



Oman Energy Association

Newsletter

May, 2025

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The editorial team reserves the right to adapt the texts to specify the coordinate format and improve the quality of the publication.

CEO Message



Dear Valued OPAL Members,

At OPAL, May was a month filled with meaningful engagement and momentum across multiple fronts, starting with our continued commitment to worker welfare. On May 5, we joined hands with the Ministry of Labour to deliver the **2025 Summer Heat Stress Mitigation Webinar**, focusing on raising awareness around seasonal heat risks, mandatory work stoppages, and preventive measures. The session reinforced the importance of a strong HSE culture and protecting our workforce through knowledge and preparation. That same day, in partnership with Oman LNG, we hosted a workshop to review the Process Safety Management (PSM) Guideline. These ongoing reviews are essential to ensure our safety frameworks stay aligned with the evolving needs of our sector.

Strengthening Emergency Readiness and HSE Coordination

On May 6, we brought together the Mutual Aid Agreement Working Group for its second meeting. The discussion focused on enhancing response structures, refining agreement terms, and aligning response efforts across member companies. The following day, May 7, we held the quarterly **OSHEMCO** meeting with HSE leaders from across the industry. It served as a valuable platform to review ongoing initiatives, exchange learnings, and ensure strategic alignment on safety and environmental practices.

Building Regional Ties

It was a pleasure to host a delegation from the **Saudi Arabian Drilling Academy (SADA)** on May 11. The visit also included an introductory meeting with the **Oman Institute for Energy (OIE)** to explore future cooperation in technical training and capacity building.

Investing in Omani Talent

Also on May 11, we launched the **Electrical Technician Program** in collaboration with PDO's Emdad team, Occidental Oman (OXY), and several other partners. Funded by the Ministry of Labour, the program supports 34 Omani diploma holders in electrical engineering through 18 months of technical training delivered by **NTI** and **TATI**. Graduates will be directly employed, contributing to the national workforce with practical, job-ready skills.

Sharing Our Vision at OPES and OSW

From May 12 to 14, OPAL participated in the **Oman Petroleum and Energy Show (OPES)** and Oman Sustainability Week (OSW). At our booth, we highlighted OPAL's efforts in HSE, human capital development, and sustainable practice, areas critical to supporting **Oman Vision 2040**.

On the sidelines of OPES, we signed a cooperation agreement with **OQ Exploration and Production** to launch **"TAMAYUZ - Training for Development"**, a flagship program to train and qualify 430 Omani graduates in both technical and non-technical fields. This initiative is a strong step forward in strengthening the next generation of professionals in our industry.

Elevating Training Excellence

In mid-May, we continued rolling out our **Defensive Driving Train-the-Trainer** program, accredited by **RTITB Middle East**. The session, held on May 18, focused on enhancing training standards and instructor competency. Then on May 28, we hosted our fourth CPD **Workshop for Defensive Driving Trainers**, building on this effort to ensure a consistent and high-quality approach across OPAL-certified trainers.

Regional Engagement

As part of our regional engagement, OPAL was proud to participate as a regional partner in the **2025 Global HSE Conference**, held in the Kingdom of Bahrain from 19 to 22 May, where industry leaders gathered to exchange expertise and promote best practices in health, safety, and environmental performance.

Forging Stronger Institutional Partnerships

At the **HR Energy Chapter Symposium** on May 19, OPAL signed an MoU with **OIE** and **Takatuf Petrofac Oman (TPO)** to expand collaboration in training, knowledge sharing, and capacity building. The next day, I had the honour of joining a panel titled **"Insights from Academia and Industry"**, where we explored how closer collaboration between education and industry can support national competency development and meaningful transformation.

Pushing Innovation and Standards Forward

On May 25, OPAL co-organized **INTI Tech Day** in collaboration with the **Russian Institute for Initiatives in Oil and Gas Technologies**. Held under the patronage of H.E. Eng. Mohsen Al-Hadrami, the event brought together companies from Oman and Russia to explore technical cooperation and innovation. Highlights included the signing of several cooperation agreements and the launch of a **Joint Standardization Steering Committee**.

The following day, May 26, we took part in the **launch of the National Strategy for Occupational Standards**, under the patronage of H.E. Prof. Mahad Said Baawain, Minister of Labour. OPAL shared its contributions in labour market studies, standard development, and licensing to practice, demonstrating our continued role in shaping professional excellence in the sector.

Looking Ahead

This past month was defined by collaboration, capability building, and shared commitment. Whether through training programs, safety forums, or innovation partnerships, we continue to move the sector forward together. I am proud of what we have achieved this May and I look forward to the continued momentum as we drive toward a smarter, safer, and more sustainable energy future for Oman.

Warm regards,
Eng. Mohammed Al Naabi
Chief Executive Officer
Oman Energy Association (OPAL)



Monday, May 5, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL), in collaboration with the Ministry of Labor, organized and delivered the 2025 Summer Heat Stress Mitigation Webinar. The Webinar featured expert speakers and focused on raising awareness of heat stress risks during the summer months. It also highlighted mandatory work stoppages in June, July, and August, emphasized key labor regulations, and promoted effective preventive measures. The webinar underscored the importance of worker welfare and reinforced a strong Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) culture across the energy sector.



Monday, 5th May 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL), in collaboration with Oman LNG, organized a workshop to review the Process Safety Management (PSM) Guideline. This workshop is part of a continuous effort to refine and upgrade the guideline, ensuring it remains effective, relevant, and aligned with industry needs.



Wednesday, May 7, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) organized the quarterly meeting of the Operators' Safety, Health, and Environment Managers Committee (OSHEMCO). The meeting serves as a platform to discuss HSE challenges, review the progress of related initiatives, share lessons learned, and align strategies for health, safety, and environment in the energy sector.



Sunday, May 11, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) was honored to host a delegation from the Saudi Arabian Drilling Academy (SADA) as part of ongoing efforts to strengthen cooperation between the two parties. The visit focused on advancing collaboration in areas such as knowledge exchange, training drilling teams, maintenance, and well intervention. An introductory meeting was held between SADA and the Oman Institute for Energy (OIE) to explore opportunities for direct collaboration in training and capacity-building initiatives.



Monday, 5th March 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) held its fifth meeting with the DROPS Management Standard Review Working Group, which includes representatives from operating companies. The meeting discussed proposed updates aimed at enhancing safety at work sites and implementing global best practices to mitigate the risks associated with DROPS Management Standard.



Tuesday, 6 May 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) held the second meeting of the Mutual Aid Agreement Working Group. The agreement aims to foster collaboration among member companies that have signed it, particularly during crises, and to support a coordinated emergency response within the energy sector. The meeting focused on enhancing the structure and content of the agreement, streamlining response requirements, and ensuring alignment with the sector's evolving needs.



Sunday, 11 May 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL), in collaboration with PDO's "Emdad Team," Occidental Oman (OXY) under the "Is'ham" program, Seeh Al Sarya Engineering, Arabian Industries Projects, and Gulf Petrochemical Services, organized the official induction of the Electrical Technician Program, funded by the Ministry of Labor. The program aims to enhance employment opportunities for 34 Omani job seekers holding diploma degrees in electrical engineering. It will be delivered by the National Training Institute (NTI) and the Technical & Administrative Training Institute (TATI) over a period of 18 months. Trainees will be directly employed upon successful completion of the program requirements.



Oman Energy Association (OPAL) is participating in the Oman Petroleum & Energy Show and Oman Sustainability Week, taking place from May 12 to 14, 2025, at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. OPAL is showcasing its services and initiatives in the development of health, safety, and environmental standards, as well as human capital frameworks in the energy and mining sectors. The association also promotes best sustainable practices across various industries. OPAL's booth has attracted strong engagement from visitors and professionals, reaffirming its leading role in supporting the goals of Oman Vision 2040 and contributing to the development of a sustainable and advanced energy sector.



Wednesday, May 14, 2025, as OPES and OSW come to a close, the Oman Energy Association (OPAL) continues to welcome visitors at its booth, wrapping up a week marked by remarkable engagement and insightful discussions. OPAL reaffirms its ongoing commitment to advancing sustainability and creating outstanding opportunities in the energy and minerals sectors, in alignment with Oman Vision 2040. The association thanks all visitors and partners for their valuable interactions and looks forward to continued collaboration.



Monday, May 19, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Oman Institute for Energy (OIE) and Takatuf Petrofac Oman (TPO), as part of the HR Energy Chapter Symposium. This MoU aims to enhance joint cooperation and knowledge exchange, as well as to develop and implement training and capacity-building programs.



Monday, May 12, 2025, during OPAL's participation at the Oman Petroleum & Energy Show and Oman Sustainability Week, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) signed a memorandum of cooperation with OQ Exploration and Production to launch the "TAMAYUZ – Training for Development" program. The initiative aims to qualify and train 430 Omani graduates across various technical and non-technical disciplines. The program involves the development and implementation of strategic training plans to ensure the readiness of national graduates to enter the workforce in the energy sector. This initiative is part of ongoing efforts to develop national human capital, in alignment with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040 and in support of government initiatives in this field.



Sunday, May 18, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) continued its implementation of the "Defensive Driving Train-the-Trainer" program, accredited by RTITB Middle East. The program aims to enhance participants' training skills, technical expertise, and compliance with quality assurance protocols in line with the standards of OPAL and the international benchmarks set by RTITB. This program is part of a series of OPAL initiatives to elevate trainer competency and prepare them according to the highest standards and global best practices, contributing to the advancement of the energy sector in the Sultanate of Oman.



Tuesday, May 20, 2025, Eng. Mohammed Al-Naabi, CEO of the Oman Energy Association (OPAL), participated in a panel discussion titled "Insights from Academia & Industry" as part of the HR Energy Chapter symposium. The session served as a platform to strengthen collaboration between academic thought and practical expertise, contributing to the development of national competencies, the expansion of knowledge horizons, and the support of transformation pathways in both the energy sector and educational curricula.



Sunday, May 25, 2025 – Oman Energy Association (OPAL), in collaboration with the Russian Institute for Initiatives in Oil and Gas Technologies (INTI), organized the first INTI Tech Day in the Sultanate of Oman. Held under the patronage of H.E. Eng. Mohsen Al-Hadrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, the event brought together leading experts and officials from both Oman and Russia to explore cooperation in technology, energy strategies, and innovation. During the event, cooperation agreements were signed between Russian and Omani companies, marking a significant step toward strengthening technical collaboration between the two countries. The signing also included the official launch of a joint Standardization Steering Committee. The event featured digital technology demonstrations and exhibits from over 30 Russian manufacturers showcasing innovations in oil and gas equipment, chemicals, and logistics.



Monday, 26 May 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) participated in the launch ceremony of the National Strategy for Occupational Standards, held under the patronage of H.E. Prof. Mahad Said Baawain, Minister of Labour. During the event, OPAL through the Sector Skills Unit for Energy and Minerals, presented its experience and key achievements in developing occupational standards, conducting labour market studies and licensing to practice initiatives. OPAL reaffirmed its role in supporting the development of national competencies and enhancing the quality of professional practices in the energy and minerals sector.



Wednesday, May 28, 2025, Oman Energy Association (OPAL) organized the fourth workshop in its series of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) workshops for Defensive Driving Trainers under the Heavy License Program, in cooperation with RTITB and hosted by Safety Cooperative Services (SCS). The workshop focused on enhancing the effectiveness of OPAL-certified defensive driving trainers. The CPD workshop series aims to develop knowledge and practical skills for delivering a clear approach to OPAL's updated Defensive Driving Program, with an emphasis on strategic and operational improvements in training methods. This initiative is part of OPAL's ongoing efforts to promote a culture of excellence in defensive driving and to support the growth and development of the sector.

Oman Petroleum & Energy Show and Oman Sustainability Week



Driving Sustainable Water Solutions in Oman: OPAL Joins Industry Leaders at Baker Hughes-Led Forum



The Oman Advanced Water Management Day, hosted by Baker Hughes in Muscat under the patronage of **H.E. Mohsin Alhadhrami, Undersecretary of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals**, brought together more than 250 participants from across the energy and mining sectors. Among them were over 70 senior leaders, all focused on the pressing topic of sustainable water management.

Organized and led by **Baker Hughes**, the forum highlighted the growing importance of water-related challenges in oil and gas operations, particularly as Oman continues its energy transition journey.

OPAL took part in the event, with our CEO in attendance, reinforcing our commitment to advancing sustainable and collaborative solutions across the sector.

Throughout the day, Baker Hughes' global experts showcased a wide range of proven technologies, including:

- Subsurface water reduction
- Water relocation and treatment
- Mineral extraction
- Water-to-power solutions

These solutions were discussed in the context of Oman's specific operational and environmental needs.

More than just a series of technical presentations, the event encouraged meaningful dialogue among operators, regulators, and industry leaders. The focus on collaboration reflected a shared responsibility to address water sustainability challenges together.

We thank Baker Hughes for organizing such a timely and impactful forum, and we recognize the Ministry of Energy and Minerals for its continued leadership in this area.

As the national industry body, OPAL remains committed to supporting initiatives that strengthen local capacity, promote environmental responsibility, and drive progress across Oman's energy landscape.



Himaya's Impact on HSE Excellence



Shaleem Petroleum Mission Statement:

The mission of Shaleem Petroleum is “to make Tomorrow better than Yesterday for our Customers, Employees, Shareholders, and the people of our Local Communities”, which means that Employee Safety and Wellbeing is our Priority.’

Adoption of OPAL's Himaya HSE Digital Platform:

In December 2024, Shaleem Petroleum Company adopted OPAL's Himaya HSE Digital Platform to leverage the technological advantages. The setup and operationalization were straightforward and efficient, with OPAL Himaya deploying a capable team to ensure smooth implementation.

How has Himaya improved communication and coordination between field workers and management?

Himaya has been instrumental in streamlining our HSE Compliance, reducing paperwork, and Enhancing communication and collaboration among our Employees, Managers and Customers. The system features a Real-time analytical dashboard for HSE performance, enabling both Employees and Managers to monitor individual and departmental performance in real-time. This immediate access to data allows us to analyze HSE trends and performance without having to wait until the end of the month.

What were the biggest pain points in HSE reporting before Himaya, and how has the platform addressed them?

Our goal has always been to involve Employees actively in HSE matters. OPAL's Himaya simplifies this process. Key HSE elements such as Incident reporting and Investigations, Inspections and Audits, Change Management, Behavior Observation, Risk Assessments, and Training are now easily accessible to Employees. Furthermore, even in remote locations with limited or no internet access, Inspections, Audits, and other HSE reporting are performed using Himaya's offline application.

If there were one feature you think makes the biggest difference in workplace safety, what would it be?

The most impactful features are the workflow automation and AI-powered machine learning insights. This functionality analyses input data to predict potential Safety issues and Risk factors while providing real-time alerts to develop Proactive Measures.

In what ways do you see Himaya shaping the future of safety culture in the energy sector?

Studies show that leveraging digital Safety Management tools in the workplace can significantly enhance safety and efficiency. Himaya has the potential to promote Transparency in Reporting, Standardize Regulatory Requirements and Industry best practices, Improve Risk Management, and foster collaboration among Employees to help support a Safe workplace Environment and Individual worksite mindset to enhance overall Workplace Safety.

From a leadership perspective, how has Himaya contributed to improving HSE performance and compliance within your organization?

Improving and sustaining HSE culture is a journey that requires unrelenting Leadership Commitment, Consistency and Discipline. Although it has only been three months since we subscribed to Himaya, we've already noticed improvements in structured HSE reporting, increased engagement among Employees and Managers, real-time data analysis, and insights into potential Safety issues, allowing us to clearly understand the reality of our safety culture and to be proactive to improve and to implement preventative actions. So that everyone finishes every shift and every hitch Safely, to return Safely to their Families.

M.M. Rahman Mithun.

Department Head.

HSE and Quality Assurance,

Shaleem Petroleum Company S.A.O.C.

A woman with dark hair, wearing a green hooded cloak, holds a glowing orange crystal ball in her hands. The background is a soft-focus sunset with silhouettes of trees and mountains.

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Sustainability, energy transition take centre stage at OPES and OSW 2025



The Oman Petroleum and Energy Show (OPES) and Oman Sustainability Week (OSW) 2025 – the sultanate's largest energy and sustainability events – were officially inaugurated on Monday at the Oman Convention and Exhibition Centre. The events are being held under the supervision of the Ministry of Energy and Minerals and will run until May 14.

The opening ceremony took place under the patronage of H H Sayyid Taimur bin Asaad al Said, in the presence of several distinguished ministers, ambassadors, senior officials, and representatives from various concerned entities, underscoring the growing national interest in a sustainable and balanced future.

This year marks the first time that OSW and OPES are being held together as an integrated platform, emphasising the importance of securing and sustaining energy while showcasing the sultanate's commitment to achieving a balanced and progressive future.

Commenting on the significance of the events, H E Eng Salim bin Nasser al Aufi, Minister of Energy and Minerals, said, "OPES and OSW 2025 are nationally significant events that underscore Oman's ongoing commitment to advancing sustainable energy, and achieving a balance between innovation, economic growth, and environmental preservation. The OPES 2025 reinforces the country's vision for a sustainable energy future by supporting efforts to reduce carbon emissions and achieve carbon neutrality. OSW 2025 is closely aligned with Oman Vision 2040 and the UN Sustainable Development Goals, playing a vital role in promoting the green circular economy and achieving the nation's ambition to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050."

"Together, these events serve as dynamic platforms for knowledge exchange, fostering innovation, and building strategic partnerships – driving national capacity development and enhancing economic resilience."

The theme of Oman Sustainability Week 2025 is 'Sustainable Growth – Balancing Progress and Preservation', while the theme for the Oman Petroleum and Energy Show 2025 is 'Navigating the Energy Transition through Innovation in Oil and Gas'. This joint platform aims to foster meaningful discussions and innovative solutions in these critical areas.

Throughout the week, OPES and OSW 2025 will feature a dynamic programme comprising exhibitions, strategic conferences, C-level roundtables, technical workshops, and site visits.

The event is expected to attract more than 30,000 visits from over 50 countries, with participation from more than 350 exhibiting companies and 2,400 delegates representing diverse global sectors. This strong international turnout highlights Oman's growing prominence as a hub for global dialogue on energy and sustainability. Moreover, the influx of international participants is anticipated to generate significant economic value across peripheral sectors such as tourism, hospitality, and transport, contributing meaningfully to the nation's broader diversification goals.

Oman Net Zero Centre launched

During the Oman Petroleum and Energy Show (OPES) and Oman Sustainability Week (OSW) 2025, H H Sayyid Taimur bin Asaad al Said on Monday inaugurated the Oman Net Zero Centre, which operates under the Ministry of Energy and Minerals.

The newly launched centre focuses on several key areas, particularly the preparation and continuous updating of the national plan to achieve net-zero emissions. It also oversees the implementation of relevant projects and initiatives, offering support and consultation to institutions and stakeholders to help meet national net-zero targets.

In addition, the centre is responsible for defining and updating Oman's national strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050. It provides technical guidance and support to both government bodies and private sector organisations on the net-zero transition and energy efficiency.

The Oman Net Zero Centre also monitors progress, promotes awareness, and builds capacity to ensure the effective implementation of related programmes and initiatives. These efforts reflect a strong commitment to addressing climate change and advancing clean, renewable energy solutions.

The initiative aligns with Oman's pledge to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. It has also accelerated the development of the renewable energy sector, established supportive legal frameworks and policies, and introduced incentives to attract foreign investment, support local industries, and localise clean energy technologies.



TATI, in partnership with NSL, will be conducting The LIFTING EQUIPMENT INSPECTION (LEI) Program

NSL

ASCO PART OF ASCOWORLD

NSL LEI program trains individuals to become qualified lifting equipment inspectors, enabling them to conduct inspections on various lifting appliances and accessories such as mobile cranes, forklifts, chain hoist, beam clamps, overhead beams, and more.

The NSL LEI program contains of 6 Main Modules and 2 Bolt-On Modules

- Module 1: General Lifting Equipment
- Module 2: Winches & Powered Hoists
- Module 3: Pedestal & Mobile Cranes
- Module 4: Overhead Travelling Cranes, Runway Beams & Swing Jibs
- Module 5: Forklift Trucks & Stackers
- Module 6: Containers, Baskets & Other Cargo Carrying Units
- Bolt-On 1: Lorry Loaders (HIAB Crane)
- Bolt-On 2: MEWP

The course also covers the preparation of certificates and a series of practical assessments

For more information regarding course fees, training schedule, and to register, please reach out to

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Vocational Diploma Program



Accredited by: Ministry of Higher Education Research and innovation

Program Duration : 2 years + Foundation year

Approved programs

- Welding & Metal Fabrication
- Auto-Mechanic
- Electrical Engineering
- Operations Engineering
- Air conditioning and cooling
- Logistic Management
- Marketing & Sales
- Quantity Surveying
- Construction Engineering
- NON-Destructive Tests Engineering / welding inspection

Certificates

- TATI certificate attested by MOHERI
- BTEC Level 3/Level 4 Diploma / Pearson UK

For more information, reach out to us

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Technical & Administrative Training Institute offers **Electric and Hybrid Vehicle** specialized courses focusing on Maintenance, Diagnostics, and Safety.



Electric and Hybrid Vehicle Courses

Hybrid Vehicles Courses			Electric Vehicles (EVs) Courses		
Course Title	Duration (Hours)	Duration (Days)	Course Title	Duration (Hours)	Duration (Days)
Introduction to Hybrid Vehicles	18	3	Introduction to Electric Vehicles (EVs)	12	2
Periodic and Preventive Maintenance for Hybrid Vehicles	24	4	High-Voltage Battery Systems in EVs	18	3
Hybrid Vehicle Troubleshooting and Repair	30	5	Electric Vehicle Power Electronics and Inverter Systems	18	3
Safety and Emergency Procedures for Hybrid Vehicles	12	2	Electric Motors and Drive Systems in EVs	12	2
High-Voltage Systems in Hybrid Vehicles	18	3	EV Charging Systems and Infrastructure	12	2
Low-Voltage and High-Voltage Systems in Hybrid Vehicles	12	2	Safety and Emergency Procedures for Electric Vehicles	12	2
Hybrid Vehicle Inverter and Power Electronics	18	3	Periodic and Preventive Maintenance for Electric Vehicles	18	3
Motor Generator Unit (MGU) and Energy Recovery Systems	18	3	Electric Vehicle Troubleshooting and Repair	36	6
Hybrid Vehicle System Main Relay and Power Distribution	12	2			
Hybrid Vehicles Battery Management system	12	2			

For more information on course details, course fees / group bookings, please contact
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Mazoon Mining inks contracts for Yanqul Copper Project



Mazoon Mining Company, a subsidiary of Minerals Development Oman (MDO), on Tuesday signed construction and service package agreements with local contractors for the Yanqul Copper Concentrate Production Project in Al Dhahirah Governorate. The project's foundation stone was laid last November.

The agreements were signed during the Rawabet Forum, organised by the Oman Investment Authority for its subsidiaries.

The construction and service packages, awarded to several companies specialising in project implementation, include: a transportation and logistics services contract with Asyad Group, the national logistics arm; a contract for the development of the electricity grid and transformer station with Oman National Engineering and Investment Company (ONEIC); and a contract for initial site preparation works with Strabag Oman.

Mazoon Mining Company also announced that it has successfully secured RO104mn in financing from a number of local and regional banks. This was achieved through a strategic partnership with several major banking institutions, including Sohar Islamic, National Bank of Oman, Qatar National Bank, Bank Nizwa, ahlibank, and Ahli Bank Islamic.

The offering attracted strong interest from financial institutions and was more than twice oversubscribed, reflecting the project's position as one of the most attractive investment opportunities in Oman's mining sector.

In a statement to Oman News Agency, Eng Matar bin Salem al Badi, CEO of Minerals Development Oman, said that securing the financing is a strategic milestone, confirming the project's readiness to move into the implementation phase.

He noted that the financing covers approximately 60% of the total project value and that the signing of the construction and service packages marks a critical step towards keeping the project on schedule.

He added that the project has undergone several preparatory phases, including the assignment of engineering, procurement, and supervision responsibilities to the Canadian firm Lycopodium. In addition, contracts have been signed for the supply of the main equipment for the copper concentrate plant with Metso, a global leader in processing and concentration technologies.

Environmental sustainability is a key focus of the Yanqul Copper Production Project, which will implement a zero-water discharge system and advanced waste management solutions. It is also expected to deliver significant social and economic benefits, including job creation, support for small and medium-sized enterprises, and stimulation of the local economy. The project spans an area of 20 sqkm and aims to produce approximately 115,000 tonnes of copper concentrate annually, with a purity of up to 21.5%, based on proven reserves of approximately 22.9mn tonnes of copper ore.

Reference: Muscat Daily

OQEP signs RO21mn contracts with local firms



OQ Exploration & Production (OQEP), the leading exploration and production company listed on the Muscat Stock Exchange, announced on Monday the signing of four major contracts exceeding RO21mn during its participation in the Oman Petroleum & Energy Show 2025.

These agreements with local companies and small and medium enterprises (SMEs) operating in Oman's concession areas reflect OQEP's commitment to enhancing In-Country Value (ICV).

OQEP signed a contract with Technical Services Company to develop a fully integrated residential camp within the Bisat Project at Block 60. The contract includes engineering, manufacturing, procurement, installation and operational services, with completion scheduled for June 2026. The facility, designed to accommodate between 360 and 460 individuals, will directly support Bisat field operations while contributing to Omanisation objectives.

In addition, OQEP concluded a two-year agreement with Shalim Oil Company, with an option to extend for a further two years. This strategic decision will ensure the continued employment of over 80 former Shalim staff, reinforcing OQEP's commitment to workforce stability and long-term local engagement in its oil fields. Shalim, a recognised local service provider, specialises in light land drilling rigs for Block 60, OQEP's principal hydrocarbon concession.

A third contract was signed with Rimal Al Sahra Oil & Gas to supply casing materials for Blocks 60 and 48 under a four-year agreement, with an optional two-year extension. This collaboration reflects OQEP's growing capability in providing essential well construction components, while supporting local procurement and reducing reliance on imports.

The fourth contract was awarded to Shuram LLC, an Omani SME holding a Riyada card, for essential analytical services across Blocks 60, 48 and 8. As the only specialised laboratory service provider for the oil sector in Oman, Shuram's partnership with OQEP underscores the company's focus on supporting high-performing SMEs and strengthening in-country expertise.

Jaber al-Namani, Chief Financial Officer at OQEP, said, "These contracts reaffirm OQEP's steadfast commitment to ICV by forging strategic partnerships with local businesses and enabling Omani talent at all levels of operation. We believe that investing in human capital and local infrastructure is key to achieving sustainable economic growth and boosting the competitiveness of Oman's energy sector in the long term."

"By signing these agreements with SMEs in concession areas, we are reinforcing their role in driving national economic contribution while supporting private sector development and workforce empowerment," he added.

PDO offers high-potential oil acreage for investment



In a significant development, Petroleum Development Oman (PDO)—the largest producer of oil and gas in the Sultanate of Oman—has invited Expressions of Interest (EOIs) from local and international operators for the development of a potentially hydrocarbon-rich field within its expansive Block 6 license. The majority state-owned national oil company announced in a post on Thursday, May 22, 2025, that a 130 km² parcel of land, dubbed Area A, is being offered for investment and development in the Qarn Alam Cluster, located within the prolific Ghaba Basin in northern Oman.

"This represents a strategic opportunity to access a discovered resource with more than 1 billion barrels of STOILP (stock tank oil initially in place), located within Area A, which spans over 130 km². The area offers proximity to existing infrastructure and holds significant development potential," PDO stated in its post.

Operators interested in the exploration, appraisal, and development of Area A have been invited to submit a letter confirming their willingness to participate in a competitive process, along with supporting documents demonstrating their relevant experience. The deadline for submission of EOIs is June 5, 2025.

According to industry experts, the move aligns with PDO's broader strategy of engaging specialized operators to manage specific assets within its portfolio. A notable example of this approach is the company's 2006 partnership with Indonesia's MedcoEnergi to operate the Karim Small Fields (KSF) Cluster—a group of 18 small and mature oil fields located in southern Oman. This arrangement allowed PDO to focus on its larger, core assets while leveraging MedcoEnergi's expertise to optimize production from the smaller fields.

Under that contract, MedcoEnergi assumed full operational responsibility, including exploration, drilling, and production activities, while PDO retained ownership of the hydrocarbons. The initial 10-year contract was extended in 2015 for an additional 25 years, running through 2040.

Another example is the Rima Cluster, operated by Daleel Petroleum, which focuses on mature oil fields in south-central Oman. Similar to the KSF Cluster, these fields require cost-efficient, focused, and flexible development strategies.

While these previous contracts were primarily service-based, a future deal over Area A is expected to take the form of a broader partnership—potentially rewarding the new operator for deploying proprietary technologies, financial contributions, and performance-enhancing strategies.

The Ghaba Basin, which serves as a mainstay of PDO's oil and gas production, is characterized by complex structural traps and diverse reservoir types, requiring significant financial and technological investment to unlock their hydrocarbon potential. International operators typically bring advanced technologies, proprietary tools, and specialized expertise in enhanced oil recovery (EOR), deep reservoir exploration, tight or complex geological formations, and digital oilfield integration and automation. By partnering with such players, PDO aims to accelerate the deployment of cutting-edge solutions, reduce risk, and improve recovery rates, experts add.

Abraj Energy signs deal with BP for drilling rig in Block 61



Abraj Energy Services has signed a contract with BP Oman to provide a drilling rig for operations in Block 61, with the rig expected to become operational in the fourth quarter of 2025.

The agreement was formalised on the sidelines of the Oman Petroleum & Energy Show (OPES) and Oman Sustainability Week (OSW) 2025. This partnership is set to reinforce Abraj's position as a reliable and leading partner in Oman's oil and energy sector.

The contract also reflects Abraj's continued commitment to operational excellence, occupational safety, and the delivery of innovative services and solutions that support and advance the energy sector in Oman.

In a statement to Oman News Agency, Eng Saif bin Said al Hamhami, CEO of Abraj Energy Services, said, "We are proud of this strategic partnership with BP Oman to provide a drilling rig in Block 61, building on a collaboration that has spanned more than a decade in the drilling services sector. This marks a new milestone in our efforts to expand our operational reach and strengthen our presence in the local market through high-quality, impactful projects."

Hamhami added that the agreement demonstrates the strategic partners' confidence in Abraj's efficiency and capability to deliver safe, effective operational solutions that adhere to the highest international standards. He emphasised the company's steadfast commitment to maximising in-country value, investing in the development of national talent, and enhancing operational sustainability.

Reference: Oman Observer

Oman marks groundbreaking on \$1.6 billion Marsa LNG project



The Marsa LNG project was launched on May 1, 2025, in Sohar, marking the largest joint investment between TotalEnergies (80 percent) and OQEP (20 percent), with a total value of \$1.6 billion. The event, held under the auspices of Eng. Salim bin Nasser Al Aui, Minister of Energy and Minerals, was attended by senior officials, investors, and business leaders.

Speaking exclusively to the Observer, Eng. Salim Al Aui explained that the LNG terminal has been designed to allow for potential expansion into a second phase. However, no decision has been made regarding a second terminal, as it will depend on the availability of gas resources and the results of an economic feasibility study.

He noted that the loading jetty, storage tanks, and electrical infrastructure are all in place, and the platform land has already been prepared. "The only remaining step is a final decision, which hinges on the project's economic viability moving forward. We will monitor the performance of the initial phase, as it depends on the gas fields' ability to supply," he said.

The implementation of the Marsa LNG project strengthens Oman's position as a regional hub for clean marine fuel and reflects a strategic partnership between OQEP and TotalEnergies. This collaboration serves as a model for successful international cooperation in the development of clean energy projects and contributes to economic diversification, foreign investment, and increased In-Country Value (ICV) in line with the objectives of Oman Vision 2040.

The project is the first of its kind in the Middle East to supply ships with liquefied natural gas (LNG) as fuel, supporting the reduction of the maritime transport sector's carbon footprint through the development of low-emission infrastructure.

Patrick Pouyanné, Chairman and CEO of TotalEnergies, said: "This project proves LNG can be low-carbon, setting a new standard for next-generation plants while supporting cleaner marine fuel at a key gateway to the Gulf."

Eng. Ahmed Al Azkawi, CEO of OQEP, added: "The Marsa LNG project represents a bold step forward, harnessing cutting-edge technology and strategic collaboration to ensure a cleaner and affordable energy future."

The project consists of both upstream and downstream components. The upstream component includes the production of 150 million standard cubic feet of gas per day from Concession Block 10, which will be transported via OQ's gas network to Sohar Port. The downstream component includes the construction of an LNG plant with an annual capacity of one million tonnes, supported by a 300-megawatt solar power plant to meet the facility's annual energy needs.

Reference: Oman Observer

Vale signs deal with OQAE to advance decarbonisation of its Oman operations



As part of its strategy to decarbonise its operations in Oman and transition its industrial energy use to renewable sources, Vale in Oman has signed a Head of Agreement (HOA) with OQ Alternative Energy (OQAE) during Oman Sustainability Week.

The agreement establishes a framework for developing renewable energy solutions to power Vale's pelletising plant in Sohar Port as well as support future energy needs for the upcoming Green Metallic Mega Hub in Duqm.

The agreement outlines the direction for future project development by establishing clear areas of cooperation related to energy supply, land coordination and long-term planning, all aimed at enabling the integration of renewable energy into Vale's operations.

Saleh al Muslahi, Chief Executive of Mega Hubs-Middle East and North Africa, said, "Achieving large-scale decarbonisation demands more than ambitions, it requires strategic planning, strong partnerships, and reliable access to sustainable energy. Our agreement with OQAE embodies this approach. By aligning on demand aggregation, infrastructure readiness, and long-term supply models, we are creating the critical conditions to advance our transition in Sohar and unlock the potential of our future mega hub in Duqm."

Najla Zuhair al Jamali, Chief Executive of OQ Alternative Energy said, "Our collaboration with Vale reflects OQAE's commitment to enabling the industrial sector's transition to clean energy. This agreement goes beyond decarbonizing a single site – it lays the foundation for a new model of sustainable industrial development in Oman, powered by renewables. Together, we are shaping a future where energy innovation drives national growth and global climate progress."

Vale's ambition is to help decarbonise the mining industry and support the transition to net-zero steelmaking in the long term. Stemming from its belief that energy transition is a great growth engine, the company has made public commitments to reduce its environmental footprint by investing in cleaner technologies, improving operational efficiency, and adopting advanced emissions control systems.

In Oman, this ambition is being translated into action through the company's commitment to transition its pelletizing plant in Sohar to 100% renewable electricity by 2030 as well as the establishment of a large-scale industrial complex in Duqm designed to produce high-quality agglomerated products that enable lower-carbon steel production for both local and global markets.

Renewables-based Energy Gateway proposed for Oman's Masirah Island



MUSCAT: A pair of leading Dutch firms has unveiled a proposal for meeting the energy requirements of Masirah, the biggest island off Oman's east coast, with a mix of renewables-based energy resources.

Dutch engineering and consultancy firm Witteveen+Bos, together with Van Oord, a leading global maritime contractor headquartered in the Netherlands, are behind an initiative, dubbed 'Masirah Energy Gateway' that envisages the supply of green electricity harnessed from tidal, wind and solar energy.

An overview of this globally unique initiative was presented during the CEO Business Roundtable held as part of the State Visit of His Majesty Sultan Haitham bin Tarik to the Netherlands last week.

Witteveen+Bos Managing Director Wouter Bijman described the proposed project as an 'energy bridge' spanning the 20km distance between Masirah Island and the Omani mainland.

"Every year, 2200 Gigawatt-hours of sustainable energy will be generated with a combination of tidal, wind and solar energy. This globally unique megaproject fits in seamlessly with the sustainability Vision Oman 2040; the electricity generated can also serve as an energy source in the production of green hydrogen," Witteveen+Bos stated in a post.

Representatives of Witteveen+Bos were recently in Muscat as part of a contingent of Dutch firms participating in the just-concluded Oman Water Week 2025 forum. The consultancy firm is among a number of Dutch businesses currently engaged in strengthening Oman's water sector as part of the Netherlands Water Partnership (NWP) initiative.

At a state dinner held in honour of His Majesty Sultan Haitham's recent visit to the Netherlands, both countries highlighted their strategic partnership spanning a number of key areas, including green hydrogen and advanced water solutions. A joint communique issued at the conclusion of the visit also underlined the importance of cooperation in water technology, climate adaptation, and resilient infrastructure - areas that also represent the core strengths of Dutch technological expertise.

Significantly, Witteveen+Bos is also a member of the Oman Netherlands Strategic Taskforce which is overseeing the implementation of the Oman Netherlands Water Roadmap, which seeks to identify joint priorities for the next two years. Implementation is being done in close coordination with the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Muscat, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Water Resources, and Nama Water Services Group.

The proposed Masirah Energy Gateway, if and when approved for implementation, will complement a newly launched initiative by the Omani government to extend the country's main electricity grid to Masirah Island via the installation of a first-ever undersea cable.

National grid operator Oman Electricity Transmission Company (OTC) is overseeing the implementation of the RO 72 million interconnection project, which aims to supplant diesel-powered electricity currently supplying the island, with gas-powered, and potentially even renewables powered, electricity from the mainland.

Reference: Muscat Daily

Abraj secures RO14mn drilling contract from BP for Block 61



Abraj Energy Services, Oman's leading oil and gas services provider, has announced the award of a significant new contract by BP Exploration (Epsilon) Limited, marking a renewed collaboration between the two companies in Block 61, one of the sultanate's largest gas-producing areas. In a disclosure to the Muscat Stock Exchange, Abraj confirmed it had secured a contract from BP Exploration (Epsilon) Limited for the provision and operation of an onshore drilling unit. The contract is for an initial term of three years, with an option to extend for a further two years, highlighting the long-term nature of the partnership.

Abraj stated the contract is expected to generate approximately RO14mn in revenue over its duration, bolstering the company's financial position and reaffirming its strategic role in Oman's upstream energy sector.

Abraj said that the drilling rig for this project was previously operated under a contract with BP but had been stacked since the expiration of that agreement last year. The company noted the rig is now scheduled to commence operations in the fourth quarter of 2025.

Block 61, situated in central Oman, is home to the massive Khazzan and Ghazeer gas fields, which play a crucial role in supporting the country's gas supply and export capacity. BP operates the block in partnership with OQ and Petronas, with its output contributing significantly to both domestic energy requirements and LNG exports.

Abraj signs term sheet with Algeria's Sonatrach

In a separate disclosure to the Muscat Stock Exchange on Tuesday, Abraj Energy Services also announced the signing of a term sheet with Algeria's state-owned energy giant Sonatrach, setting the foundation for a strategic partnership focused on delivering integrated oilfield services in Algeria and potentially beyond.

The agreement, finalised on Monday, outlines plans for a joint effort to offer a wide range of services – including drilling, workovers, and well intervention – in one of North Africa's most important oil and gas markets, with scope for international expansion.

Abraj noted in its disclosure that the partnership aims to leverage its considerable expertise and resources to deliver efficient, high-quality oilfield services in Algeria's energy sector.

This term sheet builds upon the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the two companies in Muscat on April 24, 2024 and represents a key milestone in enhancing energy sector cooperation between Oman and Algeria.

GBM Oman Brings University of Manchester to Muscat for Masterclass on Business Innovation



In line with its ongoing commitment to skills development and knowledge exchange, GBM Oman, in collaboration with the University of Manchester, hosted a masterclass on Entrepreneurship and Innovation on 22 April 2025 at the Youth Center in Muscat. The session was led by Leigh Wharton, a senior lecturer from the University of Manchester, known for his work in enterprise and innovation education.

The masterclass explored how today's businesses can adapt to rapid changes in customer expectations and digital technologies. Attendees from across various sectors engaged in discussions on how organizations can rethink their business models, develop new offerings, and stay resilient in competitive markets.

"This session helped us understand how innovation is not just about technology, but about responding creatively to change," said one participant. "It provided a clear framework for thinking about growth in uncertain times."

The event also gave participants the opportunity to connect with peers and reflect on how entrepreneurial thinking can be applied within large organizations, start-ups, or individual careers.

Mahmoud El Kordy, General Manager of GBM Oman, remarked, "We believe that innovation starts with conversation and shared learning. Partnering with academic institutions like the University of Manchester brings fresh perspectives to the Oman market and helps build capabilities that align with Oman's 2040 future vision."

This masterclass is part of GBM Oman's broader effort to foster talent and support In-Country Value (ICV) through knowledge-based initiatives.

Oman's HyDugm hydrogen project eyes FID in 2027



Hydrogen Duqm LLC (HyDuqm), one of nine major green hydrogen and ammonia projects currently in early development in Oman, anticipates making a Final Investment Decision (FID) in 2027, with production expected to start in 2030.

HyDuqm is a joint venture formed by six leading global companies: POSCO Holdings, Samsung Engineering, Korea East-West Power, Korea Southern Power, MESCOT Middle East DMCC (a subsidiary of ENGIE, France), and FutureTech Energy Ventures Limited (FTEV), the clean energy arm of Thai energy conglomerate PTTEP.

In 2023, the joint venture secured a concession from Hydrom, Oman's green hydrogen master planner, to develop a project in Block Z1-02 in Al Wusta Governorate. The project targets an annual production capacity of 1.2 million tonnes of green ammonia, utilizing clean energy derived from green hydrogen.

According to FTEV, the partners are currently conducting renewable resource assessments—evaluating wind and solar energy potential—and undertaking a feasibility study to assess the investment value and profitability before moving to the engineering design phase, expected in 2025.

PTTEP highlighted in its 2024 Annual Report that this investment aligns with its strategic plan for clean energy growth and provides an opportunity to apply its green hydrogen expertise from Thailand. PTTEP has already installed wind and solar measurement stations and is collecting data to support project development. The feasibility study also includes geographical, geotechnical, hydrological, and preliminary environmental and social impact assessments (Pre-ESIA).





The report also outlined PTTEP's active role in Oman's oil and gas sector. Key assets include a 20% stake in Block 61, operated by BP, which contributes roughly one-third of Oman's total gas output. In 2024, Block 61 produced an average of 1,511 MMSCFD of natural gas (about 267,746 barrels of oil equivalent per day) and 56,087 barrels per day of condensate.

PTTEP also holds a 2% stake in Block 6 (operated by Petroleum Development Oman), where crude oil production averaged 66,490 bpd in 2024. In Block 53 (Mukhaizna field), where Occidental is the operator, PTTEP holds a 1% interest. Production there averaged 75,227 bpd in 2024, and the EPSA was recently extended until 2050.

Additionally, PTTEP owns a 20% interest in Block 12 (operated by TotalEnergies), where two exploration wells were drilled in 2024, and geological studies are ongoing. Through its subsidiary PTTEP Oman E&P Corporation (formerly Partex Oman Corporation), the group also holds a 2% stake in Oman LNG LLC and an indirect 0.7% interest in Qalhat LNG.

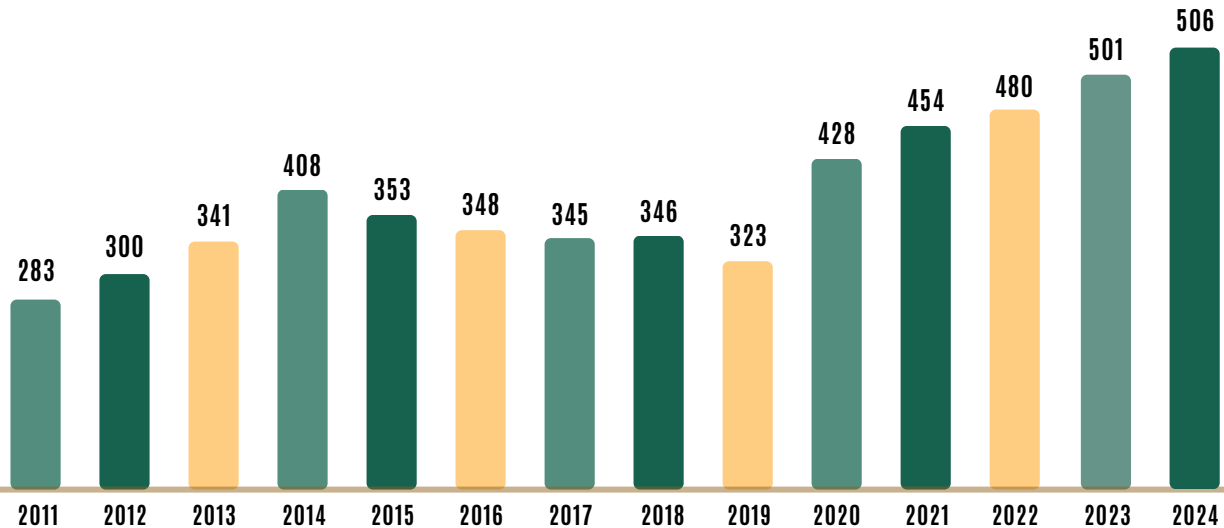
Reference: Oman Observer

OPAL 2025 Events Calendar

JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE
 2024 Best Practices Award (15 Jan)	EMSSU SMEs Appreciation Ceremony (5th Feb)	Annual General Meeting Online (27th Mar)	Worker Welfare & Mental Wellbeing Forum (22nd April)	 Oman Sustainability Week (11-15th May)	Road Safety Forum (June 11th)
Senior Leaders Safety Forum 15th Edition (23rd Jan)			Summer Heat Stress Management (30th Apr online)	 OMAN PETROLEUM & ENERGY SHOW (12-14th May)	Quarterly Senior Leaders Safety Forums (TBC)
			Quarterly Senior Leaders Safety Forums (TBC)	Global HSE Forum Bahrain (19-22nd May)	
				INTI& OPAL Tech Day (25th May)	
JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
		Quarterly Senior Leaders Safety Forums (TBC)	Digitalization & AI Forum (1st Oct)	BP Ruwad Graduation Ceremony (TBC)	EMSSU Awareness Sessions (TBC)
		EMSSU Awareness Sessions (TBC Quarterly)		Learning from Incidents & Best Practices DROPS (5th Nov)	 2025 Best Practices Award (TBC)
		TFE Graduation Ceremony (TBC)			Quarterly Senior Leaders Safety Forums (TBC)
		Learning from Incidents & Best Practices Forum (17th Sep)			2nd Mining Safety Leadership Forum (3rd Dec)

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