

# the arabian sun

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a weekly Aramco publication for employees



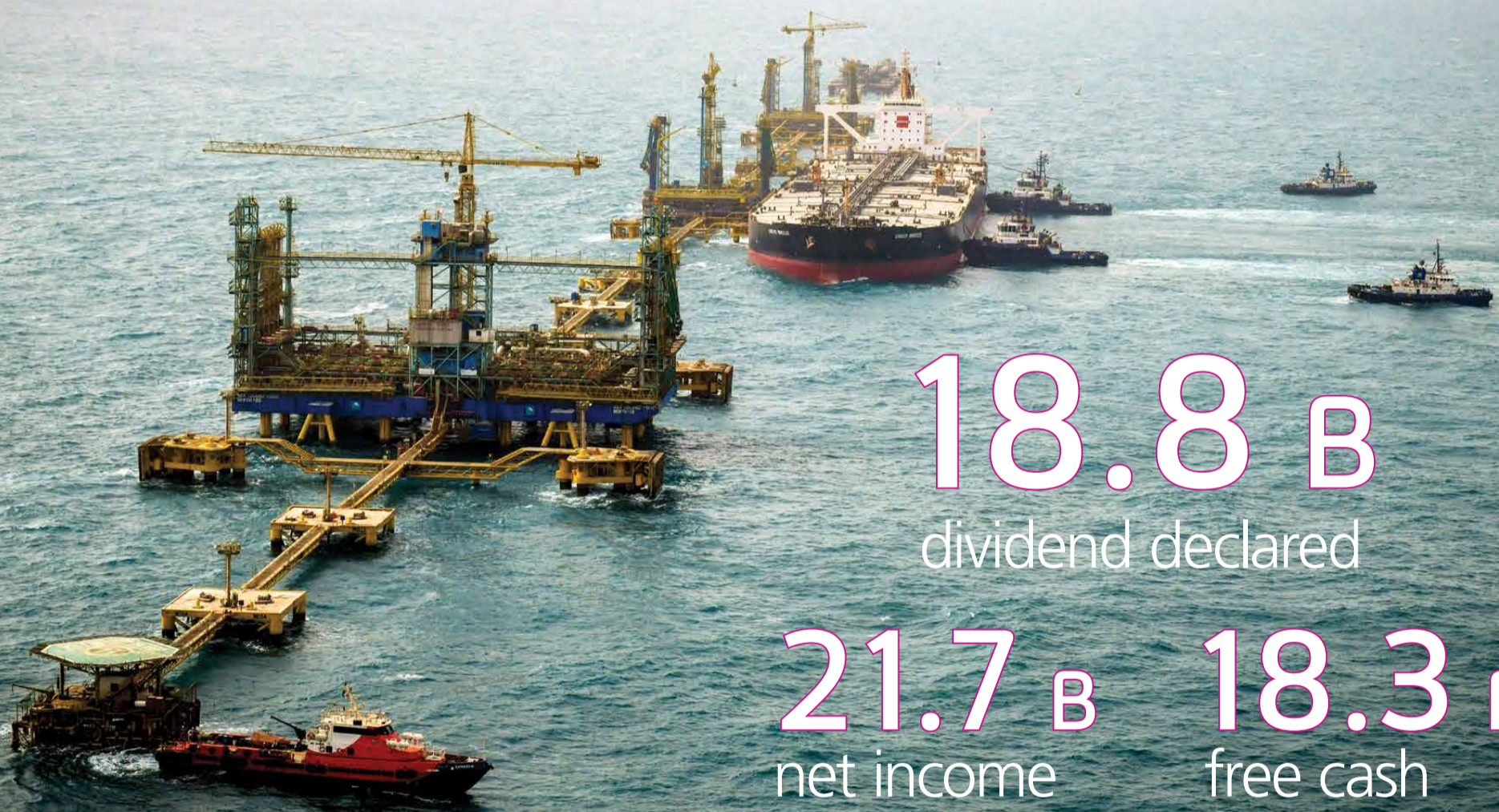
## Ramadan Tours

Aramco president and CEO Amin Nasser visits employees across operations.

see page 3



# Aramco reports stronger 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter results built on rising economy



**18.8 B**  
dividend declared

**21.7 B**  
net income

**18.3 B**  
free cash flow

see page 2



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# Aramco sees net income rise 30% in first quarter results

Aramco yesterday (May 4) announced its first quarter financial results, posting a 30% year-on-year increase in net income to \$21.7 billion and declaring a dividend of \$18.8 billion to be paid in Q2. Higher oil prices and an improved economic environment underpinned the results in the first three months of 2021.

"The momentum provided by the global economic recovery has strengthened energy markets, and Aramco's operational flexibility, financial agility, and the resilience of our employees have contributed to a strong first quarter performance," said Amin Nasser, Aramco president and CEO. "For our customers we remain a supplier of choice, and for our shareholders we continue to deliver an exceptional quarterly dividend.

"We made further progress toward our strategic objectives during the quarter, and our portfolio optimization program continues to identify value creation opportunities, such as the recent announcement of our landmark \$12.4 billion pipeline infrastructure deal. We also expect Saudi Arabia's newly launched Shareek program to present growth opportunities, through incentives that encourage partnerships and investment.

"Given the positive signs for energy demand in 2021, there are more reasons to be optimistic that better days are coming. And while some headwinds still remain, we are well positioned to meet the world's growing energy needs as economies start to recover."

## Financial highlights

Aramco's net income was \$21.7 billion

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Given the positive signs for energy demand in 2021, there are more reasons to be optimistic that better days are coming. And while some headwinds still remain, we are well positioned to meet the world's growing energy needs as economies start to recover.

— Amin Nasser

for the first quarter, a 30% increase from \$16.7 billion in Q1 2020, primarily driven by a stronger oil market and higher refining and chemicals margins, partly offset by lower production.

Cash flow from operating activities and free cash flow\* was \$26.5 billion and \$18.3 billion, respectively, in the first quarter, while first quarter capital expenditure stood at \$8.2 billion.

Aramco's gearing ratio\* remained unchanged at 23.0% on March 31, 2021, compared to Dec. 31, 2020.

Aramco declared a dividend of \$18.8 billion for the first quarter, to be paid in Q2 2021.

## Operational highlights

Aramco demonstrated reliable upstream performance with an average total hydrocarbon production of 11.5

million barrels per day of oil equivalent in the first quarter of 2021, including 8.6 million barrels per day of crude oil.

The company maintained its exceptional track record as a global energy supplier, achieving 100% reliability in its deliveries to customers during the first quarter.

In January, Aramco partnered with STC, a leading telecom and technology services company, to launch one of the world's most powerful supercomputers, Dammam-7. Its high performance computing capability of 55.4 petaflops presents new opportunities in both exploration and development, enhancing Aramco's ability to predict the location of new reserves using sophisticated imaging and artificial intelligence deep learning technologies. Dammam-7 supports Aramco's digital transformation program, complementing a suite of advanced technologies that are reshaping

core operations, driving efficiencies, and reinforcing its industry leadership.

During the first quarter, Aramco and the Dow Chemical Company, partners in the Sadara Chemical Company (Sadara) joint venture, entered into agreements relating to the joint venture. This included extending the debt repayment tenure, a grace period for interest payments, and sponsor guarantees. It further included other agreements with respect to procurement of feedstock and marketing rights for Sadara's finished products.

Aramco planted more than 500,000 trees during the first quarter, successfully completing its program to plant 1 million trees. The program's main objective is to mitigate desertification, sequester carbon, and enhance native biodiversity. The "1 Million Trees" initiative aligns with the United Nations Biodiversity and Sustainability Development Goals, and is part of the company's commitment to protecting the environment.

The company also contributed to COVID-19 vaccination efforts during the first quarter to protect its workforce and the wider community from the risk of infection. As of April 30, more than 178,000 Aramco employees, retirees, and their dependents had received vaccinations. This includes around 85% of the Aramco workforce. These were administered either through Aramco's vaccination program, being conducted from 14 locations across Saudi Arabia in conjunction with its medical partner Johns Hopkins Aramco Healthcare, or through a government vaccination scheme.

\*Please refer to [www.aramco.com/investors](http://www.aramco.com/investors) for reconciliation of non-IFRS measures.

## Your voice

# Finding one's self-worth is priceless



By Ricardo S. Baclig Jr.  
Yanbu'  
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During my in-Kingdom vacation last December, I came across a Facebook group called "Trader's Empire." One of its posts said, "Why don't schools teach us stock trading instead of finding the value of X?"

That message came from a stock market guru who amassed a fortune by trading daily. She has no work at all except trading and selling her book related to the market.

I started to ponder. She could be right. Nowadays, almost everything is traded and we need money to buy our food, pay our utility bills, school fees, and health insurance. But how much money do we really need to survive and have a decent living?

Imagine we were taught trading rather than solving mathematical equations. What would the world be like now?

Perhaps our homes would still be illuminated by torches because Thomas Edison was too busy interpreting the candlestick rather than inventing the early versions of the electric light bulb and motion picture camera.

Maybe Aramco would not exist today because Max Steineke was too focused on trading and analyzing moving average convergence/divergence indicators rather than digging Well Number 7.

I thought maybe the investment guru didn't see the real essence of solving an algebraic expression. Is the equation only asking us to find the value of X, or is it trying to tell us to find our own worth as a person? And just like the equation, the value of X could be positive or negative. Therefore, as it is in real life, it's up to you if you want to be happy and successful or succumbed by loneli-

ness and failure.

I understand that not all of us are mathematically gifted and most of us find the algebraic expression, "find the value of X" difficult. For those still studying and haven't found their self-worth in solving math equations, you still have ample time to find the value of your own X — the one that is rewarding and will make you happy.

And for those who have their diplomas yet still struggle to find their own self-worth, maybe this is the right time to reassess and use your past challenges and failures to find what is really fulfilling for you.

As for me, I had found my own value of X in writing. Wall Street might be brimming with the richest people in the world, but seeing my work published here brings me so much happiness and joy. THAT is priceless.

Your Voice reflects the thoughts and opinions of the writer, and not necessarily those of the publication.



# CEO tours company facilities during Ramadan

**What makes Aramco the world's most valuable integrated energy company, producing one out of every eight barrels of oil in the world, is its people.**

Year round, it is our people who travel far from home, in challenging environments, with unwavering attention to safety and health, providing energy that is the foundation for the world's economy and the nation's ambitions.

Working in remote facilities requires commitment, and Amin Nasser, Aramco president and CEO, and senior executives

paid tribute to that commitment during a tour of company facilities during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

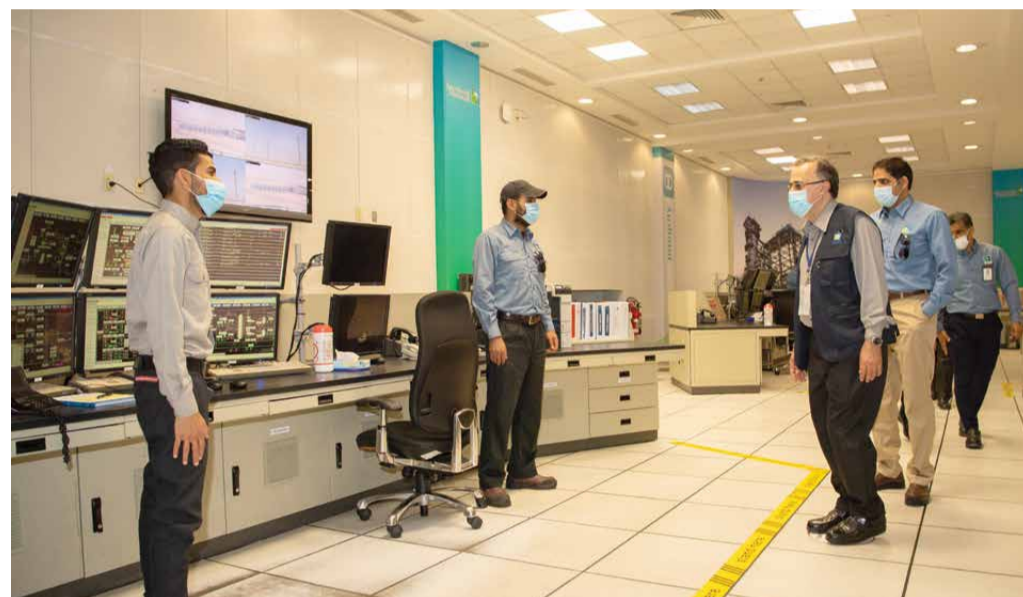
Nasser and members of his management team visited employees in Abqaiq, Manifa, Marjan, Ras Tanura, Shaybah, and Shedgum, along with Jazan at the end of Ramadan.

During his visit, Nasser thanked

employees for their efforts and dedication. He also assured them that their work will continue to be critical, not only in producing the world's much-needed source of energy, but also in providing feedstock for local and global industries that will enable economic growth in the Kingdom and around the world.



During a visit to Marjan, Amin Nasser visited the GOSP-2 Control Room, where he expressed his appreciation for the hard work and dedication of personnel working in remote areas.



Amin Nasser greets personnel during a recent visit to Manifa Producing Control Center. During his visit, the CEO emphasized the importance of vigilance, both in personal health and in maintaining safety in the workplace.



The CEO spoke with personnel at the Shaybah Plants, highlighting their hard work and response to a number of challenges, including maintaining operational safety during the pandemic and bringing plants back into production.



Amin Nasser speaks with Abqaiq Plants employees during the recent senior management visit to company facilities. Nasser paid tribute to their dedication.



Amin Nasser visits with employees in the Engineers' Computer Room at the Ras Tanura Refinery during the senior management visit of facilities.



The president and CEO speaks with personnel at the Shedgum Gas Plant during a tour of facilities.



# Aramco, SABIC streamline marketing, offtake, and sales

Aramco and SABIC have announced their intention to transfer the marketing and sales responsibility for a number of Aramco petrochemicals and polymer products to SABIC, and the offtake and resale responsibility of a number of SABIC products to the Aramco Trading Company (ATC).



Together, ATC and SABIC are focused on providing a world-class products and services offering. These changes will place us in an even stronger position to deliver market leading innovation and value.

— Ibrahim Q. Al-Buainain

The effect of these changes, planned to be implemented on a phased basis throughout 2021, subject to the necessary consents being obtained, will result in SABIC focusing on petrochemical products and ATC on fuel products.

ity, ordering and points of sale, supply chain, shipping reliability, and after-market services and solutions.

ally, including in strategically important geographies, especially across Asia.

This is a significant step in aligning the Aramco and SABIC strategies, following Aramco's acquisition of a 70% stake in SABIC in June 2020.

Ibrahim Q. Al-Buainain, president and CEO of ATC, said, "The transfers reflect our shared commitment to capitalize on the complementary nature of Aramco and SABIC's respective product portfolios as we strive to create added value for our customers and shareholders.

"These marketing and sales transfers and operational changes are intended to put us closer to market, driving greater agility and flexibility to deliver added value to customers and power their ambition," Al-Fageeh said.

Aramco and SABIC will continue to review options for further global marketing and sales transfers across product producing companies within the Aramco group portfolio.

### Petrochemicals, fuels, and shipping

Responsibility for the global marketing and sales of certain Aramco petrochemicals and polymer products and those of its joint ventures and affiliates will transfer to SABIC.

### Benefiting the companies' customers

The changes will drive further operational efficiencies, strengthen the brands of both companies and their combined products and services offering, and help to maintain competitiveness. Customers will benefit from improved product range and availability,

"Together, ATC and SABIC are focused on providing a world-class products and services offering. These changes will place us in an even stronger position to deliver market leading innovation and value," Al-Buainain said.

### Setting up a one-stop shop

Abdulrahman S. Al-Fageeh, SABIC executive vice president of Petrochemicals, said, "By leveraging and optimizing our complementary combined product portfolios, we will create a one-stop shop for the benefit of our customers glob-

After completing the consolidation of petrochemical products, SABIC will market both existing products and extensions to its portfolio. In parallel, responsibility for offtake, resale, and sourcing of a number of existing SABIC fuel products globally will transfer from SABIC to ATC.

Responsibility for the commercial aspects of liquid bulk marine shipping services will be consolidated under ATC, including chemicals and feedstock, while responsibility for the shipping of all solid products and customer product delivery will be consolidated under SABIC.



## Vertical farming trial comes to Dhahran

The Dhahran Community Nursery is planning to produce 150 kilograms of fresh produce every day through a new vertical farming project that utilizes eight greenhouses and three separate hydroponic systems to grow greens, vegetables, and fruits.

"Adapting this technology, which can be applied within dry environmental conditions and urban areas helps to promote water conservation awareness among employees, their families, and local communities."

Among the expected harvest will be tomatoes, strawberries, basil, lettuce, peppermint, arugula, sweet peppers, hot peppers, and eggplants.

Abdulgader noted that growing global population and the loss of arable lands to development and urbanization continues to drive the need for new solutions to ensure food security.

Abdulaziz A. Al Abdulgader, manager of the vertical farming project, said gardeners plan to produce crops consisting of 60% greens, 20% other vegetables, and 20% fruits.

Vertical farming is an agricultural technique to grow crops in perpendicular layers in a soil-less environment with controlled temperature, light, and humidity. Benefits include less water consumption, year-round crop production, a reduction in chemical use, and a smaller transportation footprint.

### Water awareness

"Environment sustainability, citizenship, and outreach to local communities is deeply integral to Aramco's approach," Al Abdulgader said. "Hydroponic vertical farming is one of many initiatives showing this commitment.

Aramco is currently demonstrating vertical hydroponic farming through two sites, the one commissioned in the Dhahran Community Nursery, and another under execution in Environmental Park 3.

### Addressing challenges

With the Dhahran Community Nursery project's three different hydroponic systems, dutch buckets are used for vine crop production; a nutrient film technique for smaller, quick growing plants such as lettuce and herbs; and tower pots for high fruit and vegetable yields in small spaces.

Working with local and international stakeholders, Aramco plans to expand these demonstrations to urban areas throughout the Kingdom so that people can appreciate fresh produce grown in their local communities.

Vertical farming technologies are relatively new in the Kingdom, and there are ongoing efforts to make it economically feasible.

The performance of vertical farming greenhouses in Dhahran will provide a better understanding of addressing agricultural challenges in the future.



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# al-Taif

## Travelogue: Come up smelling of roses in the garden of the Hijaz

Photos and article  
by Chiara Ciampricotta Iacoangeli

For centuries, people have gone to al-Taif, high in the Sarawat Mountains, to escape the summer heat and enjoy the cool, lush scenery in a relaxed atmosphere. But the southwestern city really comes to life when the curtain opens on the most important event of the year, the annual Rose Festival.

A passionate local guide, Ahmad Aljuaed, took us with him to discover the most interesting aspects of the festival. The origins of the event, Aljuaed said, can be traced back to the agricultural nature of the city now more famous for its roses than its fruit and vegetables. The idea of celebrating the roses started with a special festival in 2005 and is now held every April.

### A rose by any other name

The rose variety grown in al-Taif is called the Damask rose, whose flowers are renowned for their fine fragrance. The city has an abundance of water and a mild climate. There are many stories about the rose's origins, one of which says that in the past pilgrims used to present them as gifts to the rulers of nearby Makkah.

From the first days of March until mid-May, which marks the end of the season, the farms and factories open their doors to visitors. The festival is held for



two weeks in the largest parks, where there are spectacular rose displays, rose products, competitions, and plays. Tourists are welcomed with sprinkles of rose petals, Arabic coffee and tea mixed with rose water, traditional meals, popular songs, and folklore shows.

The number of visitors increases every year, and more than 50,000 people attend each day. Unfortunately, the festival was canceled this year, as it was last year, due to the COVID-19 pandemic,

but the farms and factories still opened their doors to visitors while taking the appropriate health and safety measures.

### A short life, a thorny end

The roses go through a life cycle that begins in December, when farmers prune the rose bushes, and then prepare them for the season by applying fertilizer. From the beginning of March, the rose harvest begins each sunrise and the heads are then transported quickly to the traditional factories.

Weighing the roses is still performed in the traditional manner using a system of manual scales and baskets. In the same way, the price negotiations have also been maintained — fixed on 1,000 roses to a lot — and agreed between farmers and factory owners.

The traditional production process sees roses placed in copper pots with water and sealed. They are boiled for 8 hours to produce water and natural rose fragrance without chemical additives.

### Scents and sensibility

The number of products made from roses is increasing every year thanks to the development of the industry and new technologies, and they have very different prices depending upon their distillate concentration.

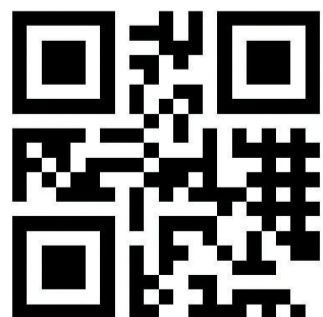
The purest rose perfume is the most expensive at SR1,500 for 10 ml, then in descending order of price, pure rose water for skin, rose water to drink,

and then shampoos, creams, incense, perfumes, and sterilizers.

Aljuaed, a tour guide since 2007, said there is a daily festival schedule starting with a farm visit in the early morning, a local breakfast, then a factory visit to see the production process, and in the evening it's the festival itself.

The al-Taif Rose Festival is a vivid celebration of color and scent, and when you open the cap of an essential rose oil bottle, the aroma will float you back to the garden of the Hijaz.

Learn more about the  
“Roseyar” Rose Factory  
in al-Taif that produces  
local beauty products.





# Researchers race to cut Upstream carbon footprint in new innovation competition

You might not know this, but the company's EXPEC Advanced Research Center (EXPEC ARC) has an informal in-house slogan: "We will either find a way, or we will make one!"

Scientists and engineers at Aramco's global research centers, including EXPEC ARC, have once again lived up to their word with the announcement of the winners of the first ever Ebtikar innovation competition to find ways to reduce Upstream's carbon footprint. *Ebtikar* is an Arabic word meaning "to create something innovative or ingenious."

The researchers submitted 65 proposals from teams across all disciplines and geographical locations. There were 40



EXPEC ARC's researchers are encouraged to use their curiosity and knowledge to create solutions to support Aramco's ultimate goals.

— Abdul Hameed A. Al Rushaid

proposals from Dhahran, 10 from the U.S., six from Moscow, six from Beijing, two from Aberdeen, and one from Delft. Four proposals were shortlisted by a panel of experts, who evaluated the potential solutions based on business impact, corporate strategic objectives, novelty, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions reduction potential, and development and deployment potential. Entries ranged from a new approach to sequestering CO<sub>2</sub>, to reducing water cuts, improving operational efficiency, reducing chemical consumption, and enabling greater recycling.

## Finding a course

The top four finalists from Dhahran, Houston, and Aberdeen presented their innovative solutions virtually in a final round to the expert panel, the company's scientists and engineers around the world, and Petroleum Engineering and Development (PE&D) senior management. The top three proposals will launch as new projects.

Abdul Hameed A. Al Rushaid, acting vice president of PE&D, said EXPEC ARC was a great idea incubator. "I am extremely confident that the researchers' creative minds are more than capable to come up with, develop, and deliver solutions that will not only help our company and country, but also the entire world," he said. "EXPEC ARC's researchers are encouraged to use their curiosity and knowledge to create solutions to support Aramco's ultimate goals."



## Making a path

Since its inception, EXPEC ARC's mission has been to develop creative solutions for the unique challenges encountered in Upstream operations. Ebtikar taps into this creativity to develop high impact solutions that can be made into deployable technologies within three to five years. This competition will focus on a specific theme relevant to Upstream's immediate challenges each year.

"Venues such Ebtikar serve as catalysts to explore cutting-edge, outside-the-box solutions to critical challenges the industry is facing," said Ashraf M. Al-Tahini, manager of EXPEC ARC. "The first competition installment reinforces the department's efforts to develop and deploy technologies to reduce the carbon footprint of Upstream operations through proper capture and utilization of CO<sub>2</sub>,

supporting the company's sustainability efforts."

The team, which presented on **CO<sub>2</sub> Nanobubbles for Optimal Carbon Utilization and Sequestration**, earned top honors. They were led by Amr Abdel-Fattah, and included Muhammad Almajid, Afnan Mashat, Ahmed Alsmail, Ayrat Gizzatov, Naif Alabdulatif, Ayman Nakhli, and Mohammed Arfaj.

Other teams were recognized for proposals, including:

**Rig Power System Efficiency and Emissions Optimization** (1<sup>st</sup> runner up)

**Carbon Capture Underground Treatment and Sequestration (CCUTS)** (2<sup>nd</sup> runner up)

**On-site Gas-to-Liquids Conversion for Stranded Gas Recovery** (3<sup>rd</sup> runner up).



PP-R nonmetallic utility pipes used in oil and gas facilities (left), jacket structural mud mats (center), and RTR nonmetallic utility pipes used in oil and gas facilities (right) are some of the new nonmetallic products introduced in the Marjan Offshore Gas-Oil Separation Plant-4 project by the Marjan and Zuluf Increment Projects Department.

## Aramco pioneering nonmetallic projects offshore

In line with the company's initiative to maximize the deployment of nonmetallic materials in capital projects, the Marjan Offshore GOSP-4 project of the Marjan and Zuluf Increment Projects Department (MZIPD) has introduced new applications.

The new nonmetallics include polypropylene-random polymer (PP-R) for plumbing systems, reinforced thermo-setting resin (RTR) for sodium hypochlorite systems, and jacket mud mats for subsea structures.

## A collaborative effort

The deployment of these applications was a collaborative effort between Project Management, the Consulting Services Department, and contractors. Badr M. Burshaid, manager of MZIPD, said this collaboration among Aramco organizations was key to reaching more cost-effective solutions and opening the door to wider implementation in future projects.

"The PP-R will be deployed for the first time in Aramco projects for utility plumbing systems due to its technical properties that satisfy service requirements. The RTR will also be deployed

for the first time to handle sodium hypochlorite injected into seawater and firewater caissons to prevent marine growth," Burshaid said.

"PP-R and RTR prove to be promising options compared to conventional materials in terms of safety, corrosion resistance, installation schedule, and cost-effectiveness," he added.

## Advantage over metals

"The nonmetallic jacket mud mat is used to support and stabilize the jacket structure of an offshore platform during

installation activities. This product provides advantages compared to conventional ways in terms of significant weight reduction and smoother fabrication and installation activities."

The success of this pioneering initiative demonstrates the Marjan GOSP-4 team's significant efforts in implementing potential technologies to gain key benefits.

The project team is further looking into other nonmetallic applications for potential implementation to expand utilization in future projects.



# Well-being

## Caring for your health and wellness

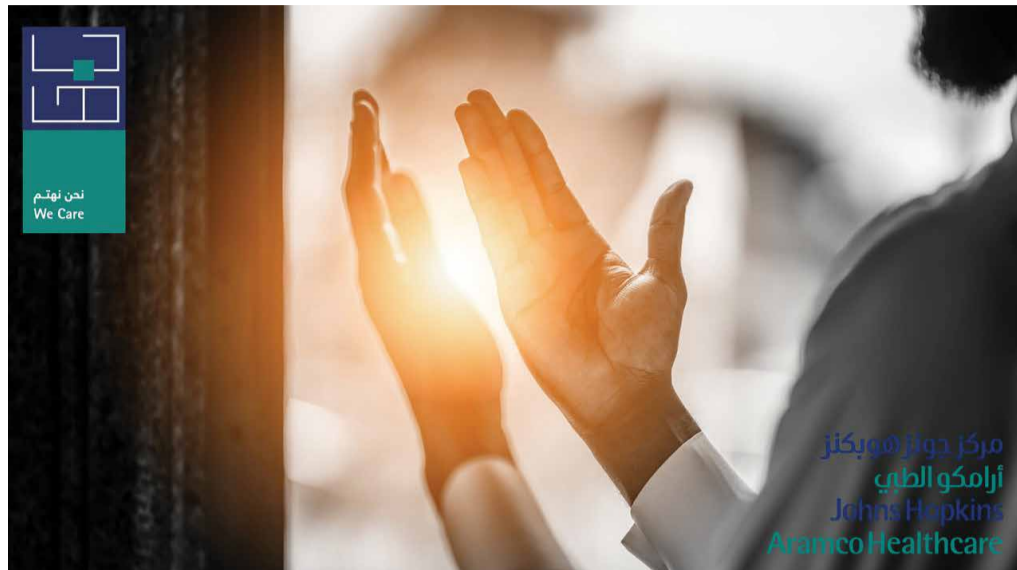
### Top tips to managing hypertension in Ramadan



During Ramadan, it is important to maintain a healthy lifestyle if you have high blood pressure and want to fast so that abstaining from food will not have a negative impact on your hypertension.

Here are some tips for a healthy fasting routine during the Holy Month of Ramadan:

- Stay properly hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids from *Iftar* until *Suhoor* to prevent dehydration and other associated complications throughout the fasting day
- Make fruits and vegetables an essential part of your Ramadan meals as they are an important source of potassium that helps control high blood pressure
- Stay away from high sodium foods such as salted nuts, pickles, and fried foods that can elevate your blood pressure
- Avoid processed meats and cheese, such as sausages and mortadella as they contain high amounts of sodium
- Continue exercising during Ramadan as it helps regulate blood pressure
- Eat grilled fish at least twice a week as fish contains a healthy fat called Omega-3, which helps regulate blood pressure and prevents cardiovascular disease
- If you smoke, use Ramadan as an opportunity to quit as smoking raises systolic blood pressure (the first number) and significantly increases the risk of heart attack and stroke
- Reduce salt consumption in general.



## Maintaining emotional fitness this Ramadan

By Rehab Ashri

Ramadan again feels far from normal in many ways as the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The feeling of togetherness that distinguishes the holy month is challenging to replicate in isolation. Muslims worldwide are observing the spiritual and communal month while adhering to social distancing measures for a second time since the beginning of the pandemic. But every crisis presents opportunities. We still can reflect, share, and care while remaining grateful for the blessings we have been granted.

Our Johns Hopkins Aramco Healthcare (JHAH) experts share their advice on emotional well-being during the Holy Month of Ramadan.

### Practice gratitude

It's easy to fall prey to ingratitude. However, the holy month presents an opportunity to guard our hearts against taking blessings we enjoy for granted. During Ramadan, we experience blessings through deprivation. Use this opportunity to recognize blessings, even the smallest ones. Making a conscious effort to regularly count your blessings can enhance your mental and physical well-being. Regularly expressing gratitude to others, or even to yourself, can help you stay positive, increase your life satisfaction, and build mental resilience.

"Try incorporating gratitude into your daily habits," said Dr. Areej Al-Dossary, a family practice specialist at JHAH. "Set a reminder on your phone for yourself to take the time and say, or send, a genuine thank you to someone each day so that this becomes second nature to you."

### Self-discipline

Part of achieving our life goals lies with our self-discipline. Ramadan reminds us that in pursuit of our long-term gains, we have the power to put off short-term pleasure. By opting to deny

our bodies their basic needs voluntarily, we tend to develop greater self-control. Ghada Al-Habib, a clinical nutrition manager at JHAH, notes, "Self-discipline is crucial to modify your lifestyle to prevent or delay Type 2 diabetes and other health-related conditions. It is a key to success; it helps you stay consistent and when you are consistent you get to achieve your goals."

Remember that you have fasted consistently throughout the month, achieving a clear goal every day, and your self-discipline is being strengthened by doing this.

### Stay connected

In Ramadan, people get together for prayers, feasting, and socializing. Most people feel the need for social interactions and relationships, especially during the holy month. Due to the pandemic, many Muslims have witnessed the month lonely and isolated.

Dr. Abdulsamad Al-Jishi, the chief of the Psychiatry Division at JHAH, remarks, "Loneliness is the feeling someone can have if their social interaction needs are not fulfilled. Loneliness and isolation can impact on the symptoms of anxiety and depression. As you maintain social distancing, try alternative ways to stay connected to others, such as phoning, texting, video calling, and emailing friends and family. Contact others on a regular basis and let them know how you feel."



### Healthy Recipe Lentil Soup

#### Ingredients

(6 servings of 1 cup each)

- 6 cups water
- 1 cup red lentils
- 2 onions, chopped
- 1 cup tomatoes, diced
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 teaspoon fresh ginger, grated
- 1/2 cup carrots, diced
- 1/2 cup celery, chopped
- 1 teaspoon cinammon, ground
- 1/2 teaspoon cloves
- 2 teaspoons cardamom, ground
- 1 teaspoon cumin, ground
- 1 tablespoon corn oil or olive oil
- 1 teaspoon salt
- Pepper to taste

#### Preparation:

- Heat the oil in a large pot and then sauté the onions, garlic, and ginger for 5 minutes
- Add the water, lentils, diced tomatoes, carrots, celery, cloves, cinnamon, cardamom, and cumin
- Bring to a boil for 5 minutes, then simmer for 1 hour until the lentils are soft
- Purée half the soup in a blender and return it to the pot and stir
- Garnish with chopped parsley
- Serve the soup with lemon, pitta bread, tomato, and cucumber slices.

### COVID-19 Vaccination and Pregnancy/Breastfeeding



As recommended by the Saudi Ministry of Health and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, women who are pregnant, planning pregnancy, have just given birth, or breastfeeding are encouraged to be vaccinated against COVID-19, as they are at an increased risk of severe illness from the virus and potential adverse pregnancy outcomes.

Vaccination provides pregnant women with the best available protection from COVID-19. If you have any questions about getting vaccinated, talk to your health care provider.



## Vertical farming comes to Dhahran

see page 4

## Forgot your badge? No problem with new digital ID

Aramco employees will now be able to scan their company IDs through their smart phones at key company security gated areas with the launch of the new Digital ID initiative.

The new digital ID — the result of a partnership between the Industrial Security Support Department (ISSD) and Information Technology (IT) — will allow employees to activate, deactivate, and access security doors with phones.

The new system was recently inaugurated by senior vice president of Human Resources and Corporate Services, Nabeel Al-Jama', vice president of Safety and Industrial Security, Aali M. Al Zahrani, and vice president of IT, Yousef A. Al Ulyan.

In alignment with the company's Digital Transformation strategy, ISSD and IT has started the roll out in key areas, such as the Dhahran Core Area's Tower Building.



Nabeel Al-Jama', center, is joined by Aali M. Al Zahrani and Yousef A. Al Ulyan in testing out the new digital ID from their smartphones. The new technology allows employees to activate, deactivate, and access security doors.

### COVID-19 safety

The development will also boost Aramco's extensive efforts in COVID-19 prevention, as the digital ID uses touchless communication with access control gates.

The digital ID is a seamless and convenient

solution that provides an optional digital extension to the physical ID on mobile devices allowing access to Aramco facilities.

### Digital alternative

This digital ID can act as your identification

card, and it can be used to seamlessly grant you access to applicable Aramco facilities, as well as allow security to verify your identity.

Each digital ID is not only unique to the user, but also each specific mobile device. This feature ensures maximum security.

### Three simple steps to go digital with your ID:

1. Login to the mySecurity app
2. Click on the digital ID tile, read the instructions, and agree
3. Your digital ID is ready for use; just wait 10 minutes after activating before using it for gate access.

### At the gate

1. Click "Show Digital ID" on the mySecurity app main screen
2. Hold your phone near the reader at the gate
3. Click "Use Digital ID."

المواطنة  
العطاء المجتمعي  
Citizenship  
Community Giving



Without support,  
her family will live in the **dark.**

Needy families often have their utilities shut off because they can't pay the bills. **We can change that.**

**x2** You donate. We match.  
Our impact multiplies.

Please contribute to one or more of two charitable causes:

### Social

- Supporting Orphans
- Home Renovation and Appliances
- Providing Utilities Support
- Ensuring Access to Food

### Medical

- Diabetes Monitoring and Treatment
- Supporting Access to Kidney Dialysis
- Ensuring Support for Cancer Patients
- Providing Access for Vision Impairment Treatment

Contribute today  
through **MyHome.**



تبرع الآن  
Donate Now

CSR@aramco.com