

Arabia CSR Network newsletter

January 2018 Volume 7 | Issue 77





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Note from the President & CEO Arabia CSR Network

Reason follows knowledge, and knowledge becomes profound when it is tempered with reason. Knowledge and reason, as Islam teaches us, are the starting points of thinking, feeling and doing, and every action should be driven by knowledge and reason to become meaningful and impactful. As 2018 begins, let us remind ourselves to launch our ideas and actions from the foundations of pure knowledge and reason. As litterateur and author Samuel Johnson said, Knowledge is more than equivalent to force.

We seek refuge
with Allah from
starting any action
without basing it
on knowledge and
reason

So use the force of knowledge to propel you towards reasoned decisions and wise actions. Time is really running out and we are on the brink of self-destruction; brought about by our misinformed and irrational decisions and actions based on the relentless appropriation of the earth's resources.

If we change our attitude towards natural resources, about how we extract, use, distribute and dispose resources, we will be able to address many of the Sustainable Development Goals; - which are the universal targets our governments are working towards. You can either be a part of the process or a spectator on the sidelines.

The decision is yours, so let knowledge and reason be the levers to help you start envisioning and creating a better tomorrow, today. Let 2018 be the Year of Knowledge and Reason for you, not mandated by external actors, but rather born out of your own convictions about mission, purpose and values. I would like to leave you with Paul Polman (CEO of Unilever International) words rooted in knowledge and reason, "We have to bring this world back to sanity and put the greater good ahead of self-interest."

A Very Happy New Year to all our members, friends, colleagues and associates!

Arabia CSR Upcoming Trainings

CSR Workshops/ Networking Events/ Outreach 16th - 19th April 18th Mar 3rd May Ramadan Majlis Materiality Matrix Stakeholder Engagement CSR Advanced Training CSR Impact Assessment Workshop Is Food Consumption Workshop Workshop reaching critical 18th Feb thresholds? 18th April 7th - 9th May Innovation, Sustainable Development Panel Discussion-Technol-- New Manifesto for SDG's ogy of Today, Lifestyle of CSR Strategy and Tomorrow Leadership 20th - 22nd Feb Training (Arabic) CSR Fundamentals Training 24th - 26th July 8th August 24th Oct 13th - 15th Nov 12th Dec CSR Strategy and Leadership Panel Discussion - Circular Stakeholder Engagement **CSR Advanced Training** Panel Discussion- 3 'L's of **Economy-Bringing Waste** Training (English) Workshop Sustainable Tourism - Local Full Circle Employment, Local Culture, Local Products 16th - 18th Dec CSR Fundamentals Training (Arabic) **GRI Training** 11th - 13th Dec 23rd - 25th Jan 20th - 22nd March 18th - 20th Sep 6th - 8th Nov **GRI Standards Training GRI Standards GRI Standards GRI Standards GRI Standards** (English) Training Training Training **Training** (English) (Arabic) (English) (Arabic)



Arabia CSR Network organises last GRI training for 2017

From December 12th to 14th, Arabia CSR Network delivered the concluding training programme for the year 2017. The training was the 39th GRI certified training that ACSRN had successfully organised thus far. The training focused on the newly launched GRI Standards that are the leading tools globally that organisations use to communicate their sustainability performance. The accredited course content was delivered via lectures, discussions, exercises and case studies.

The session was organised into segments including introduction and background; overview of the GRI Standards; GRI Standards in detail; and how to start the reporting process using the GRI Standards. Of special importance were 33 topics and 77 disclosures (indicators) spanning a wide range of areas such as human rights, emissions, occupational health and safety, supplier engagement and others.

These trainings are immensely valuable to organisations currently using the GRI guidelines to report non-financial performance or those who intend to publish sustainability reports. It is particularly beneficial to writing teams, sustainability professionals, consultants, and researchers, among others. Upon successful completion of the course, participants were issued certificates by GRI, the Netherlands. Habiba Al Mar'ashi, President and CEO, Arabia CSR Network, said: "Through this training, we aim to educate current and future users of the GRI guidelines on the GRI Standards' new modular structure and revised format. As a Certified Training Partner of GRI, we also look forward to raising awareness and spreading the culture of CSR and sustainability in the region."

"The training session is very useful in understanding how to report based on sustainability and GRI Standards, and also to identify what is important to be highlighted throughout the report".

Nour Ibrahim Saad DEWA



Members News Roundup for 2017 – what we liked best

wasl launched world's first blockchain system for real estate

wasl Asset Management Group, in collaboration with Dubai Land Department (DLD), Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA), the Smart Dubai Office, Emirates NBD, and the General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA) jointly announced the launch of a new electronic services system for registering and renewing smart real estate leases using blockchain technology. The revolutionary service was launched in October to provide faster and more secure customer services than ever before. The new initiative is part of the ongoing efforts made by wasl – one of Dubai's leading real estate groups – to make all of its customer services entirely electronic. wasl is fast approaching its target of offering 100% electronic services and enabling its customers to make more transactions through e-gates on their mobile phones, without the need to visit any of wasl's offices.

The system allows customers to renew and register leases, and complete all other contract procedures in a smooth, secure and convenient way using the new technology through wasl's smart e-gateway. The system enables participants to automate processes including renewing and obtaining leases, obtaining 'Ejari' contracts, and ensuring the availability of electricity and water services. Wasl's milestone initiative supports the 'Dubai Blockchain Strategy', launched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, which is to transform Dubai into the first government in the world to implement all its applicable transactions through this network by 2020. As government leaders remarked, "This consolidates our leadership in providing smart solutions that will make Dubai the happiest and smartest city on earth." Source: www.wasl.ae



DEWA wins EFOM Award in the Platinum category

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) won the highest award in the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM) Excellence Model, becoming the first organisation outside Europe to receive this prestigious award, and the first in the Award's history to win it from first application. DEWA achieved between 750-800 points, leading it to rank in the Platinum category, which includes leading companies and institutions that promote sustainable excellence. Announced in November, This was a new achievement to be added to DEWA's list of global achievements.



The EFQM, established in 1991, recognises the role of companies and institutions that have achieved outstanding levels of sustainable excellence in all areas of the EFQM Excellence Model. The EFQM Excellence Model Award is awarded annually, according to the evaluation conducted by the EFQM. A team of seven assessors visited DEWA to review its procedures and practices in innovation, excellence, continuous development, and policies to maintain its achievements. The team commended DEWA's efforts which contribute to realising its vision to become a sustainable innovative world-class utility, and applauded its achievements over the past years.

DEWA has achieved competitive results worldwide, by reducing losses in power transmission and distribution networks to 3.3%, compared to 6-7% in Europe and the USA. DEWA's results are among the best internationally for customer minutes lost per year. DEWA's figures reached 3.28 minutes, compared to 15 minutes recorded by leading utilities in the European Union. Water network losses decreased to 8%, compared to 15% in North America, achieving global results in reducing water losses. *Source: https://www.dewa.gov.ae*

ABB substation to enable power flow from solar park in Dubai

ABB successfully energised a major substation that will help evacuate power from the Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum (MBR) Solar Park, a key element of the vision to generate 7% of Dubai's power from clean energy sources by 2020; 25% by 2030, and 75% by 2050. The 400/132 kilovolt (kV) gas-insulated switchgear (GIS) substation has been built for Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA), the UAE's leading power utility, to connect the second phase of the MBR Solar Park and integrate 200 megawatts (MW) of electricity to the transmission grid.



The utility scale solar photovoltaic plant, which covers 4.5 square kilometers, will produce enough electricity to serve more than 130,000 people. Its addition to the UAE network displaces the need for power from fossil fuels that would have produced about 250,000 tons of carbon emissions annually. Further expansions are planned and the Mohamed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum solar park, when completed by 2030, will be spread across a 70 square kilometer area, making it the largest single-site solar project in the world with a capacity of 5,000 MW - enough to serve 800,000 homes and help mitigate the impact of around 6.5 million tons of carbon dioxide per year. This development supports the UAE's goal to be a global center of clean energy and a green economy by 2050. Source: http://www.mena.abb.com

McDonald's UAE Truck Fleet reached 5 Million KM Milestone run on Biodiesel

McDonald's UAE and Neutral Fuels LLC reached a significant milestone in their proposed partnership when the McDonald's fleet logistics trucks hit 5,000,000km running on 100 per cent Biodiesel from recycled vegetable oil from its outlets. Four years after the launch of the initiative, the McDonald's UAE trucks traveled 5,000,000kms, almost 125 times around the world, driven on Biodiesel. McDonald's UAE also significantly reduced its carbon footprint since the launch of its biodiesel initiative in July 2011.



In an ongoing effort to improve communities and highlight the continuous environmental benefits of their actions McDonald's UAE and Emirates Environment Group have joined forces in spreading green values among the UAE's government schools with the 'Planting for a Greener Future' campaign. In support of a low-carbon, sustainable future, McDonald's UAE is committed to protect and preserve the environment for future generations and is aiming to continue using the planet's resources efficiently. 100% of McDonald's used vegetable oil is collected from its outlets across the UAE and converted into 100% biodiesel which is used to fuel the company's logistics fleet.



Through the use of Biodiesel, McDonald's UAE has saved 99% of CO,e throughout the four years compared to driving with normal petrodiesel. The biodiesel campaign has been recognised from the UAE government, media and stakeholders around the world. In February 2012 the Dubai Road and Transport Authority recognised McDonald's and Neutral Fuels for their commitment to sustainable transport when the Crown Prince of Dubai awarded them with the Dubai Award for Sustainable Transport in the Environmental Protection Category. Source:

www.mcdonalds.com

Another Crown for EGA employee's safety suggestion - gold at Ideas America 2017

An operations employee at Emirates Global Aluminium, the largest industrial company in the United Arab Emirates outside oil and gas won Safety Idea of the Year, at Ideas America 2017, an annual awards programme that recognises people for engaging with their work in creative and outstanding ways.

The winning submission for Safety Idea of the Year was developed by the employee who works in Casthouse Maintenance at EGA in Al Taweelah, performing preventative maintenance in areas where hot metal is turned into aluminium products. He offered a solution to a potential safety risk posed by heavy equipment that is used to tilt aluminium slabs on-site. His idea was implemented in 15 November 2016 at EGA's casthouse in Al Taweelah in Abu Dhabi.



The idea also won the Health & Safety Gold Award at this year's EGA Rashid Awards, an annual award ceremony that recognises the strongest suggestions put forward by employees. EGA's employees brought home top honours in other categories, picking up bronze in the Individual Idea of the Year and Green Idea. EGA's employee suggestion scheme earned the Savings Per Eligible Employees Ratio Silver Award for Performance Excellence for Suggestions per 100 Employees, as well as an Honourable Mention for Performance Excellence for Total Dollars Saved. EGA has operated an employee suggestion scheme for more than 35 years. Since 1999, EGA employees have submitted over 220,000 actionable ideas, saving the company more than AED 250 million. EGA employees share in the financial benefits of their ideas that are implemented by the company and result in cost savings. EGA has won 48 different awards at Ideas America since 2002. Source: www.ega.ae

ENOC instituted pioneering award to recognise outstanding women in the UAE energy sector

ENOC Group announced the inaugural 'Women in Energy Award' to celebrate longstanding achievements of women within the UAE's energy sector. The award will recognise women role models in the energy sector who demonstrate exceptional leadership and have proven their capability as catalysts for change through transformational contributions to the industry.

ENOC is committed to promote and foster a culture of equal leadership opportunities for both women and men. Through these awards, ENOC aims to unearth some great examples of women who have carved out outstanding careers



in energy. From November 2017, nominations will be open to UAE nationals and non-national women employees who work in any of the organisations under the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy with at least three years of experience within the industry.

The nominations for these categories will close on 29 February 2018. To recognise emerging women leaders in the field of energy management and who have demonstrated superior performance in their respective area of work, the award categories are broadly classified into Business, Professional and Social. The Business category in the energy sector covers Best Woman Leader, Best Woman Leader in the Renewable Energy Sector, Best Woman Technocrat, Best Young Woman Leader and Best Woman Entrepreneur. The Professional category covers Best Innovator of the Year, Best Professional Personality in Energy Sector and Best Thought Provoking Woman Leader while the Social category covers Best Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Contribution in Energy Sector and Best Volunteering Programme for Sustainable Development. Source: www.enoc.com



The Sustainable City welcomed the Emirates Electric Vehicle Road Trip maiden journey in the Middle East

The Sustainable City (TSC) – the first Net Zero Energy city in Dubai and the Middle East's first operational sustainable community built by Diamond Developers, welcomed the first Emirates Electric Vehicle Road Trip (EVRT) from its epic journey across the UAE in February. The four-day EVRT began at Dubai's Burj Al Arab on Monday 29th January, and drew to a close on Wednesday 1st February with a Grand Finale at The Sustainable City.



EVRT saw a convoy of over 10 electric vehicles cover 700km of terrain across the seven Emirates, showcasing the best of electric vehicle (EV) technology and supporting the region's clean-tech innovations. In its role as gold sponsor for the event, The Sustainable City cheered the EV fleet across the finish line, including state-of-the-art Tesla models, the Renault Zoe and a Volkswagen Retrofitted Electric Car. The EVRT Grand Finale included a full-day of electric vehicle activities, including workshops, a conference attended by over 150 delegates, and a parade where UAE electric vehicle owners joined the main convoy and showcased more innovative cars. A tour of The Sustainable City also offered attendees a glimpse into the world's leading sustainable development. The Sustainable City is completely aligned with Dubai's Green Economy Vision and UAE Vision 2021, and has made great efforts to accelerate electric vehicle adoption and encourage the transition to a sustainable and low carbon future. The city has electric cars for residents, which can be recharged at stations throughout the city, provide ease of transport within TSC, and ensure zero carbon emissions.

Source: http://www.thesustainablecity.ae

MOU signed by Sustainable City and RTA

The Sustainability City, Dubai's leading showcase of sustainable living, signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Dubai's Road and Transport Authority (RTA) yesterday. The overarching goal of this agreement is to advance self-driving transportation in Dubai (through trials and surveys), and to collaborate on new mobility technologies and solutions. This partnership complements The City's vision for clean mobility and low carbon living. RTA is a recognised leader in the advancement of sustainable transportation solutions.

Dutco Balfour Beatty awarded the contract for iconic DEWA HQ in Dubai

Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) awarded a \$12.5 million contract to Dutco Balfour Beatty, the UAE-based contractor, for the construction of the first phase of its new headquarters, Al Sheraa.m Dutco Balfour Beatty beat 10 leading international companies with the lowest bid. Its scope of work includes shoring, dewatering, excavation, piling, fencing and associated works. Al Sheraa is set to be the tallest, largest and smartest government net Zero Energy Building (ZEB) in the world. It will have more than two million square feet, covering more than 200,000sqft of land at the heart of the Cultural Village in Al Jadaf. The building will have 16,500sqm



of photovoltaic solar panels on the roof, which will produce in excess of 3,500kW. It will also include an addition 2,000sqm of building-integrated photovoltaic panels. In total, the building is expected to generate total renewable energy of more than 5,800MWh per year.

Al Sheraa's design has been inspired by the traditional houses in the UAE, with enclosed spaces overlooking an open courtyard. The courtyard will be the focal point, and the most prominent feature of the building. To reduce heat in the open courtyard, a sail design is used to provide shaded areas. Natural light during the day will stream through specific openings in the sail, giving sufficient light without the associated heat. It will also feature trees, planted areas, and plants within a sustainable environment. The building will use the latest technologies including the Internet of Things, IoT, Big Data and Open Data, and Artificial Intelligence, AI. Robots will be used for cleaning and to provide security services. A smart app will alert the employees about the time they should leave their homes based on the traffic. The same app can be used to book parking spaces and meeting rooms. It can be also be used by visitors to easily reach the building and meeting rooms.

The total energy to be used in the building in a year is equal to or less than that produced on site during that year. DEWA's new headquarters is targeted to receive a platinum rating by LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design), where platinum is the highest certification. The building is expected to be completed and inaugurated by the last quarter of 2019, the WAM report said.

Source: http://meconstructionnews.com



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Blockchain - Building UAE's future block by block

The Arabian Gulf region is known to be the breeding ground of technology-enabled economies, and governments in the region are aggressively pursuing innovation as a lever of smart growth, modernisation, and competitiveness.

Blockchain technology is a new, powerful tool that is already revolutionising the Internet with simple, safe and secure transactions. Experts contend that Blockchain will revolutionise 21st Century public service delivery the way the Internet revolutionised 20th Century information and communication. Blockchain is based on the concept of distributed ledger technology, which records data (transactions, files, or information). The 'ledger' is stored across a network of computers using cloud computing technology. Every participant in the network has open access to the data and is able to verify (or reject) it using consensus algorithms. The approved data is entered as a collection of "blocks", stored in a chronological "chain", and secured through cryptography.

According to global blockchain enabler SAP, the UAE public sector is driving the country's blockchain market to deliver fast and secure customer and citizen transactions. With the advance of Internet of Things (IoT), UAE organisations are increasingly relying on blockchain for safe and secure processing of loans, real estate transactions, and intellectual property. As a result, blockchain is flourishing in the country, with the market set to reach \$300 million by 2022, according to a report by Aseel Consultancy, a startup consultancy in the UAE. Worldwide, 10% of the global GDP will be stored in blockchain by 2027, according to a recent survey by the World Economic Forum.

The Dubai Blockchain Strategy, launched by His Highness Sheikh Hamdan, bin Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and chairman of the Dubai Executive Council in October 2016, is a collaboration between the Smart Dubai Office and the Dubai Future Foundation to leverage latest technology innovations for the delivery of seamless, safe, transparent and efficient services. The Strategy rests on three pillars, - government efficiency, industry creation and international leadership The Dubai Blockchain Strategy promises to unlock economic opportunity for all sectors and corroborate Dubai's reputation as a global technology leader, aligned to Smart Dubai's mandate to become global leader in the smart economy, stimulating entrepreneurship and global competitiveness. The Dubai Blockchain Strategy will be crucial in delivering the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, to create the future of Dubai, and make Dubai the happiest city on earth. Dubai Future Foundation will oversee the implementation of the Strategy and the Smart Dubai Office will be responsible for the execution.

According to the authorities, essential documentation, such as passport and security clearance, visa applications, bill payments and license renewals, which account for over 100 million documents each year, will be transacted digitally under the new strategy. "Adopting Blockchain technology Dubai stands to unlock 5.5 billion dirham in savings annually in document processing alone — equal to the one Burj Khalifa's worth of value every year." Blockchain technology would contribute to savings of up to 114 MtTons CO₂ emissions and redistribute up to 25.1 million hours of economic productivity in saved document processing time. It will also create new economic fields and businesses as the volume of Blockchain market is expected to hit \$300 million over the course of the next five years, according to experts. The aim of the Strategy is to make 100% of Dubai government transactions blockchain technology based by year 2020, which will make it the world's first government to achieve this distinction. The first government entity in the world to implement all of its transactions through the blockchain network is Dubai Land Department, which has created a smart and secure database that records all real estate contracts.

Even before the launch of the Strategy, Dubai Future Foundation announced the formation of the Global Blockchain Council to explore, discuss current and future applications, and organise transactions through the Blockchain platform. The council consists of 46 members, all of which are potential key players in the Blockchain industry, and includes government entities, international companies, leading UAE banks, free zones, and international Blockchain technology firms. Transactions on the Blockchain platform can only go through if all the members approve, which reduces fraud and money laundering. This is because the digital currency used for the transactions cannot be forged or damaged and is agile across borders. It also facilitates the shopping process across social media and websites. Steps such as pilot projects, the construction of a Blockchain platform, setting up the world's first 'gate-less border through digital passports, a city wide blockchain payment system, distributed ledger system in banks and the like herald the beginning of the transition towards becoming the world's first blockchain powered country.



Case Study from the Archive - Kuwait Petroleum International



Abstract

Kuwait Petroleum International is not only among the world's leading Oil & Gas company but a sustainability champion by its own right. KPI demonstrates a deep commitment to be a responsible business through products, service and operational excellence and create economic and social impact wherever it is present. The to ensure that sustainability is embedded into each operation. This lends KPI a unique dimension. KPI believes that sustainability is crucial for the business to grow in international markets and has adopted comprehensive measures to incorporate various elements of sustainability into the philosophies and policies that guide the business. From compliance to numerous standards to a growing focus on GHG emissions, KPI ensures that its business is well success to (i) innovative projects and products that enable KPI to operate at the highest efficiency and in the most sustainable manner; (ii) recognition of KPI's commitment to sustainability and best practices in the sector; and (iii) finding scalable solutions. A strong focus on stakeholders has helped the organisation to remain alert to risks and opportunities of both financial and non-financial nature. KPI attribute its success as a global industry leader to its strategic adoption of sustainability.

It is evident that companies that wish to deliver more than economic value would seize sustainability as the most effective framework for long term and inclusive value creation. KPI is one such company that wishes to not only be a market leader but also a leading propagator of responsible business. KPI has clearly been on a continuous quest to bring something unique to the market, which is in ample evidence through the many "first" they have achieved in both products and services.

Adopting a GHG strategy is the icing on the cake and shows that KPI is ready to transform emerging challenges into opportunities and create value for the business, the environment and society. Its environmental stewardship endeavours have led to fantastic outcomes and helped KPI to future-proof the business. There is still so much more than KPI can achieve. From an organisation such as KPI much more is expected in terms of social engagement.

It is expected that the women empowerment initiatives launched by KPI will give rise to parity across all levels. Human rights goals and targets is an important factor that needs to be addressed by KPI, given that it works with a global network of business partners. It would be to the company's advantage to support sustainable long term partnerships with civil society organisations to increase community awareness about sustainable energy, environmentally friendly fuel, and so on across all territories. Particularly in Kuwait, there is a lot that KPI can do in this area. Graduating from philanthropy to sustainable community aimed partnerships will help KPI to become a true leader in social innovation and help bring about transformative change in the way society approaches sustainability.

Arabia CSR Best Practices: 2016

This abstract has been taken from the ACSRN publication titled 'Arabia CSR Best Practices: 2016'. For more details on - Kuwait Petroleum International and other companies that have been recognised for their innovative and effective CSR strategies write to us at admin@arabiacsrnetwork.com and book your copy now! Please mention "Arabia CSR Best Practices" in the subject.

The Arabia CSR Network welcomes new members to be a part of its CSR journey. To learn more about how to be a member, and how your organisation will benefit from it, call us at +971-4-3448120 or write to us at admin@arabiacsrnetwork.com

For more information on the Arabia CSR Network visit www.arabiacsrnetwork.com

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