

BisB Signs Strategic Agreement with Cork Information Technology to Launch Supply Chain Finance Solutions

Manama

Bahrain Islamic Bank (BisB), the leading provider of innovative Islamic financial solutions for simplifying money matters in the Kingdom of Bahrain, has entered a strategic partnership with Cork Information Technology to introduce an innovative Supply Chain Finance (SCF) solution for its corporate clients, including small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and suppliers.

The agreement was officially signed by Ms. Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Executive Office of BisB, and Mr. Khalid Hussain AlMaskati, Chairman of Cork Information Technology, in



Mr. Hussain Khalid AlMaskati, Board Director Member of Cork Information Technology



Ms. Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB

the presence of representatives from both organizations.

Reinforcing its commitment to supporting the SME

sector in the Kingdom, BisB has launched its latest digital product designed to enhance collaboration between buyers and suppliers. The new solution offers a range of financing tools and risk-mitigation capabilities that allow for more efficient working capital management.

Powered by Cork's Corkline SCF Platform, the platform will allow suppliers to receive early payment of invoices which are approved by their buyers. This not only accelerates their cash flow but also provides an additional source of financing without depleting existing credit limits. At the same time, buyers will be able to support their suppliers by providing

financing options, improved payment terms, and various offers.

Commenting on the partnership, Ms. Fatema AlAlawi, Chief Executive Officer of BisB, said, "This collaboration with Cork Information Technology reflects our long-standing commitment to supporting the business community through innovative offerings. We place particular emphasis on empowering SMEs, given their pivotal role in driving national economic growth. This new product will further enhance our ability to serve the sector while expanding the scope of our commercial solutions for clients. We remain dedicated towards

delivering tailored and efficient digital banking products and services that meet the diverse needs of businesses."

For his part, Mr. Hussain Khalid AlMaskati, Board Director Member of Cork Information Technology, added, "We are pleased to support BisB in achieving its objectives of accelerating business growth through innovative and differentiated financial solutions. The Corkline SCF Platform has been designed in collaboration with leading banks and financial institutions, and we are confident that this partnership will contribute to delivering cutting-edge offerings tailored to serve BisB's SME clientele."

Trump advisor says US may take stakes in other firms after Intel

AFP | Washington, United States

The US government could take stakes in other companies after doing so with chipmaker Intel, President Donald Trump's top economic advisor Kevin Hassett said yesterday.

Hassett, director of the National Economic Council, cited

Trump's plans for a sovereign wealth fund in a CNBC interview, saying "I'm sure that at some point there'll be more transactions" in the semiconductor industry or others.

He was responding to a question on whether a recently announced deal for the US government to take a 10-percent equity

stake in Intel was the start of broader efforts towards similar moves in other industries that authorities have been funding.

Under the agreement with Intel, the US government will receive 433.3 million shares of common stock, representing a 9.9% stake in the company, Intel said in an earlier statement.

This amounts to an \$8.9 billion investment, funded partially by \$5.7 billion in grants awarded but not yet paid under the CHIPS and Science Act -- a major law passed under former president Joe Biden, which Trump has criticized. The other portion comes from a different award.

Hassett said on Monday that

"in the past, the federal government has been giving money away" to companies.

But he maintained that under potential deals like that with Intel, "these are going to be shares that don't have

voting rights."

He said the US government plans to stay out of how companies are run.



Tamkeen's Chief Executive highlights pivotal role of Bahraini youth in National Development

Manama

Her Excellency Ms. Maha Abdulhameed Mofeez, the Chief Executive of the Labour Fund "Tamkeen", reaffirmed the critical role Bahraini youth play in driving the Kingdom's development through positive contributions, generating innovative ideas, and enhancing productivity across various fields

and sectors.

Her Excellency also stressed Tamkeen's commitment and ongoing efforts to cultivate an innovative ecosystem and provide platforms for local talent to showcase their entrepreneurial ideas, as well as skill development to help advance and grow their careers.

This came during Her Excellency's meeting with a select group of Bahraini youth

participating in the "Rehan Al Mostaqbal" program organized by the Bahrain Institute for Political Development. The meeting was also attended by Her Excellency Dr Ebtisam Al Dallal, a member of the Board of Trustees and Her Excellency Ms. Eman Faisal Janahi, Executive Director of the Institute in addition to representatives from

both Tamkeen and the Institute. The discussion featured an overview of Tamkeen's key programs and initiatives designed to facilitate youth employment and institutional growth. The dialogue fostered an open discussion on strategic priorities and support mechanisms that contribute to achieving core objectives.

This event is part of the in-

stitute's ongoing initiative to connect emerging leaders with senior policymakers in addition to equipping them with the knowledge and tools needed for meaningful political engagement and leadership further fostering a politically engaged and knowledgeable young generation.



Stocks edge downwards after rallying on US rate hopes

AFP | Paris, France

Stocks edged downwards on Monday after earlier rallies in Europe and Asia, a surge fuelled by comments from the US central bank chief last week indicating a shift toward lower rates.

Investors were also keenly awaiting an earnings report from dominant AI chip company Nvidia due on Wednesday -- the firm's stock fell sharply last week as investors worried that enthusiasm for AI may be overcooked, which helped drag down the buoyant tech industry.

Key figures at around 1545 GMT

New York - Dow:	▼ 0.5% at 45,393.11 points
New York - S&P 500:	▼ 0.1% at 6,460.49
New York - Nasdaq:	▲ 0.2% at 21,547.56
Paris - CAC 40:	▼ 1.6% at 7,843.04 points (close)
Frankfurt - DAX:	▼ 0.4% at 24,273.12 (close)
London - FTSE 100: CLOSED for Summer Bank Holiday	
Tokyo - Nikkei 225:	▲ 0.4% at 42,807.82 (close)
Hang Seng Index:	▲ 1.9% at 25,829.91 (close)
Shanghai - Composite:	▲ 1.5% at 3,883.56 (close)
Euro/dollar:	▼ at \$1.1677 from \$1.1722 on Friday
Pound/dollar:	▼ N at \$1.3494 from \$1.3523
Dollar/yen:	▲ at 147.63 yen from 146.94 yen

"AI has been the primary driver of the market this year," said Christopher Low of FHN Financial, adding that Nvidia stock is particularly important as investors have used it to wager on the AI industry more broadly.

Fed chief Jerome Powell told central bankers at their annual conference in Wyoming last Friday that "the balance of risks appears to be shifting" toward signs of weakness in the world's largest economy.

Investors interpreted that as a sure signal of a rate cut at the Fed's meeting next month, as in-

flation has not shown signs of soaring in the wake of President Donald Trump's tariffs blitz.

"Powell basically delivered the 25 basis points before the September meeting," said Ipek Ozkardeskaya, an analyst at Swissquote Bank. While global markets soared initially and Asian markets kept their gains.