

CNPC signs \$1.77 bn Abu Dhabi deal

Abu Dhabi

The China National Petroleum Corporation yesterday secured an eight-percent share in an onshore oil concession in Abu Dhabi in a deal worth \$1.77 billion, the Emirati company said.

The Chinese giant signed a deal with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company for a stake for Onshore Petroleum Operations. (AFP)



PSA to keep German jobs if it buys Opel

Berlin

French automaker PSA has pledged to keep Opel plants in Germany running if a planned merger goes forward, and to refrain from layoffs until at least 2019, a report said yesterday.

PSA has confirmed it is interested in taking over Opel, the German arm of US giant General Motors.

But the plans have sparked fears in Germany that Peugeot will cut jobs that overlap with existing positions in France. (AFP)



Look well to this day. Yesterday is but a dream and tomorrow is only a vision. But today well lived makes every yesterday a dream of happiness and every tomorrow a vision of hope. Look well therefore to this day

Francis Gray

Irish artist



TIPS For effective Business Communication

Whether you have high hopes of being the next renowned CEO or just preparing for an upcoming job interview, it's important to learn how to communicate like a professional. These tips to help you have the confidence you need to conquer the corporate world.

Open Meeting

It is easier to communicate your passion and how you feel to your team via open meetings. In this kind of forum, they will not only hear what you are saying, they will also see and feel it. This approach still remains one of the best approaches to communicate effectively with a team.



Display Confidence and Seriousness

Ensure that you display confidence and seriousness to ensure that you will not be taken for granted. When your team members notice any uncertainty and lack of seriousness when you're communicating with them, they are likely to treat the information with disdain or disregard.

Use Simple Words

The truth is that everybody cannot be on same page when it comes to vocabulary. Therefore, to be effective in your communications with your team members, use words that can be easily understood. When ambiguous words are used, you can be misunderstood and/or waste precious time having to explain yourself.



Emails

In official settings, communication via email remains potent. It will enable you to pass messages to members of your team without pulling them out of their work stations.



Use Visuals

Place visuals at strategic positions around the work stations of your team. They should not just hear the message, they should also see it. This gives room for better comprehension.

One on One

Experts have been able to prove that some people understand better when you take them aside and talk to them on a one-on-one basis. Ensure that you maintain eye contact with them to enable the message to sink in.



Listen to Your Team Members

Communication is intended to be a two way street. Don't just talk because you are the leader without listening to anyone else. Encourage them to open up so you can be well guided when communicating in the future with them. You have two ears and one mouth - so you must listen more than you speak.

Use Presentations

Some people grasp messages easily when pictures and sounds are involved. Using presentations like Microsoft Power Point to communicate with your team will give them the opportunity to refer back to it if they aren't clear about certain things.



Use Body Language

Your body language will pass your message faster and better. Master the art of using body language when communicating with your team. Stand/sit up straight, use smiles, handshakes and eye contact.

Communication via Training

Your training should be tailored towards communicating certain information to your team members. Most employees take training serious, especially when it's part of their appraisal.

BD 2.3 m net profit for SICO

DT News Network Manama

Securities & Investment Company (SICO), licensed by the Central Bank of Bahrain registered BD 2.3 million net profit compared with BD 2.8 m in 2015, a decrease of around 18 percent due primarily to the continued volatility of regional and global equity markets during the year.

Operating income reduced by around 6 pc to BD 7.9 m from BD 8.4 m the previous year. Total operating expenses reduced to BD 5.3 m from BD 5.5 m in 2015. Basic earnings per share in 2016 were Bahraini fils 5.5 versus 6.6 fils for the previous year.

For the fourth quarter of 2016, net consolidated profit was BD 2.4 m compared with BD 548 thousand for the last three months of the previous year; while total operating income was BD 2.9 m versus BD 1.7 m for the corresponding period in 2015. Operating expenses amounted to BD 1.3 m (4Q15: BD 1.0 m).

As at December 31 total balance sheet footings stood at BD 147.1 m compared with BD 112.8 m at the end



Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa



Najla M. Al Shirawi

of the previous year.

SICO continued to maintain a strong capital base, ending the year with shareholders' equity of BD 58.1 m net of BD 2.1 m dividends distributed earlier in the year (2015: BD 58.4m), and a very strong consolidated capital adequacy ratio of 61.1 pc. Investments at fair value through profit or loss were BD 28.0 m (end-2015: BD 14.3m).

Assets Under Management increased by 19 pc to BD 395.9 m from BD 332.3 m in 2015, while assets under custody with the Bank's wholly-owned subsidiary - SICO Funds

Services Company (SFS) - increased to BD 1.9 bn from BD 1.7 bn at the end of 2015.

"The results reflect clients' continued confidence in SICO's capability to deliver a resilient performance in challenging conditions," Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chairman of Securities & Investment Company (SICO), said.

Putting the financial results of 2016 into context, Najla M. Al Shirawi, Chief Executive Officer of SICO, said that the company had adopted a forward-looking, proactive approach throughout the year.

New amenity kits by Gulf Air

DT News Network news@dt.bh

Manama

Gulf Air, this month rolled out new, branded (Cerruti 1881 and Guy Laroche) amenity kits for the airline's premium Falcon Gold passengers in addition to Gulf Air Kids Entertainment Packs for the airline's younger passengers.

The amenity kits feature signature products by Aigner and are available on all



Gulf Air Amenity Bag and Kids Pack

medium and long-haul flights for the airline's Falcon Gold Class passengers.

The Kids Entertainment Packs, tailored for the airline's 3-12 year old passengers

travelling in both Falcon Gold and Economy Class cabins feature items including an aviation themed backpack, activity book, toys, hats and more.