

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA
Issue No. 160 October 2021

RTA paves the way for the world to Expo



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.

Dubai Hosts the World



From the start of this October till the end of March next year, all eyes will be firmly set on the UAE, specifically Dubai, the host of the biggest event on the international agenda.

It is Expo 2020, which will be held for the first time in the Middle East and North Africa and South Asia. The event features the participation of 192 countries, each with its own pavilion, for the first time in the history of Expo that goes back 170 years.

Under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai; His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council; and His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Dubai is gearing up for receiving participants and visitors of Expo 2020 Dubai and delivering an unprecedented edition in the history of Expo.

RTA is one of the entities that have had a leading role in Dubai's preparations for hosting this global showpiece. From the moment Dubai was announced the winner of hosting Expo 2020, RTA embarked on implementing leaders' directives to construct networks of integrated roads and multi-modal transit means to provide unique, smooth and fast mobility services to participants and visitors of Expo 2020 from within the UAE and far afield. RTA has delivered 15 projects that serve Expo

costing about AED15 billion highlighted by Route 2020 of Dubai Metro. The project spans 15 km and connects 7 stations (one transfer station, three elevated stations, two underground stations, and one iconic station: Expo 2020).

RTA procured 50 trains that boast stylish, convenient, and roomy interiors along with roads extending 138 lane kilometres encompassing nine interchanges. It deployed 200 public buses equipped with the latest international specifications and designated 18 bus stations/stands at prime locations in Dubai and across key cities of the UAE. It has also deployed 15 thousand taxis and limousines and will manage about 30 thousand parking slots at the site of Expo. RTA will be using high-tech, smart apps and artificial intelligence to ease the movement of Expo visitors aboard the metro, buses and taxis.

RTA's preparations for hosting this global event included the construction of the Enterprise Command and Control Centre, one of the biggest and latest control centres worldwide, and the Dubai Intelligent Traffic Systems Centre, which uses cutting-edge technologies of employing smart apps in the management of traffic movement.

Finally, we are keen on working in a team spirit guided by the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to make this international event a success. Our overall aim is to make visiting Expo 2020 a unique and memorable journey for all participants and visitors.

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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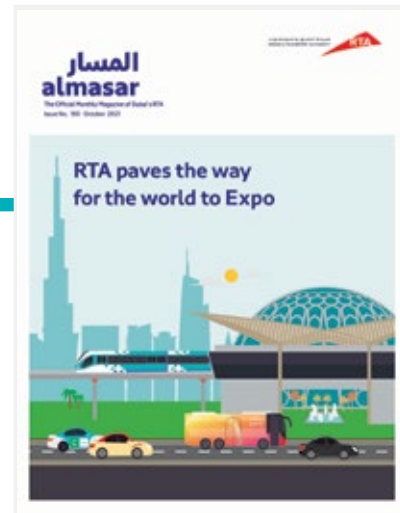
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Al Tayer: Dubai Executive Council made quantum leap in business methodology and process

Al Tayer's statement marks the 15th anniversary of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed taking over as Chairman of the Executive Council



Statement of Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors about the announcement of the 10 Principles for the Next 50 Years

“Under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE, and his brothers His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, UAE has mapped out a roadmap for a sweeping development model over the next 50 years where the country will be at the forefront worldwide in political, economic, internal development and humanitarian fields,” said His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA).

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) congratulated His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, on the 15th anniversary of His Highness taking office as Chairman of the Executive Council in Dubai.

“Since His Highness, Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum chaired the Executive Council, it witnessed a qualitative shift in the methodology and process. It has leveraged the mechanism of government and departments towards achieving Dubai’s vision and strategic plan to upgrade human resources and improve the quality of services,” said Al Tayer.

“His Highness is personally involved in the follows up of work progress through field visits and periodic reports. His Highness launched many initiatives that contributed to promoting comprehensive development in Dubai, such as Dubai Future Councils, a platform for anticipating and shaping the future of vital sectors in Dubai during the next fifty years. The Smart City is another initiative aimed to make Dubai the smartest city in the world in addition to Hamdan bin Mohammed Programme for Smart Government, which stimulated

entities to revamp the business of the government, and migrate to smart government services provided around the clock,” said Al Tayer.

“His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has leadership qualities and a strategic vision, which he gleaned from his father, His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President of the UAE, Prime Minister and Ruler of Dubai. He picked up massive leadership skills, which enabled him to manage tough issues and overcome various challenges,” stated Al Tayer.

Concluding his statement, Al Tayer wished His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, good health and success to achieve the ambitions of the Dubai government, under the wise leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai.

Al Tayer:

■ **Our leadership charts inspiring development roadmap for the next 50 years**

“The UAE’s 10 Principles Document unveiled by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum charts a comprehensive approach to the steps of the UAE for the Next 50 Years as it affirmed its continuation to work on building a sustainable competitive economy on a par with the best worldwide. The nation will commit all potentials to nurture a more prosperous and happier community while boosting regional and international relations to achieve the higher interests of the state, and

for the UAE to be a beacon of peace and spread stability in the region and the world,” commented Al Tayer.

“The 10 Principles reflects the keenness of our government in developing nation-wide urban and economic development and investing in human capital, confirming that the nation and its citizens are the key pillars of the federation. We pledge our government to follow in the footsteps of our leaders and support the country’s economic development as it the supreme national interest and we will do whatever it takes to build an integrated system of infrastructure and roads that measures up to the aspirations of the government and achieve the desired gains and goals, as we have done over the past 50 years,” concluded Al Tayer.



Mansoor bin Mohammed visits Expo 2020 Dubai to review the safety and security preparations ahead of the event

His Highness Sheikh Mansoor bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management, visited Expo 2020 Dubai to review the safety and security preparations for the upcoming global event.



The visit comes in line with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to ensure the highest levels of safety and protection for exhibitors and visitors at the event. His Highness, accompanied by members from Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management, first took the Dubai Metro from the Jebel Ali Station to the Expo 2020 Station, during which he was briefed by His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) on the Dubai Metro Route 2020, developed specifically to serve Expo 2020 visitors. Built at a cost of AED11 billion, Route 2020 has the capacity of 46,000 riders per hour in both directions and can serve up to



■ **As per the directives of Mohammed bin Rashid..Mansoor bin Mohammed visits Expo 2020 Dubai to review the safety and security preparations ahead of the event - His Highness hailed the efforts of various teams to ensure a safe mega event**



270,000 inhabitants living and working along the route.

Upon his arrival to Expo 2020 Dubai, His Highness was welcomed by Her Excellency Reem bint Ibrahim Al Hashemy, Minister of State for International Cooperation and Director General of Expo 2020 Dubai. His Highness visited the main operations room to review the safety and security measures that have been developed by different government teams for the venue.

Sheikh Mansoor was keen to ensure that the safety and security protocols at Expo 2020 were in line with the directives of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid, to provide the highest standards of health and safety to participants and visitors. He underlined Dubai's well-earned reputation in organising widescale events that safely welcomed thousands of participants and visitors, even amid the challenges posed by the global pandemic.

Sheikh Mansoor was briefed by Al Tayer about RTA's Transport Command and Control Centre, which is part of the main operations room. The centre was set up to ensure a smooth and secure movement to and from the venue. His Highness was also briefed on the various public transport means available for visitors as well as the precautionary measures implemented to secure the safety of public transport users. His Highness also reviewed the operational details of Dubai Metro Route 2020, which is set to serve up to half a million riders per day.



RTA: Infrastructure and road projects of Expo 2020 cost AED15 bn

Al Tayer: Thanks to the support of Mohammed bin Rashid and follow-up of Hamdan bin Mohammed we delivered 15 Expo projects to offer visitors exceptional mobility service

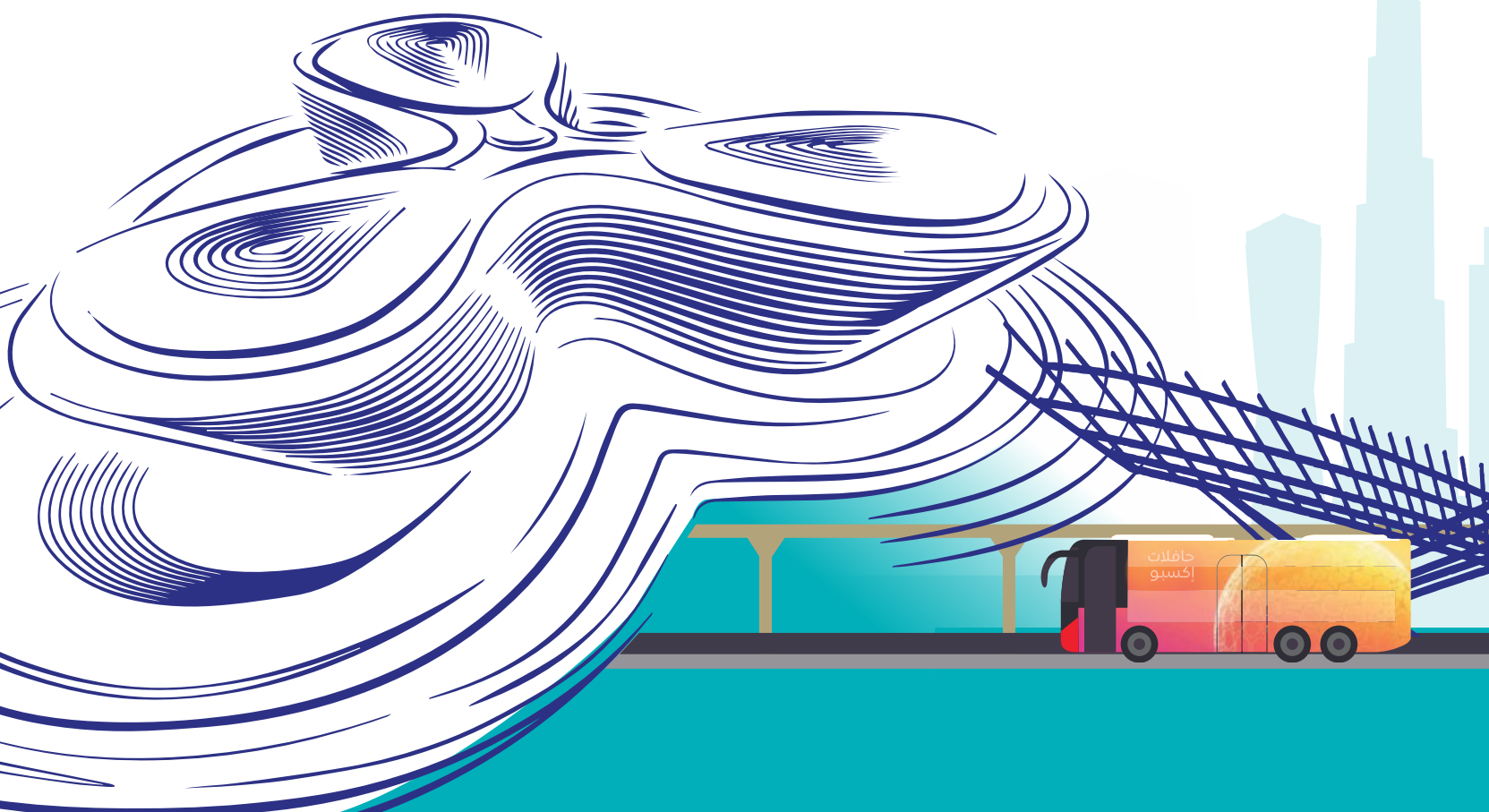
His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) confirmed the preparedness of the infrastructure of roads and mass transit networks for providing unique, smooth, and express mobility service to visitors of Expo 2020 from Dubai and other emirates across the UAE.

Thanks to the huge support and patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and the active follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council, RTA has accomplished 15 projects to serve Expo 2020, costing more than AED15 billion.

The portfolio of projects completed is highlighted by Route 2020 of Dubai Metro running 15 km and connecting 7 stations, procuring 50 trains with roomy and stylish interiors, constructing roads spanning 138 lane-kilometres with 9 flyovers, deploying 200 public buses featuring top class specifications, designating

18 stations/stops for buses at hotspots in Dubai and other key cities of the UAE, deploying 15k taxis, limousines, managing 30k parking slots at Expo site, and using smart technologies, apps, and artificial intelligence to ease the movement of Expo visitors aboard the metro, buses and taxis.

RTA's preparations for this mega global showpiece included the



- Managed 30000 parking slots at Expo site
- Smart technology and apps to ease the mobility of visitors aboard the metro, buses, and taxis
- 25 entry lanes, 21 exit lanes for Expo exhibition site



construction of the Enterprise Command and Control Centre, one of the biggest and most sophisticated control centres in the world. It also constructed the Intelligent Traffic Centre that uses cutting-edge smart technologies in managing traffic movement.

From the announcement that Dubai has won the privilege to host Expo 2020, RTA focused on implementing the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, UAE Vice-President, Prime Minister, Ruler of Dubai, to construct an integrated infrastructure of roads and transport networks to provide a unique, smooth and fast mobility service to visitors of Expo 2020 from the UAE and abroad. The aim was to realise the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to make the visit to Expo a memorable and enjoyable experience for all during an exceptional edition of Expo.

Service Hours

Dubai Metro Expo 2020 Station will operate on October 1st, synchronised with the official opening of Expo 2020. The Red and Green Lines of Dubai Metro will offer passenger services from Saturday to Wednesday from 05:00 am to 01:15 am (of the following day). On Thursday, the service will run from 05:00 am to 02:15 am (of the following day), and on Friday from 08:00 am to 01:15 am (of the following day). The service frequency will be 2:38 minutes during peak times. Dubai Tram will provide service from Saturday to Thursday from 06:00 am to 01:00 am (of the following day), and on Friday from 08:00 am to 01:00 am (of the following day).

Expo Buses will operate from 06:30 am and continue service for 90 minutes after the closure of Expo Gates. Passenger commuting service from the parking area (Expo Parking



Shuttle) to the three Expo Gates will start at 09:00 am and continue for 90 minutes after the closure of Expo Gates. Bus Service between Expo Gates (Expo People Mover) will start service at 06:30 am and continue service 90 minutes after the closure of Expo Gates. Taxi and e-hail services will be running around the clock.

Crowd Management

RTA charted out technical event management plans and developed a structure for the mobility of Expo visitors using various transit means from the metro and bus stations inside and outside the emirate in addition to taxis deployed at the site. RTA also charted out a plan for managing the traffic movement on the surrounding roads and junctions during weekdays and weekends as well as days witnessing mega events throughout the period of Expo. It also charted out alternative plans for coping with all possible scenarios with the potential of causing snarls to ensure a permanent smooth traffic flow during the Expo period. RTA has communication and response plans during emergencies and crises including solutions for potential scenarios as well as plans for instant traffic conversions in the event of closures of all roads and junctions in the surrounds of the site.

Roads and Bridges

To ensure the smooth flow of traffic that serves Expo 2020 as well as future projects in the area, RTA has accomplished the improvement of the surrounding roads network in the area that included the construction of 6 flyovers to ensure free traffic

movement in all directions. It also constructed 64 bridges stretching 13 km, 5 box tunnels extending 450 metres, and roads extending 138 lane-kilometres in addition to 25 entry lanes and 21 exit lanes for vehicles at the Expo site.

RTA will manage about 30000 parking slots at the site of Expo distributed at several zones (Opportunity, Mobility, Sustainability, World, and Nissan Parking). RTA will cater to the management of these parking spaces using state-of-the-art technology devices to ensure a safe and smooth movement of vehicles from and to the parking lots. It will use intelligent traffic signs and manage the parking by a smart system connected to the traffic monitoring centre to identify vacant slots. RTA has developed alternative plans to cope with the events in case the parking lots are full by using the intelligent traffic signs on external and internal roads to direct motorists to alternative parking.

Due to the immense nature of the road projects, which were completed in 2020, they have been divided into six phases: Constructing the junction of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road and Expo Road. It required transforming the previous roundabout at the intersection of Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road and Expo Road into a flyover that provides free traffic movement in all directions. It involved increasing the number of lanes of Expo Road from four to six lanes in each direction, constructing service roads in both directions, and providing free turns through the bridges. The project increased the road capacity from 16,500 vehicles per hour to 69,000 vehicles per hour.



■ **R o a d s**
spanning 138
lane-kilometres
including 9
interchanges with
64 bridges
■ **Deployment of**
15k taxis, limos



Constructing two flyovers at the Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road to ensure smooth traffic movement to and from the site of the Expo. The first (Expo Junction) serves the traffic movement inbound from Dubai, Sharjah and other emirates heading to the Expo parking area. The second (Al Maktoum Junction) serves the traffic movement inbound from Dubai, Sharjah and other emirates heading to the site of Expo, in addition to road works extending 16 km. The project increases the road's intake from 21,600 vehicles per hour to 45,000 vehicles per hour at the Southern Entry and 48,200 vehicles per hour at the Northern Entry.

Constructing the intersection of Sheikh Zayed Bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street with Expo Road, which involved transforming the signalised roundabout into a flyover that provides free traffic in all directions. The project increases the road capacity from 5,000 vehicles per hour to 62,100 vehicles per hour. It provides a direct link to Expo westwards on Expo Road and generates additional volumes of traffic inbound from Expo heading towards Expo Road and Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Road, which reduces the travel time and eases the traffic movement.

Constructing 3 intersections and widening the Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan street from two to five lanes in each direction. The intersection of Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street with Al Yalayas Street was transformed into a flyover that provides free traffic movement in all directions. Constructing the second and third intersections by constructing two bridges with two lanes in each direction on Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street fitted with traffic lights to serve

the traffic heading to the Dubai Investments Park. Constructing a service road of two lanes in each direction on the Sheikh Zayed bin Hamdan Al Nahyan Street and Al Yalayas Street. Improving the entrances to the Dubai Investments Park on Al Yalayas Street, which raised the road capacity from 7,800 vehicles per hour to 49,800 vehicles per hour at the intersection area, and from 4,800 vehicles per hour to 28,800 vehicles per hour at the signalised intersections.

Constructing the intersection of the Emirates Road with Expo Road by converting the previous roundabout into a flyover to provide free traffic in all directions. It involved increasing the number of lanes on Expo Road from four to six lanes in each direction over a 3 km stretch, adding 5 km to the Emirates Road, and constructing service roads that increased the road capacity from 2,000 vehicles per hour to 54,000 vehicles per hour.

Constructing Expo Road, involving the construction of bridges extending 2.6 km, and roads spanning about three km. The number of lanes of Expo Road increased from three to six lanes in each direction over a 3 km sector, and service roads were constructed to improve the traffic situation of the existing roads. Works included elevating Expo Road at the intersection with Al Asayel Street via a bridge spanning 800 meters comprising of six lanes in each direction. Two other bridges were constructed to connect Expo Road with the service road in the area extending one kilometre to ensure smooth movement to and from the site of Expo. The opening of the project increased the capacity of the Road from 24,200 vehicles per hour to 37,800 vehicles per hour.





Route 2020

To enhance the huge role of the Dubai Metro, which constitutes the backbone of mass transit systems, and its pivotal role in the daily movement of people, and considering the economic, social, and environmental benefits that the metro had generated since opened on 9/2009, RTA had undertaken the construction of Route 2020 of the Dubai Metro. It extends 15 km from Jebel Ali Metro Station on the Red Line to Expo 2020 Station. It connects seven stations and provides safe and smooth transport for visitors of the Expo as well as Dubai districts.

Route 2020 serves communities populated by more than 270 thousand people namely the Gardens, Discovery Gardens, Al Furjan, Jumeirah Golf Estates, Dubai Investment Park and Dubai Expo 2020 site.

It has a capacity of 46,000 riders per hour in both directions (23,000 riders per hour per direction). The number of riders

is expected to reach 275,000 riders per day in 2030. Expo Station is expected to receive 35,000 daily visitors of Expo during weekdays, and the number is set to increase to 47,000 daily visitors during weekends. This number accounts for 29% of the total expected number of daily visitors to Expo.

The route links 7 stations: 1 transfer station, 3 elevated stations, 2 underground stations and 1 iconic station: Expo 2020. The area of elevated stations ranges from 8,100 to 8,800 square metres, and the area of the two underground stations ranges from 27,000 to 28,700 square metres. Expo Station spans 18,800 square metres in area.

The exterior designs of Route 2020 stations feature an enhanced architectural design of the existing metro stations on both the Red and Green Lines. The designs consist of four different patterns including the iconic Expo Station and the interchange station between Route 2020 and the Red Line at

■ **Route 2020**
extending 15 km,
connecting 7 stations
50 new trains
characterised by
novel designs, roomy
interiors a convenient
riding experience



■ **203 buses
to lift Expo
visitors from
18 stations
in Dubai and
key cities of
the UAE**



Jebel Ali Station, which has a design analogous to the design of the present metro stations to maintain the identity and shape of the metro stations along the Sheikh Zayed Road. The other two patterns are for elevated and underground stations. The new designs allow for bigger capacities compared with the existing stations on the Red Line. Moreover, they have design elements emulating simplicity, modernity, and sustainability. Expo Station, which can serve 29,000 riders per hour during peak times and 522,000 riders per day, has a unique plane-wing design symbolising Dubai's take-off towards innovation. The station's design serves the integration with public transit means with spaces for buses and taxis stands. Jumeirah Golf Estates Metro Station is the biggest underground station in the entire Dubai Metro network. It spans 28,700 square metres in area and extends 232 metres in length. It can serve 11,555 riders per hour during peak times and about 250,000 riders per day.

Stations and Buses

To facilitate the movement of Expo visitors from different emirates, RTA allocated 203 buses (Expo Bus) to serve visitors to Expo 2020 from 18 stations (9 stations in Dubai, and 9 stations in other emirates). Expo bus service will be free of charge in Dubai from nine stations and stops, in addition to two routes to transport visitors from hotels directly to the site of Expo.

RTA designated 126 public buses to serve Expo 2020 visitors from 9 stations/stops across Dubai, namely Palm Jumeirah, Al Baraha, Al Ghubaiba, Etisalat, Global Village, International City,

Dubai Silicon Oasis, Dubai Mall and Dubai International Airport (Terminal 3) through operating 455 to 476 trips per day. RTA will also provide two additional services: the EXPO Parking Shuttle service to transfer visitors from car parks to the three Expo Gates: (Opportunity, Mobility, and Sustainability) and the EXPO People Mover service to commute visitors between Expo Gates. RTA will operate 77 buses to transport Expo visitors from nine locations outside Dubai, including three stations in Abu Dhabi city namely Abu Dhabi International Airport Station, Abu Dhabi Main Bus Station, Marina Mall Station, in addition to one point in Al Ain City at Al Ain Bus Station. There will be two stations in Sharjah: Al Jubail Bus Station, Muwailih Station. Other stations include Ras Al Khaimah Bus Station, Ajman Bus Station, and the bus stop near City Centre Fujairah. There will be 193 trips per day during weekdays, rising to 213 daily trips during the weekend (on Thursdays and Fridays).

9 Stations

RTA established nine public bus stations to serve Expo visitors, distributed over key areas in Dubai, namely: Al Ghubaiba, Etisalat, Al Baraha, Dubai Silicon Oasis, International City, Dubai International Airport (Terminal 3), Palm Jumeirah, Dubai Mall, and the Global Village.

The construction of Expo bus stations catered to fulfilling the requirements and standards of integrated transportation and enhancing the interconnection of the city to facilitate the access of residents to and from public transport stations and ensure the safe and smooth access of pedestrians and cyclists to



these means. The design also serves the needs of a qualifying environment for people of determination and boosted the connection between various transport stations, development projects, and attractions areas in the surrounds. As such, it focused on providing the requirements of the first and last-mile, and integrated transport such as public bus stops, cycling tracks, pedestrian crossings, landscaping, and bike racks to encourage residents to walk and use individual means of transportation.

New Generation

Al Ghubaiba Bus Station is a new generation of bus stations. It is characterised by its unique, modular design that combines innovative and effective solutions for engineering designs and the provision of stylish public transport services. Its design fulfils the requirements of environmental sustainability and the needs of the people of determination.

The station consists of 6 buildings over an area of 2,452 square metres in total. It hosts office spaces, customers service areas, retail outlets and restaurants in addition to 50 bus stands, 48 parking slots, 34 taxi stands, and a docking station for 60 bikes. The station can handle up to 15,000 passengers per day whereas the current daily ridership is about 10,500 passengers. Etisalat Bus Station is directly linked to Etisalat Metro Station on the Green Line of Dubai Metro, and the building consists of ground and mezzanine floors. It spans an area of 708 square metres that includes office space and a customers' concourse. The station has 24 bus parking slots, 20 slots for accommodating buses overnight, and racks for 50 bikes. The

station can accommodate 4500 passengers and the number of daily users is expected to rise from 3000 to 4100 riders during the period of Expo. The station serves 7 bus routes, which will rise to 8 routes during Expo.

Modern Buses

The transit service for Expo 2020 visitors features buses of high safety and luxury standards, with comfortable seats and compatible with Euro 6 emission standards, making them the first of their kind in the MENA region. Buses have low floors to ease the boarding and disembarkation and make them accessible to people of determination. Buses are designed to deliver premium services to mass transit riders thanks to the high-class finishing works. Through the deployment of these high-quality buses across a wide geographical coverage, RTA seeks to make mass transit means the ideal choice of mobility for Expo visitors.

Taxis and Limos

RTA is deploying 15,000 taxis and limousines to serve the emirate and visitors to Expo 2020. They include 9,710 taxis and 5,681 limousines, which can be booked through the e-hail services of Uber and Careem. RTA added 10 vehicles to serve people of determination at the Expo 2020 site.

Mobility and Traffic Management

To plan and manage the mobility and traffic in Dubai, and streamline crowd movement during celebrations, RTA constructed the Enterprise Command and Control Centre and the Intelligent Traffic Centre at Al Barsha, which are the latest of their kind in the world.

Enterprise Command and Control Centre

The Enterprise Command and Control Centre (EC3) is one of the biggest and most sophisticated control centres in the world in utilising smart technologies. It controls and integrates various RTA's mass transit systems (metro, tram, buses, taxis and water transport), and connects several traffic control centres. Thus, it enables the efficient planning of mobility journeys besides coping with different transit challenges.

The EC3 plays a key role in monitoring the multi-modal transit systems in the emirate, as well as managing incidents, crises, and events related to roads, transportation, and traffic. It is



Enterprise Command and Control Centre, Intelligent Traffic Centre



built to carry out advanced analysis of transportation network data and monitor more than 170 events across the emirate to ensure the smooth flow of traffic. It also monitors the speed of responding to emergency cases related to mobility in the emirate. The centre uses artificial intelligence to process big data amounting to 75 million mobility data-entry per day. These technologies enable RTA to plan smart mobility, improve transport efficiency and enhance customers' experience.

Dubai's Intelligent Traffic Centre

Dubai Intelligent Traffic Centre at Al Barsha is one of the most sophisticated control centres worldwide in terms of technologies used. It is a key pillar of the traffic safety strategy as well as the plan to expand the use of intelligent traffic systems and support the current and future transit means. It meets the huge expansion seen by the Emirate and the requirements for hosting major exhibitions such as Expo 2020. The centre is vital in managing the traffic on the Dubai roads network. It sets a platform for integrated digital technologies that use artificial intelligence, big data and the internet of things. In addition to its advanced communication systems, the centre has an intelligent traffic control system: (iTraffic) powered by advanced technologies and analysis tools to predict the traffic situation, support decision-making, and ensure high efficiency in managing traffic and incidents. RTA had also developed and expanded smart traffic systems by developing an integrated infrastructure of traffic systems on Dubai's roads network.

The coverage of roads network in the Emirate by intelligent traffic systems increased from 11% to 60%. Systems installed include 116 traffic monitoring cameras bringing the total number

to 245 cameras in addition to 100 incident-monitoring and vehicle tracking devices to increase the number to 235 devices. It also installed 115 devices for computing the travel time and the average speed, and 17 road weather information systems. Widening the use of smart traffic systems included the installation of 112 variable messaging signs powered by the latest technologies in the world to ensure the quality and clarity of traffic messages and signs used to broadcast alerts about incidents and congestions as well as directing motorists to alternative roads.

Smart and Innovative Services

RTA developed a package of smart and innovative projects and initiatives to serve visitors of Expo 2020 that included the provision of 8 innovative services. 5 of them are meant to serve public buses. They include a centre for the remote monitoring of bus efficiency. It covers buses dedicated to Expo service and displays Expo information and timetable of daily events on bus arrival screens. There is also a service of journey planning through S'hail on bus timetable screens. The system provides daily information about Expo, and the network of buses dedicated to shuttling visitors between Expo Gates (People Mover Buses). Services also include adding a new payment channel for using credit cards in the ticketing and top-up machines.

Taxi initiatives include the automated taxi deployment system, which secures the required number of taxis at the Expo 2020 site. Also, there is an initiative for paying the taxi fare through the e-wallet using the Alipay App, and the QR code service, without using credit card payment devices. The service targets tourists and visitors from abroad. Initiatives also include Hala for booking taxis using bus arrival touch screens which integrates with the Careem app for booking taxis.



RTA announces free Expo Rider buses for Expo visitors from 9 locations in Dubai

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the deployment of 126 public buses "Expo Rider" to serve Expo 2020 Dubai visitors for free from 9 locations across Dubai. Additionally, two routes will be launched to lift Expo visitors from hotels directly to the site of Expo. RTA will also deploy buses to lift visitors within Expo from the parking area to the Gates in addition to another bus service to lift riders between Expo Gates. Buses will run 1956 direct daily trips from Saturday to Wednesday and the number of trips will rise to 2203 direct trips on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency varies from 3 to 60 minutes.

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, confirmed RTA's readiness to provide a unique, smooth and express transit service for Expo 2020 visitors from various locations in Dubai and across the UAE through the deployment of 203 buses. These buses feature high safety

and luxury standards, and comfortable seats.

They are compatible with Euro 6 low-carbon emission standards, making them the

first of their kind in the MENA

region. Through deploying

these high-quality buses in

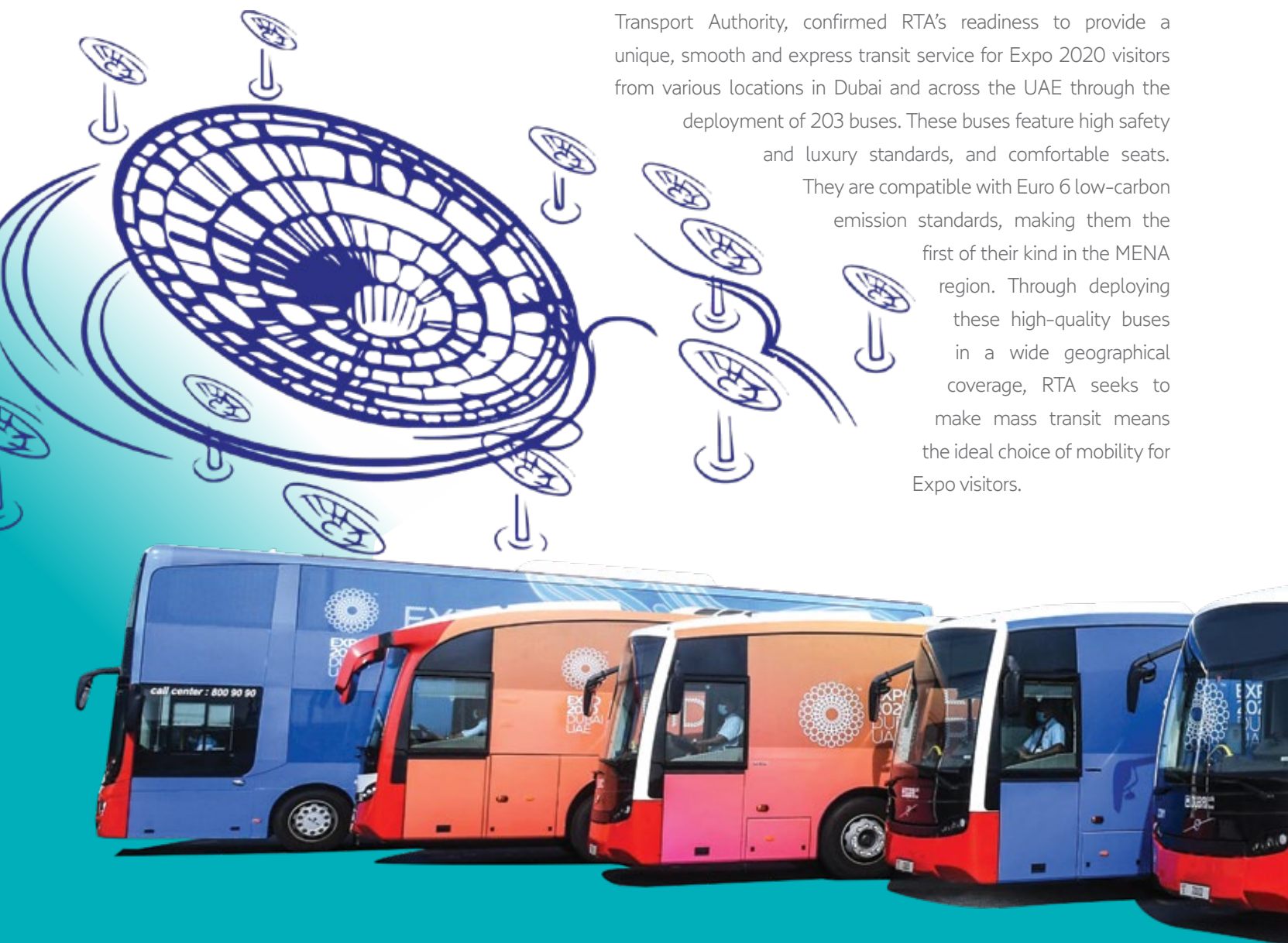
a wide geographical

coverage, RTA seeks to

make mass transit means

the ideal choice of mobility for

Expo visitors.





Movement from Dubai to Expo

His Excellency Al Tayer explained that the RTA had allocated 57 buses to commute Expo 2020 visitors from various locations in Dubai through operating 455 to 476 trips per day. RTA identified 9 stations to serve passengers heading to and from Expo.

The first station is Palm Jumeirah, where 6 buses are allocated to run 54 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 57 trips per day in both directions on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will be 15 minutes.

The second station is Al Baraha, where 7 buses are allocated to run 62 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 68 trips per day in both directions on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will be 30 minutes.

■ **Al Tayer: 126 buses are allocated to serve Expo visitors from Dubai out of 203 buses to serve visitors from all emirates**

■ **Buses to run 1956 to 2203 direct daily trips, service frequency: 3 to 60 minutes**

■ **Buses deployed feature high safety and luxury standards to provide a fine transit experience**

The third station is Al Ghubaiba, a station characterised by integrated various mass transit modes spanning the metro, public buses, marine transport, and taxis. 12 buses





are allocated to run 74 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 76 daily trips in both directions on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will be 15 minutes. The fourth station is Etisalat, adjacent to Etisalat Metro Station on the Green Line. 8 buses are allocated to run 70 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 72 trips per day in both directions on Thursday and Friday.

The fifth station is the Global Village where 3 buses are allocated to run 10 trips daily on all weekdays. The service frequency will be 60 minutes.

The sixth and seventh stations are the International City and the Dubai Silicon Oasis Station. 8 buses are allocated to both stations to run 78 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 82 trips per day in both directions on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will be 15 minutes.

The eighth station is the Dubai Mall where 5 buses are

allocated to run 55 trips per day in both directions from Saturday to Wednesday, and 59 trips per day in both directions on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will be 30 minutes.

The ninth station is the Dubai International Airport, where 8 buses are allocated to run 52 trips per day in both directions, seven days a week. The service frequency will be 20 minutes.

Movement Within Expo

His Excellency Al Tayer explained that RTA would also provide two additional services to Expo 2020 visitors. The first service is Expo Parking Shuttle to transport visitors from the car parks to the three Expo Gates (Opportunity, Mobility and Sustainability). RTA has allocated 57 buses for this service to run 1191 trips per day from Saturday to Wednesday, and 1377 trips on Thursday and Friday. The service frequency will range from 3 to 7 minutes.

The second service is Expo People Mover to transport visitors between Expo Gates. RTA has allocated 15 buses for this service to run 310 daily trips from Saturday to Wednesday, and 350 trips on Thursday and Friday. 12 additional reserve busses have been allocated as well.

RTA had previously announced its plan to transport visitors to Expo 2020 from different emirates. The plan identifies nine locations in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, Sharjah, Fujairah, Ajman, and Ras Al Khaimah. 77 buses are allocated for this service to run 193 trips per day on all days of the week, and the number of trips will rise to 213 trips per day on Thursday and Friday.



Mattar Al Tayer: Expo 2020 will be an unprecedented edition in Expo History

■ His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), Member of Expo 2020 Dubai Higher Committee, confirmed that the United Arab Emirates, represented in Dubai, will present an unprecedented edition in the history of Expo.

■ “Dubai is fully prepared to host 191 countries, thanks to an integrated infrastructure and a connected metropolitan city par excellence. The expenditure on infrastructure, roads and transportation projects relating to Expo 2020 amounted to 15 billion dirhams. RTA has accomplished a full network of roads and bridges spanning 138 lane kilometres to make the venue of Expo more accessible to visitors,” said Al Tayer.

■ “RTA delivered Route 2020, which added 15 km to the Dubai Metro network. It has also built up a fleet of more than 200 public buses compatible with the highest global specifications, and 18 stations/bus stops at vital spots in the Emirate, in addition, more than 1500 taxis/limousines,” added Al Tayer.

		From Global Village to Sustainability Gate every 60 minutes 3 buses 10 trips daily
		From International City and Dubai Silicon Oasis to Sustainability Gate every 15 minutes 8 buses 78 trips daily - 82 on Thursday and Friday
		From Al Baraha to Sustainability Gate every 30 minutes 7 buses 62 trips daily - 68 on Thursday and Friday
		From Etisalat Metro Station (near Terminal 2) to Sustainability Gate every 30 minutes 8 buses 70 trips daily - 72 on Thursday and Friday
		From Dubai Mall to Sustainability Gate every 30 minutes 5 buses 55 trips daily - 59 on Thursday and Friday
		From Al Ghubaiba to Sustainability Gate every 15 minutes 12 buses 74 trips daily - 76 on Thursday and Friday
		From Palm Jumeirah to Opportunity Gate every 15 minutes 6 buses 54 trips daily - 57 on Thursday and Friday
		From Dubai International Airport to Mobility Gate every 20 minutes 8 buses 52 trips daily



OFFICIAL SUPPORTER



Free Expo Rider bus services from across 9 stations in Dubai to Expo 2020 Dubai

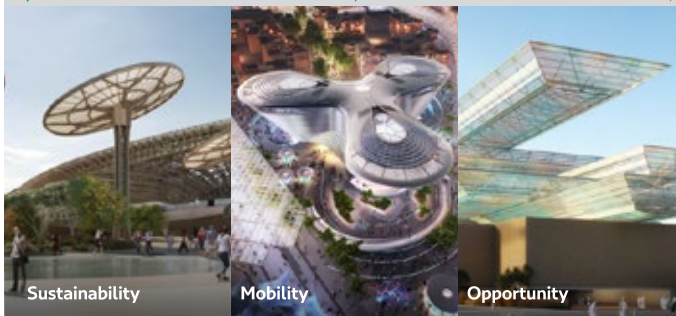


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126 buses to transport visitors from 9 stations across Dubai and the Expo area
(12 reserve buses)



77 buses to transport visitors from 9 stations across other Emirates
(7 reserve buses)

Al Tayer attends final tests of Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport 2021

Winners to be announced by the end of October

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director General Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) attended part of the final tests of leading companies and academic institutions that had qualified for the second cycle of the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport. This edition is devoted for Self-Driving Logistics including ground transport means, and drones. Tests were conducted at Dubai Silicon Oasis in the presence of Dr. Mohammed Al Zarooni, Vice Chairman and CEO of Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority (DSOA).

Al Tayer attended a briefing by Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO of Public Transport Agency cum Chairman of the Organizing Committee of the Dubai World Congress for Self-Driving Transport, and Khalid Al Awadhi, Director of Transportation Systems cum Chairman of the Challenge Team. The briefing shed light on tests conducted over six weeks at three key places namely university robots test track, university drones test area, and pioneers robots testing area. RTA charted out several scenarios that included tests in the presence of fixed and moving obstacles, and virtual ones. Participants were evaluated based on three key elements: the first: safety, which included reliability, visibility handling, interaction with pedestrians, and speed control. The second element was usability, which included speed, cargo safety and understandable behavior. The third element was: the level of maturity and included passing the scenario and operator interaction, path planning, detection and prediction.

To the Finals

Five companies participated in the tests of the pioneering company's category: Neolix from China, ARTI from Austria, iAuto from Taiwan, Yandex from Russia, and Kiwi Bot from the United States of America. In the local university's category, participants were New York University Abu Dhabi, Khalifa University of Science and Technology, Rochester University of Technology in Dubai, American University of Sharjah, University of Sharjah and University of Dubai. Winners will be announced during the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport at the end of October.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority expressed his pleasure at the great level of projects participating in the challenge and reaching an advanced stage in innovative technologies to provide self-driving logistics services. He stressed that the joint initiatives



would open up broad horizons for the development of the logistics sector, through the use of autonomous ground transportation and drones.

Logistics Sector

“Holding the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport is part of RTA’s efforts to support Dubai Strategy for Self-Driving Transport launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, aimed to transform 25% of total mobility journeys in Dubai into journeys aboard self-driving transport means by 2030,” said Al Tayer.

“This global competition aims to expand the use of driverless transport at all levels and encourage leading companies and research institutions in this particular field to tackle the existing mobility challenges, such as the first and last-mile, congestions, and the low public transport ridership. Self-driving transport has become a key pillar of RTA’s strategy, and we are determined to achieve our goals through a host of creative initiatives capable of making self-driving transport a reality on the ground in Dubai,” added Al Tayer.

“Designating Self-Driving Logistics Services as a theme for the second edition of the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport stems from RTA’s endeavours to support the logistical sector in Dubai. Studies indicated that Dubai hosts about 6,000 shipping/forwarding companies. About 64,000 trucks of various sizes make about 306,000 trips per day, accounting for about 13% of the total daily mobility trips in Dubai. The dispatch of shipments in the first and last-mile across the city is amongst the key services that impact the economy in general. Therefore, it is anticipated that new operation models or innovative vehicles will be developed for delivering goods in the first and last-mile in the near future,” he noted.

Testing Yard for Transport Solutions

For his part, His Excellency Dr. Mohammed Al Zarooni, Vice Chairman and CEO of Dubai Silicon Oasis Authority, said: “Dubai is a global test lab, open for the world to pilot advanced technology and fourth industrial revolution solutions, as well as innovative artificial intelligence and



Testing extended for six weeks and covered three areas: university robots, university drones, and pioneers’ robots

Participants are evaluated based on three elements: safety, usability, and maturity

smart transport. Dubai Silicon Oasis, as a technology and knowledge hub that drives innovation among the five urban centres of the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan, serves as a proof of concept for smart and sustainable transport for the future of Dubai and the UAE – hence our collaboration with the Roads and Transport Authority in Dubai on the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport.”

Dr Al Zarooni added: “DSOA’s and the wider Dubai Smart City Strategy embodies the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to transform Dubai into the smartest city in the world. In this edition, the Dubai World Challenge for Self-Driving Transport focuses on self-driving logistics services, including ground transport and drones, strengthening Dubai’s status as a global hub for smart logistics services of the future.”



Dubai Metro and Tram's operation and maintenance taken over by Keolis-MHI LLC

The event coincides with Dubai Metro 12th anniversary

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that Keolis MHI Rail Management and Operation LLC had taken over the responsibility of operating and maintaining Dubai Metro as well as the operation of Dubai Tram from Serco Middle East. The handing/taking over coincided with the 12th anniversary of Dubai Metro, which started operation on 09/2009/09/. Since then, the metro services recorded highly successful global indicators in terms of safety and operational efficiency as reflected in trips punctuality of 99.7% and ridership of more than 1.706 billion passengers until the end of last August.

The handing/taking over of operations ceremony, which was held at Al Rashidiya Metro Depot, was attended by His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority. Attendees also included Serco Group Middle East CEO Phil Malem, Keolis Group

International CEO, Bernard Tabary, Director of Transport Security at Dubai Police Brigadier Obaid Al Hathboor, Executive Vice President, Chief Regional Officer, Europe, Middle East and Africa of Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd, Kentaro Hosomi, and Senior Vice President, Regional CEO, Middle East of Mitsubishi Corporation, Kenji Ohta.





During the event, His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer honoured Brigadier Al Hathboor and Colonel Mohammed Al Abbar, Deputy Director of Transport Security at the Dubai Police for the efforts of the Department in maintaining the security and safety of various mass transit means. He also Awarded Phil Malem and several officials of Serco Group in recognition of their efforts in running the operation and maintenance works of Dubai Metro over the past years.

Backbone of Transport

“Undertaken under the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, Dubai Metro currently constitutes the backbone of transportation systems in Dubai. It links vital areas and provides safe and smooth mobility for riders. The huge successes of Dubai Metro have gone far and wide beyond the scope of the Emirate. The metro has embellished the global profile of Dubai as a superior business hub and a key destination for an exceptional quality of life. The metro is a brilliant addition to Dubai’s iconic landmarks as it uses state-of-the-art rail technology,” said His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer.

“Billed as the longest driverless metro project worldwide, Dubai Metro contributed to boosting the global competitiveness of

Dubai and its success in hosting mega-events, such as Expo 2020 Dubai, which will be launched this October. The metro has also recorded high indicators in operational efficiency and trip punctuality that reached 99.7%. From the start of the passenger service in September 2009 up to the end of August 2021, the Dubai Metro operated more than three million trips transporting about 1.706 billion riders,” he commented.

Economic Benefits

“Dubai Metro has plenty of socio-economic as well as environmental benefits. It has appreciated the value of properties in some commercial districts around the metro stations by 20 to 30%. The cumulative benefits of the metro from 2009 up to the end of 2020 amounted to AED115 billion against cumulative capital and operational costs of AED45 billion. The cumulative benefits are expected to reach AED234 by 2030 against cumulative capital and operational costs of AED54 billion. The economic return from each dirham spent on the Dubai Metro reached AED2.5 in 2020 and is expected to rise to AED4.3 by 2030. The metro has also reduced the carbon emissions and eased the traffic congestion across the districts served by 15 to 25%. It has also contributed to enhancing the share of public transport means in people mobility three folds from 6% in 2006 to as much as 18.1% in 2019,” elaborated Al Tayer.





Operational Efficiency

Al Tayer stressed the importance of maintaining the excellent performance indicators and high operational efficiency of the Dubai Metro in the foreseeable future, especially as the following month would see the launch of the biggest event ever hosted by the UAE i.e. Expo 2020 Dubai. He praised the contribution and efforts of the strategic partners whose efforts underlined the successful operation of the metro service. Al Tayer commended the efforts of the GHQ of Dubai Police represented by the General Department of Transport Security and Serco Middle East, which maintained a high operational efficiency of the Dubai Metro over the past 12 years. He wished every success to Keolis MHI Rail Management and Operation LLC.

Keolis Group CEO Marie-Ange Debon said: “We are very excited to begin operating Dubai’s world-class metro and tram networks in collaboration with MHI and MC. We’re also delighted to welcome 1,850 new staff members to Keolis Group. Our shared goals bring us together: meeting the highest safety standards, delivering outstanding passenger service, and moving together towards a smart and sustainable future.”

Innovation and Sustainability

“Along the way, we’ll continue to focus on safety, quality, innovation and sustainability. Our ultimate goal is to ensure customer

happiness by providing the very best passenger experience to Dubai’s residents and visitors. We share RTA’s Smart City Vision, which sees smart mobility as the answer to a more efficient transport system and a more vibrant city. And we look forward to accompanying RTA on this exciting journey to make the city safer, cleaner, and more attractive,” continued Debon.

Serco Middle East CEO Phil Malem said, “As a public services company, Serco’s purpose is to support the governments of the countries in which we work whilst providing world-class services and experiences to the residents that live there. We have done that with the Dubai Metro and Tram.

“Over the past 12 years, working hand in hand with the RTA, we have successfully launched, maintained and operated two of the region’s first rail transit systems. We are proud to have enabled over 200 million passenger journeys per annum with trains running at 99.7% punctuality.”

Roles and Responsibilities

The operation and maintenance contract of Dubai Metro and Tram with Keolis-MHI LLC spans 15 years (9 base years and 6 years renewable every two years). During this period, the company shall undertake the operation and maintenance of the Dubai Metro Red and Green lines as well as the operation of the Dubai Tram. It will also run all assets of the metro and tram networks including trains, control



centres, stations and the associated infrastructure. The company shall provide high-class passenger transport services compatible with the daily variations in the number of the metro and tram riders. The contract also covers the operation and maintenance of the automated metro and fare systems including the selling and recharging of nol cards at the metro stations, providing senior, technical and administrative posts for Emiratiss and training them on the work environment, and the continuous monitoring of the integrity as well as the improvement of the metro and tram systems. It shall also ensure the full coordination and integration of the metro, tram and other means of transport, provide the highest standards of security and safety for the metro and tram riders and achieve competitive performance indicators in the operation and punctuality of the operational timetables. During the preparatory period, the company carried out a smooth process for the gradual taking over of assets and systems together with the transfer of employees from Serco to its human resources.

Outsourcing

Outsourcing of the metro and tram operation and maintenance is a common global practice in famed metro lines in cities like London, Singapore, Paris and Sydney. It is attributed to a host of factors highlighted by the commitment to providing the highest standards of security and safety for the metro and tram riders and achieving competitive performance indicators of operation and punctuality of trips besides improving the quality of services provided to commuters. Moreover, the operation of the metro and tram requires experience

100 km

■ **Dubai's metro and tram network spans about 100 km: 90 km on the Red and Green Lines as well as Route 2020, and a tram line stretching 10.6 km. The network has 64 stations: 53 on the metro lines and 11 on the tramway. There are 129 trains to serve the metro lines and 11 trains to serve the tramway. The total number of Dubai Metro and Tram riders is about 210 million riders per annum.**

in the scheduling of the metro and tram services and all the sophisticated mechanical, computing and electronic operational systems. Additionally, the specialist companies have to have extensive international maintenance experience in dealing with experts and specialists of the industry across the globe.

The outsourcing of these jobs to specialist companies will also reduce the operational and maintenance costs of the metro and tram by benefiting from the high performance of those companies in delivering top quality services at lower costs and their continuous efforts to reduce operational costs. They will also cater to transferring the operational and maintenance expertise to citizens. The contract separates the company's role in the operation and maintenance of the system, and RTA's role in monitoring and overseeing the operation.

RTA hosts 18th IRF World Meeting & Exhibition in November

The global event will attract 1500 visitors from 60 countries

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) will host the 18th International Roads Federation (IRF) World Meeting & Exhibition during 7-10 November 2021. The event, which is themed 'Roads to tomorrow' will see the participation of 250 speakers among road experts and specialists. It is expected to attract 1500 visitors from 60 countries.

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, said, "Thanks to the insightful vision and leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and the diligent and constant follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, and His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, 1st Vice Chairman of the Executive Council, Dubai has developed a superb world-class infrastructure, especially in roads and infrastructure. Dubai's roads network is characterised by high quality, wide geographical coverage of the whole emirate, and the use of the world's latest roads technology."

Quality of Roads

"Hosting IRF World Meeting & Exhibition, one of the biggest and time-honoured events in the field of roads and infrastructure worldwide, is an endorsement of the high quality and efficiency of UAE's roads, which had been ranked number one internationally from 2013 till 2017 in the Global Competitiveness Report of Davos Economic Forum. It echoes the confidence reposed by international organisations in the standing and reputation of Dubai and its ability to stage highly successful global events. It is great that edition coincides with Dubai's hosting of Expo 2020 as well," said Al Tayer.

The accompanying exhibition is anticipated to attract 1500 visitors from 60 countries as well as 100 international firms and start-ups. About 250 road and infrastructure experts and specialists will deliver speeches in 70 discussion panels. Their research papers will



صورة أرشيفية



Hosting the meeting is a testament to the quality and efficiency of UAE's roads infrastructure

About IRF

The International Road Federation is a global not-for-profit organisation, headquartered in Washington, DC since 1948 and supported by regional offices throughout the world. The IRF serves a network of public and private sector members in more than 115 countries. It aims at easing mobility & trade and forging a link between improved roads and the global economy besides facilitating the tasks of concerned personnel in the field of transport.

highlight strategic directions and present a roadmap depicting key policies and research in the fields of roads, smart mobility and the use of artificial intelligence in designing and managing highways. Discussion topics also include infrastructure guidance for smart driving, innovative paving materials, surveying techniques, and zero-fatality strategies.

The event includes 66 sessions including 8 masterclasses, 15 executive sessions, and 34 scientific sessions in addition to workshops presented by 250 speakers from 42 countries. The programme will review the expertise of speakers in topics related to the design and management of highways, guidelines for smart driving infrastructure, innovative paving materials, surveying techniques, and the zero-fatality strategy. As such, it will contribute to offering an opportunity for investments in research and development of roads, smart mobility, product marketing, and support for profitable strategies. Such strategies contribute to expanding the scope of business for researchers, manufacturers, consultants, and decision-makers in the field of roads and infrastructure across the UAE.

Mr. Patrick Sankey, President and CEO of IRF said, "IRF and Dubai RTA share a common vision of roads and mobility at the service of a longer-term agenda of growth and sustainability. It is with this shared spirit that we have worked together to develop the programme of the 18th IRF World Meeting & Exhibition, which evolves around the idea that the roads we design today will serve an increasingly diversified range of uses and vehicles. Is our road network ready? These questions require a level of cross-industry consensus which the IRF World Meeting is perfectly situated to generate".

VIPs and ministers' session will host H.E. Suhail Mohamed Al Mazrouei – UAE Minister of Energy, H.E. Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority, and H.E. Eng. Abdullah Al Mogbel, Chairman of the IRF. Speakers also will include H.E. Jernej Vrtovec, Minister of Infrastructure, Slovenia, H.E. and Mrs. Dagmawit Moges, Minister of Transport of Ethiopia. The IRF is dealing with public and private sectors to keep abreast of the latest scientific and technological developments relating to modern roads and land transport networks as well as monitoring roads traffic movement. It seeks to promote roads traffic safety, encourage the implementation of economic and environmental programmes to improve roads network, provide educational and training programmes relating to roads maintenance, share knowledge with international organisations and support the efforts of national and regional road committees.

IRF also compiles and classifies statistical, technological, and economic data of relevance to the improvement of roads standards, contributes to the improvement of technical standards, and supports local and regional research relating to roads. As such, it aims to be a global platform for exchanging potential solutions at par with the highest global standards and practices of the industry.



Endorsing Dubai Taxi's Updated Strategic Plan 2021 - 2023

The plan includes 51 improvement initiatives

His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) endorsed Dubai Taxi Corporation's (DTC) Strategic Plan 2021-2023. The plan updates the vision of the corporation which became: "Pioneers in Safe and Sustainable Digital Transport Services." The plan consists of 6 corporate values, 5 strategic goals, and 11 strategic objectives measured by 23 indices. The plan encompasses 51 improvement initiatives.

Al Tayer reiterated RTA's commitment to overhaul the Dubai taxi sector by employing artificial intelligence and smart systems to enhance the performance and customers happiness. "The process requires increasing the fleet of taxis and limos to match the rapid growth seen by the Emirate and step up the integration of transportation means. The ultimate goal of these efforts is to ease the mobility of mass transit riders to their final destinations, especially Expo 2020 visitors," he commented.

"We are determined to deliver a unique experience in the taxi industry worldwide to facilitate the movement of citizens, residents and tourists. We aim to provide mobility services featuring diverse options in terms of the level of comfort and care in modern taxis, be it limo service, airport taxi, ladies taxi, family taxi ... etc. Our efforts are focused on meeting customers needs through sustained

improvement, stylish services, and diverse service channels, especially smart platforms," added Al Tayer.

51 Initiatives

"DTC's Strategic Plan encompasses six corporate values: Corporate Reputation, Excellence & Innovation, Happiness & Positive Energy, Leadership & Teamwork, Sustainability, and Pioneering & Competitiveness. It has five strategic objectives namely: Digital Transport, Future Shaping, Financial Sustainability, People Happiness, and Operational Excellence.

"The plan includes 51 initiatives spanning several key aspects highlighted by: increasing DTC's market share in the taxi sector from 41.5% to 44% by 2023, increasing the market share of limousines operated by e-hail apps from 8.5% to 12% by 2023, and increasing the percentage

■ **Dubai Taxi's market share in the taxi sector is set to hit 44% by 2023**

■ **5% of the taxi fleet will be converted to self-driving taxis**





of taxi trips through the same apps from 14% to 16% by 2023. The plan also aims to convert 5% of the taxi fleet to autonomous vehicles by 2023 and increase the percentage of environmentally-friendly vehicles to 56%. In the Financial Sustainability aspect, the plan seeks to make saving in expenses and increase the operational and non-operational revenues,” explained Al Tayer.

People Happiness

The plan gives much attention to people happiness and seeks to improve the work environment for employees and drivers and deliver quality services to customers. It

The proportion of eco-friendly vehicles in Dubai Taxi to reach 56% by 2023

sets a target of pushing customers’ satisfaction rating of taxi service to 90%, school bus service to 93%, drivers happiness index to 84%, and employees’ happiness index to 89% by 2023.

As for operations, the plan provides for improving operations management systems and safety specifications. DTC is seeking to raise the ratio of revenue mileage from 49% to 53% by 2023, maintain the operational efficiency of

taxis and limousines in the range of 90%, and reduce the rate of carbon dioxide emissions.

It is worth mentioning that RTA had recently signed a partnership agreement with General Motors-backed Cruise to run driverless taxis and shared transport service in Dubai, rendering it the first city outside the USA to operate such vehicles. According to the agreement, RTA is completing all preparations for the launch of self-driving taxis in 2023 with a limited number of vehicles. The number of vehicles in operations will be scaled up gradually to reach 4000 self-driving taxis by 2030.



1.3 m riders used public transport, taxis in one day

Public transport numbers illustrate Dubai's recovery from the Covid-19

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has achieved a new record of public transport riders and shared mobility in Dubai on a single day. On 9 September 2021, public transport means lifted 1.331 million riders, the biggest number recorded by public transit means since the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic at the beginning of last year. This number indicates the recovery of Dubai from the impacts of the global crises thanks to the successful strategy used in tackling the crisis. It is also attributed to the local and federal government actions that had expedited the tackling the health and economic consequences.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority stressed that the sustained increase in the ridership of public transport means in Dubai demonstrate the community's confidence in the safety level of public transport means and the standing commitment to always deliver safe and secure services.

Al Tayer reported that RTA would continue to deliver world-class mobility service capable of supporting the

image of Dubai as the best city for living and business in the world as envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai.

"Dubai's public transport means are compatible with the world's best standards of sustainability, safety and performance efficiency. The safety and convenience of riders is a responsibility that we always shoulder in good faith. We will continue to

Controlling movement of heavy trucks

Remote monitoring & imposing fines

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) and the General HQ of Dubai Police have completed a link between the system of Right-Of-Way service permits relating to 'Apply for a Mobility Permit for Over-Weight and Over-Dimension Vehicles and Apply for a Mobility Permit for Heavy Vehicles in Banned Times and Roads' and the Smart Officer system of Dubai Police, so that they recognise police patrols on violating heavy vehicles, which do not have the necessary permit to pass on Dubai roads, through the Dubai Police system.

According to the prohibited timing, Dubai roads are classified into three categories. Complete 24-hour Ban: It applies to both the Airport and Shindagha Tunnels, Al Maktoum Bridge, the Floating Bridge, and Al Qudra Road. Partial Ban: From 06:00 am to 10:00 pm: applies to the city centre, Sheikh Zayed Road and Al Ittihad Road. Intermittent Ban: Thrice during day as follows: Morning Ban from 06:30 am to 08:30 am, a mid-day

ban from 01:00 pm to 03:00 pm, and evening Ban from 05:30 pm to 08:00 pm. It applies to the rest of the streets of Dubai on which the three times curfew are applied

Through enforcing traffic ban timings on heavy vehicles, RTA intends to ease traffic congestion during peak times, especially when employees commute between home and work, besides maintaining the safety of road users. As for permits for trucks

■ Since the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic, RTA implemented strict precautionary measures to ensure the highest protection and safety levels to all users of public transport as well as the operating teams such as drivers, administrators, and technicians.

■ During this day, which saw a record number of riders, the Red and Green Lines of the Dubai Metro lifted 458,060 riders (311,090 riders on the Red Line and 146,970 riders on the Green Line).

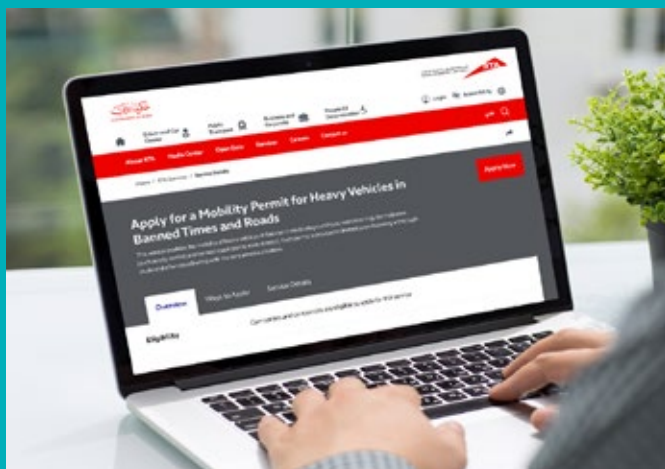
■ The Dubai Tram lifted 15,932 riders, public buses served 254,420 riders and marine transit means ferried 21,502 riders. Shared mobility means, which include e-hail vehicles, and smart rental vehicles were used by 66,590 riders, and taxis, which include Dubai Taxi, Hala Taxi, and franchise taxis, lifted 516,409 riders.



transport means against the Covid-19. This campaign, which recorded a 100% vaccination of more than 20 thousand drivers, was undertaken in collaboration with the Dubai Health Authority and other concerned bodies. Since the outbreak of the pandemic, RTA introduced stringent measures as recommended by the local, federal, and international health bodies. RTA also provided considerable support to the huge efforts aimed at tackling the pandemic through facilitating the movement of paramedics during the first stages of the crisis and the implementation of the national disinfection programme last year.

elevate the level of services provided to the highest international standards,” said Al Tayer.

In March 2020, RTA announced the completion of a campaign to vaccinate all drivers of taxis and public



carrying oversized cargo, permits are issued for their movement at a time when the traffic movement is almost nil i.e., from 02:00 am to 05:00 am, upon permits issued from RTA.

“This cooperation will contribute to streamlining the traffic flow and easing the congestion resulting from the passage of violating heavy vehicles during the peak times set for Dubai roads. It will

also step up the traffic safety level and contribute to realising RTA’s vision to ‘The World Leader in Seamless & Sustainable Mobility.’ This connection will also contribute to preserving the assets and properties of the Roads and Transport Authority on the streets and roads.,” said Eng. Maitha bin Adai, CEO of Traffic and Roads Agency, RTA.

Major General Mohammed Saif Zafeen, Assistant Commander-in-Chief for Operations, Dubai Police, said, “This link enhances and facilitates the traffic enforcement measures. Police patrols will be able to identify heavy vehicles in violation without stopping them. The violation reported will either be for failing to obtain the required permit or breaching any of the conditions of the permit. The vehicle is not required to present a printed permit to show to the patrol as all details of the permit will be linked to the number plate of the truck and explained in the traffic systems of both parties. As such, this step will enhance Dubai’s migration to paperless transactions.”

Entering Guinness Record for the largest number of nationalities participating in occupational safety event

Participants from 75 countries attended RTA's occupational safety training

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has achieved a new Guinness World Record by staging an awareness event that attracted the biggest number of participating nationalities worldwide. The event was entitled: The Largest Number of Nationalities assembled in Construction Safety Session.

RTA's Traffic and Roads Agency succeeded in recording a Guinness Record for holding an educative occupational safety event in collaboration with its partners on the Shindagha Roads Corridor (Infinity Bridge) project. The Guinness team was present at the site of the event, which attracted individuals representing 75 nationalities. Attendees were in full compliance with the precautionary measures set out by Dubai's Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management for coping with the Covid-19 pandemic.

"We are committed to the principle that people safety takes

precedence over all other construction and maintenance considerations. We attach huge importance to promoting the occupational health and safety practices across the Agency's operations at all times while protecting our employees, partners and the community around us," said Eng. Maitha bin Adai, CEO of Traffic and Roads Agency, RTA.

Bin Adai expressed her delight with this achievement and at the same time praised the efforts of the site teams of RTA and other partners for acting in a team spirit. She commended their outstanding performance in delivering the plans and strategies

RTA obtains ISO certification in Learning Services Outside Formal Education

The certificate is granted to RTA for the third consecutive year

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently obtained a Certificate confirming compliance with the requirements of the International Organization for Standardization: ISO 29993:2017 (Learning Services Outside Formal Education) from the British Institute of Standards (BSI). It marks the third time in a row RTA has obtained this certificate.

"Obtaining the compliance with ISO certification (Learning Services Outside Formal Education) places RTA among the leading government entities in training and human resources development across the UAE, especially in the Emirate of Dubai," said Sultan Al Akraf, Director of Human Resources and Development, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA. Al Akraf was delighted with this certificate as it describes

the improved learning and training system and the efficiency of RTA's learning model aimed at assuring the quality of the learning and training process. "It ensures that the requirements set and the structures in place have been designed to enhance the efficiency of the learning deliverables," said Sultan Al Akraf.

"RTA views learning services as a tool for leveraging improvement in the human capital and overhauling



set and contributing to the happiness of residents, visitors and tourists coming to the Emirate from all over the world.

“The Traffic and Roads Agency is proud of ensuring the health and safety of all personnel involved in road projects. It firmly believes in the importance of instilling a culture of safety in all projects at all levels. Given the current situation of the pandemic, there is a greater emphasis on maintaining the safety of the entire project team,” she added.

“RTA is keen to engage with reputable international consultants

and contractors in studying, designing, constructing, operating and maintaining road and infrastructure projects. We are committed to observing the highest standards of occupational health and safety at construction sites. We believe in the importance of running continuous awareness events for all personnel given the massive number of nationalities working in our projects. Various initiatives are rolled out to ensure a safe working environment capable of delivering the Agency’s mission of occupational safety, which resulted in setting this world record,” added Bin Adai.

the entire human resources system to cope with the challenges of the changing requirements of the work environment. As such, obtaining the certificate is also a testament to RTA’s pioneering efforts to realise its 7th Strategic Goal (Advance RTA). Moreover, it reflects RTA’s sound approach to grooming and improving human resources and competencies as well as the leadership and professional skills of employees in a bid to lift their career development,” noted the Director of Human Resources and Development, RTA.

“RTA had earlier opened an integrated training centre for employees at the Marina Plaza. This 3-level building can accommodate 350 employees. It has 17 training halls fitted with state-of-the-art innovative training techniques, smart apps and sophisticated learning technologies. Facilities include an innovation hall, meeting room, a theatre to accommodate more than 50 trainees, a library for smart learning programmes, and a computer lab. It also hosts a competency assessment centre comprised of



four sections: administrative training, technical training, logistical support and developing skilled Emiratis,” concluded Al Akraf.

RTA's marine transport lines ferry 5.7m riders in first half of 2021

The figure reflects a 20% rise compared to last year

Marine transport means of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) transported 5,734,244 riders during the first half of this year, compared to 4,694,870 riders during the same period last year. The figure reflects a 20.3% increase in ridership of RTA's water transport means, namely the Ferry, Abra, Water Taxi and Water Bus.



A digital platform to serve investors and entrepreneurs according PPP

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently launched its investment platform branded 'RTA Invest.' This specialist digital platform is dedicated to serving investors and entrepreneurs interested in engaging with RTA in projects. Such projects are based on the principle of public-private partnership (PPP) and tailored to deliver advanced services to all spectrums of the community.

"This automated channel is designated to serve the business community and act as a tool for leveraging the collaboration between RTA and investors from the UAE and the world over. The platform also offers a portal for reviewing prospective commercial projects offered by RTA and details required about the available investment projects. It also enables investors to submit proposals and discuss project details and suggestions with RTA. Through this portal, potential investors can bid in tenders and submit unsolicited proposals and ideas to RTA," said Ibrahim Al

Haddad, Director of Commercial and Investment, Strategy and Corporate Governance Sector, RTA.

"The platform consists of a diverse array of investment opportunities including advertising in metro stations, bus stations, roadside assets, bridges and buses, and brand naming rights. It also encompasses public-private projects such as real estate, infrastructure and mobility-related projects as well as retail area vacancy status such as metro shops, metro kiosks/vending machines and bus station shops," explained Al Haddad.

“The growth of marine transport ridership posted in the first half of this year is indicative of a recovery in this vital sector in Dubai and the UAE. It is credited to the effective plans charted out by the government, and the strict compliance with the precautionary measures to curb the outbreak of the pandemic,” said Mohammed Abu Bakr Al Hashemi, Director of Marine Transport, Public Transport Agency, RTA.



RTA's marine transit modes offer vital services and form an integral part of Dubai's tourist attractions as they pass across picturesque landmarks and captivating scenes besides offering congestion-free mobility. The world's biggest boat manufacturers at the highest standards of the industry design these modes. They are safe, comfortable and have areas

designated for people of determination as well as a bay for bikes in ferries to encourage the use of flexible mobility.

As part of endeavours to achieve more and offer a better marine transport experience for residents of Dubai, RTA is keen to deploy the best and latest marine public transport means that cover most of the coastal areas of Dubai.

“We were keen on the timely launch of the ‘RTA Invest’ platform as it offers a better and integrated investor experience across all RTA projects under the PPP model. The platform provides a portal offering investment prospects available with RTA and engaging them via interactive channels for communication and sharing ideas, proposals and solutions based on innovative business models. “Through launching this platform, RTA is seeking to measure up to the directives of our leaders, enhance

projects competitiveness, and promote investment opportunities professionally to boost the appeal of infrastructure projects and initiatives. It also seeks to entice local and overseas firms, especially those engaged in ecosystems by enabling them to apply the latest transit-oriented finance and technology models. Such a practice will offer users and riders new options and set Dubai apart as a model city of the future with novel investment opportunities,” added Al Haddad.



Dubai's 107th open auction for licensing plates yields AED36 m

The 107th Open Auction for Distinctive Vehicle Number Plates held by Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) at the InterContinental Dubai Festival City Hotel on Saturday 28th August has raised AED36.276 million.

Plate (E 55) was the sales topper at AED3.64 million, followed by plate (W 29) which was sold for AED2.5 million, Plate (X 35) for AED2.48 million, Plate (V 88888) fetched AED0.99 million, and Plate (V 9999), which was sold for AED0.86 million.

RTA offered 100 fancy plates for bidding at this auction comprising of two, three, four and five-digit plates of categories (E-H-I-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z).

By offering distinctive licensing plates at open or online auctions, RTA is seeking to provide a neutral and transparent platform that avails fair opportunities to all bidders. Such plates are appealing to passionate clients as they symbolise important events in their lives.

These auctions are also of great importance to RTA as they serve the needs of a wide range of customers. RTA tends to hold auctions according to market needs with the objective of maximising customers' satisfaction and improving the level of service. Such auctions are marked by wide participation and positive rivalry of passionate bidders.



RTA pledges renewed support to Dubai SMEs

RTA leads public entities in supporting Dubai SMEs for the third year in a row

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) reiterated its continued support to national enterprises affiliated with Dubai SMEs. Such support is reflected in the Government Procurement Programme, and concessions granted in contractual procedures of several projects and services required by RTA.

"RTA is one of the leading government entities in supporting the business of national enterprises affiliated to Dubai SMEs since 2014. Once again, RTA was the top supporter of Dubai SMEs through the Government Procurement Programme. It has

now maintained this position for the third time running (2018-2020-),", said Saeed Al Marri, Director of Contracts and Procurement, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA.

"RTA contracts with Dubai SMEs amounted to AED119

New bus route to serve Souk Al Marfa

Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is intending to launch a new route for public buses in Dubai and improve the services of three other bus routes starting this September 9th. The move aims to expand the internal bus network and step up the integration of mass transit means in the Emirate.

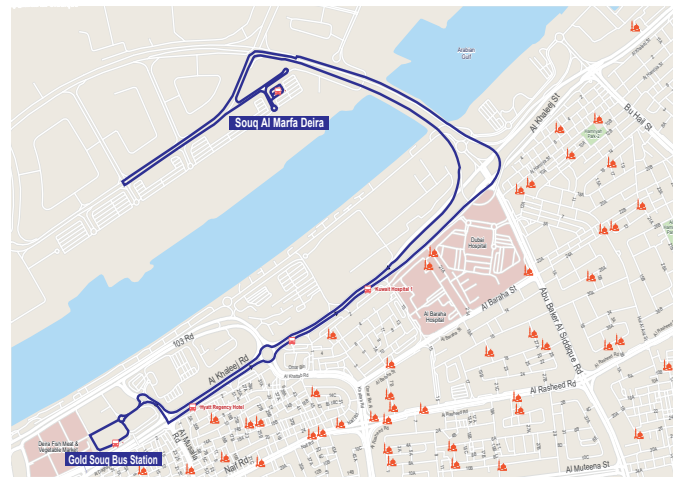
The new route, which is named (SM1), starts from the Gold Souk Bus Station, passes along Al Khaleej Street and heads towards Souk Al Marfa at Deira Islands. The service frequency will be every 60 minutes.

In the meantime, RTA is adjusting the path of Route (14), nearby Al Safa Stop, to cover the seaside section of the Business Bay Bus Station. It will also adjust the path of Route (F51) nearby the Dubai Investment Park Metro Station as well as the path of Route (F55) at Emaar South to cover additional residential areas.

RTA's Public Transport Agency will make improvements on 11 bus routes namely: 5, 14, 88, 310, X64, F51, F46, F27, F12, DPR1 and C28 to match the timings of these journeys.

RTA is always keen to broaden the public bus network and enhance the integration of buses with other mass

transit means such as the metro, tram, and marine transport means. The improvement of public transport means will undoubtedly contribute to making public transport the best mobility choice in the Emirate.



million in 2018, AED114 million in 2019, and AED101 million in 2020, which means contracts worth AED334 million in total. RTA also celebrates Dubai SMEs as part of an annual event to felicitate three categories of entities engaged with RTA namely Outsourcing firms, Vendors and Investors,” added Al Marri.

Commenting on the activities and initiatives of RTA in support of Dubai SMEs in the first half of this year, Al Marri reported that RTA granted concessions to Dubai SMEs and used to invite them to several tenders released. Three contracts and 34 Purchase Orders had been assigned to those enterprises in the first half of 2021.

“RTA charted out a plan involving 7 initiatives comprised of 7 aspects in support of Dubai SMEs. Namely, it formed an internal team to support Dubai SMEs,

exempted all affiliated enterprises from the initial guarantees of contracts and services worth less than AED500 thousand while keeping final guarantees, and designated projects to SMEs such that the list of invitees would be restricted exclusively to them. RTA also waived 50% of bidding fees for Dubai SMEs and set up a dedicated communication channel (SME. Procurement@rta.ae) to lend support to them in screening their needs and extending all possible facilities to them. RTA recognises the best agency or sector in supporting Dubai SMEs during the annual vendor felicitation event. RTA launched an initiative to honour companies, such as subcontractors, that conducted the highest number of transactions with Dubai SMEs, during the annual event for honouring the best vendors,” he further added.

RTA resumes Route E101 bus service between Dubai and Abu Dhabi

The service is run in compliance with the precautionary measures of Abu Dhabi Emirate

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the resumption of the E101 bus shuttle between Dubai and Abu Dhabi. The operation of this inter-city bus service is coordinated with Abu Dhabi's Integrated Transport Centre for serving passengers between the two emirates.

Adel Shakri, Director of Planning and Business Development, Public Transport Agency, RTA reported that Route E101 would start from Ibn Battuta Bus Station in Dubai and head to the Central Bus Station in Abu Dhabi.

"This route is critical to the integration of mass transit means between the two emirates and the smooth

movement of passengers. RTA stresses the importance of complying with all the applicable precautionary measures, such as physical distancing and wearing of masks to curb the spread of the Covid-19. It calls upon all Dubai Bus and Intercity Bus riders to observe these measures for the public health of the UAE community," noted Shakri.

Running initiative for fitting additional number plate to vehicles with trunk-mounted bikes

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched a new initiative whereby an additional number plate will be placed at the rear for bike racks mounted at the back of vehicles to avoid blocking the visibility of the original number plate, which is a traffic violation that entails the imposition of a fine by the police road patrols.

Explaining the initiative, Jamal Al Sadah, Director of Vehicles Licensing, Licensing Agency, RTA, said, "This initiative is in line with the top international practices adopted by the RTA to encourage the public from different segments of society to use bicycles which fits well with the initiative to transform Dubai into a bicycle-friendly city and for the Emirate to be within the world's best bicycle-

friendly cities, in addition to preventing bicycle owners from committing traffic violations stipulated in the traffic laws of UAE

"This initiative has been launched in response to feedback and proposals made by the public, which underscores the commitment of motorists to comply with the driving and traffic safety laws in the UAE in General and Dubai in particular," he continued.



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Al Tayer honours bus driver for taking part in rescuing trapped cat

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General and Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) honoured Mr. Nazir Arkat Muhammad, a bus driver at the Public Transport Agency, for his humanitarian initiative with other individuals to save a cat stuck in a balcony of a building in Dubai.

The initiative received special praise from His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, who tweeted: (The merciful are shown mercy by Allah... "Proud and happy to see such acts of kindness in our beautiful city. Whoever identifies these unsung heroes, please help us thank them," His Excellency Mattar Mohammed Al Tayer praised the driver's initiative, which emphasises the values of compassion and humanity that the RTA is keen to promote among employees.

MENA Centre for Transport Excellence training discusses 'Strategies for Managing Taxi Beyond Covid-19'

The event was held in collaboration with Dubai Taxi Corporation

The MENA Centre for Transport Excellence (CTE) has recently held an online training program titled 'Strategies for Managing Taxi Beyond Covid-19' over a period of four days in collaboration with the Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC). The event, which was held remotely via video communication, engaged 7 experts, specialists, and 18 participants from around the globe.

Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla, Chairman of UITP MENA Division and Chairperson of the Coordinative Committee of the MENA Centre for Transport Excellence, expressed deep satisfaction with the success of the webinar in particular and activities undertaken by the Centre in general.

"From inception, the MENA Centre for Transport Excellence has been cooperating with the UITP in delivering training courses and workshops that match the trends of the public transport industry worldwide. The satisfaction rating of training courses and webinars held by the Centre clocked high levels. It franks the success of strategies and plans developed by the Centre towards delivering the best public transport solutions to cities across the region and the world over," said Al Mulla. The training comprised eight sessions covering various titles and diverse topics about the business of the taxi sector. Topics discussed in the 'Taxis in the Era of Coronavirus' session covered: The Impact of COVID-19 on the Pandemic on Ridership and Finance, The Response of

Sector: Hygiene Measures etc.; and The Post COVID-19 Trends.

The 'Electric Taxi Management in Shenzhen, China' session included the following: Zero-Emission Vehicles and its Effects; Regulations of Taxi Transport for Electric Taxis; and Key Issues to Consider for Procurement and Commissioning of Electric Taxis.

The 'Execution of Operations: Scheduling & Depot Management' session included: The Important Elements for Operations of Taxi and their Planning; Cost and Life Cycle Cost Considerations; and Maintenance & Depot Management.

The 'Driver Management' session and the following session titled 'Innovative Tools and Solutions to Advance Taxi Operations and Major Transformations Due to on-going Pandemic' session, comprised two pillars. The first is 'The CASE Disruptions in the Taxi Sector', which included several topics such as Connectivity, Automation, Shared Mobility and Electrification. The second pillar is 'Adoption of New Technologies for Resiliency and Business Continuity During the Pandemic'.



Giving away laptops to the most frequent metro and tram commuters among students

With students getting back to schools at the start of the new academic year 2021/2022-, RTA embarked on an initiative to give away laptops to the most frequent commuting students that use the metro and tram services to reach their schools and universities; which reflects the RTA's commitment to encourage all community segments, especially students, to use public transit means encompassing Dubai metro, tram, public buses and marine transit means. The initiative is kindly supported by Noon, HP, Keolis-MHI.

"This initiative is part of RTA's standing commitment to encourage various segments of the community, such as the youth and students, to use mass transit means like the metro, tram, buses and marine transit means in their daily commute across Dubai," said Rowdah Al Mehrizi, Director of Marketing and Corporate Communication, Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, RTA.

Al Mehrizi praised the cooperation of Noon in hosting this initiative by presenting laptops to students of universities and schools among the most frequent users of the metro and tram services. The initiative was also co-sponsored by HP and Keolis-MHI. Laptops were distributed to the deserving students at the most frequented metro stations used by this category of riders at the start of the current school year 2021/2022-.

The Director of Marketing and Corporate Communication

commended the efforts of these companies as it symbolised the cooperation between the public sector represented by RTA and the private sector represented by Noon, HP and Keolis-MHI.



The Jumeirah Golf Estates Metro Station is a masterpiece

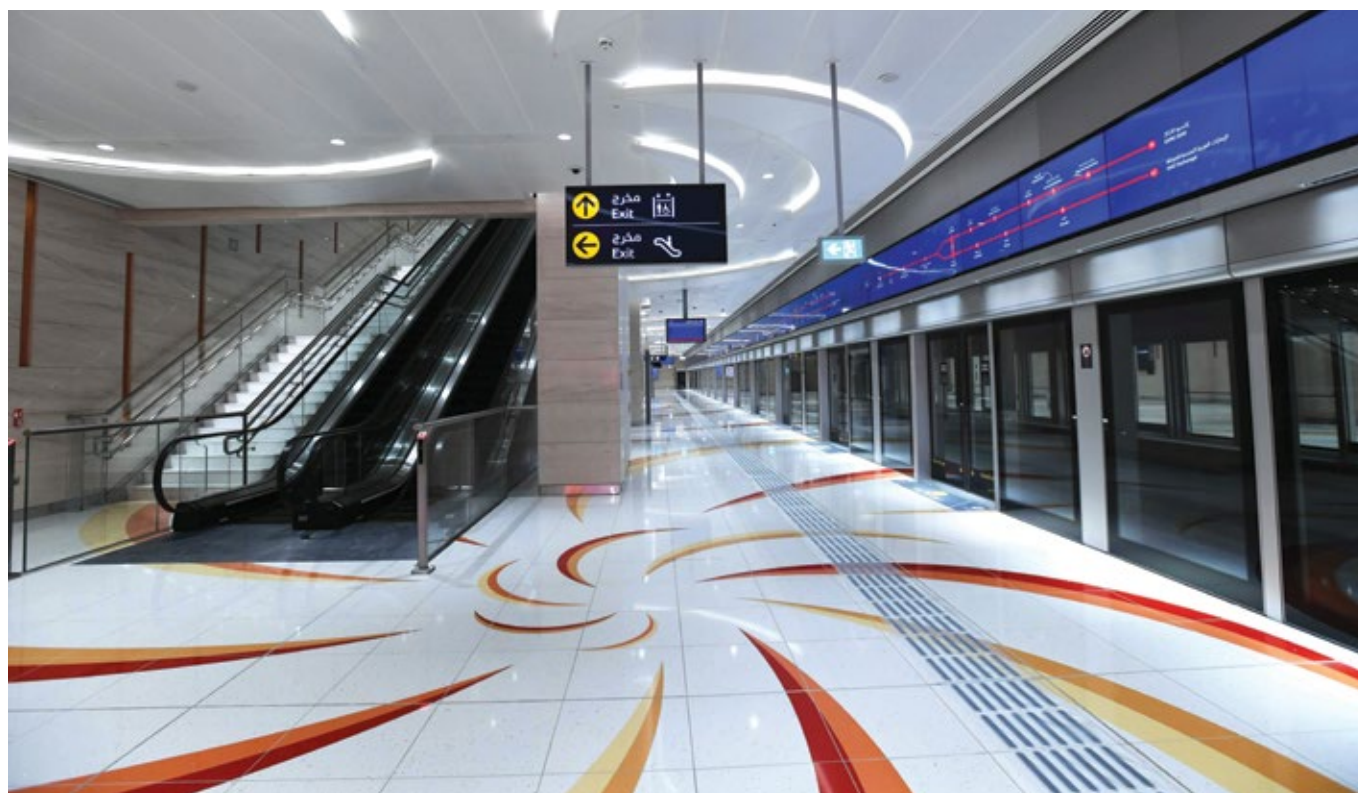
The station will be the biggest underground station in the metro network

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) will open Jumeirah Golf Estates Metro Station for the public on Sept 1st, 2021, well ahead of the launch of Expo 2020 events. The station will enter the service with a new billing as the biggest underground station in the entire Dubai Metro network on both the Red and Green Lines.



The station spans an area of 28,700 square metres and extends 232 metres in height. It can serve 11,555 riders per hour during peak times, and about 250 thousand riders per day. It has two train-boarding platforms, 4 bus stops, 20 taxi stands to pick-up and drop-off riders, 20 parking slots for the use of people of determination in addition to 400 public parking slots free of charge in the surrounds of the station. The facility has 14 outlets for investors over an area of 466 square metres in addition to 4 point of sale display areas for retailers.

The exterior design of Route 2020 stations has a unique and stylish architectural pattern bringing in further improvements to the designs of the existing stations along the Red and Green lines. The design has different patterns that include the Iconic Station inside the venue of Expo 2020. It has a winged design that reflects Dubai's take-off to the future of innovation. There is also the transfer station (Jebel Ali Station) linking Route 2020 and Dubai Metro Red Line. Elevated stations replicate an improved design similar to the shapes of the existing metro stations to maintain the visual identity of the Dubai Metro.



Ozone therapy offers complementary treatment to traditional medicine

Ozone therapy is one of the key pillars of complementary medicine, which uses traditional and alternative medicine to come up with satisfactory results in the treatment of various diseases.

Ozone descends to the lower atmosphere especially at dawn, where it sets just meters from the surface of the earth. It combines with molecules of toxic chemicals originating from gases emitted from transportation and factories. It combines and oxidizes hydrocarbons turning them into harmless substances, such as carbon dioxide and water. It also purifies the air by adding oxygen so that the becomes pure and fresh.

Ozone has been recognised and approved as a therapeutic method by more than 25 countries including Germany, Italy, England, France, Russia,



■ Ozone is a blue-coloured gas that dissolves in water and has a special smell. It is often called activated oxygen, meaning pure oxygen, but its molecule contains three atoms of oxygen, instead of two.

Romania, Poland, the Czech Republic, Bulgaria, Turkey, Japan, Cuba, Singapore, Mexico, fifteen US states, India, Egypt, Jordan and the UAE where treatment with Ozone has become part of complementary medicine.

The use of ozone as a medical treatment to purify the blood began in 1870 in Germany. Since then, more and more studies and scientific research were conducted in this field.

Ozone deals with the natural cells of the body, as it activates them by increasing the percentage of their oxygen to the optimum level and increases their energy through the oxidation of foodstuffs. On the other hand, ozone gas deals with non-original cells in the body, such as viruses, bacteria, and cancer cells, and it penetrates them because non-original cells walls do not contain special enzymes found in normal cells, therefore it oxidizes them and paralyzes their effectiveness. Thus, Ozone is an inhibitor of viruses, and a killer of bacteria, fungi, parasites, and cancer cells.

Ozone is a powerful steriliser, in disinfecting contaminated wounds, stimulating blood circulation and the immune system, reducing pain, calming nerves, and helping to secrete many enzymes that are important for the functioning of body cells.

Ozone works on the cells of the body and treats many pathological conditions in different specialities complementary treatment such as some heart and arteries conditions like angina pectoris, circulatory failure in the extremities, high blood pressure, arteriosclerosis, and some viral diseases such as viral hepatitis, diseases arising from immune disorder in the body, such as rheumatic diseases, rheumatoid, treatment of various cases of arthritis, stimulating blood circulation in the joints, and some bacterial diseases, such as sores and skin infections, diabetic foot diseases, treatment of burns, inflammation of the large intestine, and peritoneum membrane.

Ozone is used as a complementary treatment to different types of tumours, by stimulating the immune system and increasing the body's immunity in treating the side effects of chemotherapy, and some allergic diseases, such as asthma, eczema. It is also used in treating obesity, sagging, and wrinkles, and natural elimination of excess fat, without any effort. Ozone is also effective in treating stress and modern life stress by increasing vitality and energy for all body systems and cells. In dentistry, ozone and ozone water are used in the treatment of gingivitis, mouth, and tooth decay.



■ Ozone gas is generated in nature, from the effect of ultraviolet rays of the sun on the oxygen in the upper atmosphere, and as a result of the effect of high electrical charges, such as lightning. Also, it can be generated at sea level, from the effect of sea waves on the beach.

■ Ozone is important in human life, as it is a layer in the upper atmosphere which protects from the high concentration of ultraviolet rays of the sun. As ozone is heavier than oxygen, it descends to the lower atmosphere, especially at dawn.



Walking, The Mother of Sports and the Oldest & Most Comprehensive Sport

Rarely does a patient see his doctor, and walking is not at the top of advice and guidance to patients, be it for treatment, prevention or a viable alternative to medication.

Walking helps a person to maintain health and protect from many diseases. It is also considered economical and suitable for all ages and situations. It is known as the oldest sport of humans and part of their lives, whether as a means of transportation or fun.

Walking is characterised by simplicity and is practicable by people of different ages anywhere be it at homes, streets, gardens, or on the beach. And it can also be practised at any time of the day whether in the morning or evening as well as on treadmills in gyms and at home.

Walking protects against heart disease

Walking has many benefits to the human body, and protects against many diseases, such as heart diseases, arteries, cancer, and diabetes. It also helps the person to maintain health and youth. It is considered an economic sport that does not cost any expenses and does not need any equipment or tools to practice.

Benefits of walking

Doctors recommend walking at least an hour a day for better health and the prevention of diseases. Getting used to walking for an hour a day brings many benefits:

- Benefits the heart and lungs, and helps increasing blood circulation, which leads to strengthening the muscles of the body and the circulatory system.
- Helps calm a person's tense nerves and eases the pressures of daily life.
- Strengthens the muscles of the abdomen, legs, and pelvis, and helps to form a healthy body.
- Reduces the chances of developing a rumen, and





helps to reduce huge buttocks as it helps the body lose excess calories, consume excess fat, and reduce flabby abdomen and skin resulting from the loss of weight.

- Reduces high blood pressure and cholesterol.
- Reduces joint pain, softens and increases joints activity, and helps reducing muscle tension and spasm.
- Treats indigestion, chronic constipation, and colonic spasms; It helps in moving the intestines, reduces gases, pain and the emptying of the colon.
- Improves natural breathing as it strengthens the chest muscles and breathing muscles. It helps to increase the expansion and functioning of the lung and reduces the severity of respiratory diseases.
- Helps in treating or reducing some chronic injuries such as spondylosis.

Healthy Walking

It is preferable to practice walking properly 3 times a week, for not less than an hour a day continuously unless interrupted by something urgent.

Walking is practised on an empty stomach, and should not be done immediately after eating as the blood circulation is active after eating, and may cause harm more than benefit. It is recommended to walk before breakfast in the early morning, or after eating for three hours. Walking must start gradually from ten minutes a day, then pick up to twenty minutes, and so on until reaching the required time. It is recommended to wear comfortable sports clothes and shoes and shower before and after walking to get the best results.

Instructions

Walking is safe for most people, and generally harmless, but we must be careful while walking to avoid injuries or accidents:

- Immediately stop walking when feeling exhausted or experiencing difficulty in breathing.
- Walk on sidewalks and places designated for pedestrians.
- Drink water in batches during and after walking.
- Focus on the road and avoid using the mobile phone unless necessary.
- Avoid walking on streets during heavy rain to avoid slipping.
- Wear warm clothes when walking during cold weather to avoid exposure to diseases.
- Stay away from dangerous areas.
- Don't eat while walking or at least half an hour before walking as it will lead to a disturbance in the digestive process and increases the onset of fatigue.

Walking in Dubai

There are many sites for walking and running across Dubai, including Jumeirah Corniche, Union Park on Palm Jumeirah, Al Safa Park, Dubai Marina, The Creek Park, Zabeel Park, The Burj Park, Al Barsha Lake Park, Mushrif Park, Al Mamzar Park, in addition to lots of outdoor and indoor sites.

