

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA

Issue No. 158 August 2021

Oud Metha, another addition to model bus stations



Vision

The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility.

Mission

Develop & manage integrated and sustainable roads & transportation systems at a world-class level, and provide pioneered services to all stakeholders for their happiness, and support Dubai's vision through shaping the future, developing policies and legislations, adopting technologies, innovations & world-class practices and standards.

Realizing Leadership's Vision



In 1999, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, launched the e-Government initiative during a time when the internet penetration rate was less than 5%.

In 2013, His Highness launched the Smart Dubai initiative aimed at ranking Dubai as the happiest and smartest city in the world. It is aimed at uplifting the quality of life of Dubai's residents and visitors through employing advanced technologies to deliver high quality and impactful services.

The Smart City initiative envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum goes beyond simply utilising modern technologies. It sets a higher, more ambitious target of integrating peoples' needs in the design of all activities and services in a bid to deliver customized and highly efficient services based on cutting-edge technologies. Realising such a vision warrants unprecedented coordination of data between various entities in real-time to ensure the provision of accurate information that allows people to plan their daily activities efficiently.

From the moment the vision of His Highness for Dubai to be the Smartest City in the World was announced, RTA has been in a race against time to translate that vision into reality. It became one of the first entities to migrate all customer services to smart platforms meticulously designed to be innovative and accessible. RTA is now in

full gear and well-positioned to developing smart and pioneering services to its customers.

Thanks to the directives and support of our leaders, RTA succeeded in maintaining the continuity of its business and delivering high-quality customer services during the lockdown following the Covid-19 pandemic outbreak. Accordingly, the rate of RTA's digital adoption exceeded 91% and the customers' happiness index clocked 96.2%. The digitisation of RTA's services cut the number of transactions processed at Customers Happiness Centres by 64.5% in 2020 compared to 2019. The total revenues raised via smart channels (ePayment Gate and Smart Kiosks) in 2020 amounted to AED2.655 billion. The number of digital transactions processed reached 527.146 million transactions, the number of registered users of smart apps reached 2.162 million users, and RTA's smart apps have seen 6.136 million downloads.

RTA has firmly focused on achieving the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to transform Dubai into a smart city and positioning Dubai to become the best smart city in the field of roads and transport across the world. This prompts us to be more focused, update the mass transit systems and widen the scope of implementing modern technologies. Such a drive will contribute to raising the efficiency of transport systems and make electronic and smart services the backbone of delivering customer services.

H.E. Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer
Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors

المسار almasar

Strategic Map For AlMasar Magazine Team

Vision

The Pioneer
Government
Magazine in Dubai

Mission

To work in the spirit
of team in presenting
achievements, enhance
Success , and document
roles of RTA.

Core Values

Transparency &
Credibility
Corporate Reputation
Excellence
Spirit of Team
knowledge Sharing

Reciprocal Ads Initiative

Al Masar magazine Editorial Board offers the Reciprocal Ads initiative whereby a space for an advert is allocated to strategic partners and other government entities against allocating the same space in the magazine of the beneficial entity during the same month for the benefit of the RTA.

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News

- 06 Mohammed bin Rashid's leadership transforms Dubai into sustainable city
- 06 Cooperation discussed with new British Consul

Projects

- 08 Contract awarded for construction of Seih Al Dahal Road
- 12 Tender released for construction of 3 rest-stops for trucks

Achievements

- 14 Emission-free public transport means in Dubai
- 16 Drones save trucks inspection time, cut numbers of inspectors
- 16 Rail Maintenance scoops Best Global Innovation Award



Cover story

- 10 RTA uses artificial intelligence, high-tech to improve bus services
- 20 Oud Metha, another addition to model bus stations

Services

- 18 527 million digital transactions processed last year
- 22 Mini depot to uplift operational efficiency
- 22 15 vehicle certificates go paperless
- 24 Hi-tech added to Smart Taxi Control Centre
- 24 RTA's services continued during Eid holiday
- 26 Managing and Providing Delivery Services Manual published



Activities

- 28 AED45k offered to photography contest
- 30 Hypermedia to manage metro ads
- 32 Artificial Intelligence to assist legislation
- 32 Career Fair for taxi drivers proved successful



Community Safety

- 35 Training to enhance protection of delivery bike drivers

Nawafiz

- 36 Names of taxi drivers on display at Yellow Taxi Sign
- 36 Eid Happiness initiative benefits orphans



Al Tayer: Dubai made significant progress in transformation to a sustainable city under Mohammed bin Rashid Leadership

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, (RTA), Commissioner-General for the Infrastructure, Urban Planning and Wellbeing Pillar in Dubai, said that under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, had made great strides in the transformation to a sustainable city. He pinned high hopes in migrating to a city that would serve people and improve wellbeing of residents through increased competitiveness and keeping up with future global trends in various fields.

Al Tayer made these remarks during a remote speech delivered at a keynote session of Moscow Urban Forum (MUF) hosted annually by the Government of Moscow. The forum is a global event that brings together governors of major global cities, and experts in urban planning, to discuss key topics with the leaders of the real estate sector across the world.

Attendees of the opening event included His Excellency Maxim Liksutov, Deputy Mayor of Moscow and Head of the Department of Transport and Road Infrastructure Development, Ms Violeta Bulc, former European Commissioner for Transport, and Mohamed Mezghani, Secretary-General of the International Association of Public Transport (UITP).

20 minutes

“Dubai Urban Plan 2040 revolves around the principle of sustainable transport. The plan concentrates on human-centric and sustainable mobility concepts through the creation of 5 main urban centres in the city and the adoption of a 20-minute city concept (to provide more than 80% of people needs within 20 minutes of walking or cycling). As such, integrated service centres will be developed in all Dubai zones with an emphasis on improving the standard of living, and increasing the population density nearby main transit hubs,” said Al Tayer.

“Over the last 15 years, RTA had undertaken roads and transport projects worth more than AED145 billion highlighted by

Exploring cooperation with new British Consul to Dubai

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), received UK Consul General to Dubai Simon Penney, and the accompanying delegation. The meeting discussed means of boosting cooperation and exchanging expertise between RTA and transport entities in the United Kingdom. The two parties also explored future RTA projects, especially those related to future mobility solutions.

Al Tayer congratulated the British Consul on his new position, wishing him success in his new role. He also praised the close relationships between the RTA and several British entities, universities and companies in the field of transport systems. Al

Tayer expressed his aspirations for widening the cooperation as well as investment and commercial relations between the two sides in a variety of fields, especially in the operation of public transport buses and developing bus stations and shelters.

**Highlights of speech to Moscow Urban Forum:
RTA completed roads and transport
infrastructure projects worth AED145
billion in 15 years**

**Dubai Urban Plan 2040 aims to provide
more than 80% of people's needs
within 20 minute of walking or cycling**



constructing the Dubai Metro and Tram projects, beefing-up the public bus fleet from around 600 buses in 2006 to over 1700 buses in 2020, and increasing the cycling track network from 10 kilometres in 2006 to over 463 kilometres in 2020. We plan to increase the network to around 750 kilometres in 5 years, which will position Dubai among the top bicycle-friendly cities. RTA's efforts contributed to positioning the UAE as the first globally in the quality of roads for five years in a row (2013-2017-) according to the reports of the World Economic Forum," he explained.

Mega Projects

In his speech, Al Tayer reviewed RTA's experience in delivering a portfolio of key infrastructure projects topped by the Dubai Water Canal project. "The Dubai Water Canal project was extremely complex as it had to pass under the central Sheikh Zayed Road corridor, the main highway of Dubai. This meant that we had to construct the water canal under a live 8 by 8 lanes highway and the Red Line of the Metro and other main roads in an area with complete and massive networks of vital utility lines. Despite

these challenges, the project was delivered on time," he noted. Al Tayer reflected on Dubai's preparedness for hosting Expo 2020. "RTA has completed all the public transport requirements of the event. Accordingly, RTA is operating the 15 km metro link (Route 2020) extending up to the site of Expo 2020 including the construction of 7 stations to serve a host of surrounding developments. These projects will ease the arrival of visitors to the site of the event. The traffic movement to and from the site of the Expo will be managed by the Enterprise Command and Control Centre, one of the biggest, latest and smartest control centres worldwide. It uses high technology to control and command various transport means of RTA, besides managing 30,000 car parks at the expo site," elaborated Al Tayer. Rounding up his speech, Al Tayer noted that accelerated demographic growth would require improving the quality and efficiency of the urban infrastructure and services. "It also requires migrating to a smart and sustainable city that uses the latest technologies, information and digital means to improve the quality of living in the Emirate," he remarked.

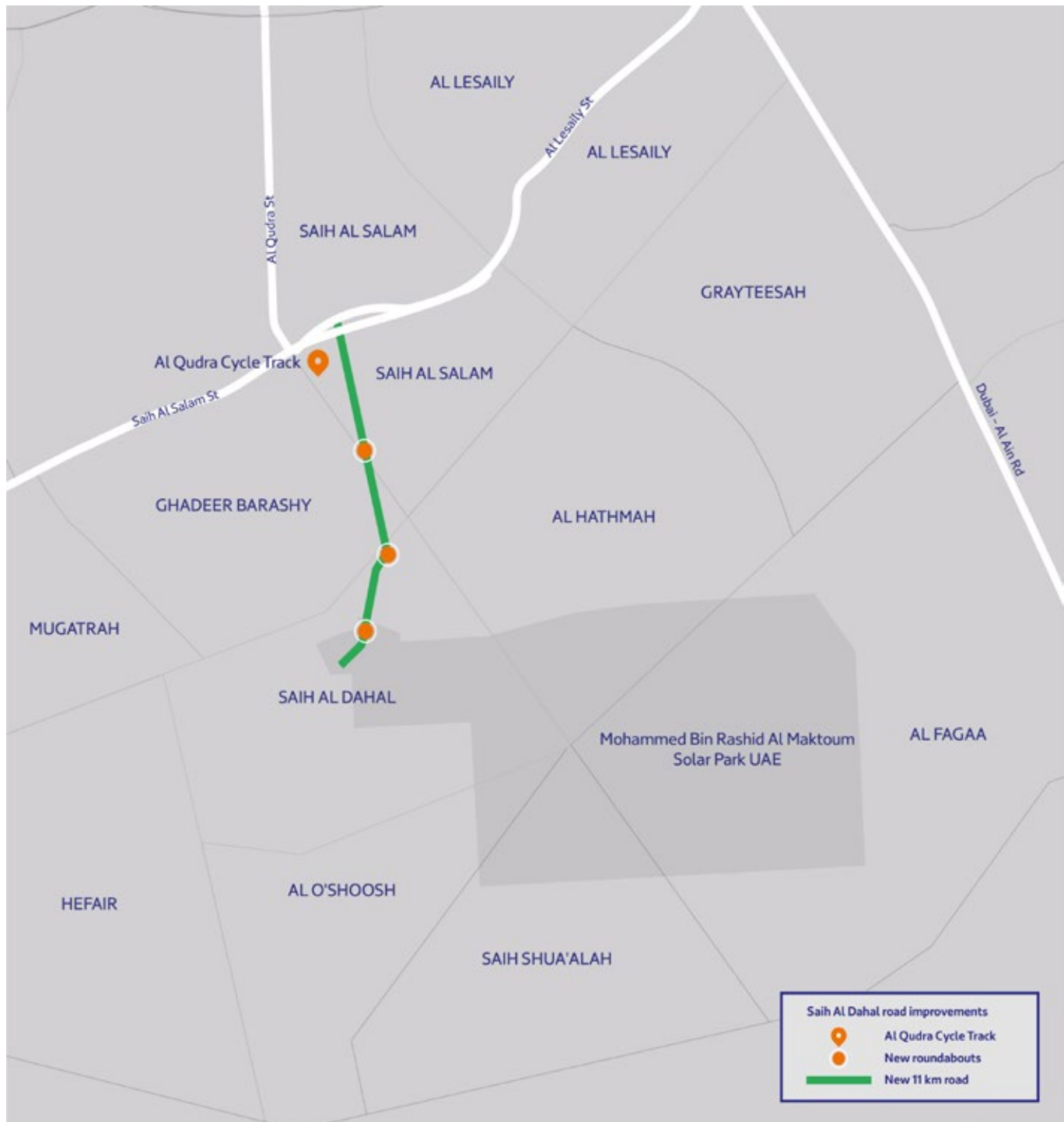
Mr. Penney expressed his delight with the participation of British entities and firms in delivering RTA's projects and looked forward to seeing more cooperation and exchange of experiences in the interest of both parties.

Attendees of the meeting included Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO of Public Transport Agency, Moaza Al Marri, Executive Director, Office of Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors, and several Directors.



Awarding contract to improve Saih Al Dahal Road

Works include widening the road to two lanes in each direction



Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has awarded a contract to improve and widen Saih Al Dahal Road connecting with Saih Al Salam Road and the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park. The existing single-carriageway Road will be removed and replaced by a dual carriageway extending 11 km comprised of two lanes in each direction along with a median. The road will have 3 roundabouts to ease the traffic flow in all directions and connect with the entries of Al Qudra Lakes.

Improvements will increase the road capacity from 1800 vehicles to 4000 vehicles per direction

“The project will increase the street intake from an existing 1800 vehicles to 4000 vehicles in each direction to accommodate the continued growth in traffic volumes. Thus, it will ease the mobility of residents and visitors to the existing oases on both sides of the street, desert areas and Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park,” said His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority.

“The project starts from the roundabout at the junction of Saih Al Dahal Road and Saih Al Salam Road in the North, immediately after Al Qudra Cycling Station, and heads in the direction of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park in the South. The project encompasses the construction of a new road of two lanes in each direction together with 3 roundabouts along the street to ease the accessibility of road users to the existing oases on both sides of the street, Al Qudra Lakes, desert areas as well as U-turns,” explained His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer.

The project complements RTA's development projects in the area, such as the 23 km long Dubai Cycling Track, the existing cycling track at Saih Al Salam running alongside Al Qudra Street at the Gateway of the Dubai Cycling Track in the direction of the Emirates Road. From there, it links with the Latifa bint Hamdan Street, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road, Al Barari district and from there up to Nad Al Sheba community. The cycling track at Saih Al Salam, which extends about 115 km, is fitted with several facilities including shops for renting bikes and their accessories, a fully-equipped medical clinic, and 10 rest areas distributed along the cycling path fitted with seats and bike racks.

RTA has accomplished a portfolio of development projects in the area including widening of Saih Al Salam Street over a 21 km stretch starting from Al Qudra roundabout, near the cycling rest area, up to the intersection with Dubai-Al Ain Road via Al Lisaili and Al Marmoom. 9 roundabouts were constructed at junctions to ease the traffic flow and step up traffic safety. Projects also included the construction of 4 camels and horses crossings, cycling track, service roads, parking spaces, and widening the existing parking lots at the Dubai International Endurance Village. The project also included street lights and a rainwater drainage network.

‘Oud Metha’ joins model bus stations

The station features a multi-level parking terminal for 350 vehicles

Dubai’s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has opened Oud Metha Bus Station, the newest addition to bus stations featuring ultra-modern design rendering it a model station. It is integrated with the metro and taxi services as it is just 300 metres off Oud Metha Metro Station. The station offers a new concept in public transport services through integrated facilities like car parks, bike racks, office spaces, customer service areas, trading outlets and self-service kiosks.

“The construction of stations for public bus riders complements the efforts of RTA to upgrade public transport infrastructure and encourage people to use public transit means in their daily movement. The new station boasts of a state-of-the-art design that caters to the needs of sustainability and people of determination, yet coherent with the identity and shape of RTA’s stations. The role of the new stations goes beyond the prevailing concept of commuting passengers to encompass the offering of integrated services to passengers such as car parks, bike

racks and the integration with the metro and taxi services,” said His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority.

Station Facilities

Oud Metha Bus Station spans an area of 9,640 square metres. The station is situated in a densely populated area neighbouring Oud Metha Metro Station, schools, community clubs and business centres. The station is





comprised of a ground floor, three identical floors and rooftop parking. Its design is integrated with the public transport means in the area as it has designated spaces for bus stops, taxi stands and private vehicles parking. The average number of riders using the station is expected to reach 10,000 riders per day in future.

Oud Metha Bus Station has abundant facilities that include 9 operational parking slots for buses, 11 parking for out-of-service buses, 350 parking slots for vehicles, 23 bicycle racks, passenger pick-up and drop-off points. It also includes parking for waiting and emergency buses, parking spaces for taxis, staff and visitors, furnished rest areas for the public, café and rest area for drivers, prayer rooms for males and females, staff offices, and public toilets. The station has retail outlets and investment areas, with designated for Emirati start-ups in coordination with the Mohammed Bin Rashid Establishment for SME Development. It also has space for self-service kiosks and e-pay, nol card machines, bus information display screens, customers happiness' index, ATMs, refreshments and snacks vending machines. The station serves eight bus routes; seven of them serve public transport routes and the other one is a metro link.

40 buses are deployed on these routes, which link key places and areas in the city such as Dubai Mall, Al Qusais, Burjuman, Dubai Museum, International City, Wafi City, Al Seef, Business Bay, Al Nahda, Al Safa and Al Satwa.

Completed Stations

RTA opened four public bus stations namely Al Ghubaiba, Al Jaliyah, Etisalat and the Union Bus Stations. Al Ghubaiba Bus Station is comprised of six buildings and covers an area of 2,452 square metres with a capacity to serve 15,000 passengers per day.

Al Jaliyah Bus Station is comprised of a bus terminal and a building of a ground floor, two floors and rooftop parking. The station has a total built area of 19,000 square metres and can serve 7,000 passengers per day.

The Union Bus Station at Deira is comprised of three buildings. The station spans an area of 2,180 square metres and can serve 7,500 passengers per day.

Etisalat Bus Station, which is connected to Etisalat Metro Station, is comprised of a ground floor and a mezzanine floor. The station covers an area of 708 square metres and can serve up to 4,500 passengers per day.

RTA issues tender for 3 truck rest stops spanning 220k m2

Dubai’s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has released a tender for constructing three integrated truck rest stops in Dubai. The project offers an innovative model of Public-Private Partnership (PPP) aligned with the provisions of Law No (22) for 2015 governing PPP in Dubai. These rest stops will be situated in vital spots. The first is on Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road nearby Jebel Ali Industrial Area 3 in the direction of Abu Dhabi. The second is on Emirates Road, near the entry of Sharjah. The third is in Dubai Industrial City nearby Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road.

Explaining the project features, His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said: “The project will be undertaken in partnership with the private sector based on Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) model in a contract that runs 25 to 30 years. Through this project, RTA offers private entrepreneurs a long-term investment opportunity to add innovative and smart services and diversify their sources of income, which serves the key objectives of the PPP. Local and global firms are invited to tender their financial and technical proposals.”

“The first site, which is near Jebel Ali Industrial Area 3 in the direction of Abu Dhabi covers an area of 100 thousand square

metres and accommodates 170 to 200 trucks. The second site adjacent to Emirates Road and Sharjah entry point, spans 70 thousand square metres and will accommodate 130150- trucks. The third site is planned at Dubai Industrial City nearby the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road over an area of 50 thousand square metres with a capacity to take 90100- trucks. The three rest-stops will have integrated services that meet all the basic and daily needs of heavy vehicle drivers such as specialist technical testing centres, truck service centres, warehouses, restaurants, outlets and rest areas,” continued RTA Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors.

“RTA had set out plans to build permanent and temporary



*Only applicable for Aleyas site

■ Al Tayer: The project sets innovative model of public-private partnership

■ Amenities include:

■ Total parking space for up to 480 trucks

■ Testing and service centres

■ Warehouses, restaurants, shops and rest stops

rest-stops for heavy vehicles to eliminate issues of parking the vehicles on the sides of highways and residential areas and meet the rising demand for these rest-stops. Currently, heavy vehicles make about 375 thousand journeys through Dubai, lifting about 5 million tons of cargo every day. These rest stops will enhance the traffic safety level and reduce the number of incidents caused by exhausted drivers sitting behind the wheels for extended hours. They will also ease the movement of trucks during the prohibited timing by finding a place to park them until the elapse of the prohibited timings.

“By releasing this project to tender, RTA seeks to engage the private sector in carrying infrastructure projects and the delivery of services. The investment opportunity on offer contributes to stimulating the economic activities in Dubai

and achieving mutual benefits that enable investors to realise feasible financial returns. The private sector will thus continue to improve the infrastructure of roads and transport and support the leading role of Dubai serving this vital economic sector. The project will also improve the quality of public services, transfer knowledge and expertise from the private sector to the public sector, and qualify employees of government entities in managing and overseeing this sort of long-term investment projects,” elaborated Al Tayer.

“RTA attaches top priority to the logistic transport sector as it is a key driver of the economic activities and supports the Dubai Silk Road initiative. In conjunction with the concerned bodies, RTA has commissioned a comprehensive study of trucks movement in Dubai encompassing site surveys, interviews, workshops and technical analyses. The finding of this study identified the required sites for constructing truck rest stops and developed a model for analysing the traffic and financial impacts of the timings and routes of truck ban policies. RTA also conducted an assessment of various engineering and traffic solutions and examined the organisational and structural aspects of managing the movement of trucks and goods in Dubai,” concluded Al Tayer.



RTA endorses pioneering plan for emission-free public transport by 2050

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has endorsed a long-term plan to have zero emissions of public transport in Dubai by 2050. As such, it becomes the first government body in the MENA region to chart out such a comprehensive plan for public transport and related infrastructure.

“RTA is making continued efforts to plan for sustainable and environmental-friendly public transport and integrate it as part of its strategic plans as reflected in its Strategic Goal: Safety and Environmental Sustainability. Such a drive contributes to curbing climate change and supports the long-term national initiative rolled out by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, in 2012 to foster a green economy in the UAE under the theme: Green Economy for Sustainable Development. It

also supports the commitment of the UAE to the Paris Agreement On Climate Change to reduce the emissions in the UAE by 23.5% by 2030,” said Nasir Bu Shehab, CEO of Strategy and Corporate Governance Sector, RTA.

“The highlights of the plan include broadening the use of electric and hydrogen-powered vehicles and buses in the fleets of public transport, school buses, taxis and limousines to reach the targeted 100% rate by 2050. It also calls for widening the use of clean energy, such as solar power, in the premises and



facilities of RTA, rehabilitation of the existing buildings, and introducing the construction of almost emission-free buildings in all new projects. The plan provides for completing the smart and power-efficient streetlighting project by 2035, achieving a 100% recycling of municipal waste across RTA's projects and operations by 2030, and the recycling water for reusing in RTA's facilities and buildings," explained Bu Shehab.

"The roadmap of the plan, which is benchmarked against the best practices in New York, Denmark, UK, France and Japan is based on three strategic pillars: Green Mobility, Infrastructure, and Circular Economy. The plan estimates a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 8 million tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and saving about 3 billion dirhams by 2050.

"RTA's plan is aligned with the key federal policies such as The Emirates Green Development Strategy 2030, The UAE Green Agenda 2030, The National achievements by leading the way in developing corporate systems and plans for environmental sustainability. RTA was the first in the MENA region to obtain a global accreditation for energy management system in 2013, launch a green economy award in 2014, develop an integrated framework for the green economy in 2016, and obtain membership in the United Nations Global Compact in 2020.



Climate Change Plan 2050, The UAE Energy Strategy 2050, the UAE Vision 2021, The National Innovation Strategy and The UAE Centennial 2071. It is also compatible with the local policies of Dubai such as The Dubai Integrated Energy Strategy 2030, and The Dubai Clean Energy Strategy 2050 aimed to rank Dubai as the city with the least carbon print throughout the world by 2050. The plan is also in line with global trends such as the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Sustainable Development Goals, and The C40 Cities Network to reduce climate change.

"RTA has made a series of outstanding



Drones reduce trucks inspection time and inspectors by 70 - 80 %

The automation of field inspections of heavy trucks using drones operated by the inspection teams of the Licensing Agency at Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has resulted in significant improvements of inspection processes. It reduced the inspection time of trucks by 70% as the time of a single inspection process dropped from 10 to 3 minutes. It also reduced the number of inspectors by 80%. These results have been concluded since the launch of this sort of pilot inspection operations on heavy trucks in 2020.

Improvement Initiative

8 new sites will be subject to drone inspections this year. "RTA is considering expanding the scope of drone inspections to cover different fields in cooperation with other bodies. RTA has identified and examined all cases in which drones can be used. This initiative capitalises the artificial intelligence technologies and uses a creative tool in monitoring heavy vehicles using drones," said Abdullah Yousef Al Ali, CEO of Licensing Agency, RTA.

Under the initial phase, 9 staff have been trained and approved by the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority to work

as Drone Operators. More staff will be trained to cope with the expansion of the scope of the automated inspection sites.

"The operational results proved the efficiency of the field inspections of heavy vehicles. It reduced the troubling inspection process of parts of trucks that are not easily accessible under normal conditions. More than 580 minutes of drone inspections have been carried out, resulting in detecting and reporting 100 offences," explained Al Ali.

"The automation of heavy vehicle inspection reduces the risks of potential injury to inspectors as a result of boarding

The Best International Innovation Award for the Rail Maintenance System

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has won the Best International Innovation Award in the field of Rails Infrastructure Maintenance Management System (RIMMS). The award is part of the Global Business Awards presented by the UK-based Awards Intelligence Ltd, a specialist in evaluating innovative services in large and medium enterprises as well as start-ups.

RTA's winning of this award is credited to the implementation of the recently developed RIMMS to the Dubai Metro and Trams. The system assesses the condition and lifespan of assets and integrates them with other asset management systems at RTA. It applies the

best international practices in maintenance and assists in developing respective plans.

The RIMMS is new to RTA and is the first in the UAE. It uses new technology and techniques to assess the condition of assets, calculate the rate of deterioration

This smart initiative is compatible with the UAE 4th Industrial Revolution Strategy launched by the Government of the UAE in 2017.

trucks to inspect upper parts of the cargo to verify technical damage and other aspects relating to the compliance with the conditions of cargo and loading,” he added.

Approved Standards

“Violations monitored relate to the protrusion of the cargo without obtaining permits, failure to cover the cargo as per the approved standards and conditions, using the truck in loading or transporting cargo designated for other types of trucks, failure to distribute the cargo properly, lack of securing the cargo or loading the cargo in a way that constitutes risks to others or damage to the road, monitoring trucks that have technical faults (body decay and other technical damage), and monitoring trucks evading inspection points,” commented Al Ali.

“The UAE 4th Industrial Revolution Strategy aims to cement the standing of the UAE as a global hub for the 4th Industrial Revolution Technologies. It also aims to



contribute to a competitive national economy driven by knowledge, innovation and future technological applications capable of integrating the physical, digital and biotechnologies. This strategy reflects the government’s drive to make the UAE a leading global model in proactively tackling future challenges, and harnessing the 4th Industrial Revolution technologies to serve and bring happiness to community members through providing high living standards. This drive is also in line with RTA’s vision to become The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility,” concluded Al Ali.

of asset condition, estimate asset-associated risks, and calculate asset health indices. Examples of the applications of this system include systematic inspections, GIS fault location logging, asset and fault image upload, digital data logging and uploading directly to the system, automated data integration, and offline operability (WIFI), operability in tunnels, and portability to download and use on smart devices.

The Global Business Awards are amongst the best in the UK. Winning this coveted award illustrates the excellence and leadership of the winners. Thanks to their global recognition, the awards have attracted a wide range of organisations from all business spectrums ranging from major international companies and public entities to private start-ups and medium-sized firms.



527 million digital transactions processed last year

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), revealed that the total revenues of RTA collected via digital channels (e-payment portal and smart kiosks) amounted to AED2.655 billion in 2020. The number of digital transactions reached 527.146 million, the number of registered users on digital platforms hit 2.162 million, and the number of smart apps downloads clocked 6.136 million in the same year. Al Tayer also stated that the rate of digitisation of RTA's transactions exceeded 91%, and customers happiness rating index recorded 96.2%. He also added that RTA's digitisation drive contributed to reducing the number of transactions processed at customers happiness centres by 64.5% in 2020 compared to 2019.

"Achieving these indicators is a result of RTA's implementation of the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and the instructions of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, to transform Dubai into the smartest city in the world that offers services via smart channels 24/7," commented Al Tayer.

"RTA was among the first government entities that had

transformed all transactions of customers into smart services featured by innovative designs and accessibility. Accordingly, RTA was in a position to ensure the continuity of business and deliver customer services at high class standards during Covid-19 lockdown," he noted.

Digital Strategy

"RTA is currently updating and following-up the implementation of 111 projects as part of its digital strategy 2020-2024-. It intends to launch a roadmap of future



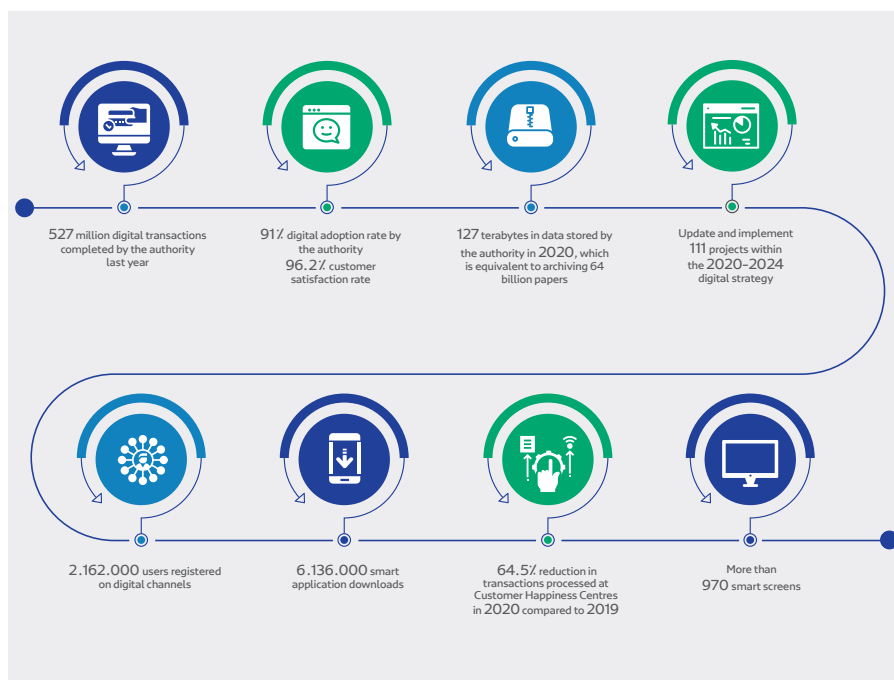


technologies in the last quarter of this year, and undertake a roadmap of the 5th generation technologies in the second quarter of next year. The magnitude of RTA's big data by the end of 2020 amounted to 127 terabytes, which is equivalent to archiving 64 billion papers. The number of smart screens installed by RTA amounted to 970 screens," elaborated Al Tayer.

"Recently, RTA developed nol digital services that improved the balance recovery services and the launch of nol Pay App involving the first virtual debit card of public transit means in collaboration with Huawei. RTA also launched the nol Emaar card offering holders up to 40% Emaar discounts. RTA is the first government entity to use the latest Apple's technologies in the payment of car

parking fees," noted Al Tayer.

"Dubai is firmly committed to implementing the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to transform Dubai into a smart city that uses new technologies to deliver quality services to make people happier and rank Dubai the best city in roads and transport smart systems across the globe. Realising this vision requires improving and encouraging the use of mass transit systems, and broadening the scope of smart technologies to enhance the efficiency of traffic and public transport systems. Under such a drive, electronic and smart services form the backbone of delivering customer services," concluded Al Tayer.



■ RTA's revenues via digital platforms hit AED2.6 billion in 2020

■ Digitisation rate clocked 91%, and customer's happiness rating reached 96.2%

■ Big data reached 127 terabytes in 2020, equivalent to archiving 64 billion papers

■ Digitisation reduced transactions of customers happiness centres by 64.5% in 2020 compared to 2019

RTA uses artificial intelligence, high-tech to improve bus services

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), revealed that RTA's precautionary measures and initiatives applied to the scheduling and the operation of public buses, marine transit means and taxis had accelerated the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. He stated that such measures contributed to restoring the growth of public transport ridership to 70% of the pre-Covid-19 levels. They also contributed to reducing the number of kilometres travelled by 18%, improving bus on-time arrival by 6%, and cutting carbon emissions by 34 metric tons.

Advanced Algorithms

"In cooperation with Alibaba Cloud, RTA has recently started trialling the 'City Brain' system to manage traffic in urban areas using artificial intelligence and advanced algorithms. The system analysis a massive number of big data received from nol cards, operating buses and taxis as well as the Enterprise Command and Control Centre. Then it converts the data into useful information that could be used in sending instant notifications and improving bus schedules and routes. The system is expected to improve

the bus ridership by 17%, average waiting time by 10%, and the journey time and the average bus usage by 5%," stated Al Tayer.

■ **Remote Bus Performance Monitoring Centre established to monitor the efficiency of 516 buses**
 ■ **'City Brain' trials launched to improve bus schedules, timings and routes**





Remote monitoring

“In cooperation with FAMCO, RTA has recently inaugurated a remote Bus Performance Monitoring Centre Al Quoz Bus Depot, for instant tracking and monitoring the performance efficiency of RTA’s new 516 Volvo buses fitted with Telematics system. The system, which enhances the operational and maintenance processes, includes 47 types of alerts covering mechanical aspects, fuel consumption per kilometre, and the condition of the safety equipment on board. It contributed to reducing fuel consumption by 5% and supported the planning for periodic and preventive maintenance of buses. It also resulted in an efficiency-driven assessment of drivers, improved the road safety standards, and improved the rating of customer happiness,” commented RTA’s Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors.

Al Tayer stressed that RTA would continue to roll out public transport projects and integrated infrastructure and facilities to provide smooth services to riders and promote the welfare and happiness of residents. He recalled that RTA had recently opened six public bus stations: Al Ghubaiba, Al Jafiliya, Etisalat, Union, Oud Metha and Al Satwa stations.

Completed Stations

Al Ghubaiba Bus Station is comprised of six buildings spanning an area of 2,452 square metres and can

serve 15,000 riders per day. Al Jafiliya Bus Station has a bus terminal and a multi-storey building consisting of a ground floor, two floors and a rooftop for parking vehicles. The station has a total built-up area of 19,000 square meters and a capacity of 7000 riders per day. The Union Bus Station in Deira is comprised of three buildings over an area of 2,180 square meters with a capacity of 7,500 riders per day. The bus station attached to Etisalat Metro Station consists of a building of a ground floor and a mezzanine floor, with an area of 708 square meters, and a capacity of 4,500 riders per day.

Oud Metha Bus Station covers an area of 9,640 square metres and consists of a ground floor, three floors and a rooftop for car parking, and has a design compatible with the public transportation system in the area. The number of riders using the station is expected to rise in future to 10,000 riders per day. The station has 9 slots for operational buses, 11 parking spaces for standby buses, 350 car parks, and racks for 23 bikes.

Al Satwa Bus Station spans an area of 11,912 square metres and consists of a ground floor, one floor and a rooftop for car parking. Currently, the station can accommodate 7,800 riders per day, and the number is expected to exceed 15,000 riders per day. The station has 15 slots for operational buses, 14 slots for standby buses, 227 car parks in addition to various facilities for providing integrated passenger services.

A Mini Depot to improve bus operational efficiency

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) opens, tomorrow Monday (5 July 2021), a Mini Bus Depot next Etisalat Metro Station on the Green Line. The new depot will house buses deployed on Route (F07) and (367) instead of sending them to the bus depots at Al Awir, Al Khawaneej and Al Ruwayah. As such, it will improve the operational efficiency of these two routes by saving dead kilometres due to travelling to those depots.

The (F07) Bus Route moves from Etisalat metro station and reaches the Labour accommodation at Al Qusais, while (367) Bus Route moves from Etisalat metro station and reaches High Bay of Dubai Silicon Oasis.

RTA is also introducing several improvements on other Dubai Bus routes including the launch of two metro feeder routes (F19A) and (F19B) during off-peak times (from 10:00 am to 04:00 pm) at a service frequency of 30 minutes.

Moreover, the timings of Routes (F24), (F07), (F18), and (F22) will be improved. More journeys will be added in the morning to synchronise them with the revised timetables of the Green Line of the metro service starting at 05:00 am in the direction of Creek Metro Station.



Paperless transformation in issuing 15 certificates of vehicle services

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently announced paperless transformation in issuing vehicles services related certificates. RTA will discontinue printing 15 types of service certificates relating to vehicle services from all affiliated service providers and will issue and dispatch them via electronic channels (text messages and e-mails).

"We migrated the printing of 15 certificates relating to vehicle services at all affiliated service provider centres across Dubai. Alternatively, we started issuing such certificates electronically and despatch them to clients via text messages and e-mail," said Jamal Hashim Al Sadah,

Director of Vehicle Licensing, Licensing Agency, RTA.

"The certificates are: possession certificate, export certificate, transfer certificate, tourism certificate, to whom it may concern certificate, export certificate loss/damage, replacement of lost/damaged possession certificate,



return from tourism certificate, import vehicle certificate, unregistered vehicle certificate, vehicle registration certificate, replacement of export certificate (to whom it may concern letter), customs clearance certificate, change possession/ownership certificate, and possession of unregistered vehicle certificate,” explained Al Sadah. “Customers can apply for these certificates through service provider centres across the Emirate of Dubai. The certificates will be processed then issued and despatched to clients via text messages and e-mail. “The introduction of smart and electronic drive to licensing services and other services responds to the government’s paperless services drive. These efforts contribute to the government drive to make Dubai the smartest and happiest city in the world based on



RTA’s two strategic goals: Smart Dubai and People Happiness,” added Al Sadah.

Dubai Taxi's control centre uses hi-tech to serve customer needs

Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC) at the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has fitted its smart control and data analysis centre with ultra-modern technologies to cover the entire range of DTC's services to customers. The design of the centre features artificial intelligence technologies to step up the efficiency of operational and monitoring processes of the DTC.

Abdullah Ibrahim Al Meer, Director of Operation and Commercial Affairs, DTC, commended the role of the centre towards realising the vision of the Government to rank Dubai as the happiest and smartest city in the world

through the safe, reliable and smart use of technologies. "DTC's Control and Data Analysis Centre is equipped to manage taxis and school buses. The facility enables monitoring the conduct of drivers and their compliance

With Services being offered during Eid Al Adha Holidays

The public is urged to comply with the health precautionary measures

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the timings of its services during the holiday of Eid Al Adha 1442H (2021). The revised service timing applies to customer happiness centres, paid parking zones, public buses, metro, tram, marine transport, and service provider centres (technical testing of vehicles). At the same time, RTA calls on the community to comply with COVID19 health precautionary measures during EID Al Adha holidays. Public are also requested to plan journeys ahead of time and arrive early in stations to avoid crowding and delays. The public are also advised to use digital payments and digital assets such as TVM and Digital Kiosks (IMK & ITIK) and our seek help from on ground station staff.



with the regulations including the boarding and alighting of students and attendants from school buses, and tracking the route of the fleet,” he commented.

“The centre manages the operations of limousines as well as My Driver and In Safe Hands services. It also monitors the bus services that include the School Bus and Commercial Coach Services recently launched by DTC. Additionally, it picks up calls from drivers and directs them to the high-demand spots using digital technologies provided 24/7 to ease the mobility of clients.

“The DTC has mustered all efforts to establish a unique control centre capable of commanding and integrating all the existing and future transit modes and contribute



to realising Operational Excellence, the first strategic goal of the Dubai Taxi Corporation,” added Al Meer.



RTA publishes Dubai Delivery Services Management Manual

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently published a comprehensive manual, **The Activity Manual for Managing and Providing Delivery Services**, governing the management of delivery services in Dubai. The delivery services sector is making a steady growth fuelled by the soaring demand from a wide spectrum of the community since 2020.

This manual has been issued to define the procedures governing the delivery services activity to bring it in line with the strategic goals and objectives of the RTA. The manual has been developed in coordination with the Dubai Police and the Dubai Municipality.

The manual covers all trading establishments and firms that provide delivery services to

clients, such as the delivery of foods, goods, equipment and other similar processes. The delivery services sector plays a key role in supporting economic growth, upgrading the level of services provided, and ensuring compliance with the health, safety and environmental (HSE) and sustainability standards.

Activity Manual

Managing and Providing Delivery Services



<https://rta.ae/links/licensing/delivery-services-manual-en.pdf>
800 90 90 rta.ae





This manual aims to set out a methodology governing the delivery services activity in the Emirate of Dubai and clarify the procedures, controls and provisions governing the sector. It also defines the client's journey through a clear and documented work procedures.

The manual covers four key elements, namely circulating the safety stipulations to motorbike delivery companies, training drivers at driving institutes, carrying out field awareness campaigns, and regulating the establishment of smart platforms and smart apps for managing the delivery services.

The manual sets out important conditions that delivery service companies and their motorcyclists must strictly comply with for the safety of drivers, road users and the food or materials to be delivered. These stipulations include the traffic safety of motorcyclists, specifications of the vehicle/ motorcycle, food safety at the delivery of orders, and guidelines relating to the uniform of drivers of delivery motorbikes.

RTA is always keen on excellence service delivery to the community, be it individuals or corporate entities. The entity aims at making

customers happier through enhanced quality, health and safety standards associated with RTA's services and initiatives. Such a drive is also compatible with the efforts made to improve the activities of this vital sector. The scope of practice of this manual covers commercial establishments and firms that provide delivery services to clients in Dubai. The publishing of the Activity Manual for Managing and Providing Delivery Services is compatible with a host of key resolutions, namely: Executive Council Resolution No. (47) of 2017 regulating vehicle transport and rental activities in the Emirate of Dubai, Administrative Resolution No. (706) of 2019 issuing the Executive Regulations for Executive Council's Resolution No. (47) of 2017 governing vehicle transport and rental activities in the Emirate of Dubai, Administrative Resolution No. (793) of 2020 regarding the addition of delivery services activity through electronic platforms and smart applications, and the Administrative Resolution No. (9) of 2021 endorsing the first version of the quality regulation for delivery service facilities.

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority decorated Ahmed Al Shuhhi, Director of Roads Maintenance, Traffic and Roads Agency, in recognition of his excellent performance, and leading a team to bring about a clear and tangible improvement in the business of the Department.



RTA offers AED 45,000 prize money for winners including 25 merit prizes

The competition is coordinated with Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Photography Award (HIPA)

Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a photography competition with prize money of AED 45,000 in collaboration with the Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum International Photography Award (HIPA). The competition aims to promote the use of public transportation in Dubai.

His Excellency Ali Khalifa Bin Thalith, Secretary General at HIPA, praised RTA's initiative and said: "RTA has presented us with a diverse and dynamic canvas for photographers to flex their creative skills. Whether it is by land or water, RTA's comprehensive transportation routes inspire our photographers to capture and share beautiful moments every day.

"Through our latest collaboration with RTA, we invite the photography community (both professional and hobbyists) to pick up their cameras and explore RTA's world of transportation by capturing moments under the three themes of competition namely; 'Art & Architecture', 'Public Transport', and 'Emirati Culture &

Lifestyle'. Every photographer can capture, through their creative lens, a particular quality, feeling, or moment they feel best reflects one of the competition themes.

"Photography not only captures a moment in time, but it also creates a memory that will live throughout time. In this spirit, we are delighted to announce that in addition to some fantastic cash prizes, the winning participants will also have the opportunity to have their photograph printed onto the RTA nol card.

"We wish everyone a great success in this competition and look forward to receiving the submissions."

Yousif Al Redha, CEO of Corporate Administrative Support Sector at RTA, said: "Public transport is a part of people daily life culture in any city. We in Dubai have a diverse transport

HE Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of RTA, met with Mr. Peng Xiao, CEO of G42, and Mr. Mansoor AlMansoori, COO of G42, where they discussed future solutions related to the transportation sector challenges, including artificial intelligence, cloud computing, and machine learning.



network that charts the daily lives of residents and tourists on the move in the emirate. Through the launch of this competition, we aim to raise awareness of various means of mass transport, and various tools and services available to use these means smoothly and easily. RTA's nol cards are designed specifically to meet the needs of public transport users in Dubai in order to achieve their comfort and happiness by adopting international best practices and providing a distinct customer journey experience.

The competition which is open for all photographers, be it residents or visitors of the UAE, will kick off on June 27th and continue for three weeks. Participants are requested to submit minimum three photos through HIPA's official website (<http://www.hipa.ae>) including at least one photo for each theme of the competition.

The first theme 'Art & Architecture', is aimed at capturing the beauty of landmarks, infrastructure, splendid sites, street art, illustration and facilities across Dubai. The second theme 'Public Transport' covers the metro, tram, ferry, Abra, taxis and buses. The third theme 'Emirati Culture and Lifestyle' covers places, events, local culture, Emirati spirit and national flavour.

The winners will be announced by the HIPA jury. The first, second and third winners will be honoured with a cash prize of ten, seven and three thousand dirhams respectively.



Winning photos will be printed on personalized nol cards with photographers' names

Additionally, 25 nol cards with a purse value of one thousand dirhams each will be distributed to 25 merit winners.

After announcing the winners, nol card users can select from three of the prize winning photos for printing on their personalised nol cards at the time of purchasing against a nominal fee.

RTA, Hypermedia sign 10-year partnership agreement to manage the metro advertising

Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed a partnership agreement for investment and management of the Dubai Metro outdoor advertising with Hypermedia FZ LLC. According to the agreement, Hypermedia will undertake the planning of advertising spaces as well as the designing, operating and marketing of advertising services at stations, trains and lines of the Dubai Metro (Red & Green Lines and Route 2020) for 10 years.

Abdul Mohsen Ibrahim Younes, CEO of RTA's Rail Agency, expressed his deep delight with the signing of this agreement with Hypermedia, which boasts of extensive experience and considerable resources and skills in the advertising market. Ads, especially outdoor media, play a key role in promoting various products and services of the business sector, besides generating additional revenues to RTA and Hypermedia.

"Ads on the Dubai Metro platforms, such as stations and carriages, offer brilliant opportunities for investors in this regard. We will work with Hypermedia on the principle of a long-term partnership to achieve our respective objectives under a set of planned and solid strategies," he commented.

Metro platforms offer sophisticated advertising facades for the business community in the UAE and the region to market their products, services and solutions relating to all economic and commercial sectors and fields.

The agreement, which runs for 10 years, provides for granting Hypermedia a full advertising representation in the Dubai Metro assets that cover 53 metro stations (including 7 new metro stations of Route 2020), about 100 trains, 35 pedestrian bridges, pillars of metro viaducts and prime locations such as frontals of emergency exits and utility buildings. This representation also extends to include metro stations naming rights.

"This unprecedented strategic partnership between



■ The agreement is a game-changer for the outdoor advertising industry

RTA and Hypermedia is a game-changer for the outdoor advertising industry across the region. It brings in a wide range of highly sophisticated digital solutions. It also ranks Hypermedia as one of the pioneers of digital media that represents more than 60% of key OOH media assets in the UAE,” said Habib Wehbe, CEO of Hypermedia.

“We are proud to be part of this partnership, which will enable us to showcase our latest digital technologies and smart billboards to display a variety of brands. We will also be actively engaged in providing advertising and promotional services to support consumers, including metro riders,” he added.

The Dubai Metro lifts about 45,000 riders per hour, and the metro ridership is poised to increase to about 275,000 passengers per day by 2030. During Expo 2020, which will start on October 1, 2021, the Metro will lift 35,000 visitors per day during weekdays to the Expo 2020 Station. This number is expected to reach 47,000 riders per day on weekends, which represents 29% of the total number of expected daily visitors to Expo 2020.

Importance of Agreement to Dubai Metro and Hypermedia
This agreement is instrumental in raising the profile of Hypermedia in the market as one of the biggest Digital Out-Of-Home media in the region. Equally, it grants Dubai Metro a premium benefit of using digital solutions and tap into the expertise of Hypermedia. The agreement will take the metro project to a new era of modernity and advanced



technologies and smart solutions.

The Dubai Metro is an effective mobility means used by most tourists and residents in their daily movement. By using digital media technologies, Hypermedia will enhance innovative communication and superb synergy between brands and metro riders. It takes into consideration smart power-saving solutions and delivers content relevant to metro riders, which will enhance the daily riding experience of the metro users.

Importance of Project to Marketing Companies

Hypermedia will provide the required support to marketing companies in planning innovative and effective media campaigns across the entire metro network. In this regard, clients will be offered promotional and marketing campaigns based on unique experiences.



AI provides RTA's legislative resources

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has succeeded in developing a prototype model based on utilising artificial intelligence (AI) technologies and Natural Language Processing (NLP), using a smart search engine to facilitate the search in RTA's legislative resources, for employees on Intranet.

The initiative is part of RTA's approved Artificial Intelligence Roadmap (2020-2025), which is in line with the government policies and objectives of the UAE Strategy for Artificial Intelligence and RTA's Digitisation Strategy.

The newly developed smart search engine aims to set up a legal knowledge platform for all legislative resources of RTA, which in turn aims to activate the use of AI in the internal systems.

In this regard, a host of legislation have been transformed

into smart digital formats that can be processed using AI and machine learning algorithms, which enables the developed model to understand the legal content and find relevant texts without literally typing the text to be searched for.

This smart digital format aims to facilitate the process of Machine Learning, as this type of digital files is configured to deal with the computer, likewise the conventional files designed to be read by humans. The search engine

Taxi Drivers' Career Fair is a Success

RTA's Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC) concluded on June 15th a successful 5-day career fair. The event aimed to attract a wide spectrum of candidates looking for placements as taxi drivers to join the team of DTC fleet drivers that serve clients from all community members.



connects to all legislative documents of RTA, and provides accurate information to RTA's employees. It constitutes an integrated electronic platform that facilitates the searching for the required documents in a short time frame with accurate deliverables to users.

It is worth noting that RTA has developed and programmed a machine learning model compatible with legal formats in Arabic. It was technically challenging as most of the algorithms around support the English language only.

This initiative broadens the scope of using artificial intelligence in RTA's internal systems to cover all projects and initiatives listed under the artificial intelligence roadmap. It reflects RTA's efforts and commitment to keep pace with the technologies of the 4th Industrial Revolution (Artificial Intelligence).



This initiative is in line with the UAE Artificial Intelligence Strategy, Smart Dubai, and RTA's Strategic Goals (Smart Dubai, Advance RTA, People Happiness). RTA is making tireless efforts to ease the working environment for employees and realise the government directives in this regard.

"(918) candidates have applied for taxi drivers at the Career Fair held at Dubai Taxi Corporation's Head Office, Muhaisna 4. The event enabled candidates to interact directly with the recruitment officers of DTC to know more about the application process and the diverse DTC services to customers, such as taxis, limos, school buses and commercial coaches," said Nasir Mohammed Al Haj, Director of Drivers Happiness, DTC.

"The event also provided a platform for responding to the candidates' queries, such as the driver's daily average income, benefits, housing, transportation and others. Candidates were able to apply after being interviewed officially by DTC staffs during the fair. Job offers were made to the successful candidates after fulfilling all stipulations



made by the DTC," he continued.

The event underscores DTC's commitment to keep pace with the market needs, especially under the current economic recovery and the full restoration of the taxi services in Dubai. Moreover, DTC is keen to adopt a sound approach towards selecting and grooming human resources, particularly taxi drivers.

"We aim to nurture a perfect value-driven career environment for taxi drivers in a bid to leverage their professional career. Measures taken include endorsing a package of incentives and special awards to outstanding personnel and promoting drivers who earn the highest income and fair best in customer service rating," added Al Haj.

"DTC leaders also offer periodic individual awards to excellent performing drivers to encourage them to continue improving the service and maintain fine image of DTC amongst taxi riders. Nurturing such an environment will contribute to realising the strategic goals of DTC such as excellent operation and people happiness," concluded Al Haj.

It is worth noting that applying for a taxi driver at DTC is still open and those who are interested can send their applications to DTC's email: recruitment@dct.gov.ae

Dubai's RTA and MND to explore developing new innovative urban ropeway

As part of its endeavours to come up with innovative solutions for developing an aerial transport network in Dubai, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with French mobility specialist MND, a leading company in the ropeways industry.

This MoU comes with RTA's efforts to achieve Dubai's vision to have 25% of all trips to be self-driving by 2030. MND and RTA commits to work together to study and implement CABLINE system to contribute to this vision. The CABLINE system developed by the ropeways specialist MND, with support of the French State Agency for sustainable development ADEME, is perfectly fitting these objectives and aims at offering a completely new experience for aerial transportation.

CABLINE is designed to integrate and connect to a city's existing inter-modal transport network. This fully automatic, driverless transport system, with self-propelled cabins moving over ropes at speeds up to 45 km per hour, uses a minimalist infrastructure easy to integrate with the least possible footprint. Its innovative technology is much more modern, more aesthetic, quieter and more energy sufficient than traditional ropeway transportation. CABLINE allow easier maintenance to guarantee high availability rate of the urban transport system and optimal service for the passengers. This disruptive technology embarks patented innovations and rely on the strong and proven references of

MND and its partners in the field of conventional ropeways.

Abdul Mohsin Ibrahim Younes, CEO of Rail Agency, signed the MoU on behalf of RTA, and Xavier Gallot-Lavallée, Chairman and CEO of MND, signed on behalf of the Group.

"The signing of this MoU is part of RTA's ongoing efforts to increase public transportation trips to 26% by 2030. Realising this objective requires developing advanced innovative transport systems and improving the sustainable transport network in Dubai to encourage people and visitors to use public transport. MND is a leading group for ropeways infrastructure and working on a new driverless high-speed system. This CABLINE system by MND is flexible, energy saving, and has minor impact on the urban environment", said Abdul Mohsin Ibrahim Younes, CEO of Rail Agency.

"MND is very proud to work with RTA to achieve their vision of sustainable mobility and fully integrating urban network combining innovative technologies and modes. We believe the CABLINE technology under development in our ropeways design centre based in the French Alps can contribute to new urban transportation experience. Our engineering team has been working hard in the last years to finalize design and make CABLINE a unique and disruptive technology to ease urban mobility", said Xavier Gallot-Lavallée, CEO of MND.



Rolling out training of delivery bike drivers in cooperation with driving institutes

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently been coordinating with the authorized drivers' institutes to qualify instructors to undertake the training of drivers of delivery motorcyclists in the Emirate. RTA is directly overseeing the induction of these drivers in tailor-made training courses approved by the concerned bodies. The initiative is part of RTA's ongoing efforts to boost the safety and security of roads in Dubai. It is also part of a master plan to regulate the business of delivery, logistics and electronic media companies in Dubai.

The approved drivers training institutes will undertake the training of drivers of delivery motorbikes in courses comprised of several basic elements. In particular, the course will define the obligations and procedures to be observed by drivers for their safety and the safety of community members, by avoiding any violations as a result of no compliance with the applicable rules and regulations. The key components of the course include the legal responsibility of drivers, traffic rules relating to the driver, reasons and statistics of traffic incidents, how to deal with different driving conditions and how to react during traffic incidents and with emergency vehicles. At the end of the course, an assessment will be made to verify drivers' knowledge.

Qualifying drivers of delivery bikes is part of RTA's continuous efforts to bring happiness to customers and ensure compliance with the highest safety standards. It

also contributes to the efforts of other parties concerned with the reduction of traffic incidents.

Following the soaring demand for the delivery services and the growth of the logistics sector in Dubai of late, RTA perceived the need to regulate and govern the business of this vital sector to bring it to the highest international standards, especially in addressing safety and security concerns. Accordingly, RTA embarked on preparing and introducing a set of standards befitting the needs of Dubai and in line with its pioneering role in the logistics industry worldwide.

RTA is making persistent efforts to raise the happiness of clients, be it individual or corporate clients, by launching initiatives in various sectors in line with the highest international standards. Such a process will cement Dubai's role in the logistics transport sector and contribute to realising RTA's vision to become 'The World Leader in Seamless & Sustainable Mobility.'



Eid Joy initiative delights orphans



Displaying names of taxi drivers on top of taxis

The step aims to recognise the efforts of outstanding taxi drivers during the Covid-19 pandemic

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has completed an initiative for recognising taxi drivers who demonstrated high levels of social responsibility during the outbreak of Covid-19. RTA selected drivers who worked extra hours during the period of the pandemic for displaying their names on the yellow signs on top of taxis.

In this regard, RTA has fixed name stickers on 638 taxis of franchise companies as well as Dubai Taxi Cooperation according to the plan set to recognise the drivers and reward their efficient and professional performance.

RTA always seeks to develop new programmes and initiatives for encouraging drivers such as the traffic safety award launched nine years

ago, recognising honest drivers and taxi drivers who have done excellent service every month. About AED 2,000,000 (Two Million Dirhams) is budgeted annually to reward outstanding drivers. Selected taxi drivers are also offered complimentary air tickets as part of the Traffic Safety Awards to bring their families on visit visas, which contributes to their psychological

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) organised its humanitarian initiative for orphans on the occasion of Eid al-Adha through the distribution of Eid gifts, clothes and shopping vouchers to children. The event was held in collaboration with Emirates Red Crescent and Baby Shop from Landmark Group.

The event commenced at Baby Shop, Midriff City Centre, where RTA's volunteers and Baby Shop staff helped the children to choose their Eid clothes. The shopping vouchers were distributed by RTA and Emirates Red Crescent volunteers to the children at the Emirates Red Crescent in Dubai.

Rowdah Al Mehrizi, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communication Department at Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA, said : "RTA is keen to actively participate in social, humanitarian and charitable activities on various occasions with the aim of promoting the values of giving which bring happiness to the children and their families. Al Mehrizi also praised the participation of RTA volunteers in this humanitarian initiative and their contributions in distributing the gifts and choosing children's clothes.

She noted that the happiness of people is one of the strategic objectives of RTA and its approach to make the people happy is not limited to public transport users and its customers from UAE residences and visitors, but it covers the needy people from around the world.



and family stability.

RTA always seeks to run initiatives for training drivers and improving their performance before asking them to sit behind the steering wheels. It considers them ambassadors in delivering the message of the RTA aiming to enhance the traffic safety, which contributes to realising Dubai Government's strategic goal of protecting lives and properties.



Two UAE inventors get patent for a system that generates clean energy from roads, provides safe aircraft landing

Inventors: Nothing Dark, Impossible in the UAE

28/ 12 /2020 was a day for history for sibling engineers in the UAE, Hussein and Musbah, sons of Ali Lahib, when they got a patent registered in the USA for a system that generates clean renewable power from the weight and thrust of transportation means on roads, railways, and aircraft runways.

Description of the Invention

It is a moving belt, rotating around two separate axes, on which vehicles, trucks, buses, trains, cars, etc. are stopped, which causes them to move by the force of:

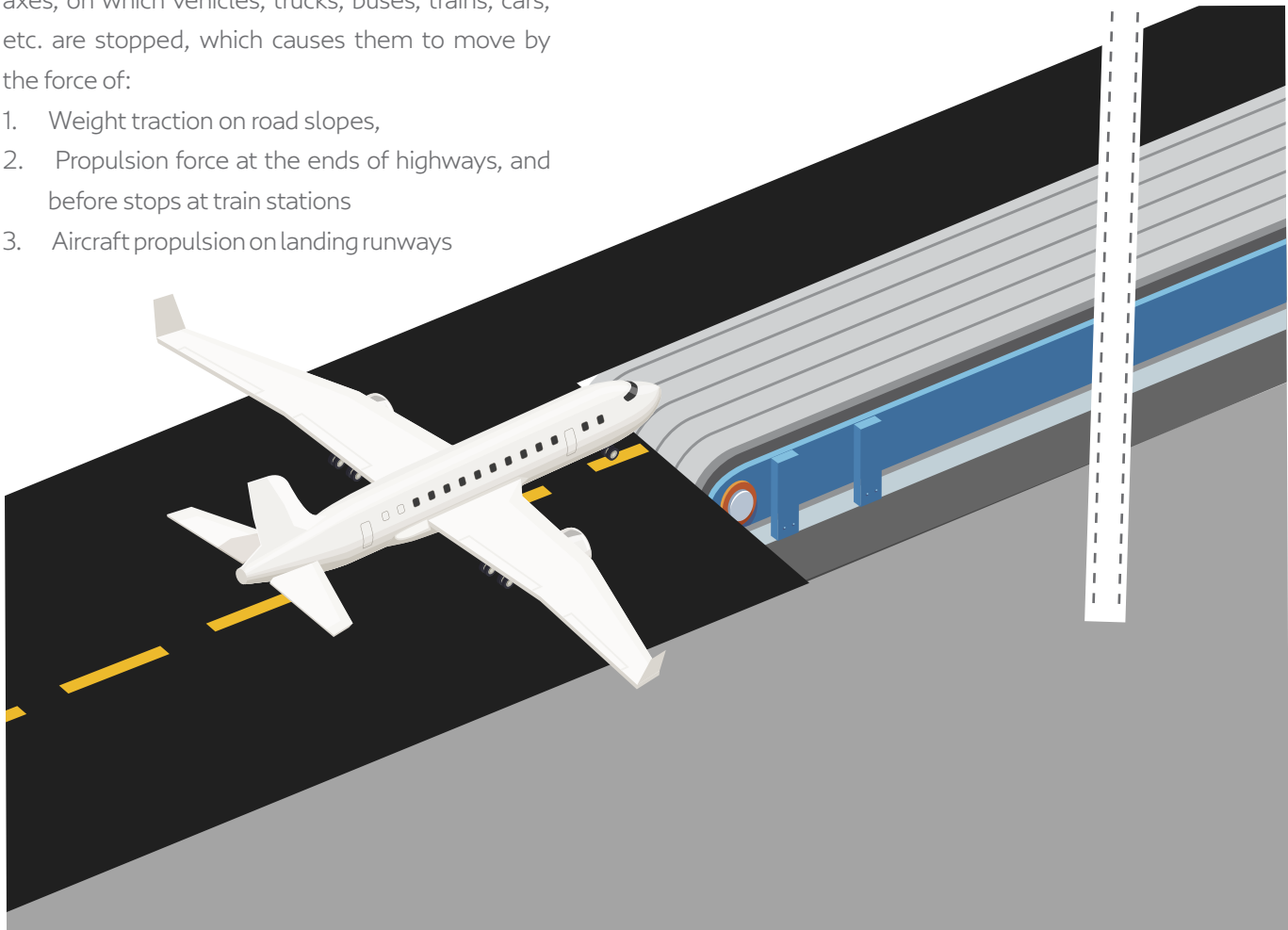
1. Weight traction on road slopes,
2. Propulsion force at the ends of highways, and before stops at train stations
3. Aircraft propulsion on landing runways

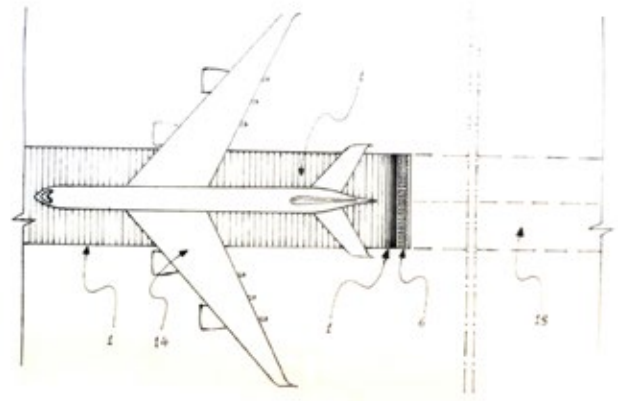
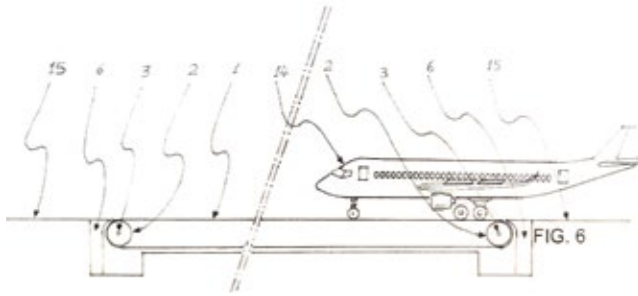


Hussein Ali Lahib



Musbah Ali Lahib





System Functionality

Stage 1: The movable belt is fixed on road slopes at the available lengths and distances.

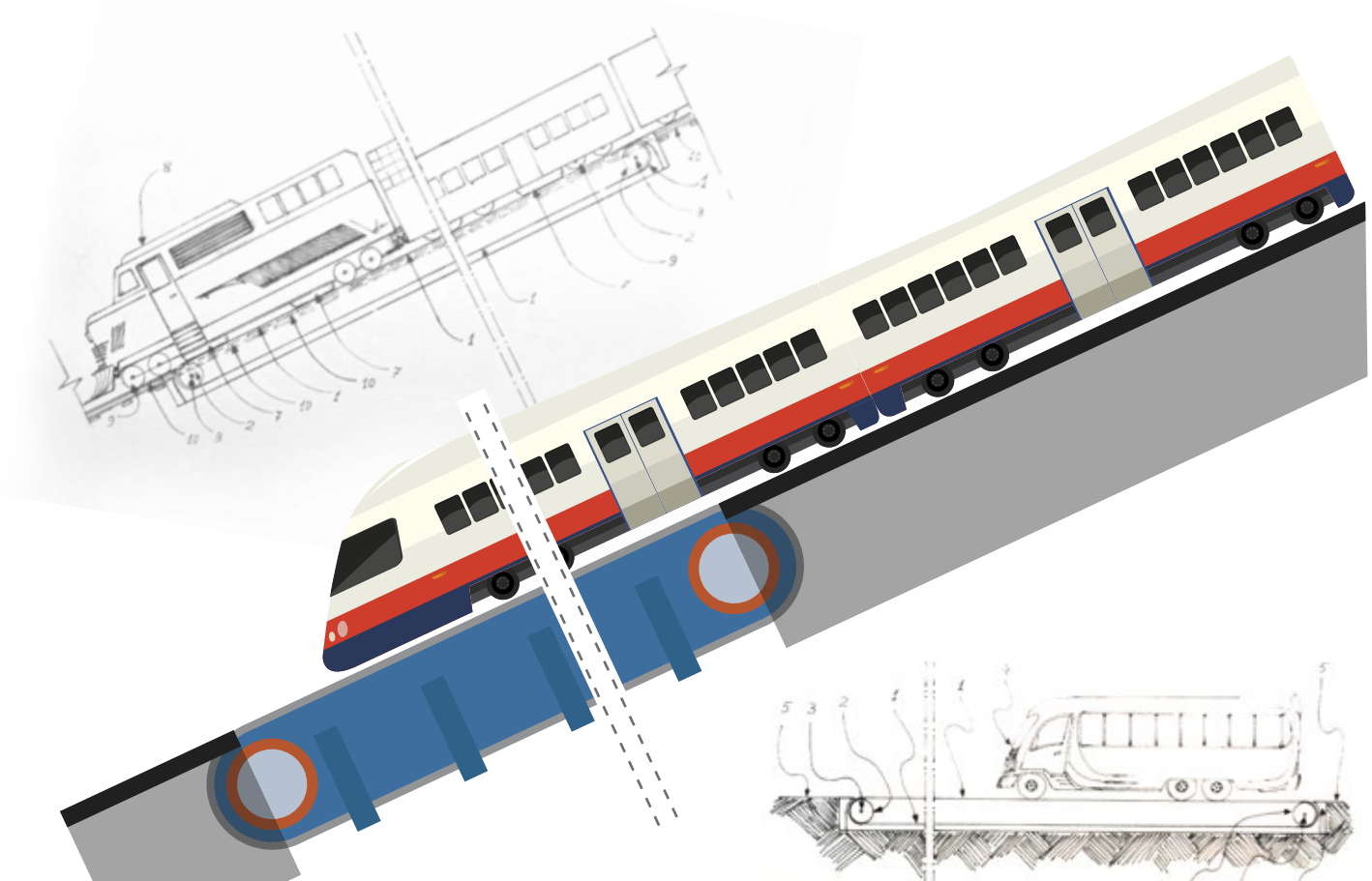
The vehicle stops at the beginning of the top point of the belt and pushes it by traction force. The belt moves the vehicle from top to bottom, from the beginning of the belt, at the top, to the end, at the bottom.

This rotating belt is connected to an electric generator (dynamo), via an automatic transmission, and a speed stabilizer (cruise control).

The speed regulator adjusts the belt speed, and the transmission transfers the surplus energy, to power the dynamo, at the available speed.

Stage 2: The moving belt is fixed at the end of the highway at appropriate lengths and distances, for vehicles to brake on. The propulsion of vehicles pushes it and the motive power is transmitted to the dynamo by a transmission and speed regulator.

The moving belt, (or rotary track), is fixed around two spaced axes, or (rotating steel rope), before



train stations. it contributes to gradually halting the movement of the train and rotates by the motive power. It transfers its kinetic energy to the dynamo through an automatic transmission and the speed stabilizer.

Stage 3: The rubber-coated belt is fixed on the runway and performs a dual role:

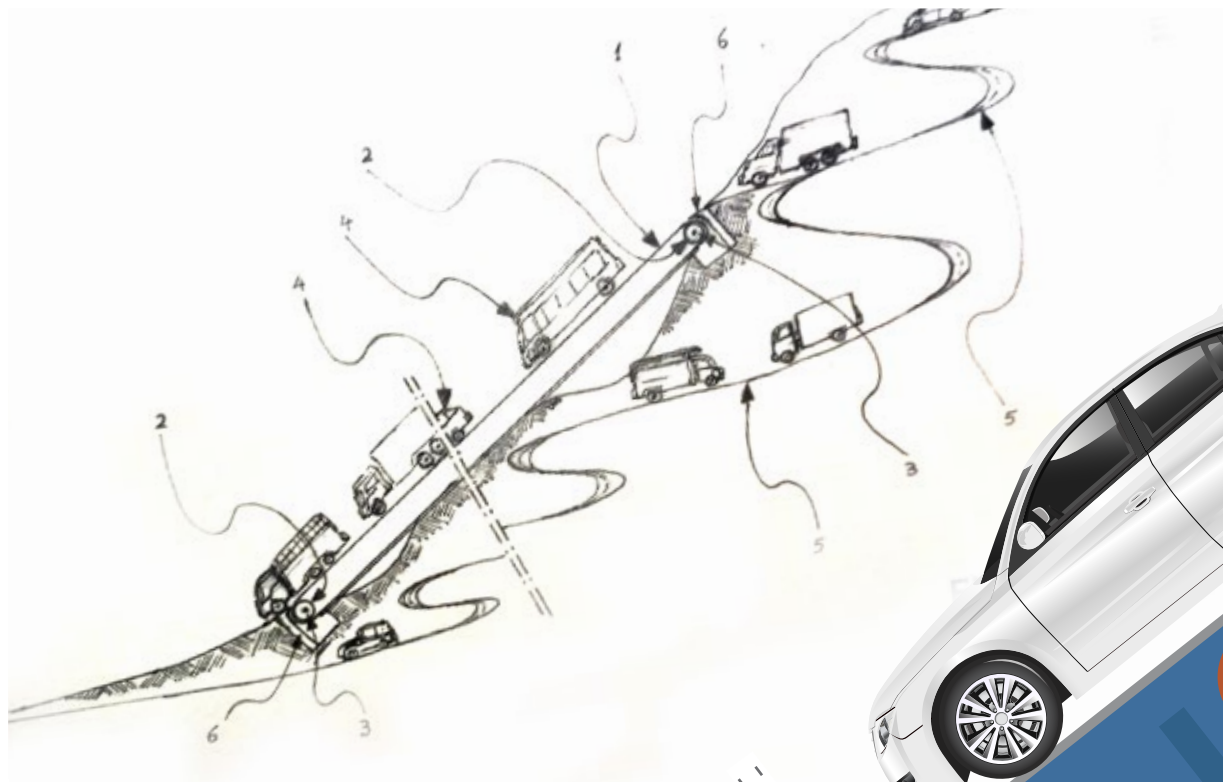
1. It generates power as a result of the aircraft's landing before the belt, then the plane brakes on it; thus, pushes and causes it to rotate. The rotation energy is transferred to the dynamo by a speed regulator and an automatic transmission.
2. It ensures safe landing of aircraft that experience faulty landing gears such as tyres, hydraulic systems), such that the aircraft's body lands on the belt, which is run by a special engine at a speed equivalent to the landing speed of the plane, which prevents friction during landing.

Then the belt stops gradually, which ensures a safe and sound landing for the aircraft.

The process of replacing the dynamo with the engine, only if necessary, is triggered by releasing the belt from the dynamo and connecting it to the engine.

Benefits

1. Providing clean and sustainable energy
2. Shortening distances of sloping roads, saving areas of land required for construction of traditional road turns to reduce the sloping degree, as the increased steepness of the road increases the effectiveness of the belt and does not hinder its operation.
3. Avoiding risks and accidents of heavy vehicles at slopes and turns.
4. Saving fuel consumption and maintenance work for heavy vehicles, especially steering and brakes.



5. Preserving the environment from cars exhaust and brake wastes.
6. Reducing the stress and damage caused by heavy vehicle weights on slopes and turns.
7. Providing a safe landing for aircraft, at a negligible cost as the use of the belt is not limited to emergencies only and always produces energy and remains ready to perform the task during emergencies.
8. Preserving the integrity of the environment through the production of clean energy, and rationalising reliance on fossil energy.

Two Inventors: UAE lights up darkness

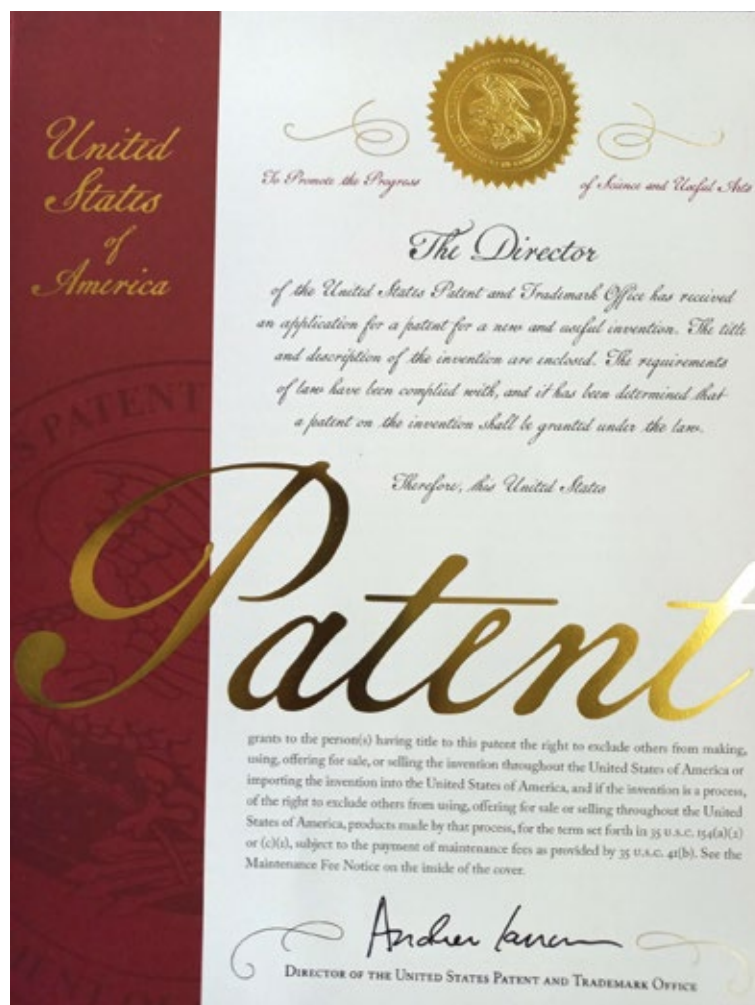
The two inventors in the UAE, Musbah Ali Lahib and Hussein Ali Al Lahib expressed their delight with the obtaining of the patent from the USA for an invention originating from the UAE, which has been spreading knowledge and culture and lighting up the darkness from its inception.

“At the beginning of the 1970s, Lebanon was doing fine, and the power outage was limited to stormy days of winter where high sea waves prevented fuel shipments from reaching power stations”, said Musbah.

“Waves used to drift ships and throw them on the sandy shores in broken pieces. The scene was live in my memory. Wave’s energy that moves thousands of tons, to block the light from us, can be a driver to generate electricity and switch lights. Maybe, I would not have thought out-of-the-box if it was not too dark. Thanks to officials for causing this invention to come up.

On First of March 1989, I left Beirut Airport, with its ageing lounges with few candles not good enough to prevent me from stumbling or bumping here and there.

I got out of the box, and the vision became clear when I arrived in the UAE, which has no place for darkness



nor something impossible.

This was the story of the birth of a passion to search for alternative sources of energy. They are there in abundance. I started working on this invention 20 years ago and received the acceptance of the international registration application in July 2017. Our efforts were crowned on December 28, 2020, with the obtaining of a patent from the USA”, added Musbah.

Fruits harvested in the UAE for the benefit of the UAE

The two inventors expressed their desire and pleasure to make this invention and patent a reality on the land of the UAE, the blessed land in which they harvested this fruit. They expressed their readiness to cooperate with any governmental or private agency interested in implementing the invention on the ground.



Dubai Taxi honours Dubai Police team for roadside assistance to taxi drivers

#RTA's Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC) honoured a Dubai Police team comprising 1st Sergeant Abdul Rahman Abdo, 1st Policeman Mahmoud Shukri, and Sargent Shamis Al Shamsi for offering roadside assistance to DTC taxi drivers, and cooperating during emergencies and road incidents. The felicitation is a gesture of recognition of the team's significant role in raising traffic safety levels and protecting the lives and assets of riders and drivers. To read full news, visit the "Latest News" Tab in our biography.



RTA announces paperless transformation in issuing vehicles' certificates

#RTA has recently announced a paperless transformation in issuing vehicle services' certificates. RTA will discontinue printing 15 types of service certificates relating to vehicle services from all affiliated service providers, and will issue and dispatch them via electronic channels (text messages and e-mails). To read full news, visit the "Latest News" Tab in our biography.





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RTA wins Best International Innovation Award for the Rail Maintenance System

#RTA won the Best International Innovation Award in the field of Rails Infrastructure Maintenance Management System (RIMMS). The award is part of the Global Business Awards presented by the UK-based Awards Intelligence Ltd, a specialist in evaluating innovative services in large and medium enterprises, as well as start-ups.
#RTA winning this award is credited to the implementation of the recently developed RIMMS of the #DubaiMetro and #DubaiTram. To read full news, visit the "Latest News" Tab in our biography.



Breathtaking Double-deck 'Bendy' Glass Bridge in China

The British paper Daily Mail published a set of pictures showing a double-deck glass bridge in China with an undulating design that astounded millions around the world.

The newspaper pointed out that the double-decker curved glass bridge bears the name (Ruyi) and is so exceptional that some believe it is not real.

The bridge was called Ruyi as it has been designed to look like a jade ruyi – a ceremonial sceptre that is a symbol of the God of Good Fortune in China.



China tests train faster than planes Maglev travels at up to 600 km/h

The high-speed rail network has ushered a new era in China with the launch of trials of a new train that travels at a speed close to the speed of aircraft. It consolidates the standing of China at the forefront of the railway infrastructure in the world.

The state-owned China Railway Corporation (CRRC) has unveiled a prototype maglev train, which will carry passengers at speeds of up to 600 kilometres per hour. The company, which ranks as the world's largest supplier of rail transport equipment, confirmed that the train would now enter a testing period before mass production begins this year 2021.

"The train will allow passengers to travel between the Chinese capital, Beijing, and Shanghai in only 3.5 hours, compared to about 4.5 hours by plane," said Ding Sansan, Deputy Chief Engineer of China Railway Corporation.

China is currently at the forefront of the world in infrastructure development and has the largest global network of high-speed trains called the (Bullet Train).

Beijing announced plans to build a new maglev train in 2016 and reported at the time: (It will be the fastest in the world), in an attempt to jump above the current record of 431 kilometres per hour, set on a maglev train journey between Shanghai airport and the city centre.

The maglev train, a short form of (Magnetic Levitation), is defined as a train that works by the elevated force of magnetic levitation. The technology eliminates friction, and allows

Since opened last September, the bridge has become one of the area's biggest attractions.

The bridge is 328 feet (100 meters) long and spans the Shexianju Valley in China's Zhejiang Province and it sits 459 feet (140 meters) above a ravine.

The crossing consists of three undulating bridges and part of its deck is made of transparent glass. Since its photos appeared on social media, the bridge has raised so much controversy that some of the pioneers announced that they'd never have the courage to cross it. The Ruyi Glass Suspension Bridge, or Twisted Bridge, is an architectural masterpiece that adorns the Chinese city of Taizhou in Zhejiang Province.

The (Traveler) website indicated that with the release of pictures of the bridge last year on social media, coinciding with its opening, many believed that it was fake, which prompted the "Snopes" website to investigate and confirm.

With the announcement of the bridge design in 2017, many believed that it was an impossible project, but it is now attracting thousands of tourists.

The design of the bridge was inspired by the jade sceptre, which symbolizes power and wealth in Chinese culture. The 140-meter-



high structure consists of three bridges and a platform made partly of glass.

With its undulating, winding structure, the bridge gives a real sense of adventure. The hard and soft shape is perfectly integrated with the surrounding scenery, so it appears to the spectator as a sceptre in the sky and a piece of draped silk.

The painting looks like a screen, and when seen from a distance, it is full of movement in the mountains, and it also carries beauty and good fortune.

Tourists in China are not satisfied with the glass bridges, despite the many photos and videos that show some people clinging to the sides or dragging themselves completely terrified.

access to these high speeds, besides being completely calm and free from vibrations inside the train trailer.

The maglev train slides on airbag springs, instead of the metal wheels used in traditional trains, which are in direct contact with the metal rails, and there are a few countries that operate such trains at present around the world, namely China, South Korea, and Japan.

Greater China's high-speed rail network consists of more than 20,000 kilometres of built tracks.

China Railway Corporation also implements high-speed rail projects outside China in countries such as Britain, Australia, Russia, Mexico, Turkey, and countries in Southeast Asia such as Thailand and Indonesia.

Chinese maglev trains are not the first to reach these speeds, as Japan set a record in 2015 when a train using the same technology reached a speed of 603 kilometres per hour, but it will not be ready for commercial use until 2027.



Arab's Alternative Medicine...

A blend of religious and life experiences

Reviewing the alternative medicine in Arabs in the past and modern eras, Prophetic Medicine comes up as the most dominant. What's Prophetic Medicine all about and importance?



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Prophetic Medicine relates to the prescriptions and methods used by the Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) or used by his companions for the treatment of illnesses. It covers advice regarding human health, healthcare, recommended foods and drinks, spiritual recitations (Ruqyah) and everything related to human health.

Prophetic Medicine is mentioned in books of hadiths (Prophet Speeches), and certain chapters of hadith are devoted to it. It became so important as it is part of the Prophet's biography. It is the habit of the Prophet to speak and comment about any matter of benefit for religious, physical or livelihood of people.

It is also called Islamic medicine, as it is collected from hadiths, commandments and prescriptions relating to human health. It also includes medical know-how during the life of the Prophet, and what are the connotations of the verses contained in the Holy Qur'an in this regard.

Prophetic Medicine was not limited to bodies but also treated the human soul. It covered the place where people live, the surrounding environment, and all aspects of community medicine

as well preventive methods and plans. It didn't overlook any relevant aspect and included the most private affairs. Islam linked worshipping with good health. So, God Almighty legislated many rulings that protect the body, such as fasting, ablution, and others.

Public Health

Islam has given special attention to all aspects of health. It urged Muslims to observe hygiene and raised its importance for protecting humans. Examples of this include ablution that every Muslim does five times every day. There is also the obligatory bath (Ghusl) in certain occurrences, which is also recommended on other occasions such as Eid days.

As regards personal hygiene, the Prophet recommended clipping the nails. One Hadith says: (If one of you wakes up from his sleep, he or she should wash hands before touching





a vessel as you don't know what your hand had touched when you were asleep. The Prophet also urged covering pots and foods and called for the cleanliness of the environment and the place. Islam elevated the value of removing filth from the road to a charity and made it part of the core of faith (Iman). A fine recommendation that protects human health a verse from the Holy Quran that says: (Eat and drink without going to excesses).

Need for Treatment

Islam serves the needs of humans, such as the need for treatment. As God Almighty created the disease, God also created its cure. A hadith says: (for every disease there is a medicine, and if you get the right medicine, you will be cured, God willing). This prompts humans to seek treatment and not remain sick. Prophet warned against neglecting the treatment and remaining in a state of illness on the pretext that there is no need for medication. Muslims should believe that God Almighty is the Healer, and have therefore sought treatment. It was reported that the Prophet was asked about the use of medicines and preventive methods and whether they can repel the predestination of God. The Prophet said: "They are part of God's predestination. The Prophet has set rules that set the base for Muslim scholars and doctors."

In the treatment of fever, the Prophet recommended cold compresses and said: (Fever is from the sighs of Hell, so cool it with water). For headaches, he used to put on a head bandage, which modern science confirmed that it relieves pain. Muslim's healthcare is not limited to certain circumstances but it is a mandatory requirement in all circumstances, including the travel time.

The Messenger of God stated that the donation and charitable activities would contribute to the treatment of sick people, God Willing. A Hadith says, "Treat your sick with charity."

Psychiatry and Spiritual Medicine

In the field of psychological and spiritual medicine, the Prophet recommended people to seek help from the Noble Qur'an as it is a source for support as well as treatment. A verse from the Holy Quran says (And We send down of the Qur'an that which is healing and mercy for the believers, but it does not increase the wrongdoers except in loss), and another verse that says (Men! Now there has come to you an exhortation from your Lord, a healing for the ailments of the hearts, and a guidance and mercy for those who believe). He urged to use Ruqyah from the verses of the Noble Qur'an as it a cure from envy, evil eye and magic, God willing.

The Prophet's practice is that visitors to the sick speak words that sweeten the patient's soul and strengthen his spirit, because if the soul becomes strong, it will be able to ward off the disease, God Willing. This stands up as a great guidance in visiting patients. The Prophet also warned against anger and envy as they are harmful to humans. Islam confirmed that psychological treatment is an important part of health and physical treatment, and the Muslim's relationship with his Lord and his belief in him increases his psychological strength, making him calmer.

The belief in predestination renders the Muslim recognises that nothing happens unless decided by God Almighty and that whatever happens is good. As such, the Muslim will remain calm and collected. He will turn up more capable of facing mental and physical challenges.