

'Sure' scores high in CICRA Survey

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Batelco Group's 'Sure' subsidiary (Channel Islands & Isle of Man) has shined in the 2018 'Channel Islands Competition and Regulatory Authorities' (CICRA) telecoms customer satisfaction survey.

The Sure Group, Batelco said, was ranked as 'the best mobile operator for overall satisfaction' and 'the most recommended operator in the Channel Islands'.

Ihab Hannawi, Group Chief Executive at Batelco Group, commented, "We are proud of Sure Group's accomplishments in CICRA's 2018 customer satisfaction survey and their



Ihab Hannawi

year-on-year progress."

CICRA's annual telecom survey rates different operators against a holistic set of categories including quality of service, reliability, value for money and customer service.

Sustainable operations are key to future: Alba

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Sustainable operations are key to the future, said Aluminium Bahrain (Alba) CEO while warning that the aluminium industry "continues to face many headwinds".

Tim Murray was commenting during a series of awareness sessions kick-started by the company to improve operational efficiency and productivity for value-creation and sustainable operations.

The series titled 'Titan -



Alba CEO - Tim Murray

Phase III: The Phase of Urgency & Extreme Ownership' Campaign was launched on 08 October 2018.

"Through Project Titan - Phase III, we seek to adopt extreme measures to improve our operational efficiency all the while being prepared to seize the right opportunities in the future," said Murray highlighting the impact of higher Alumina prices coupled with fluctuating LME prices.

Running for a month, the sessions are being held for Aluminium Bahrain employees

across the plant by members of Alba's Operational Excellence Department.

The event also featured Question & Answer sessions and open discussions on various subjects in order to streamline Alba's cost structure.

Alba had launched the Phase III of its company-wide, cost reduction programme Project Titan with an aim to reduce cash-cost by US\$ 60 per metric tonne of aluminium and step-up its production capacity to 1,000,000 metric tonnes per annum by end of 2018.

BFB announces new Global FinTech centre

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Bahrain FinTech Bay (BFB) has announced the launch of a Global Islamic & Sustainable FinTech Center (GISFC) with local, regional and international members.

GISFC, BFB said, aims to help accelerate the use of FinTech to drive the next phase of growth in Islamic finance, whilst also focusing on sustainable, social and responsible innovation.

Dr Ali Adnan Ibrahim has been appointed as Chairman of GISFC. He is the Head of Sustainability & Social Responsibility at the Al Baraka Banking Group in Bahrain and is also a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, and leads the Social Credits Initiative and is Chair of the Sustainable Development Committee of the



Dr Ali Adnan Ibrahim



Khalid Saad

Bahrain Association of Banks.

On this occasion, Khalid Saad, CEO of Bahrain FinTech Bay said, "Through the launch of GISFC, we aim to bring to-

gether key stakeholders in the industry to help shed light on how FinTech can help attain such growth in a sustainable and responsible manner."



INJAZ Bahrain, in collaboration with Brinc Batelco, conducted an Innovation Camp workshop for the company's programme students. Over 200 students participated in the three-day workshop held from October 16 to 18 at Brinc Batelco. The workshop primarily aimed to teach, lead and inspire Bahraini youth towards building a good understanding of self-employment, with the first-hand experience of the spirit of entrepreneurship, and using critical and creative thinking for generating innovative product ideas.



Arain Foundation arranged a dinner in honour of Arain Families in Bahrain. Above, participants during a group photo session



Officials of Global Star Est & Uni Fruity general trading during Bahrain Hospitality & Restaurant Expo 2018. Above, branch managers of Bahrain, Dubai, Saudi Arabia introducing their product during the Expo

Brazil, Chile in free trade

Reuters | Sao Paulo

Brazil and Chile concluded yesterday negotiations for a free trade agreement that could be signed by the end of the year, the Brazilian government said in a statement late on Saturday.

Under the agreed terms, Brazil and Chile will not charge

international roaming fees for mobile calls and data in each other's countries, it said.

The agreement included topics such as online retail, environment, labor and anti-corruption measures.

Last year, the two had trade worth \$8.5 billion.

Negotiations began in April 2017

Hyderabad terminal

IANIS | Hyderabad

The Interim International Departure Terminal at the Rajiv Gandhi International Airport here will be made operational tomorrow.

According to GMR Hyderabad International Airport Limited (GHIAL), the airport operator, all international departure flights will operate from this terminal with effect from 10:30 a.m. on October 23.

Economic zone at Riyadh

Reuters | Dubai

Saudi Arabia announced the establishment of a special economic zone to draw more foreign investment, state news agency SPA reported yesterday. The zone, which will be lo-

cated in King Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, will focus on integrated logistics and enjoy special rules and regulations aiming at attracting more multinational companies to the Kingdom, SPA said.