

BD22 million Cargo area

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Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) appointed French engineering company Egis as a consultant to provide design and supervision services for Bahrain International Airport's new (BIA) BD22 million Cargo Area.

Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) Chairman Kamal Ahmed signed the agreement alongside Egis Middle East & South Asia Aviation Director, Jacques Khoriaty during the Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS). In attendance were

BAC Chief Executive Officer, Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah and other officials from both companies.

HE the Minister said: "This capacity increase will allow the airport to handle larger numbers and volumes of shipments, creating new jobs in the process."

The new Cargo Area will be equipped with the latest technology to enhance BIA's cargo handling capabilities and better cater to express customers.

BIA's 24-hour air cargo terminal receives approximately 38,000 tonnes of air cargo annually.

New JV for Airport's F&B offerings signed

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Gulf Air Group Holding is partnering with the Buhindi Group and SSP, a leading operator of food and beverage (F&B) concessions in travel locations, to invest in and operate the F&B offerings at Bahrain International Airport's new Passenger Terminal Building.

Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Gulf Air Group Holding Chairman, Kamal Ahmed, announced the intention to form SSP Bahrain, the new joint venture, which will also benefit from SSP's management services.

The signing ceremony took place on the sidelines of the Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS) 2018. In attendance were the Minister, SSP Group Chief Commercial Officer and SSP EEME Chief Executive Officer, Mark Angela, Gulf Air

Group Holding CEO, Paul Kehoe, Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) Chief Executive Officer, Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalah, and a number of officials from both companies.

The F&B award is for a 10-year agreement for the development and operation of 17 F&B outlets at Bahrain International Airport's new Passenger Terminal Building.

SSP Group's other offerings at the new Passenger Terminal Building will include Lumee, a well-known Bahraini concept; Illy Caffè, a world famous coffee brand; Millie's Cookies, a popular UK concept (first in Bahrain); Ya Salam, a local favourite; Levito, an Italian concept (first in Bahrain); Burger King; KFC; Jaipur Café, an Indian concept (first in Bahrain); Camden Food Co, a grab and go food concept (first in Bahrain); and Ritazza, an Italian coffee shop concept (first in Bahrain).

Saudi Gulf Airline, Airbus sign US\$2.1 billion deal



Signing the deal

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Saudi Gulf Airline has signed a deal with Airbus for the acquisition of twenty A320neo/A321neo family aircrafts worth more than US\$2.1 billion.

The deal follows the decision of Saudi Gulf Airline to introduce this type of aircraft to its fleet at the rate of six to eight aircraft annually from the second half of 2019, said Tariq Abdul Hadi Al Qahtani Chairman Al-Qahtani Aviation / SaudiGulf Airlines

The airline said it will in-

itially contract with aircraft leasing companies for the provision of brand new production aircraft from the manufacturer, in SaudiGulf Airlines specification, for up to twenty aircraft during the next three years, followed by the start of the delivery of the contracted aircraft above from Airbus directly.

SaudiGulf Airlines commenced scheduled commercial operations in Saudi Arabia with four new Airbus A320 aircraft in October 2016 from its base at King Fahd International Airport in Dammam to Riyadh, Jeddah and Abha.

Gulf Air Group raises stake in BAS to 44pc

The deal will allow BAS to become a major regional and international player

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Gulf Air Group Holding has increased its ownership in Bahrain Airport Services (BAS) to 44 per cent, strengthening the Mumtalakat-owned holding company's control over a key strategic aviation asset.

The cash injection will also allow BAS, the ground handling services provider at Bahrain International Airport (BIA), to become a major regional and possibly international player, offering its ground handling services to airports in other countries.

"This purchase allows BAS to play an even more significant role in BIA's transformation into a world-class boutique airport," said the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications and Chairman of Gulf Air Group Holding Kamal Ahmed.

The minister added: "This agreement, in step with the other development projects taking place as part of the USD 1.1 billion Airport Modernisation Programme, also marks



Minister Kamal Ahmed and other officials during the deal signing

the launch of the Group's strategy to leverage BAS's ground handling expertise to expand its business regionally and internationally."

Kamal Ahmed and BAS Board of Directors Chairman Mohamed Jalal signed the agreement during the second day of the Bahrain International Airshow

(BIAS) 2018. In attendance were officials from BAS and Bahrain Airport Company (BAC).

The increase is in line with heads of terms agreement, signed by BAC Chief Executive Officer Mohamed Yousif Al-Binfalah and BAS Chief Executive Officer Salman Al-Mahmeed, which will see BAS remain

Bahrain International Airport's (BIA) ground handling agent for passengers, luggage, aircraft, and catering services until at least 2034.

The agreement is aimed at developing the overall level of service at BIA and ensuring all ground handling operations adhere to international standards.



Officials during a photocall at a conference held at BIAS. More than 50 aviation leaders participated in this year's Bahrain International Airshow (BIAS) Airport Conference. Hosted by Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) under the patronage of the Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications Kamal Ahmed, the conference discussed the latest issues shaping the region's aviation sector.

BD10.6m, two year, air navigation deal

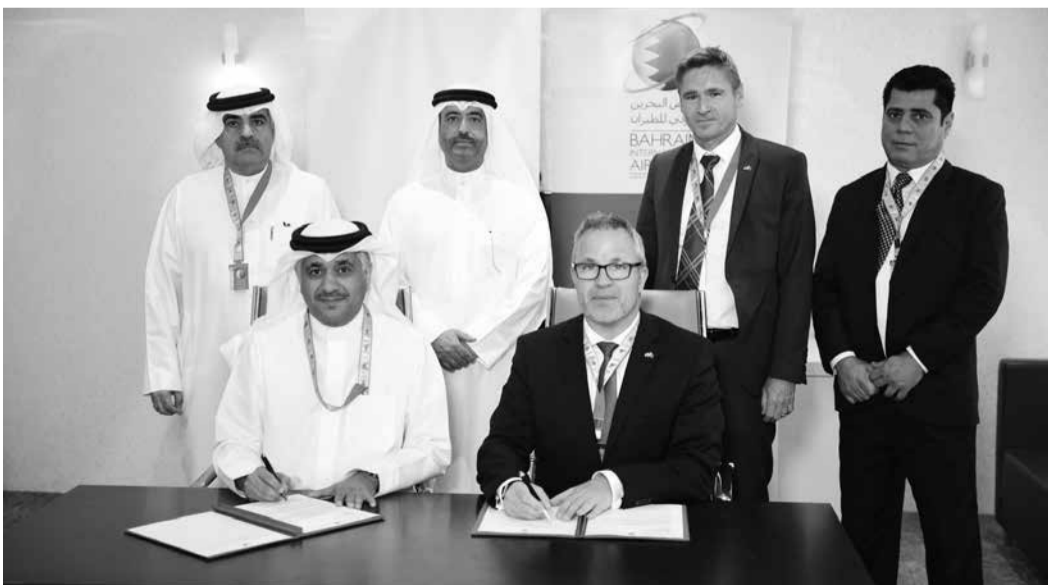
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A BD10.6 million agreement for the provision of manpower for air navigation services for a period of two years was signed yesterday at the Bahrain International Air Show 2018 (BIAS).

The deal was signed by the Ministry of Transportation and Telecommunications' Civil Aviation Affairs (CAA) and the German company DFS Aviation Services GmbH, a subsidiary of the German air navigation services provider DFS Deutsche Flugsicherung GmbH.

Kamal Ahmed, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, said: "I am confident that with this partnership, our Civil Aviation air navigation capabilities will be elevated as our team learn from the industry's best."

"The agreement will be



Minister Kamal Ahmed signing the deal with DFS Aviation Services officials

in effect from January 2019 till December 2020," Ministry's Undersecretary for Civil Aviation Affairs, Mo-

hamed Thamir Al Kaabi, said.

"The rapid development of the country makes this project

particularly exciting for us," said Oliver P. Cristinetti, Managing Director of DFS Aviation Services.