

# Gulf Air releases 70th-anniversary documentary

TDT | Manama

**G**ulf Air has released a special documentary about the airline's history and 70 years of aviation in the region.

The one-episode, 20-minute documentary takes the viewers on a journey from the establishment of Gulf Air in 1950 throughout the seven following decades until its 70th anniversary in 2020.

The documentary features prominent figures from Bahrain who were part of the airline's history or were linked to its evolution at different stages and eras.

**Interviews were conducted with:**

- Zayed R. Alzayani, Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism / Chairman of Gulf Air's Board of Directors
- Capt. Waleed Abdulhameed AlAlawi, Gulf Air's Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Shaikha Hind bint Salman Al Khalifa, Wife of Sh. Rashid bin Hassan Al Khalifa, First Bahraini Pilot for Gulf Air
- Capt. Abdulrahman Al-Gaoud, Ambassador of



Screen grabs from the video available on the link (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ORslgmJpBnc>)

the Kingdom of Bahrain to the Republic of India and Gulf Air's First Bahraini Captain

- Mohammed Yateem, Businessman & Son of Hussain Yateem, Gulf Aviation Co-Founder
- Yousuf Salahuddin, Businessman & Bahrain's First Licensed Pilot

Dorine Oberndorfer, Former Gulf Air Stewardess & Passenger Service Officer

Various topics were discussed and memories were shared by the participants focusing on Gulf Air's reflection on Bahrain's identity, the idea of forming an airline based in Bahrain, the Gulf Aviation days, the involvement

of the British Overseas Airways Corporation (BOAC), GCC states joining the airline, Bahrain's and Gulf Air's leading the way for many 'firsts' and how Gulf Air highlights the Kingdom on the global map as a carrier of culture and growth.

Gulf Air's Acting Chief Executive Officer Capt. Waleed Abdulhameed AlAlawi, said:

"Gulf Air has come a long way since its establishment as Gulf Aviation in 1950. Today it is the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain and it connects the island with many parts of the world. Gulf Air is a key asset to Bahrain's economic wheel as it contributes to its GDP in various forms such as inbound tourism traffic, transit traffic, imports

and exports cargo as well as promoting Bahrain on a global scale through major sponsorship and events".

The documentary is available to watch on Gulf Air's YouTube channel and social media platforms and will also be available for viewing on-board Gulf Air flights and on Bahrain's National Television.

## Bapco CEO meets Japanese Envoy



Dr Dawood Nassif, the Chairman and Chief Executive of Bapco, held a meeting with Miyamoto Masayuki, the Ambassador of Japan to the Kingdom, in Al-Dair, Awali. They reviewed several issues of mutual interest and means of boosting cooperation. Dr Nassif stressed Bapco's commitment to fostering economic growth initiatives as per the directives of the wise leadership and the guidance of the Oil Minister. The Japanese Ambassador hailed Bapco's efforts to upgrade the oil industry, wishing Bapco further progress and prosperity. Matsubara Kenji, the First Secretary - Economic, Cultural & PR Section of the Japanese Embassy to the Kingdom, was present.

## Biden to aim for 50% EVs by 2030

Reuters | Washington

**U**S President Joe Biden will sign an executive order aimed at making half of all new vehicles sold in 2030 zero-emissions vehicles and will propose new vehicle-emission rules to cut pollution through 2026, the White House said.

Biden's goal, which is not legally binding, won the support of major US and foreign automakers that warned it would require billions of dollars in government funding.

"We have got to act," US Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg said in a CNBC interview. "This goal of getting half of our new vehicles to be electric within the decade is going to be urgently needed for us to



meet the imperative of climate in our time."

General Motor, Ford Motor and Chrysler-parent Stellantis NV, in a joint statement, said they aspired "to achieve sales of 40-50% of annual US volumes of electric vehicles... by 2030." Reuters reported the planned automaker announcement on

Tuesday.

Biden's 50% goal and the automakers' 40-50% aspiration includes battery electric, fuel cell and plug-in hybrid vehicles that also have a gasoline-engine.

Biden has repeatedly resisted calls from many Democrats to set a binding requirement for EV adoption or to follow California and some countries in setting 2035 as a date to phase out the sale of new gasoline-powered light duty vehicles in the face of opposition by the United Auto Workers (UAW) union.

UAW President Ray Curry noted the EV goal but said it was focused "on preserving the wages and benefits that have been the heart and soul of the American middle class."

## Region's first Smart Facilities Management conference on way in Dubai

Over 200 industry leaders are expected to converge at the two-day summit in Dubai

Summit to discuss recent trends, challenges and developments in the Facilities Management Industry to develop sustainable FM strategies for the future

TDT | Dubai

**A**ldrich International, a global consulting platform spearheading the development of knowledge-based economies in the MENASEA, will convene The Smart Facilities Management Conference & Showcase (SFM) 2021, the GCC region's first Smart FM Gathering focusing on Smart Technologies impacting the growth & future of FM indus-



try in Middle East, from August 18-19 in Dubai, UAE.

Addressing the theme of "Gearing Up for the Future, Developing Sustainable Facility Management Strategies", the summit's vision is to facilitate an enabling environment to address the emerging trends, challenges and opportunities in the Facilities Management sector of the Middle East Market.

Speaking ahead of the summit, Said El Haouasli, Vice President - Facilities Management, DAMAC Properties said, "The rise in integrated technologies fueled with the UAE hosting the EXPO 2020 will aid in the growth of facilities management (FM) over the next few years. FM role in Dubai Vision 2040 will be crucial and pivotal. The increased infrastructure required to real-

ize the plan will require FM providers will further enhance their existing service offering, built on the foundation of sustainability that puts people and the environment at the forefront."

Expressing his views on GCC's facilities management environment, Khalidun Aburok, Director, Farnek Services LLC said, "It is no longer confined to merely cleaning and general

maintenance. Smart and green FM performed by a well-trained workforce will be essential to drive Dubai's visionary plan and enhance people's quality of life over decades."

Speaking on the importance of asset lifecycle management & the role of facilities management, Imtiaz Ahmad, Director - Commercial Operations FM, Dubai Holding Asset Management (DHAM) said, "Facility Management is one of the key business enablers. By applying "Smart FM Solutions" we add value for building occupants and facility owners."

Focusing on operations & FM as a key function to influence customer experience and enhance business resilience in post-pandemic, Prabhu Ramachandran, Founder & CEO, Facilio said, "I look forward to discussing with other expert panelists on how FMs are playing a strategic role in client success today."

The two-day conference will

see key panel discussions on developing professional potential for the SMART workplace, building energy manager accreditation scheme and its role in Dubai's energy efficiency ambitions, increasing efficiency through digitalization in FM, future leaders of the Middle East FM sector among others.

Key Industry Veterans from leading facilities management services, smart & security solutions will headline The Smart Facilities Management Conference 2021 as it aims to spearhead discussions gravitating around the high-stake area of Smart Facilities Management.

The two-day show is expected to draw participation from over 200 prominent facility management services, waste management, green FM/energy, fire prevention, protection and security industry from across the GCC onto one platform by spearheading actionable debate, impactful change and high-level outcomes.