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Aramco announces collaboration with French companies

On Saturday, Aramco announced the signing of five agreements with leading French companies, including an agreement to explore a hydrogen powered vehicle business with Gaussin, a pioneer in clean and intelligent transport solutions.

Signing of the agreements took place during an event in Jiddah, organized by the Ministry of Investment to explore investment opportunities for French companies in Saudi Arabia. The event was attended by HE Khalid A. Al-Falih, Minister of Investment of Saudi Arabia and HE Franck Riester, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade and Economic Attractiveness of France, along with Saudi Aramco president and CEO, Amin Nasser.

Nasser said: "This partnership is a continuation of Aramco's long-standing relationship with a number of leading French companies. It represents an opportunity to promote hydrogen as a low carbon solution, not just for motorsport, but eventually for mass transportation as well. Such collaboration helps us to advance economic growth in the Kingdom as part of the Namaat industrial investment program and takes us a step closer to our shared vision of a more sustainable future."

Gaussin-Aramco Agreement

The agreement between Aramco and Gaussin plans to establish a modern manufacturing facility for on-road and off-road hydrogen powered vehicles in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As a first step, Gaussin and Aramco will study the feasibility of a manufacturing facility and a hydrogen distribution business to serve the Middle East region.



- Gaussin to explore manufacturing of hydrogen vehicles in Saudi Arabia

- Aramco sponsors first hydrogen fueled truck to compete in Dakar Rally

- Memorandum of Understandings with French companies to advance local business opportunities

The two companies also agreed that Aramco's Advanced Innovation Center (LAB7) will be closely involved in

Gaussin's development of hydrogen powered vehicles and the development of a remote controlled/autonomous hydrogen racing truck. LAB7 will strive to integrate Aramco's composite materials into Gaussin's existing range of products to reduce the weight, energy consumption, and cost of these vehicles.

Aramco will also be sponsoring the world's first hydrogen fueled racing truck, which has been developed by Gaussin, and which will compete in the 2022 Dakar Rally in Saudi Arabia. Aramco's sponsorship of Gaussin's participation in the Dakar Rally continues to promote low emission transportation technology developments.

Additional MoUs

Other agreements announced today

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— Amin Nasser

seek to further Aramco's research and development in the areas of carbon capture technology, artificial intelligence, and local manufacturing. The MoUs include:

- Air Liquide: Nonbinding MoU to evaluate low carbon hydrogen and ammonia production, logistics, and backcracking technology and an additional nonbinding MoU to evaluate carbon capture and sequestration opportunities.

- Altea: Nonbinding MoU to develop advanced artificial intelligence driven geospatial imagery interpretation and processing capabilities in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

- Axens: Nonbinding MoU to explore the local manufacturing and maintenance services of furnaces and fired heaters.

Your voice



By Reem S. Alhashem
Dhahran
Reem.Hashem@aramco.com

Cybersecurity will remain a challenge for future generations

The COVID-19 pandemic exacerbated the issue of cyber threats as cyber criminals took advantage of the influx of remote workers and students who had to work online, and many more targets. Cyber criminals pose a substantial threat to the national economic interests, as they deal damages by targeting a wide range of information such as economic, policy, legal, defense, and security information, all for their financial gains.

In 2020, growth of internet crime — since the beginning of the pandemic — hit a whopping 92%. According to Interpol, 60% of the total 2020 internet crimes were committed due to phishing emails that coincided with the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

To have a deeper look into the demographics of internet users and their cyber awareness, a survey was shared in the U.S. that was piloted in 2020 to examine the different generational groups where they were asked about owning an antivirus software to ensure protecting their information. According to the survey findings, 23% of younger generation are not taking precau-

tions to protect their personal data. Not only this, but also more than half of the surveyed population — 53% — of that pool turned out to be not covering their web camera.

Better safe than sorry

Considering that this age group has grown up with technology, you would assume they are the most aware out of all generation groups when it comes to cyber threats. When this age group was asked about the reasons, most responses came out as the antivirus software was either too expensive to purchase, or they didn't see the need for the software as they didn't believe in the value and effectiveness. With that being said, it's worth noting that older generations — Baby Boomers and Gen X — tend to be more careful when it comes to their cybersecurity, and they are more likely to pay to protect their personal data.

It's anticipated that the upcoming generation will face more challenges with protecting their personal information and data, considering their high usage and involvement with technology

and online platforms. This generation might also face a higher risk in facing internet crimes and bullying, which might lead to depression and in some cases, suicide.

It is our responsibility to raise their awareness at an earlier stage. So as a starting point, raise kids' awareness about cybersecurity; and make sure to emphasize the importance of not sharing personal information with others through online platforms, because kids tend to be more transparent. We should also manage their network activities by following the below steps:

- Install a GPS tracker to monitor their location.
- Capturing screen time management.
- Adding content filters to hide unsuitable content in web searches and managing the restriction level based on age.

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is considered to be one of the leading countries in cyber readiness as published in the *Global Cybersecurity Index 2020* report. The Kingdom managed to rank second globally and first among the Arab countries.

CEO calls for smarter energy transition plan at 23rd World Petroleum Congress

The world needs to strengthen its plan for the energy transition to ensure it proceeds smoothly and acknowledge that petroleum will be a crucial part of the global economy's energy mix for decades to come, Saudi Aramco president and CEO Amin Nasser said at the 23rd World Petroleum Congress in Houston on Monday.

The current approach to the energy transition mistakenly assumes that renewables, such as wind and solar, will be able to scale up quickly, and that commercially viable alternatives to conventional fuels will arrive soon. It also fails to pay enough attention to energy security, economic development, and affordability issues, especially in the developing world, he said.

"The urgent new quest for our industry is to chart a course that will continue to realistically meet the world's rising energy needs in a reliable, affordable, and sustainable manner," Nasser said.

Oil and gas needed for many years

There have been early signs this year of what a rocky transition might look like. Supplies have started to lag demand after producers across the industry cut upstream CAPEX by more than 50% from 2014 to 2020. Now producers also face mounting pressure to stop new oil and gas investments, he said.

A more realistic energy transition model would explicitly recognize that oil and gas will be needed for many years into the future and that industry leaders can accelerate emissions reductions so climate goals can be met, Nasser added.



Amin Nasser takes time to meet with members of Aramco Americas at the Aramco booth during the World Petroleum Congress held this week.

"Publicly admitting that oil and gas will play an essential and significant role during the transition and beyond will be hard for some. But admitting this reality will be far easier than dealing with energy insecurity, rampant inflation, and social unrest if prices become intolerably high," he said at the Congress, which is normally held every three years.

Opportunities for reducing emissions

Opportunities he mentioned for reducing emissions include producing low carbon products like blue hydrogen and blue ammonia, developing more efficient internal combustion engines, and leveraging noncombustible uses for oil such as nonmetallic materials for a range of industries. He said it was time to make the circular carbon economy that G20 world leaders endorsed last year a reality and to develop more

carbon capture, utilization, and storage projects.

He made clear that his call for a new model wasn't about retreating from key climate goals, and instead was about creating a more nuanced, clearheaded transition strategy.

"This is not about changing our climate goals. Everyone at Aramco and across our industry is fully committed to a net-zero economy. And everyone on the planet has a vested interest in the ultimate goal of limiting temperature rise to well below two degrees Celsius. It is about how we get there," Nasser said.

"I know that the world will only transition successfully if a stable, practical, and inclusive strategy is in place," he said. "We urgently need a process of genuinely global engagement ... with all stakeholders playing their part."

Aramco shines as finalist at WPC Excellence Awards, showcases key initiatives at booth

Aramco was a finalist for two prestigious Excellence Awards at the 23rd World Petroleum Congress (WPC) — for its main carbon sequestration project and for inventing wireless sensor balls to help digitalize oil fields.

Only a few projects were recognized as finalists for the awards out of 130 nominations.

WPC commended Aramco's Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Enhanced Oil Recovery project that separates CO₂ at a plant in Hawiyah and injects it into the 'Uthmaniyah field, sequestering the gas while also helping to maintain pressure in the reservoir and recover more oil. Since the initial injection of CO₂ in 2015, Aramco has increased oil production rates from four wells.

WPC also praised Aramco for developing wireless sensor balls that collect reservoir data, a clever and efficient solution that is part of the company's digital oil field initiative.

The Aramco booth featured interactive content about the company's innovative global R&D network, its digital transformation, its sustainability programs, its push into advanced materials that include nonmetallics, and the positive impact Aramco has in communities where it operates.

Visitors learned about Aramco's environmental programs focused on trees, mangroves, and wildlife habitat and toured an immersive digital laboratory housing advanced transport technologies Aramco has developed to meaningfully lower emissions.

Engineers, researchers, and scientists from Aramco participated as panelists, moderators or speakers at more than 40 events at WPC, from upstream innovation to downstream aromatics, and from safety to diversity.

Aramco announces \$15.5 billion landmark gas pipeline deal with global consortium led by BlackRock Real Assets and Hassana Investment Company

The Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Aramco) has signed a \$15.5 billion lease and leaseback deal involving its gas pipeline network with a consortium led by BlackRock Real Assets (BlackRock) and Hassana Investment Company (Hassana), the investment management arm of the General Organization for Social Insurance (GOSI) in Saudi Arabia, in one of the world's largest energy infrastructure deals.

This represents significant progress in Aramco's asset optimization program and is the second such infrastructure transaction by Aramco this year after the closing of the oil pipeline infrastructure deal earlier in June.

Upon completion of the gas pipeline transaction, Aramco will receive upfront proceeds of \$15.5 billion, further strengthening its balance sheet. The deal unlocks additional value from Aramco's diverse asset base and has attracted interest from a wide range of worldwide investors, highlighting the compelling investment opportunity.

As part of the transaction, a newly

formed subsidiary, Aramco Gas Pipelines Company, will lease usage rights in Aramco's gas pipelines network and lease them back to Aramco for a 20-year period. In return, the Aramco Gas Pipelines Company will receive a tariff payable by Aramco for the gas products that will flow through the network, backed by minimum commitments on throughput. Aramco will hold a 51% majority stake in the Aramco Gas Pipeline Company and sell a 49% stake to investors led by BlackRock and Hassana.

Portfolio optimization

Aramco will continue to retain full ownership and operational control of its gas pipeline network and the transaction will not impose any restrictions on Aramco's production volumes. Aramco is fully committed to sustainable practices and is an industry leader in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, which are among the lowest in the sector.

Amin Nasser, Saudi Aramco president and CEO, said: "Today, we have reached yet another major milestone in our portfolio optimization program as we build

toward a bigger and stronger gas business. It further underscores our commitment to long-term value creation for our shareholders, while bringing in BlackRock and Hassana as partners demonstrates our unique value proposition and ability to attract leading global investors to Saudi Arabia. With gas expected to play a key role in the global transition to a more sustainable energy future, our partners will benefit from a deal tied to a world-class gas infrastructure asset."

The announcement follows a \$12.4 billion lease and leaseback transaction concluded in June with a consortium led by EIG Global Energy Partners, which involved Aramco's stabilized crude oil pipeline network.

Abdulaziz M. Al Gudaimi, Aramco senior vice president of Corporate Development, said: "Our gas pipeline assets are critical and growing, and highly integrated with the rest of Aramco's oil and gas facilities. We are pleased that we are concluding the second transaction, seeking long-term partners who understand and appreciate the industry. This transaction represents the largest ener-



Today, we have reached yet another major milestone in our portfolio optimization program as we build toward a bigger and stronger gas business.

— Amin Nasser

gy infrastructure deal in the region to date and exemplifies Aramco's unique positioning as a partner for prominent global institutional investors."

The gas pipeline transaction is expected to close as soon as practicable, subject to customary closing conditions, including any required merger control and related approvals.

Company launches orizon[®] lubricants product range

Aramco chose the day of the Kingdom's historic first Formula 1 Grand Prix race in Jiddah to announce its entry into Saudi Arabia's domestic lubricants market, offering consumers a new line of lubricant products under the orizon[®] brand.

The company is a global sponsor of Formula 1, which had its historic debut race in the Kingdom this week.

Aramco has introduced the orizon[®] product line in more than 20 cities, including Riyadh, Jiddah, and Dammam, with more locations planned. Orizon[®] products include synthetic and semi-synthetic lubricants for gasoline engines and heavy-duty diesel engines, as well as driveline products, greases, and brake fluids.

High performance

The company has also expanded the brand to include orizonPRO[®], which is a high-performance line for the industrial sector.

Aramco vice president of Fuels, Yasser M. Mufti, said, "Entering the lubricants market is an important milestone for the company, as we continue to expand our



Saudi Aramco chairman HE Yasir O. Al-Rumayyan is joined by president and CEO Amin Nasser at the launch of orizon[®]. They are joined by senior vice president of Downstream Mohammed Y. Al Qahtani and vice president of Fuels, Yasser M. Mufti.

presence throughout the downstream value chain.

"Orizon[®] products leverage Aramco's extensive capabilities in research and development, making them a quality line of lubricants that boosts the local market offering and enhances consumer choice. The launch of orizon[®] further complements Aramco's presence in the Kingdom's downstream direct-to-consumer segment, following the recent inauguration of our first two service sta-

tions in Riyadh and Saihat."

Highest standards

The company's orizon[®] products are engineered to the highest standards and meet the latest lubricant specifications required by Original Equipment Manufacturers.

Aramco plans to become a trusted solution provider of choice for superior lubricants in the consumer market.

- Company unveils new line of branded automotive lubricants
- Announcement marks the launch of the Aramco orizon[®] brand direct to consumers
- Launch advances Aramco's downstream business diversification strategy

Bringing global F1 in Schools competition to Saudi Arabia

Aramco has partnered with F1 in Schools, a global science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) challenge, to roll out the competition in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Some of the country's brightest young minds will have the opportunity to compete in the challenge, which involves designing and manufacturing a miniature racing car using computer-aided design and manufacturing tools.

The contest is open to government and private school students aged 9 to 19, working in teams of three to six, and the top team in Saudi Arabia will go through to the Aramco F1 in Schools World Finals, being held in 2022 in the U.K. More than 26,000 schools in over 50 countries will be competing to reach the world finals.

Fostering a culture of innovation

Aramco, which became a title sponsor of the F1 in Schools world finals last year, is supporting its introduction to Saudi Arabia as part of the company's efforts to promote education, foster a culture of innovation and creativity, and accelerate human potential. The Saudi team selected for the national finals will be supported by the King Abdulaziz Center for World Culture (Ithra), Aramco's flagship corporate citizenship initiative, as well as the Technology Advancement and Prototyping Center at



King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals.

Talal H. Al Marri, general manager of Public Affairs, said: "Aramco's first year partnering with F1 in Schools showed us firsthand the passion many students have

for creativity and innovation, as they harness the fields of engineering, design, and more to develop their projects. This is why we felt compelled to cultivate that same passion here in the Kingdom, by encouraging students to take on their peers from around the world."

The F1 in Schools program is initially being rolled out in the Eastern Province, with plans to expand it to other cities in the Kingdom next year. For more details about the F1 in Schools competition, visit www.f1inschools.com.

aramco



Global Partner of Formula 1®

A winning formula: F1 drives Aramco brand globally



By Eamonn Houston

Jiddah — History was made on Sunday as the checkered flag came down on the Jiddah Corniche circuit and the buzz of high performance engines heralded the beginning of Saudi Arabia's first ever Formula 1 (F1) Grand Prix race.

On televisions across the globe the Aramco brand was brought into focus for fans as a global sponsor.

F1 has a massive fan base of over 500 million and a television audience of 1.9 billion — what better platform to share the brand with the world?

Aramco is one of seven global partners of F1 across all of its races, and will use the platform to showcase its commitments to precision engineering, high performance, and “future fuels.”

Prior to the race in Jiddah, Saudi Aramco president and CEO, Amin Nasser, interacted with guests and highlighted the synergy between the two organizations.

“F1 is a sport where success is based on technology, teamwork and constant innovation and the same applies to Aramco's success as a market leader in our business,” he said.

“Both Aramco and F1 have a particular focus on safety and also enables us to demonstrate our innovation through our scientists and engineers who are leading our efforts to develop more efficient engines and better products.”

Event to be proud of

For Aramco, the Jiddah Corniche race was a sporting event to be proud of. But it was more than just a race.

It solidified the company's status as the world's largest energy supplier and

- **Historic day for company, Kingdom as Jiddah hosts first ever Formula 1 Grand Prix**

- **President and CEO, Amin Nasser, flags 'a perfect match'**

underscored the level of its ambitions, its culture of innovation, and its profile as a pioneer of game changing transport technology solutions for a sustainable future for that sector.

Nabeel A. Al-Jama', Aramco's senior vice president of HR and Corporate Services, pointed to the importance of the partnership in terms of innovation, technology, and sustainability.

“Formula 1 is at the forefront in automotive technology innovation and has a global platform that supports efficient

internal combustion engines and technologies that reduce emissions. This is in line with the company's research on developing fuel and more efficient internal combustion engines, in addition to developing cutting-edge gasoline and diesel fuel systems and engines. The goal is to develop and use oil-based, efficient, sustainable, and cost-effective fuel engine systems.”

Both F1 and Aramco are engineering centric entities and by sharing expertise they are seeking to identify opportunities in enhanced engine efficiency, optimized low carbon fuels, emissions reduction, lightweighting, and carbon management solutions.

Unlocking R&D opportunities

The partnership also unlocks Research and Development opportunities for Aramco and F1.

Both are identifying opportunities to cooperate on vehicle efficiency and to realize carbon reduction benefits, both

in the sport and across the global transport sector.

The use of nonmetallics, such as carbon fiber, has been central to F1's success, and Aramco has been leading the way in the development and deployment of nonmetallics in the energy industry.

Advancing in this area will drive enhanced efficiency both on-track and across the transportation sector through lightweighting and boosted performance.

The sport is synonymous with dynamism and technological innovation, making it a perfect pick for Aramco for a global sponsorship deal.

Global awareness

The sponsorship provides a platform to raise global awareness of the positive role Aramco plays in providing reliable energy supplies and developing new technologies to reduce carbon emissions.

This is all a part of an energy transition in which fossil fuels will continue to play a significant role for the foreseeable future.

Aramco is determined to help meet the world's demand for energy that is cleaner, reliable, and affordable. Even with a significant shift to alternative energy sources, forecasts point out that the world will still need oil and gas in its energy mix.

Aramco has signaled that it will continue to invest in research and technologies that advance the sustainability of the energy industry, and the partnership with F1 is the ideal platform to showcase this while taking the entertainment and sporting offering of the Kingdom to never before seen levels.



Ras al-Khair maritime complex turns to nonmetallic

The installation of nonmetallic products benefits the environment, reduces cost, and improves the project schedule while maintaining quality.



The piping network at the King Salman International Complex for Maritime Industries and Services mega-project in Ras al-Khair is huge, consisting of more than 300 km of utility piping systems.

As part of Aramco's strategy to promote nonmetallic materials to combat corrosion and utilize crude oil for petrochemicals conversion, the project management team evaluated various nonmetallic systems during the project's design stage, with support from the Consulting Services Department.

It became evident that the benefits of using nonmetallics, in particular for high density polyethylene (HDPE) piping systems and polyvinyl chloride (PVC), would be significant.

"We can reduce the number of fittings in the system as HDPE is a flexible

material, which can bend to optimize piping system design," said project engineer Bader Alsdan.

In addition to their technical benefits, HDPE and PVC piping types are cheaper than other alternatives and can be sourced locally. The raw materials are also produced locally.

Utilization of nonmetallic materials provides environmental benefits such as lower carbon emissions in production and also in transportation because they are lightweight and locally produced.

Recyclable, less expensive, and easier to assemble

The HDPE and PVC pipes are recyclable and have a lifetime of at least 20 years or more without replacement, and any material waste generated can be recycled to produce new pipes or

other HDPE/PVC products.

Contractors also found that installation of HDPE and PVC piping systems was less expensive, easier, and faster as the assembly of the piping systems can be done inside or outside the excavation trenches.

The success of this mega-project highlights the benefit of installing cost-effective nonmetallic products that benefit the environment, reduce cost, and improve the project schedule while maintaining quality.

King Salman International Complex for Maritime Industries and Services complex

Upon completion, the King Salman International Complex for Maritime Industries and Services complex will be the largest maritime industries yard

in the Kingdom and the Middle East in terms of production, capacity, and scale. A cornerstone venture under Saudi Vision 2030, it will be capable of offshore platform fabrication, new ship building, and offer maintenance, in addition to repair and overhaul services capable of handling some of the largest supertankers, which can exceed 300 m in length.

The complex is located in Ras al-Khair area on the East Coast, 80 km north of the Jubail Industrial City.

A digital rendering shows how the Ras al-Khair shipyard will look when completed. Both rigs and ships will be constructed, and the shipyard will boast the biggest dry dock and longest quayside in the region. The state-of-the-art complex will be globally competitive in rig and shipbuilding.

ISO trains 35 aspiring women security personnel

In support of Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 of integrating more women into the workforce and Aramco's commitment to diversity and inclusion, the Industrial Security Operations (ISO) started training 35 female apprentices at the ISO Academy on Nov. 7, 2021. This training is part of the apprentices' line specific training in preparation for their future job as Industrial Security Officers.

Chosen from a pool of more than 1,000 female aspirants, the apprentices successfully fulfilled all prerequisites set forth by ISO, including passing the Apprenticeship Program for Non-Employees (APNE) academic training at the Industrial Training Center, have a BMI of 18 to 20, a height of 160 cm or taller, and passing the qualifying interview.

An onboarding program, led by ISO general manager Abdullah A. Al Ghamdi, alongside the Dhahran Area ISO Department manager Bader N. Al Subaey, Industrial Security Support Department manager Khalid A. Bu Ali, and Industrial Security Training Division (ISTD) head Waleed I. Al Rebdi, was held to welcome the apprentices.



During the program, the ISO management discussed the critical roles and responsibilities that the apprentices will have to fulfill in the future, which includes helping build a safe and secure environment for both the company and the country as a whole.

Several preparations were made to

accommodate the female apprentices' milestone training. These include, to name a few, the renaming of the entry-level security personnel's job title from "Industrial Security Man" to "Industrial Security Officer," making it gender neutral, assigning a female training counselor to assist the apprentices, creating a new training pattern,

and realigning the basic security training program to match the training pattern, and the apprentices' future job assignment.

The first batch of ISO female apprentices will be assigned to 911 Emergency Centers located in Dhahran, Abqaiq, and Ras Tanura, upon their graduation.

North Ghawar Producing Department wins King Khalid Sustainability Award 2021

On behalf of The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Sa'ud, the King Khalid Award for Sustainability Ceremony was held recently under the patronage of HRH Prince Muhammad bin Abdulrahman bin Abdulaziz, acting Governor of the Riyadh Area, in the presence of HRH Prince Faisal bin Khalid bin Abdulaziz, advisor of The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques and chairman of the King Khalid Award Committee.

During the ceremony, the North Ghawar Producing Department (NGPD) was announced as a winner of the King Khalid Sustainability Award. The King Khalid Sustainability Award is awarded to national organizations that are distinguished by their innovative application of sustainability in their business practices and all their social, economic, and environmental operations in Saudi Arabia.

HRH Prince Muhammad bin Abdulrahman bin Abdulaziz presented the award to Khaled A. Al Buraik, vice president



HRH Prince Muhammad bin Abdulrahman bin Abdulaziz presents the King Khalid Award for Sustainability to Khaled A. Al Buraik, who accepted the award on behalf of Aramco and the North Ghawar Producing Department.

of Southern Area Oil Operations. "It's a great honor to win this prestigious award, which receives the gracious patronage of The Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Sa'ud. This is a badge of honor for every Saudi Aramco employee," Al Buraik said.

He further added: "The King Khalid Award contributes in creating a spirit of positive competition among companies,

and achieving the Kingdom's ambitious vision, especially as it adopts a set of strict standards that NGPD has fulfilled.

"We are proud of this important organization that adopts a circular carbon economy approach. As for NGPD's Operational Excellence program, it is an exclusive milestone for employing state-of-the-art IR 4.0 applications in production, management, and operational processes

in terms of energy efficiency."

Winning the award came as a result of NGPD's innovative efforts in implementing the highest standards of sustainability, and its successful achievement of high levels of efficiency, reliability, and safety in a cost-effective and sustainable manner. In addition, NGPD has succeeded in building and implementing the Operational Excellence (OE) program, which contributes to achieving and maintaining excellence by raising the performance standards through continuous improvement of NGPD's activities, procedures, and systems.

NGPD worked tirelessly to achieve one of the lowest upstream carbon intensity classifications in the world.

Winning this award is part of Aramco's excellence in sustainability. In 2019, Yanbu' Refinery won the same award for its excellence in applying sustainability to its various operations, and its commitment to achieve the objectives of the Aramco OE program.

Rebuilding together ... Aramco trainees come together to give back

On Nov. 9 and 10, 2021, Apprentice Program Non-Employees (APNEs) from the Dhahran Industrial Training Center and the Leading National Academy (LNA), an Aramco-led training academy empowering females to join the oil and gas industry in technical and vocational tracks, volunteered to support the Tarmeem Charity Association. Tarmeem, a Dhahran-based nongovernmental organization that shares Aramco's value of citizenship and service in local communities, is a charity that helps restore the homes of needy and low income families in the Eastern Province.



Mohammed T. Al-Subaiei, director of the ITD, Shabeeb S. Shabeeb, Central Area ITD division head and Khalid I. Nami, deputy manager of Government Affairs Dhahran, receive an award from the Tarmeem Charity Association at a luncheon in honor of the ITD apprentices' volunteer work. Tarmeem founders, Khalid Al-Turki and Hamad Al-Khalidi, present the award.

Volunteering builds character

Ibrahim A. Attiah, superintendent of Central Region/Western Region Training Division, said volunteer activities empower apprentices and help them to develop a strong sense of social responsibility. "Volunteering builds character and promotes personality development," he said. "The benefits of volunteering are significant not only for the organization but also for the apprentices' professional and personal development."

Value of volunteering

Over two days and 208 volunteer hours, 26 APNEs from the Dhahran Industrial Training Center (ITC) and LNA worked on one family home alongside Tarmeem Charity Association tradespersons, painting 110 meters of interior walls. This work saved the homeowner SR11,232, including costs associated with labor, supplies, equipment, and temporary relocation while the work was being done.

Safety first

To ensure the safety of the volunteers,

representatives from Tarmeem Charity provided a safety orientation before the work began. In addition, Industrial Training Department (ITD) safety advisors introduced the APNE volunteers to chemical hazard bulletins related to paint and briefed them on first aid procedures in case of injury or emergencies. Prior to the arrival of the APNEs, the site was inspected to identify possible hazards, and an emergency assembly area was designated by Tarmeem organizers. The APNE volunteers were also provided with proper personal protection equipment, including goggles, masks, gloves, and disposable coveralls.

Training center participation

"I really felt that I contributed something of value to my community," said Fatimah Al-Bakheet, an apprentice from LNA.

"I enjoyed every second painting the house. I can't imagine the smile on the

family members' faces once they see their house at the end the renovation," said Eyad Al-Zahrani, an apprentice at Dhahran ITC.

Recognition ceremony

On Nov. 10, 2021, a ceremony was held to celebrate the work of the ITD volunteers who have made a difference in their communities. Mohammed T. Al-Subaiei, director of the ITD, and



Apprentice volunteers from the Leading National Academy (LNA) receive an orientation and safety briefing before the start of their volunteer work. Over two days and 208 volunteer hours, 26 APNEs from the Dhahran ITC and LNA worked on one family home alongside Tarmeem Charity Association tradespersons, painting 110 meters of interior walls.

Khalid I. Nami, deputy manager of Government Affairs Dhahran, received the award at a luncheon on the closing day of the volunteer project. "This was the ideal time for us to reflect on an outstanding year of volunteering in such a unique and challenging environment," said Al-Subaiei.

"With International Volunteer Day approaching in December, it was a timely and well-deserved opportunity to express gratitude to Aramco volunteers who have given their time and effort to their community," commented Nami.

Pride in Aramco's role

After the event, Hamad Al-Khalidi, chairman of the Board of Directors for Tarmeem, expressed pride in the role Aramco plays in the field of social responsibility. Commenting on the important role played by Tareem in supporting local communities, he added, "Since launching the Tarmeem Charity Association, it has been our main concern to be an example by providing professional community services to our country. Tarmeem is the first such organization that renovates homes for low income families in the Eastern Province."



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Articles and coverage can be requested through CRM. Correspondence may be addressed to the editor, North Admin Building, Room AN-1080, C-05A.



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the arabian sun



Rebuilding together ...
Aramco trainees come together to give back

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Feel the Burn Firefighter Challenge 2021 ... Meet the toughest firefighters alive

By Dalia Darweesh

Last week, the Fire Protection Department (FrPD) held its three-day 2021 Feel the Burn Firefighter Challenge at Ithra. The challenge showcased the phenomenal abilities of the firefighters who protect our community around the clock — awarding the strongest of them with the Toughest Firefighter Alive title.

Twelve teams comprising of 120 competitors represented firefighters from all over the Kingdom. The Invitational Firefighter Challenge saw firefighters compete from Aramco, the Civil Defense, Aramco's joint venture (JV) companies, Petro Rabigh, YASREF, SAMREF, and SA-TORP. At the same time, FrPD's Divisional Firefighter Challenge pitted Aramco firefighters from Abqaiq, Dhahran/Riyadh, the Northern Remote Area, Ras Tanura, 'Udhailiyah, and the Western Region Divisions, against each other.

With its spectacular lighting show, and iconic Ithra as a backdrop, the arena's atmosphere was buzzing. Kicking off with an exciting parade that included firetrucks, firefighters, and flags, the event was inaugurated by Saudi Aramco president and CEO Amin Nasser, senior vice president of HR and Corporate Services, Nabeel A. Al-Jama', and Aali M. Al-Zahrani, vice president of Safety and Industrial Security — who welcomed the FrPD, Civil Defense, and JV firefighters.

Demanding trials

During the Opening Ceremony, Abdullh S. Amri introduced two female engineers and the first certified fire-



fighters Abeer Aljabr and Jazyah Al-dossary. Twenty-one additional females will be certified in the future as a fire inspector, thereby demonstrating Aramco's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Over 100 firefighters completed demanding trials at the Dhahran Fire Training Center (DFTC) in preparation for the event. Selected competitors then underwent a grueling training program designed by the FrPD Health & Wellness Group to enhance competitive performance and fire-related skill proficiencies.

This event was a tremendous opportunity for firefighters to engage the community, whom they serve and protect. Furthermore, it provides firefighters from all over the Kingdom a

platform to demonstrate their elite fitness levels, exceptional teamwork, and sportsmanship while competing for the esteemed title of Toughest Firefighter Alive. The motto of "Proud to be a Firefighter" was evident on the faces of all those who competed, not to mention the awe-inspiring support they had for each other, even their competitors.

Firefighters completed physically demanding challenges at breakneck speed with ages ranging from the 20 to 50+ plus age group. The Personal Protective Equipment Challenge saw lightning fast firefighters donning firefighter clothing and equipment and undergoing grueling skills-based trials. The Stair Run Challenge saw firefighters ascend 13 floors (300+ steps) of Ithra while weighed down by over 34 kg of equipment.



Spectators witnessed exceptional displays of strength, speed, and skill in this magnificent venue. Firefighters pushed the boundaries of what is possible to be crowned winners across five events. You could cut the tension with a knife during the finals as only milliseconds separated the competitors.

With a total number of 9,000 throughout three days, families had the chance to go on firetruck rides, and enjoyed the spectacular event. Feel the Burn strives to provide awareness of the demands on firefighters, both physically and emotionally, in their role of saving lives and protecting assets. In addition, it promotes healthy competition, a sense of fun, and camaraderie among firefighters from all over the Kingdom, and hopefully inspires the next generation of firefighters.



Photographic memory

The concept of Saudization has been around since 1949 with the implementation of the Aramco Production Training Program. This was the first program to combine on-the-job training with classroom training and was the first companywide effort to prepare Saudis to fill jobs typically held by expatriates. Then director of education and Arab training, Harry R. Snyder, believed that, "The avowed purpose of Aramco is to give No. 1 priority to the training of Saudis." In 1952, the first Saudis became qualified as firemen-watertenders on a steam tug after completing a yearlong training course in the Marine Division. A year later, as shown in this April 1953 photograph, Saudis were training to become firefighters at the instruction field in Abqaiq. (Photo by Dan Holdeman)