

GPIC wins Arab CSR Award



GPIC (Large Business Category) Winner

Manama

The Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC) has won the 2017 Arab Network for Corporate Social Responsibility Award for Partnerships and Cooperation.

The Award was announced in the presence of Ras Al Khaimah Civil Aviation Department Head Sheikh Salem Bin Sultan Bin Saqr Al Qassimi during its annual celebrations.

GPIC General Manager Manufacturing Fadhel Al Ansari received the Award on behalf of the Company to the applause of heads of companies and institutions working in the field of social responsibility, who were present during the event, held in Dubai.

GPIC President Dr. Abdulrahman Jawahery said in a statement the Company's success is due to its outstanding efforts in social, environmental and

sustainable development. He said GPIC pays great deal of attention to its social role and responsibilities towards others and strives to adopt initiatives that reduce environmental damage resulting from operations as part of its pursuit of a clean industry.

"We are very pleased that we continue to win Awards in all fields, including in the field of social responsibility," he said. "The Company sees this as one of the pillars of its success."

Dr. Jawahery also praised the continuous efforts of Company employees, members of the Executive Management as well as the President and members of the employees' Labour Union who, he said, showed great dedication.

He said this latest Award confirms the Company's success and achievements on the integrity of its approach and the accuracy of its

strategic vision in the field of community service.

Dr. Jawahery praised the important role of the Arab Network for Corporate Social Responsibility in supporting and enhancing a commitment towards sustainable development of government institutions and private companies in the Arab world. He said the institution, launched in 2004, has now become one of the most important platforms for sustainable development and community service, and seeks to promote partnerships.

Dr. Jawahery highlighted the importance of corporate social responsibility and said it contributes to the promotion of job opportunities. He said GPIC attaches great importance to employee training programmes in all disciplines according to Bahrain's national industrial strategy as well as the integration of the principles

of social responsibility and sustainability.

He said the Company encourages its members to participate in activities that support all sectors of society in conjunction with its success on the economic front.

Arab Network for Corporate Social Responsibility President and CEO Habiba Al Marashi praised GPIC's leadership in the field and expressed confidence in its ability to continue on its path of success and in pursuing a sound scientific approach in its performance.

She said GPIC has the ability to develop appropriate mechanisms, strategies and plans to enhance its activities and its international standing. She added in a comment on the occasion that any serious change in the level of development requires the active participation of all sectors.

She asserted it is not possible

to meet the challenges in the fields of safety, development and environmental protection individually and the concept should be adopted by companies and institutions through a responsible approach to the community and clear social initiatives.

She spoke of the ideal role played by GPIC through its various programmes, which focus primarily on the development of the human element and the preparation of youth to succeed at the level of the local and global economy.

The Arab CSR Award, launched in 2008 with the support of the United Nations Global Compact, has generated tremendous response from companies in all sectors and organisations around the world.

They are also one of the most accurate Awarding systems in the world in terms of corporate social responsibility and sustainability. Now in its

10th year, the Awards received more than 881 applications from 13 Arab countries across 26 sectors.

The annual event brings together experts in the field of corporate social responsibility from prominent local and international organizations. It is also now witnessing a steady increase in corporate social responsibility leaders attending.

Several global and prestigious personalities in the field of corporate social responsibility, as well as representatives from 23 different countries concerned with social responsibility attended this year's function.

The event aims to bring together some of the best thinkers and actors from the Arab world and beyond in the field of social responsibility to discuss and update the latest issues and the most pressing issues in order to advance sustainable development.

Discovery of 50km cave raises hopes for human colonisation of moon

Scientists have fantasised for centuries about humans colonising the moon.

That day may have drawn a little closer after Japan's space agency said it had discovered an enormous cave beneath the lunar surface that could be turned into an exploration base for astronauts.

The discovery

Japan's Selenological and Engineering Explorer (Selene) probe made the discovery and it comes as several countries vie to follow the US in sending manned missions to the moon.



Large hollow

Using a radar sounder system that can examine underground structures, the orbiter initially found an opening 50 metres wide and 50 metres deep, prompting speculation that there could be a larger hollow.

This week scientists at the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (Jaxa) confirmed the presence of a cave after examining the hole using radio waves.



Cool Trends

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The chasm, 50km (31 miles) long and 100 metres wide, appears to be structurally sound and its rocks may contain ice or water deposits that could be turned into fuel, according to data sent back by the orbiter, nicknamed Kaguya after the moon princess in a Japanese fairytale.

Old lava tube

Scientists believe the cave, located from a few dozen metres to 200 metres beneath an area of volcanic domes known as the Marius Hills on the moon's near side, is a lava tube created during volcanic activity about 3.5bn years ago.

Boost lunar missions

The discovery will boost plans by several countries to send astronauts to the moon almost half a century after the Apollo 11 mission. *(theguardian)*