Alba Invests in Bahrain's Future Workforce Through Record OJT Participation

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Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. (Alba) hosted a ceremony for students who completed the Company's On-the-Job Training (OJT) Programmes in 2026, reaffirming its commitment to investing in the next generation of Bahraini professionals with practical industry exposure at the world's largest aluminium smelter on one site.

Alba's Chief Executive Officer, Ali Al Baqali, along with executives and senior officials, attended the recognition ceremony held on 31 August 2026 at the Company's Oasis Hall to celebrate the trainees' dedication and commitment throughout their OJT placements.

Despite regional challenges earlier in the year, Alba successfully maintained its OJT programme and expanded participation across technical and corporate functions. By the end of August 2026, Alba had enrolled 312 trainees, up from 300 during the same period in 2025, representing a 4% year-on-year increase. Female trainees accounted for approximately 38% of the total intake, reflecting Alba's continued efforts to foster a broader participation across its workforce development initiatives.

As a responsible corporate citizen, Alba continues to invest in education and youth development as key enablers of Bahrain's long-term economic growth. Alba's OJT programme forms part of the Company's long-standing partnership with Bahrain's education ecosystem, helping bridge the gap between academic learning and workplace readiness while contributing to the development of a highly skilled national workforce. Notably, 99% of participants were enrolled from Bahrain-based universities and schools, reinforcing Alba's role in supporting local talent development and advancing the Kingdom's human capital agenda.

NBB's Multi-Currency feature on its Debit Card Offers Customers the Chance to Win a Premium Travel Experience

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The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has launched a campaign for its recently introduced Multi-Currency Debit Card feature, offering customers the opportunity to win a travel package to any destination around the world as the grand prize.

Running from 1st September to 30th November 2026, the campaign will give customers the chance to enter the draw by activating the Multi-Currency feature on their Debit Card and using the card for eligible international transactions. Whether travelling abroad or shopping online, customers can turn their routine overseas purchases into a chance to make their next dream getaway a reality.

With every eligible international transaction worth BHD 100 or its equivalent through their Multi-Currency Debit Card, customers will automatically secure one raffle entry into the draw. Once their total spend exceeds BHD 1,000 or the corresponding value, their raffle entries will double with customers earning two raffle entries for every additional BHD 100 spent.

Commenting on the occasion, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive – Retail Banking at NBB, stated, "We are delighted to launch this campaign which combines the convenience of our Multi-Currency feature with rewards for international transactions. It provides a seamless payment experience when travelling or shopping online, meeting our customers' needs wherever they are."

For further details, customers can visit nbbonline.com, call 17214433, or enquire at any NBB branch. To activate the new Multi-Currency feature, customers can simply apply through the NBB App.

UK Chargé d'Affaires Visits the Bahrain Economic Development Board

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Her Excellency Noor bint Ali Alkhulaif, Minister of Sustainable Development, Chief Executive of the Bahrain Economic Development Board (Bahrain EDB), alongside senior officials from Bahrain EDB's management team, today received His Excellency Simon Martin CMG, Chargé d'Affaires of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the Kingdom of Bahrain

During the meeting, Her Excellency highlighted the deep-rooted relationship between the Kingdom of Bahrain and the United Kingdom, underpinned by strong economic and trade ties. She noted the continued momentum in bilateral cooperation, with both countries working to strengthen connections and create new opportunities for investment and partnerships across various sectors, supported by the UK-GCC trade agreement.

She also highlighted Bahrain's resilient business environment, agile regulatory framework, and highly skilled workforce as key strengths that can support future cooperation and create new opportunities for businesses and investors across both markets.

1.129m sqm Expansion Planned Near Khalifa Port

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Mohammed Darwish

A planned 1.129 million-square-metre land reclamation beside Khalifa Bin Salman Port is set to greatly expand the industrial and logistics belt around one of Bahrain's main sea gateways.

The scheme will require about 9.665 million cubic metres of sand to reclaim 1,129,100 square metres along Avenue 13, according to a Ministry of Works tender opened on Monday.

Rock revetments will also be built around the reclaimed land as part of the expansion of Salman Industrial City and the Bahrain Logistics Zone.

Once the work is finished, part of the new platform will be handed to the Ministry of Industry and Commerce and the rest to the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications, based on the survey certificate.

The sheer size of the planned reclamation gives an idea of the scale of the scheme. The new platform alone will be larger than the existing Bahrain Logistics Zone, which covers about one square kilometre.

It will not, however, all become part of the logistics zone. The land will be split between the two ministries, opening up room for both industrial and logistics uses beside the port.

Five firms are competing for the engineering and quantity surveying consultancy contract, with bids ranging from BD778,580 to BD1.083 million.

Dar SSH International Engineering Consultants submitted the lowest bid, at BD778,580. AECOM Middle East Limited offered BD841,182, followed by Ansari Engineering Services at BD883,605 and Millet Engineering Bureau at BD912,890.

AYESA BL Ireland International Limited submitted the highest bid, at BD1,082,840.

All five offers were accepted at the bid-opening stage. They must still go through technical and financial assessment, and the Tender Board makes clear that the lowest bidder does not automatically win the contract.

The Ministry of Works has given the consultancy contract a 44-month term. It covers engineering advice and quantity surveying before and after the main reclamation contract is awarded, including the land-fill and rock protection works.

The project would add a large new tract of land to an area already packed with factories, warehouses and port-linked businesses.

Salman Industrial City includes Hidd Industrial Area and Bahrain International Investment Park. The Bahrain Logistics Zone sits alongside Khalifa Bin Salman Port and caters to firms working in storage, distribution, re-export and logistics.

The logistics zone opened in 2008, giving businesses close links to sea, road and air freight routes.

The land scheme also fits with the Industrial Sector Strategy 2022-2026, which calls for investment in industrial infrastructure, stronger supply chains, higher locally made exports and greater industrial output.

Salman Industrial City has drawn several large projects in recent years. About 107,000 square metres at Bahrain International Investment Park was allocated to the Bahrain Sugar Refinery, a project worth about BD70 million.

The reclamation scheme, once it reaches the building stage, would give the area beside Khalifa Bin Salman Port far greater room for factories, warehouses, distribution businesses and other port-linked projects.