

## Floating Market @ Thai Mart Mall



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Thailand's renowned "Floating Market" was launched at Diyar Al Muharraq's Thai Mart Mall. The 10-day event, which started on 21 October, was organised by Vega Thai Mart Bahrain, Vega Intertrade and Exhibitions and the Thai Club Bahrain. The Thai Floating Market features stalls that offer a variety of traditional Thai delights with other Asian cuisine and products. Shown in the photo are Filipino Club President Ric Advincula, Pilipina Ikaw Na Aming Yaman President Dinah Sta. Ana, Indonesian Embassy Minister Councillor Politics, Firdauze Dwiandika; Philippine Embassy Consul General and Charge d' Affaires Maria Paz G. Cortes, Ministry of Foreign Affairs Protocol Director Khalifa Rumaishi and Thai Club President Sidsiam Suriyod and other guests.

## GFH partners with Schroders Capital

● GFH and Schroders Capital complete first co-investment in the Healthcare Sector

● To boost GFH's global private equity footprint across Europe and the Americas

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GFH Financial Group yesterday announced it has entered into a strategic partnership with Schroders Capital which has \$70 billion of assets under management. As part of this strategic partnership, GFH will work with Schroders Capital to invest in select private equity and venture capital deals on a discretionary basis. Schroders Capital is the private markets investment division of Schroders, the global asset management group which manages \$968 billion of assets on behalf of its clients.



Under this strategic arrangement, GFH will invest in select investments alongside Schroders Capital, across a range of defensive and downturn resistant sectors such as healthcare, education, technology and consumer. One of the key co-investments undertaken is a global healthcare education provider, which has clear leadership positions across several European countries, as well as in Latin America. The company, which has a large network of 35k students across 10 countries with 140 sites worldwide, has imple-

mented strong digital capabilities and is solidly profitable with tremendous growth potential. Commenting, Hammad Younis, CIO of GFH, said, "This strategic partnership with Schroders Capital strongly aligns with GFH's vision of building a robust European and American private equity investment platform, an area where we continue to focus and expand both organically as well as inorganically through partnerships, JVs and acquisitions of GP stakes." Younis added, "We've long identified healthcare as an important strategic area for growth

and we believe that Covid has been a catalyst for further capital allocation to the sector in order to build a safe and sustainable world." Rainer Ender, Head of Private Equity, Schroders Capital, said, "The investment opportunities remain extensive and I am sure that by working together we can take advantage of some exciting private equity and venture capital deals. We are already looking forward to giving GFH the opportunity to benefit from attractive buyout and growth companies in Europe and the Americas."

### nogaholding group CEO visits Banagas



Mark Thomas, Group Chief Executive Officer of the Oil & Gas Holding Company (nogaholding), visited the Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) where he was received by Dr. Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive, and the Company's Executive Management. The Chief Executive welcomed Thomas and congratulated him on his appointment as Group Chief Executive Officer of the Oil & Gas Holding Company. The Executive Management presented to Mark Thomas the Company's history, achievements and development over the years followed by an update on the Bahrain Gas Plant Project. During the visit, the Company's achievements in the fields of Safety, Occupational Health, Environment, Production and Social Responsibility were also highlighted. Thomas, accompanied by Dr. Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive, and the Executive Management also visited the Control Room at the Central Gas Plant where he was briefed on the Company's efforts to identify and adopt the latest technologies in the field of oil and gas processing.

### Enhancing ties with Sudan, Malaysia



From left, Ambassador Shazryll Zahiran, Sameer Nass and Dr Abdulla Al Sada



Abdulla Rabea Saeed Rabea and Nass

Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber Sameer Nass yesterday held meetings with Bahraini ambassador to Sudan Abdulla Rabea Saeed Rabea and Malaysian ambassador to Bahrain Shazryll Zahiran in the presence of Acting Chief Executive Officer Dr Abdulla Al Sada and other officials from the chamber. Nass underlined the potential role of Sudan in achieving food security for countries of the region, vowing to exert all efforts to streamline business endeavours. Speaking to the Malaysian ambassador, Nass underlined the importance of exchanging business delegations and holding joint business functions. He named agriculture, food security, renewable energy, medical tourism, education, and textile, as promising areas of cooperation between Bahrain and Malaysia.

## Alba launches second ESG campaign 'Shaping Our Future'

● Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali kick-started the Campaign

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Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), one of the world's leading smelters in Sustainable Development, launched its second plant-wide Environment, Social, and Governance Awareness Campaign "Shaping Our Future" yesterday.

Alba's Chief Executive Officer Ali Al Baqali kick-started this Campaign with a virtual keynote that highlighted the Company's progress and adaptability in respect to ESG as well as the inte-



Alba officials during the launch of its second plant-wide Environment, Social, and Governance Awareness Campaign "Shaping Our Future" yesterday.

gration of Bahrain's Economic Vision 2030 Objectives and UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into Alba's 5-year strategy.

CEO Ali Al Baqali said: "To an-

chor sustainability at the heart of Alba, we have linked ESG in every aspect of our operations; this was also underlined in our Mission on how to remain competitive while charting a path to greater economic and social well-being. This Campaign is a progression of our first campaign 'Achieving the Balance' which was held in June 2021 through which we aim to address various topics to be the ESG change we want to see in the world."

Concluding on 04 November 2021, the Campaign will feature more than 20 informative sessions by employees from across the plant, delivered via a hybrid approach - virtual and in person - and touch upon numerous ESG topics, including Carbon Foot-

print, Cyber Security, Industry 4.0, Safety as a Social Responsibility, and Water Management among many others.

Correspondingly, as part of this Campaign, Alba extended its green initiatives beyond its premises to plant more trees on the main roads around the smelter, thus joining the National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD) "Forever Green" Campaign being held under the patronage of HRH Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al-Khalifa, Wife of His Majesty the King and President of NIAD Consultative Council.

To-date, the Company is on course with its 'Safety Excellence' journey by topping more than 17.5 million safe working-hours.