

business

Batelco, Gulf Air renew partnership

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Batelco, a leading digital solutions provider in the Kingdom, and Gulf Air, the Kingdom's national carrier, have renewed their partnership agreement for a further 3-year to provide Batelco's Al Dana Club members and high valued customers with superior benefits.

The agreement was signed by Batelco General Manager Consumer Division Maha Abdulrahman and Gulf Air Chief Commercial Officer, Vincent Coste in the presence of a number of attendees from both com-



Batelco General Manager Consumer Division Maha Abdulrahman and Gulf Air Chief Commercial Officer, Vincent Coste sign the agreement

panies at Batelco headquarters' recently.

In addition, Batelco also announced the launch of the Gulf Air Bundle, extending Falconflyer miles, to high-value customers who subscribe to the Gulf Air Bundle for BD5/monthly.

"We are very pleased to renew our partnership with Gulf Air in order to continue to deliver superior Gulf Air privileges for our Al Dana members," said Abdulrahman.

Commenting on the agreement, Coste said: "We are delighted to partner with Batelco yet again for the renewal of this agreement."

iGA increases parking spaces at Isa Town branch

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The Information & eGovernment Authority's (iGA) said it has arranged more parking lots at the Identity Card Center at Isa Town branch. The move followed requests made by customers through Taaqem programme.

The project was realised in collaboration with the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs and Urban Planning, an iGA statement said.

Chief Executive Mohamed Ali AlQaed, iGA expressed his gratitude to the Works Affairs for their prompt response in addressing the request at record time in collaboration with the General Directorate of Traffic (GDT).

It is worth mentioning that the Authority has added 25 parking lots to the currently available facility at a near distance from the centre's building.

Minister hails BAC CEO's election to ACI board



Kamal Ahmed, Minister of Transportation

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Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Kamal Ahmed yesterday hailed Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah's appointment as a director on the Airport Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific Regional board.

"This result is a point of pride, which reflects the ability and talent of Bahraini nationals to hold senior international positions in general," said the Minister adding: "It also demonstrates international confidence in the Bahraini professionals working in the aviation sector."

The Minister said that having such prominent BAC team members in these important roles also shines an international spotlight on Bahrain and showcases the Kingdom's reputation as an important aviation hub in the region.



Yousif Al Binfalah, BAC CEO

"BAC and its partners have made important contributions to the Airport Modernisation Programme that will help to ensure the successful and timely completion of this huge national development project," the minister stressed.

Binfalah, also the Chief Executive Officer of Bahrain Airport Company (BAC), is the first Bahraini to hold this prestigious international position and will serve for a period of three years.

The announcement was made by the board at its regular meeting in Hong Kong on the sidelines of the ACI Asia-Pacific/World General Assembly, Conference & Exhibition 2019.

The ACI Asia-Pacific Regional Board represents the interests of more than 600 airports in 49 countries and territories, which account for over 90 per cent of commercial air traffic in the Asia-Pacific region.

Bahrain set to host BDFEX 2019

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Bahrain will host "Business Development Forum & Expo (BDFEX-2019) for the Downstream Oil & Gas and Petrochemicals Industry" from 24 to 25 April 2019 at the Diplomat Radisson Blu Hotel, Manama.

BDFEX the first-of-its-kind event aims to attract international and regional corporations, small and medium enterprises (SMEs), investors and entrepreneurs in oil and gas and petrochemicals industries.

The forum is organised by PROACT International Consultancy, Bahrain and United Gulf Industrial Consortia for Investment Management and Consultation, Jubail, Saudi Arabia.

In his comments, Dr Khaled Jasim Bomtaia, CEO of PROACT International Consultancy, one of BDFEX's organisers, pointed out that BDFEX 2019 is in line with the major developments of oil and gas industry in Bahrain, such as the new biggest oil and gas field discovered in Bahrain, the biggest ongoing modernisation programme of



Dr Mohammed Al Khaldi, CEO of the Gulf Investment and Consulting Department of United Gulf Industrial Consortia Al-jubail Industrial City, Saudi Arabia

the Bapco refinery and other projects which contributes to the development of the oil and gas industry infrastructure.

"The potential benefit of BDFEX is also aligned on national plans to fostering institutional collaborations, maximizing the utilization of the resources to attracting investments into the sector and reflects the linked oil and gas sector of both Bahrain and Saudi Arabia. BDFEX will present approaches that link standards with the SDG 9



Dr Khaled Jasim Bomtaia, CEO of PROACT International Consultancy

to build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation," Dr Bomtaia added.

For his part, Dr Mohammed Al Khaldi, CEO of the Gulf Investment and Consulting Department of United Gulf Industrial Consortia Al-jubail Industrial City, Saudi Arabia, noted that the forum would result in increasing local content of manufacturing and services in the hydrocarbon downstream industry and attracting investments.

BCCI to hold two-day conference at Gulf Hotel

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The Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) announced holding a two-day conference that will include sector-specific roundtable discussions on 21st and 22nd April 2019 from 4 to 7 pm

in the Gulf Hotel.

"The conference will shed light on the challenges facing each sector of the national economy, and the efforts exerted by the chamber's 10 committees to overcome those challenges," said BCCI board member and head of the committees' coordi-

nation team Sonia Janahi.

On day one, health committee, industry and energy, finance insurance and taxation, real-estate and constructions, and technology committee committees will present their work papers.

The education committee,

commercial markets, hospitality and tourism, food wealth, and the transport and logistics committees will present their work papers on the second day of the event.

All members of the business community are invited to take part in the conference.

Global business leaders to converge on Bahrain for GEC

● The conference will begin with an introductory session held by Network members

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Curtains will rise tomorrow on the 11th Global Entrepreneurship Congress (GEC) 2019,

which will be held for the first time in the Kingdom, at the Bahrain International Exhibition and Convention Centre.

Organised by the Global Entrepreneurship Network in collaboration with the Labour Fund 'Tamkeen', the event, which would bring together thousands of entrepreneurs, investors, researchers and economic policymakers from more than 170 countries, will continue until Thursday.

The conference will be inaugurated on Tuesday with an introductory session by members of the Global Entrepreneurship Network on sustainable development through entrepreneurship and strategic growth partnerships.

Over the years, GEC has been considered as one of the largest entrepreneurial conferences in the world, hosted in many countries including the United States, United Kingdom, China, Italy,

A delegation of international experts and economists will attend the event, alongside Global Entrepreneurship Network (GEN) representatives from more than 170 countries, including Bahrain.

Brazil, Russia and the UAE.

"This year's decision to choose Bahrain as the host stems from

the Kingdom's strong economic position as well as its role as a global hub for entrepreneurs," a GEC statement said.

The conference will provide an opportunity to address the latest developments and insights in the entrepreneurial sector and support companies to scale and start new ventures using international best practices.

GEC will also explore various opportunities to utilize the po-

tential of young entrepreneurs by creating channels of communication between entrepreneurs and investors.

Commenting on the event, Tamkeen's Chief Executive, said: "The main objective of hosting GEC 2019 is not only to discuss the most important challenges of this growing sector but to explore what the sector can offer to young entrepreneurs in terms of creativity, growth and development."