

Batelco brings Avaya Spaces to Bahrain following GITEX launch

- Launch to accelerate Kingdom's transition to the digital workplace
- Avaya Spaces is an all-in-one video meeting and collaboration solution for the digital workplace

Abdul Jaleel Abdullal from Dubai

Batelco, Bahrain Telecommunications Company, yesterday announced its introduction of Avaya Spaces, the workstream collaboration platform for the digital workplace, launching a partnership agreement with Avaya at GITEX Global 2021, the region's largest technology event.

The introduction of Avaya Spaces in Bahrain will help the company deliver evolved collaboration capabilities to its customers as they continue their transition to the digital workplace. It builds on an already successful partnership with Avaya, which sees Batelco offer



Officials during the launch

Avaya OneCloud UCaaS (Unified Communications as a Service), through its Bahrain-based Data Centre.

Avaya Spaces is an all-in-one video meeting and collaboration solution for the digital workplace that changes the way work gets done in nearly 100 countries. Avaya Spaces helps businesses, schools, governments, and other organisations to bring

together distributed groups of people instantly with immersive, composable workspaces where they can message, meet, share content, manage tasks and collaborate in the cloud.

Nidal Abou-Ltaif, President, Avaya International, said, "We're proud of our partnership with Batelco as we continue to work together to solve the business challenges of Bahrain's top or-

ganizations. We continue to commit to the digitisation of the local workplace, and to help local enterprises journey to the cloud on their own terms. Batelco's launch of Avaya Spaces helps to ease that transition even further, enabling our joint customers to quickly and seamlessly accelerate their digital transformations."

Batelco General Manager

Enterprise, Abdulla Danesh, said that Batelco is delighted to announce the introduction of Avaya Spaces in Bahrain.

"Our partnership with Avaya has already seen us deliver world-class communication solutions through the cloud, helping organisations to quickly transform via subscription-based models, and we have seen significant growth in

demand for these cloud-based solutions since their introduction. Our offering of Avaya Spaces takes things even further, enabling our customers to overcome the limitations of traditional PBX with an easy-to-implement, secure workstream collaboration solution that catapults them into the digital workplace," he said.

"The addition of Avaya Spaces to Batelco's portfolio will address the needs of organizations in Bahrain that require the convenience, visibility, and accessibility of workstream collaboration tools deployed in the cloud," Danesh added.

Batelco's digital workplace offerings leveraging Avaya Spaces will be on full display on Avaya's stand at GITEX Global 2021. Avaya's presence at GITEX comes in partnership with Future Technology, Gulf Applications, RayCom Technologies, Sestek, Summit Technology Solutions, Toolwire, TOPAZ, and Verint Systems. Visit Avaya at its stand in Zabeel Hall, at Dubai World Trade Centre, between October 17 and 21, 2021, or tune into the live broadcast.

Kingdom Pride Centre celebrates 14th anniversary

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Kingdom Pride Centre, one of the leading department stores on the Island, had a big party to celebrate its 14th anniversary with a treasure hunt, free popcorn and candy floss, two jumping castles, and a pony for all the little kids to enjoy free rides on! The Music and coordinator made sure the kids enjoyed some fun party games while the Haribo bear made a surprise visit to hand out free candy!

In case, you missed the weekend party, you can still get some deals throughout the month along with a free delivery service.

Kingdom Pride Center offers a wide range of items – from stationery and toys, household and party crockery, lights and fancy lighting, take away containers and party bags, cleaning products, daily food items - snacks and local bites, and much more! Be sure to find what you need and within budget. Kingdom Pride Centre said it offers mega-deals to help save on all monthly needs.

And, that's not all! If you are planning a party and looking for party items, Halloween Décor, X'Mas Trees and lights, find all these and more!

Also on offer is an additional discount for any customer who brings in their bag from home!

KPMG names Nader Haffar as chairman of Middle East and South Asia region

● Nader Haffar is presently the Chairman and CEO of KPMG Lower Gulf (UAE and Oman)

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The KPMG Middle East and South Asia region's board has announced the appointment of Nader Haffar as its Chairman, effective 1 October 2021.

He will represent MESA on the KPMG Global Council and the KPMG Europe, Middle East & Africa (EMA) Board.

Nader Haffar is presently the Chairman and CEO of KPMG Lower Gulf (UAE and Oman), a role he has held since 2018. Before this, he led the management consulting practices of the KPMG member firms in the Lower Gulf and Saudi Arabia. Commenting on his appointment, Nader Haffar said: "I look forward to working with KPMG's extraordinary team and our clients across the region to deliver on our mandates and build on our growth momentum. I would



Nader Haffar

also like to thank Reyaz Mihar, outgoing Chairman, for his stellar contribution to the MESA region over the past two decades."

25 office locations

The KPMG MESA region covers more than 25 office locations across 15 countries and territories, including Bahrain, Bangladesh, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Maldives, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates.

Saudi hits 15-year peak; Egypt falls, Bahrain rise

- Bahrain All Share Index increased 8.14 points
- Brent crude was up 65 cents
- Etihad Etisalat gained about 3%

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Traders monitors stock information (Courtesy of Bloomberg)

Closing Bell

SAUDI	▲ 0.3% to 11,793
ABU DHABI	▼ 0.1% to 7,888
DUBAI	■ at 2,818
QATAR	▲ 0.2% to 11,767
EGYPT	▼ 0.7% to 11,195
BAHRAIN	▲ 0.5% to 1,718
KUWAIT	▲ 0.4% to 7,519

securities traded.

Brent crude was up 65 cents, or 0.8%, to \$84.98 a barrel by 1206 GMT as a supply crunch in natural gas, electricity and coal continued across the globe while falling temperatures in China revived concerns.

Saudi Arabia's benchmark index (.TASI) rose 0.3%, reaching its highest since July 2006, with Al Rajhi Bank (1120.SE) climbing 3.1%, finishing at its highest in over 15 years.

Telecom firm Etihad Etisalat (7020.SE) gained about 3% after reporting a rise in quarterly profit.

The kingdom's crude oil exports in August rose for a fourth consecutive month to their highest since January 2021, the Joint Organisation Data Initiative said on Monday.

Outside the Gulf, Egypt's blue-chip index (.EGX30) fell 0.7%, snapping a 10-day winning streak with Commercial International Bank (COMI.CA) falling 1%.

In Abu Dhabi, the index (.ADI) eased 0.1%, weighed down by a 0.6% fall in top lender First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB.AD) and a 0.4% fall in conglomerate International Holding (IHC.AD).

Dubai's main share index (.DFMGI) gave up early gains to close flat, with top lender Emirates NBD (ENBD.DU) losing 0.7% ahead of its earnings.

Logistic firm Aramex (ARMX.DU) advanced 1.9% after it resumed deliveries to and from the United Arab Emirates and Doha.

Oman was closed for a public holiday.

Ahli United Bank launches e-Cheque Service

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Ahli United Bank has announced the launch of its e-Cheque service continuing efforts to digitise its entire service portfolio. Available to both individuals and corporate clients, the new facility will allow them to issue and

receive cheques with just a few clicks.

Through seamless integration with the BenefitPay app, e-Cheques negates the need to visit the bank to have a cheque book issued or even activate the service.

Corporate clients can initiate

e-Cheques by talking to their Relationship Managers who will take it from there.

The initiative highlights the bank's support for the Kingdom's drive to be the torchbearer in the wide adoption of FinTech technologies across the region.

CBB T-bills oversubscribed by 128%

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This week's BD 70 million issue of Government Treasury Bills has been oversubscribed by 128%.

The bills, carrying a maturity of 91 days, are issued by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB), on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The issue date of the bills is October 20 and the maturity date is January 19, 2022.

The weighted average rate of interest is 1.42% compared to 1.40% of the previous issue on October 6.

The approximate average price for the issue was 99.641% with the lowest accepted price being 99.597%.

This is issue No. 1882 (ISIN BH0001417422) of Government Treasury Bills. With this, the total outstanding value of Government Treasury Bills is BD 2.110 billion.

Treasury-bills No. 86 oversubscribed 110%

CBB also announced that its BD 100 million issue of Government Bills has been oversubscribed by 110% this week.

The bills, carrying a maturity of 12 months, are issued by the Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB), on behalf of the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The issue date of the bills is October 21 and the maturity date is October 20, 2022.

The weighted average rate of interest is 1.65% compared to 1.66% of the previous issue on September 23.

The approximate average price for the issue was 98.35574% with the lowest accepted price being 98.214%.

This is issue No. 86 (ISIN BH0007784646) of Government Treasury Bills. With this, the total outstanding value of Government Treasury Bills is BD 2.110 billion.