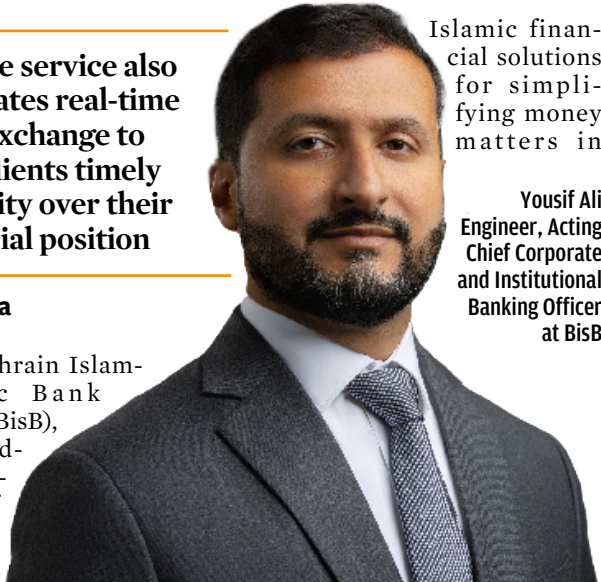


BisB launches Host-to-Host Connectivity solution to streamline corporate financial operations

● The service also facilitates real-time data exchange to give clients timely visibility over their financial position

Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB), the leading provider of innovative



Islamic financial solutions for simplifying money matters in

Yousif Ali Engineer, Acting Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking Officer at BisB

the Kingdom of Bahrain, has launched its Host-to-Host (H2H) Connectivity solution, an advanced payment integration system designed to transform the way businesses manage their financial operations.

The H2H Connectivity solution enables seamless connectivity between BisB and its clients' Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems, delivering greater control, speed, and accuracy across core transaction processes. By digitising key functions such as payment initiation, cash management, and reconciliation, it reduces manual intervention and enhances liquidity management

and operational efficiency. The solution supports flexible integration with any ERP platform via API or file-based methods, offering encrypted file transfers and multiple formats to meet diverse business needs. With automated reconciliation, real-time email alerts, and 24/7 availability, it ensures secure, efficient, and uninterrupted financial operations.

The service also facilitates real-time data exchange to give clients timely visibility over their financial position. All transactions are reflected across both the ERP system and the Bank's e-banking platform, simplifying reconciliation and

improving oversight. To ensure robust data security, the solution uses digital certificates for mutual authentication between the Bank and its clients.

Mr. Yousif Ali Engineer, Acting Chief Corporate and Institutional Banking Officer at BisB, stated, "The launch of our H2H Connectivity solution marks a major leap forward in the way we support our corporate clientele. By integrating directly with their ERP systems, we are delivering a future-ready solution that enables real-time data exchange, significantly reduces operational friction, and enhances overall financial ef-

iciency. With this innovation, we are providing our customers with a seamless payment processing experience that is aligned with their evolving needs."

This launch underscores the Bank's commitment to driving innovation and digital transformation across the financial sector, while enabling businesses to operate with increased speed and confidence. It also reflects BisB's continued alignment with the Kingdom's broader vision to strengthen its position as a regional leader in cutting-edge digital financial services.

'Build, baby, build': Canada PM's plan to counter Trump

● Unemployment rate hit 7.1 percent in August, the highest level since 2016

● Carney has repeatedly said Canada "can be an energy superpower"

● Greenpeace has accused the prime minister of backing "climate-wrecking infrastructure"

● Despite Carney's efforts to secure Indigenous backing for his major projects push, their concern persists

AFP | Montreal, Canada

On the night he won Canada's election, Prime Minister Mark Carney summarized his plan to jumpstart the country's economy in response to President

Donald Trump's threats. "Build, baby, build!" Carney told a jubilant crowd of Liberal party supporters in April.

In the early weeks of his first term, Carney's plans to build have taken shape, headlined by the new "Major Projects Office", launched last

month to spearhead the construction of ports, highways, mines and perhaps a new oil pipeline -- a contentious subject for groups concerned about the environment.

The office, which is expected to announce its priorities in the coming days, was formed after Carney's Liberals secured cross-party support to pass legislation empowering his government to fast-

track "nation-building projects."

"We are moving at a speed not seen in generations," Carney said, a level of urgency he argues is required as Trump reshapes the global economy.

'Economy in peril'

Since entering politics earlier this year, Carney has insisted Canada needs to break its decades-long reliance on US trade by revitalizing internal commerce while pursuing new markets in Europe and Asia.

During a visit to Germany last month, Carney said his government was "unleashing half a trillion dollars of investment" in infrastructure for energy, ports

and other sectors.

Jay Khosla, an energy expert at the Public Policy Forum, said the momentum to build would not have been possible without Trump.

"We know our economy is in peril," he said, noting Canada was effectively "captured economically," because of its closeness to the United States.

'Energy superpower?'

Canada is the world's fourth largest oil exporter and its crude reserves are the world's third largest.

Most of its resources are in the western province of Alberta, which exports almost exclusively to the United States, as Canada lacks the infrastructure to efficiently get energy products to other foreign markets.

Former prime minister Justin Trudeau, Carney's predecessor, put climate change at the center of his political brand and faced criticism from some over his perceived lack of support for the energy sector.

In a shift from the Trudeau era, Carney's Liberals now support exporting liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Europe.

"What we heard loud and

clear from German LNG buyers and LNG users is they believe there is demand and they want to buy our products" Energy Minister Tim Hodgson said in Berlin last week.

Carney has repeatedly said Canada "can be an energy superpower."

But not everyone is enthusiastic about that plan.

Greenpeace has accused the prime minister of backing "climate-wrecking infrastructure" while ignoring clean energy.

Carney could likely press ahead despite concerns from pro-climate NGOs, but support from Indigenous leaders -- for whom safeguarding the environment is top priority -- is seen as essential.

Despite Carney's efforts to secure Indigenous backing for his major projects push, their concern persists.

"We know how it feels to have Trump at our border. Let's not do that and have Trump-like policies," said Cindy Woodhouse, the national chief of the Assembly of First Nations, in a swipe at Carney's backing for energy infrastructure.

"Let's take the time and do things properly."

Federal Reserve must be 'fully' immune to politics: top Trump aide

AFP | Washington, United States

The US Federal Reserve should remain totally independent of all political considerations, President Donald Trump's top economic aide Kevin Hassett -- seen as a favorite to eventually lead the central bank -- said yesterday.

Hassett, the head of the National Economic Council, is seen as a possible successor to Fed chair Jerome Powell, who has come in for tough criticism from the Republican president.

Trump himself named Powell to the post during his first White



House term. "I would say 100 percent that monetary policy, Federal Reserve monetary policy, needs to be fully independent of political influence... including from President Trump," Hassett told CBS's "Face the Nation" with Margaret Brennan.

"Central bank independence is something that... Democrats and Republicans and the White House all agreed about," Hassett added.

"We've looked at countries that have allowed the leaders to take over the central banks, and what tends to happen is that it's a recipe for inflation and misery

for consumers."

But Hassett did question whether the bank under Powell was "as independent as we would like, as transparent as we would like? And I think that there's some dispute about that."

Trump has repeatedly bashed Powell for not cutting interest rates in the world's largest economy as quickly as the president believes he should.

He briefly considered trying to oust him, before pulling back from that idea, as financial markets remained volatile. Powell's term ends in May 2026.

Hassett refused to be drawn

about his prospects at the Fed, telling CBS he was focused on his current post.

When asked about the upcoming Supreme Court ruling on whether a large part of Trump's aggressive tariffs are legal, Hassett voiced optimism, calling an eventual decision against the administration a "very unlikely scenario."

A federal appeals court found that Trump exceeded his authority in tapping emergency economic powers to impose wide-ranging duties, but his administration has taken the fight to the top court.