ahead. Amidst a gathering of esteemed clients, partners, stakeholders, and the dedicated Haimo Oman team, Mr. Dou conveyed heartfelt appreciation, acknowledging the pivotal role in the Oman operations. Customer trust and cooperation are fundamental in shaping Haimo's success, fostering lasting relationships and paving the way for future growth. Reflecting on Oman's significance as Haimo's inaugural international market, Haimo's Founder emphasized the strategic importance of Oman and the company's commitment to local operations and societal impact. Over the years, Haimo has transitioned from product sales to service provision, localizing manufacturing, and fostering professional development among local employees. The Founder/Co-CEO proudly announced Haimo Oman's ascension as the top MPFM supplier in the Oman market, achieving a remarkable 90% market share. Highlighting successful partnership with clients for mobile well testing services, he commended the teams' excep-



tional performance, showcasing Omanization and operational efficiency. In alignment with In-Country Value (ICV) initiatives, Haimo's local manufacturing achievements were underscored, including the manufacture of customized two-phase separators for well testing projects, exemplifying dedication to local fabrication and capability enhancement. Looking forward, the founder reiterated the company's commitment to innovation, quality, and meeting evolving customer needs. The event culminated with a message of gratitude to all participants for their support and a shared vision of continued success, growth, and positive impact in the years to come.

SECTOR NEWS

OMAN AMONG FRONTRUNNERS IN FELLING REGIONAL SOLAR POWER GROWTH

The Sultanate of Oman, together with Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, will account for the lion's share of the estimated 100 gigawatts (GW) of solar capacity expected to be developed across the Middle East by 2030, according to a leading energy Rystad Energy, a Norwegian based independent research and energy intelligence company, named Oman among a tiny handful of regional players that are tipped to fuel the growth of solar-based renewables in the region. Reviewing projections in renewable energy development across the Middle East, Rystad Energy highlighted the region's exceptional solar energy potential. In particular, Oman, Saudi Arabia and UAE - endowed with solar irradiation of more than 2,000 kilowatt-hours (kWh) per square meter annually - are well-placed to harness this potential, it noted in a new report published on Tuesday. Given this potential, solar capacity in the Middle East is expected to reach 23 GW by the end of 2024, up from over 16 GW at the end of 2023. "Projections indicate that by 2030, the capacity will surpass 100 GW, with green hydrogen projects contributing to an annual growth rate of 30%," said Rystad Energy, noting that Oman, Saudi Arabia and the UAE are on track to collectively account for nearly two-thirds of the region's total solar capacity by the end of the decade. According to the report, Oman is anticipated to witness a dramatic increase in its renewables capacity, from around 700 MW presently to almost 3 GW in 2025, rising to 4.5 GW by 2030. As a result, renewable energy will have a 30% share of overall generation capacity by the end of this decade, up from 3% presently. Five new onshore wind power projects currently under procurement will contribute around 1 GW of capacity. think-tank. While all of this new capacity is primarily aimed at enabling the country's transition



away from gas-fired generation, massive new investments in upstream solar and wind farms are anticipated as a new green hydrogen sector begins to take shape in the coming years. "(Oman) envisions becoming the largest exporter of green hydrogen by 2030 - with production of up to 1.15 million metric tonnes per annum - and has dedicated 50,000 square kilometers of land for hydrogen project development," Rystad Energy stated in its report. The international think-tank sees solar capacity accounting for more than half of total power supply in the Middle East by 2050, up from a mere 2% as of the end of 2023. "By 2050, renewable energy sources, including hydro in addition to solar and wind, are expected to constitute a staggering 70% of the Middle East's power generation mix. This marks a monumental leap from the mere 5% recorded at the end of 2023, signaling a transformative shift in the region's energy landscape," it added.



Shell Oman Marketing Company, a leading fuel marketing firm in the sultanate, stands as a beacon of innovation and consumer trust in Oman's fuel marketing industry. The company was honored with Oman's Most Trusted Brand Award 2023 in both fuel station and lubricant categories. In this exclusive interview with Muscat Daily, Suresh Nair, General Manager – Mobility at Shell Oman, shares insights into the company's success and future vision, highlighting their groundbreaking and innovative product developments and visionary strategies for a sustainable future.

What do you believe are the main reasons behind Shell Oman's success as a trusted brand in Oman?

Shell Oman takes pride in its relentless commitment to excellence and customer satisfaction. Our success stems from a holistic approach that prioritises quality products, exceptional services, and unwavering adherence to the highest standards of Health, Safety, Security, and Environment (HSSE) as well as ethics and compliance.

At Shell Oman, we understand that the trust is earned through consistent delivery on promises. Behind the scenes, our frontline staff, the heroes of our operations, undergo rigorous training through our 'People Make the Difference Real' programme, ensuring they deliver exceptional customer service while upholding stringent HSSE practices. Through ongoing promotions and offers, we cultivate brand loyalty, providing a fully integrated service experience to our valued customers.

Shell Oman recently introduced the new and improved Shell V-Power. Could you highlight its distinctive features and explain how it sets itself apart from other fuel types currently available?

The introduction of the new and improved Shell V-Power marks a milestone in enhancing motorist's journeys in Oman. This premium fuel, meticulously engineered over five years, is designed to clean up to 100% of critical engine components, maximising engine performance and keeping the engine running like new. Unlike conventional fuels, Shell V-Power's unique formulation is tailored to meet the needs of both older and new vehicles, ensuring an ideal driving experience

characterized by cleanliness, and protection. This innovation symbolises our unwavering commitment to exceeding customer expectations and setting a benchmark for fuel excellence in Oman.

The new and improved Shell V-Power is now available at 60 Shell service stations in Oman and will be expanded to all Shell sites in a phased manner.

Can you elaborate on the technology utilised in the development of Shell V-Power, and how it enhances vehicle performance?

The new Shell fuels, including Shell V-Power, have been developed through research by Shell's international team of fuel scientists, who also work in close collaboration with the team that develops Shell V-Power race fuels for Scuderia Ferrari, over the course of five years, leveraging both their expert knowledge and long heritage in innovation. The cleaning and engine performance recovery of the fuels have also been demonstrated through rigorous industry standard and Shell proprietary tests.

There are many stages of testing before we are ready to share a new product with our customers, from the conception of an idea – through to the delivery of the fuel – and finally to the pumps. The first round of testing predominantly takes place in the laboratory, where we investigate a vast array of formulations. The ones that look most promising then go on to bench engine testing, which involves an engine being taken out of a vehicle and being operated under tightly controlled test conditions – this eliminates as many experimental conditions and variables as possible.

After that, we test the fuel in a real vehicle, on a rolling road – otherwise known as a chassis dynamometer – which represents road driving conditions but in a more tightly controlled environment. The final stage of testing involves us using the products in a trial in vehicles under real road conditions.

How many service stations does Shell Oman currently operate in Oman? Additionally, could you discuss the company's plans for future expansion, including the addition of new locations and products?

Shell Oman has a multi-years investment programme that takes into account the sultanate's key economic indicators. At present, Shell Oman has 211 service stations across the sultanate. We are committed to expanding our presence in the country to ensure that our customers have convenient access to our services. Our future expansion plans will be based on market demand and customer needs, and we will continue to prioritise sustainability and innovation in our operations.

We are planning to increase our network of quality Shell service stations especially that will serve the newly developing highways and main roads as well as the urban developments and strategic projects

in Oman, while relentlessly investing in making our customers experience better and safer by introducing new products and services. Our extensive network of service stations play a crucial role in our growth while supporting the economic development plans in the sultanate.

How do you envision continuing to nurture and evolve the Shell brand to uphold its position as one of the leaders in Oman's fuel marketing industry?

To continue building and evolving the Shell brand locally in the future, our clear focus is on innovation and sustainability. We aim to provide our customers with cutting-edge products and services that meet their evolving needs and contribute to a more sustainable future.

Moreover, we are working towards smart service stations. Our smart service station concept makes Shell Oman the first fuel marketing company in Oman to plan to implement these state-of-the-art modular service stations and which hopefully will come into implementation in the near future. We are also working towards green mobility and have taken steps in that direction. Our first electric vehicle-charging unit in Oman at the Al Bandar Service Station in Seeb is a shining testament of the same.

We aim to expand our EV charging network with an aim to connect the main cities in Oman over the coming years. We currently have 15 EV charging points in strategically selected service station to cater to electric vehicle driving needs.

Moreover, the Shell Go+ app for our loyal customers enables them to gain access to exclusive offers and accumulate reward points for each visit. These points can be utilized to obtain special offers at Shell service stations.

By continuing to invest in these areas and our evident focus on innovation and digitisation, we are determined to meet the evolving needs of our customers while contributing towards a more sustainable future.

With Oman aiming to achieve Net Zero Emissions by 2050, sustainability and environmental concerns have gained significant importance across industries. How does Shell Oman define sustainability, and what specific initiatives is the company undertaking in this regard?

Shell Oman is committed to sustainability, driving Oman's energy transition towards net-zero emissions by 2050. We have until today solar-powered infrastructures, EV charge points for passenger vehicles as well as vapor recovery systems in selected service stations. We will continue to work with the government, community and industry to navigate this journey whilst also leveraging on our strength and developments in the mobility space to ensure that the needs of our customers in their life journeys continue to be met in the years to come.

The second week of May, within the social media of sector of Energy to be precise. The greeting messages to Abdulrhman Al Yahyaei of his new appointment been trending. That a sign of respect and gratitude to his remarkable journey in OPAL. As the CEO of the Oman Energy Association, Abdulrahman has left an indelible mark on the organization and the energy sector in Oman. His tenure has been characterized by a relentless pursuit of excellence, raising standards, and fostering impactful national initiatives.

Elevating Standards and Setting the Bar

Under Abdulrahman's leadership, OPAL has seen a significant transformation. He has been instrumental in elevating operational standards and setting new benchmarks that have propelled OPAL to the forefront of the energy industry. His strategic vision and commitment to excellence have not only enhanced the organization's reputation but have also ensured its sustainable growth.

Impact on the Energy Sector

Abdulrahman's contributions have had a profound impact on the energy sector in Oman. By implementing innovative practices and promoting best standards, he has helped

to streamline operations and improve efficiency across the industry. His efforts have facilitated the development of a more robust and resilient energy sector that is well-equipped to meet future challenges.

National Initiatives

Beyond his work within OPAL, Abdulrahman has been a driving force behind numerous national initiatives. His leadership has been pivotal in aligning OPAL's objectives with national goals, thereby contributing to the broader economic and social development of Oman. Through his initiatives, he has promoted workforce development, environmental sustainability, and community engagement, creating a lasting positive impact on the nation.

Leadership and Vision

Abdulrahman's role as a leader has been characterized by his visionary approach and his ability to inspire and mobilize his team towards achieving common goals. His tenure has seen OPAL grow not just in size but also in influence, with a strengthened network of members and stakeholders.

A New Chapter

As Abdulrahman embarks on the next chapter of his journey, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for his outstanding contribu-



tions. His legacy will continue to inspire and guide OPAL as it moves forward. We wish him all the best in his future endeavors and are confident that he will continue to achieve great success in all his future roles.

On behalf of OPAL and its members, Thank you Abdulrahman, for your unparalleled dedication and leadership. Your tenure at OPAL has set a high standard, and your impact will be felt for years to come.

Osama Alzadjali
Communications Advisor
OPAL

INTERVIEW: GREEN HYDROGEN WILL PLAY A MAJOR ROLE IN ENERGY TRANSITION

Stephen Crolius, a former Climate Advisor at the Clinton Foundation, is the President and Co-founder of the global energy transition consulting firm Carbon-Neutral Consulting. His company provides consulting services in the fields of decarbonisation, green hydrogen and ammonia, renewable energy, and transport electrification. As a thought leader, Crolius focuses on sustainable and low-carbon fuel sources, such as green hydrogen and ammonia, renewable energy, and clean transportation. In an exclusive interview with Muscat Daily, Crolius shared his insights and views on the role of green hydrogen in the global energy transition and Oman's leading position and potential on the global green hydrogen map.

How significant is the role of green hydrogen and ammonia in the global transition towards sustainable energy sources? In your view, what makes green hydrogen and ammonia more attractive as sustainable fuels compared to other alternatives?

Green hydrogen and ammonia have highly significant roles to play in the energy transition. Since the advent of the Industrial Revolution, fossil fuels have been the major form of primary energy employed by human society. With the shift away from fossil fuels necessitated by the climate crisis, it is necessary to turn to the sun as a major form of primary energy. The most practical methods of turning sunlight into usable energy – photovoltaics, wind, and biomass – all involve conversion of primary energy into electricity. Electricity is a valuable and versatile form of energy, but it is limited in the degree to which it can be stored on a massive scale and transported over great distances. Converting electricity into energy-rich chemicals allows both of these limitations to be overcome. The simplest form of conversion involves extracting hydrogen from water. Molecular hydrogen, however, brings its own set of storage and transportation challenges. One method of overcoming these challenges is to convert hydrogen into simple derivative molecules such as methane or methanol. Ammonia is an especially attractive derivative molecule because it does not contain any carbon atoms, and therefore does not produce carbon dioxide as a byproduct of any downstream energy extraction process. It is also the case that hydrogen derivatives can often meet the need in other settings where a fuel must be used rather than electricity, such as certain transportation applications and industrial processes.

What challenges do producers globally currently face in scaling up the production and distribution of green hydrogen?

The primary challenge for green hydrogen producers comes from competitive economics. It is not yet clear where the green hydrogen production costs will eventually settle vs. those of legacy energy commodities such as natural gas. What is clear is that the first generation of green hydrogen plants and related infrastructure will yield product costs that are higher than those of its legacy competitors. This means that green hydrogen producers must build investment cases that rely on non-traditional elements, such as carbon taxes, government subsidies and incentives, and voluntary procurement programmes of customer companies. Country-by-country and bloc-by-bloc, progress is being made, but only as a result of the great creativity and commitment of green hydrogen players.

What do you say about Oman's ambitious plans to develop large-scale green hydrogen and ammonia projects? What lessons can Oman learn from existing producers to become a more competitive producer of green hydrogen and ammonia?

Oman is already positioning itself as a serious player in emerging global markets for green hydrogen and ammonia. The hydrogen space within the energy transition is at a very early stage of development, with the first large-scale production facilities just reaching final investment decisions. The opportunity for Oman, therefore, is not to learn from existing producers, but rather to learn with them. Two examples from Oman's current portfolio of hydrogen projects are representative of the country's activities in this regard. The first is the Amnah Consortium's decision, announced in January, to devote the hydrogen that will be produced



at its planned installation in Duqm to the in-country production of green steel. The second is an announcement made in March of Hydrom's MOU with Germany's VNG that will focus on development of a green fuel value chain between Oman and Germany. In both cases, Omani companies will participate in the projects as partners, and in so doing will position themselves on the cutting edge of global clean energy development.

To what extent can the planned green hydrogen projects in the Gulf countries contribute to the global push for sustainable energy?

Several countries in the Gulf region and broader Middle East – notably Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Egypt, in addition to Oman – are unquestionably among the global leaders in the push for sustainable energy. The common denominators across these countries are an abundance of renewable energy resources; favorable geographic placement for servicing of markets in Europe and Asia; and extensive experience with large-scale development of energy infrastructure.

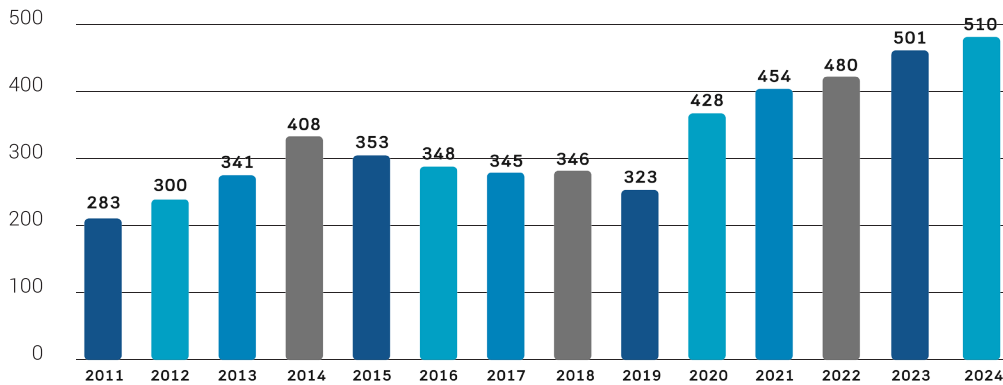
What potential does green hydrogen hold for decarbonising hard-to-abate sectors, such as transportation, heavy industry, and power generation?

The common theme running through the hard-to-abate sectors is the need for energy and/or material inputs that take forms other than electricity. In the transportation cases, the need is for chemical fuels that allow large quantities of energy to be stored at high volumetric and gravimetric densities. In the case of industrial and chemical processes, the need is often for substances that embody both energy and specific chemical properties that allow them to react with other molecules. Hydrogen and its derivatives perform very well on both of these dimensions, bringing both high energy density and desirable forms of chemical reactivity. One other consideration that informs the potential that green hydrogen and its derivatives hold for the hard-to-abate sectors is that there are no other ready alternatives that can fill the needed functions. Hydrogen's essential properties including its abundance, chemical reactivity, and susceptibility to simple, inexpensive production put it in a class by itself among the Earth's chemical elements.

What are your views on the potential of green hydrogen as a maritime fuel, particularly in light of Oman's strategic location and maritime transport links?

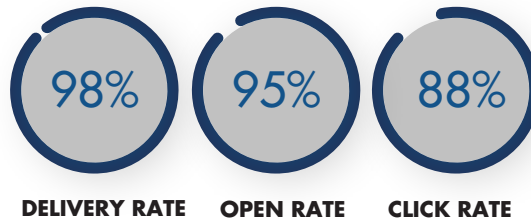
Hydrogen itself is likely to have a limited role in the maritime sector because it is difficult to store. It can be stored as a gas, but even at high levels of compression, its very low energy density does not fit the needs of energy-hungry vessel propulsion. It can also be liquefied, but the extreme cryogenics involved in reaching the temperature of liquefaction themselves involve parasitic consumption of large amounts of energy. Hydrogen also embodies safety hazards that can be managed, but at the cost of added ship-board complexity. These challenges with hydrogen in its elemental form create an opening in the maritime sector for methanol and ammonia. Both fuels have properties that are close enough to those of current maritime fuels that ships can be deployed with fuels systems and engines that are only modestly different from those in use today. Oman is well-positioned to participate in the emerging maritime green fuel economy, for example by investing in ammonia bunkering facilities in the Sohar Port and Freezone.

Did You Know?



OPAL is serving currently almost 500 member companies. These companies represent tens of thousands of employees across Oman's sector, thus making OPAL the Sultanate's premier Energy & Minerals association that offers unparalleled access to the industry expertise, collaborative outreach strategies, and professional networking.

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