Alba Achieves Historic Milestone of 50 Million Safe Working Hours without LTI



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Aluminium Bahrain B.S.C. (Alba), the world's largest aluminium smelter on one site, achieved an unprecedented milestone of 50 million safe working hours without a Lost Time Injury (LTI) on 07 September 2026, setting a new benchmark in the Company's history.

This milestone reflects the collective efforts of Alba's management, employees, and contractors to strengthen safety and operational excellence across the Company.

Mr. Ali Al Baqali, Alba's Chief Executive Officer said: "Reaching 50 million safe working hours without an LTI is a remarkable achievement and a proud moment in Alba's history. It reflects Alba's unwavering commitment to fostering a workplace where safety is embedded in every activity, decision and behaviour. I extend my sincere appreciation to our employees and contractor workforce for maintaining the highest safety standards every day. Together, we will continue to raise the bar and set new benchmarks in safety excellence."

The achievement builds on Alba's long-standing investment in safety leadership, workforce engagement, capability building and robust safety management systems.

NBB Launches 'Race from Bahrain to Malaysia' Campaign, Offering a Chance to Win a Travel Package for Two

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The National Bank of Bahrain (NBB) has launched the 'Race from Bahrain to Malaysia' campaign, running until 20th September 2026. The promotion offers customers the chance to attend Bahrain's international racing weekend in Malaysia from 2nd to 4th October 2026.

Customers can participate in the campaign by opting in through the NBB Points App. The Bank rewards customers for using their cards and spending during the campaign period with Mastercard credit or prepaid cards, giving them a chance to win a travel package to Malaysia. The prize includes return airfare for two, four nights' accommodation at a five-star hotel, return airport transfers, and two tickets to the event.

Commenting on the campaign, Subah Abdullatif Al Zayani, Chief Executive - Retail Banking at NBB, said: "We are delighted to celebrate this prestigious international event and the thrilling atmosphere it creates for motorsport fans. Through this campaign, we are pleased to reward our customers with the opportunity to enjoy a truly unique and memorable experience in Malaysia."

Through this campaign, NBB continues to deliver added value to its Mastercard Credit and Prepaid Cardholders by connecting everyday spending with rewarding experiences. The initiative also reinforces Bahrain's connection to the global motor racing scene and highlights the Bank's commitment to creating meaningful customer engagement opportunities.

For more information, please visit nbbonline.com, call 1721 4433, or visit any NBB branch. Participation is subject to applicable terms and conditions.

GCC Emerges as Global Economic Powerhouse

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The GCC Common Market, comprising Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman and Bahrain, has strengthened its position among the world's largest economic blocs, backed by an aggregate GDP of $2.4 trillion, sovereign wealth fund assets exceeding $5 trillion and commercial bank assets of around $3.9 trillion.

Greater economic integration and the principle of equal commercial treatment for GCC citizens have helped create a more unified regional marketplace, while diversification programmes such as Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 are reducing reliance on oil.

Corporate earnings are also reinforcing the region's economic strength. GCC-listed companies recorded a record $74.8 billion in net profits in Q2 2026, up 31.3% year on year, while first-half profits reached $142.81 billion, a 23.1% increase.

Despite geopolitical tensions and volatile energy prices, regional markets have remained relatively resilient. Kuwait outperformed with a 1.2% gain, while Dubai rose 0.8% and Qatar advanced 0.5%.

Meanwhile, capital is increasingly shifting from IPOs towards mergers and acquisitions. GCC M&A activity reached $65.1 billion in the first half of 2026, highlighting continued investor confidence.

With strong sovereign capital and expanding non-oil sectors, the GCC is increasingly emerging as a major global hub for investment, technology, logistics and finance.

Bahrain Chamber and Cyprus Chamber Explore Expanding Economic Cooperation

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First Vice Chairman of Bahrain Chamber, Yousef Salahuddin, received Chairman of the Cyprus Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Stavros Stavrou, and his accompanying delegation. The meeting discussed prospects for strengthening economic and trade relations between Bahrain and Cyprus, as well as enhancing engagement between the two business communities to support mutual interests and create new opportunities for partnerships and investment.

Salahuddin highlighted the longstanding historical ties between Bahrain and Cyprus, noting that they provide a strong foundation for expanding economic cooperation. He reaffirmed Bahrain Chamber's commitment to strengthening institutional ties with its Cypriot counterpart and exploring opportunities in sectors of mutual interest, while encouraging greater direct engagement between companies and investors.

He emphasized the importance of providing platforms that enable businesses to better understand opportunities in both markets, build long-term partnerships, diversify areas of cooperation, and increase trade and investment flows.

For his part, Stavrou affirmed the depth of the historical ties between Cyprus and Bahrain, noting the longstanding presence of Cypriot businesspeople in the Kingdom. He said this has fostered strong ties between the two business communities and provided a solid foundation for expanding economic relations.

Stavrou expressed hope for greater practical cooperation, stressing the importance of connecting investors with suitable opportunities and partners and translating shared interests into tangible outcomes. He added that long-term business relations, reciprocal investment, and joint ventures would strengthen economic ties between the two countries.

Second Vice Chairman of Bahrain Chamber, Nawaf Al Zayani, emphasized the importance of clear follow-up and coordination mechanisms to translate shared interests into partnerships and projects with tangible economic impact. He also highlighted the role of chambers of commerce in connecting businesses with relevant opportunities and partners, stressing that continued engagement is key to fostering sustainable investment and partnerships between Bahrain and Cyprus.

The meeting was attended by Bahrain Chamber Board Members Hassan Khamis, Bob Thacker, Jameel Alghanah, Shaker Al Hali, Rashad Zainal, Khalid Engineer, and Mohammed Dawani.