

المسار almasar

The Official Monthly Magazine of Dubai's RTA

Issue No. 172 October 2022

Salik floated on Dubai Financial Market



Listing of Salik on Dubai Financial Market إدراج سالك في سوق دبي المالي



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.

Salik



The floating of Salik PJSC was a huge success as reflected in an oversubscription of 49x across all tranches. The total demand for Salik's shares exceeded AED 184.2 bn (about US\$ 50.2 bn).

This overwhelming interest of qualified investors and individuals is a testament to the confidence of local and international investors in the economy of Dubai and the ambitious privatisation programme aimed to raise the value of the Dubai Financial Market and Stock Exchanges to AED 3 trillion as envisioned by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai.

It also underscores the robust standing of Salik Company, the exclusive operator of the Dubai toll gates system, and its effective regulatory framework and business model aligned with the top international practices. Such credentials empower the company to remain at the heart of roads and transport expansion plans and thus support the overall economic growth of the emirate.

The IPO of Salik is a milestone in raising the profile of the company, which has played a pivotal role in managing the traffic movement in Dubai over the past 15 years. It has become today a top brand in the region.

The company is well placed to benefit from the additional growth opportunities through adopting high technologies purpose-built to ensure the efficiency of operations. It is characterized by a regulatory structure and Capex-light business

model with cash conversion rates considered the highest in their classes. It adopts a forward-looking approach and sustainable agenda compatible with the emirate's future expansion plans.

Thanks to the insightful vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister of the UAE, Ruler of Dubai, and the diligent follow-up of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council, and His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Dubai has set up a world-class infrastructure in various fields, particularly in the field of infrastructure, roads and transport.

This network is characterised by high quality and wide geographical coverage of the emirate. The Government of Dubai has invested massive funds in developing the infrastructure of roads and transport to meet the urban and economic boom and bring happiness to residents and visitors of Dubai.

Salik will continue to play its role in supporting and streamlining the traffic and mobility in Dubai. This role shall double up given the fast growth rate of the emirate. Estimates of the Dubai Urban Plan 2040 indicate that the population of the emirate will rise from 3.3 million in 2020 to about 8 million in 2040. The increasing number of population during the daytime will increase traffic volumes coupled with new growth opportunities for the company.

H.E. Mattar 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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بقعة ضوء للإعلان والإعلام
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Mattar Al Tayer rings DFM market opening bell as Salik listing boosts capacity of DFMs



The Company's shares began trading under the symbol «SALIK», culminating its successful public offering. The strong demand for the offering prompted the Company to raise the offered shares to 1,867,500,000 shares representing 24.9% of its share capital at AED2 instead of 20% as initially planned. The offering was oversubscribed by 49 times as it has attracted orders with a total value of AED 184.2 billion, a clear indication of the strong demand for Salik's shares from various investor categories.

Dubai Financial Market witnessed a big boost following an announcement of Salik Company (PJSC) early in September its intention to list shares in the DFM, followed by an IPO, and raising the shares on offer from 20% to 24.9% due to the huge interest of investors. The offering was oversubscribed by 49 times at the time of listing and ringing the bell marking the start of trading in Salik's shares on Sept 29th.

The listing of Salik Company, the leading company in the field of traffic tariff systems at the regional level and the exclusive toll gates operator in Dubai, was a landmark in the history of the local stock markets. The listing of Salik is the third public offering and listing on the DFM in 2022 to date. It is part of the accelerated steps to implement Dubai's strategy to develop financial markets, which includes offering shares in ten leading entities in the emirate.

Ring the Bell

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of Salik Company, rang the DFM market opening bell culminating efforts that continued till the end of September and celebrating the historic listing. The event was attended by His Excellency Helal Al Marri, Chairman of the DFM,

Ibrahim Sultan Al Haddad, Chief Executive Officer of Salik Company, and Hamed Ali, CEO of the DFM and Nasdaq Dubai, as well as senior executives from both sides.

The Company's shares began trading under the symbol «SALIK», culminating its successful public offering. The strong demand prompted the Company to raise the offered shares to 24.9% of its share capital (equivalent to 1,867,500,000 shares at 2 Dirhams per share) instead of 20% as initially planned. The offering was oversubscribed by 49 times as it has attracted orders with a total value of AED 184.2 billion, a clear indication of the strong demand for Salik's shares across all tranches.

Attracting companies reflects the dynamic nature and growth of Dubai's economy, and its ability to attract more foreign investments

The floating of Salik complements plans to double the size of the DFM to AED 3 trillion



Salik's IPO is a milestone in the history of local financial markets

Continued Support

On behalf of the Board of Directors, His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of Salik Company, expressed deep thanks and appreciation to His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Ruler of Dubai; His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid, 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, Minister of Finance, for their continuous support.

Al Tayer considered Salik's successful listing on the DFM as a clear demonstration of investor confidence in Dubai's capital markets and its growth ambitions. "It underscores the vision of His Highness Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum to double the total volume of the stock market and attract additional foreign investments. We welcome the new shareholders who are embarking on this journey with us, which Salik started fifteen years ago, and today it has become one of the most important and leading brands that have played a pivotal role in managing traffic in Dubai.»

Ambitious Strategy

H.E. Helal Al Marri, Chairman of the DFM, said: "The listing of the shares of this unique company supports Dubai's ambitious strategy to develop its financial markets, strengthening its leadership and boosting its prospects. Dubai has always been a regional leader in terms of offering stakes in government groups since 2006 beginning with the listing of the DFM Company itself. Today's listing is the third of its kind since April 2022, which underscores the commitment of the Supreme Committee for the Development of Financial Markets, led by Sheikh

Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, to implement the strategy and achieve its objectives at the highest levels of efficiency and the earliest possible timeframe as Dubai used to deliver."

Overwhelming Demand

Ibrahim Sultan Al Haddad, Chief Executive Officer of Salik, said: "We are delighted to have completed the IPO and to begin our journey with our new shareholders as a DFM-listed company. The overwhelming demand that we witnessed for the IPO is a testament to Salik's robust business model, as well as the fundamentals underpinning Dubai's capital markets. We have full faith in Salik's long-term principles and values, and we are fully committed to delivering great value over the long term to all our shareholders."

Strong Impetus

Hamed Ali, CEO of the DFM and Nasdaq Dubai, said: "We are pleased to list Salik shares, which gives a strong impetus to the Transportation Sector in the market and reinforces our constant efforts to diversify investment opportunities and attract companies that reflect the dynamism and growth of Dubai's economy.

"Moreover, this listing is a key step in Dubai's continuous and successful efforts to expand the ownership base of numerous leading companies. It also offers DFM investors an opportunity to participate in the remarkable growth stories of these companies, supported by the world-class business environment and the rapid economic growth in Dubai,» he added.

Salik shares were traded within the Transportation Sector. The DFM applied no price limits on the shares during the first day of trading, as they will be applied from the second day of listing.

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Salik oversubscribed 49 times, raises AED184bn

The subscription of Salik company, last month, reflected the strong confidence in the company. In the listing of Dubai Financial Market, Demand for the IPO was more than Dh184.2 billion (\$50.2 billion), implying an oversubscription level of 49 times, for all tranches combined.

In a statement released last month, the company stated that the segment allocated for individual subscriptions saw an unparalleled oversubscription level at 119x, with demand for subscriptions exceeding AED34.7bn

The qualified investor tranche attracted demand across the globe of Dh149.5 billion, implying an oversubscription level of 43 times (excluding cornerstone investors, the oversubscription level stands at 52 times).

The IPO attracted tremendous interest amongst the international and local investor community with the Qualified Investor Offering oversubscribed by 52x (excluding cornerstone investors).

The Company confirms the previously announced upsized offering size of 1,867,500,000 ordinary shares ("Offer Shares"), equivalent to 24.9% of the total issued share capital, along with the offer price of AED 2.00 per ordinary share. This results in total gross IPO proceeds of over AED3.7bn (\$1.0bn) to be paid to the Government of Dubai represented by the Department of Finance (the "Selling Shareholder") after adjusting for any expenses related to the Offering.

Following the completion of the Salik IPO, the Government of Dubai will continue to own 75.1% of Salik's share capital. UAE Strategic Investment Fund (through Emirates NBD, AM SPC, Dubai Holding,

Shamal Holding, and the Abu Dhabi Pension Fund (ADPF) (together, referred to as the Cornerstone Investors, collectively subscribed for 16.2% of the final Offer Size. Subject to certain customary exceptions, the Cornerstone Investors' shares are subject to a 180-day lock-up arrangement, following listing.

Furthermore, as part of the Qualified Investors Offering, and in accordance with both the Companies Law and Dubai Law, 5% of the Offering was reserved for offer to the Emirates Investment Authority (the "EIA"), and 5% of the Offering was reserved for the Pensions and Social Security Fund of Local Military Personnel (the "Fund").

Why was Salik listed on DFM?

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai issued last June Law No. (12) of 2022 establishing Salik as a Public Joint Stock Company (PJSC) to operate the traffic toll gate system. Less than four months later, it was announced that the company's shares will be floated on the stock market. The step complements the privatization programme pursued by Dubai and its plans to double the size of its financial market to reach AED3 trillion and attract more foreign investments.

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Salik, said, "Thanks to the wise leadership of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Dubai has mapped out a clear-cut economic path and kept it on for years. It has also developed an ambitious plan for the next decades based on attracting foreign direct investments. Salik is a top brand that has played a pivotal



Mattar Al Tayer: The listing of Salik on the DFM is tangible evidence of investors' confidence in DFMs and growth ambitions

Helal Al Marri: The subscription supports the ambitious strategy to leverage the DFMs, enhance its pioneering standing and future prospects

Ibrahim Al Haddad: Salik is committed to delivering high value to shareholders in the medium and long term in accordance with the company's principles, activities, and processes.

Hamed Ali: The project constitutes a massive addition to the strong show of the transport sector in the DFM and supports efforts to diversify investment opportunities.

الإعلان عن نية الإدراج لشركة سالك (ش.م.ع.) SALIK (P.J.S.C) - INTENTION TO FLOAT



role in managing traffic in Dubai during the past 15 years. It remains part of the expansion plans of road and transport to support Dubai's economy at a macro level.

"The company is well placed to benefit from the additional growth prospects to ensure the running of efficient operations and set up an effective regulatory framework that supports future growth along with a business model characterised by low capital expenditures and best-in-class cash transfer margins.

"Powered by sophisticated technologies, Dubai's roads and transport infrastructure are considered among the best in the world. The roads network has maintained a top global ranking in terms of road quality for several years," added Al Tayer.

Ibrahim Sultan Al-Haddad, CEO of Salik, said, "Being the exclusive operator of traffic toll gates in Dubai, Salik company represents a unique brand. It offers investors an opportunity to be part of Dubai's ambitious vision by investing in a high-quality infrastructure asset. There is no doubt that the customised technology provided by the company supports the smooth movement of residents and tourists between many of Dubai's distinctive landmarks at affordable prices.

"The initial public offering (IPO) is an important milestone in Salik's journey, as it offers an opportunity to consolidate its success as an exclusive operator of traffic toll gates in Dubai. The company currently operates eight gates situated in strategic locations across Dubai's busiest corridors. Its business is based on long-term principles, values, and culture that revolve around customers and the environment focused on investment in human capital and advanced technologies," he commented.

The subscription reflects the level of confidence in the company

The huge demand for Salik's shares resulted in oversubscription 49 times, a 52x increase in the number of qualified investors

Dubai Government retains 75.1% of the company's capital, 16.2% of Offering to Cornerstone Investors

Overview of Salik

Salik, meaning "open" or "clear" in Arabic, is Dubai's exclusive toll gate operator and currently operates eight automatic toll gates that use Radio Frequency Identification ("RFID") technology in the heart of Dubai.

Salik's toll gates are located at strategic junctures and high-traffic spots across Dubai, especially on the Sheikh Zayed Road, Dubai's main road. All but two of the Company's existing toll gates are located on Sheikh Zayed Road in the Emirate. Under a 49-year concession agreement (ending in 2071) with the RTA (the "Concession Agreement"), Salik holds the exclusive right to operate current and future toll gates across the Emirate of Dubai.



Sharia-Compliant Statement

The Internal Sharia Supervisory Committee of the Emirates NBD issued a Sharia-compliant statement confirming, from its point of view, the compatibility of Salik's offering with the provisions of Islamic Sharia. However, investors must take necessary due diligence measures to ensure that the offering is in compliance with Islamic Sharia law in a way that achieves their ends.

Investment Benefits

Salik is the sole operator of toll gates in Dubai. The company takes over the exclusive management of the current eight gates, as well as any new gates in Dubai under a 49-year concession agreement. Traffic toll gates (Salik) are located at strategic crossings, bridges, and high-traffic spots in Dubai. In this way, commuters are encouraged to take toll roads as the transit time is significantly less.

Running several live algorithms based on a typical trip between Dubai Media City and Downtown/Dubai International Airport, two of Dubai's most popular business hubs, showed that the toll roads helped save an average of 44% of journey time compared to toll-free roads.

Salik serves as a key asset for Dubai, where more than 60% of residents use private vehicles in their movement. Therefore, it is not competing, but rather complementing the city's other public transport infrastructure.

Dubai is recognised as a hub for realties, tourism, and trade. The UAE, particularly Dubai, has a track record of delivering long-term stable growth driven by a vibrant economy.

The UAE's GDP reported a 4.1% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) between 2015-2019-, compared to developed countries'

growth of 3.4%. In the meantime, per capita GDP increased by 2.6% during the same period.

Dubai has achieved a unique fast-track development over a span of 50 years, with approximately 3.5 million permanent residents and 4.5 million total daytime population as of 31 December 2021, and is expected to achieve 71% population growth from 2020 through 2040.

Dubai is also undertaking various initiatives to increase its population, including the Dubai 2040 Urban Master Plan which focuses on developing and investing in five interconnected urban centres, three of which are linked via the Sheikh Zayed Road with existing toll gates in place.

Salik's net toll traffic from 2013 through 2019 grew at 5.5% CAGR, driven by Dubai's robust economic growth, thus exceeding Dubai's GDP of 3.2% for the same period.

Growth Opportunities

Salik's future performance is expected to be driven by multiple layers of additional growth, such as the addition of new toll gates in line with RTA's strategy, advertising services, both on toll gates and in-app ads, monetising unique traffic data, and offering consultations to governments seeking to implement toll gates or optimise existing operations.

In addition, there are potentials to move to a dynamic pricing model in the future, which will be subject to approval by the Executive Council of Dubai, such that it would result in increased revenue and reduced congestion.

Salik, a model of hi-tech infrastructure asset

Enabled by a combination of RFID and OCR technologies, Salik's free flow tolling system operates on highways with no toll collection booths or other traffic flow impediments. Salik's current technology is considered best-in-class, integrated, and custom-built. It is, therefore, fit-for-purpose and ensures superior operating performance.

The Company will continue to prioritise investing in technology to ensure it is a pioneer of tech-enabled innovation in the sector. This will also help to improve the reliability of the Company's operations and enable potential future revenue streams.

Salik expects to benefit from the Government of Dubai's focus on economic and population growth.

RTA intends to continue developing Dubai's infrastructure to ensure it is capable of sustaining the strong growth expected in the Emirate. RTA was allocated a budget of AED 5 billion in the Government of Dubai's 2022-2024 budget in support of this goal.

A fee payable to the RTA under the terms of the Concession Agreement will contribute to RTA and the Government of Dubai's budget earmarked for the development of the overall infrastructure of Dubai. It is expected that the asset and supporting infrastructure such as roads are going to be maintained and managed by RTA to ensure that the asset economies are maximised to achieve Dubai's growth agenda. It is achieved using a favourable regulatory framework that creates significant downside protection while enabling future growth.

Salik's regulatory framework helps ensure alignment between its various stakeholders.

While RTA will seek to maintain the infrastructure required for the broader development of Dubai, the concession agreement incentivises RTA's support of Salik's development and provides downside protection for Salik's stakeholders via various mechanisms.

For Salik, the improved certainty around future tariff rates encourages it to invest in the maintenance of a high-quality asset base, as well as future growth, to maximise its returns.

Facts and Figures



Offering Size

24.9%
of Share Capital

1,867,500,000

Number of Offer Shares



Offer Price per Ordinary Share

2.00
AED

Total Gross IPO Proceeds

3.7
bn AED

Market Capitalisation

15
bn AED

IPO Total Gross Demand

184.2
bn AED



Cornerstone Investors Commitment

606
m AED

Qualified Investor Tranche Demand

149.5
bn AED

Retail Demand

34.7
bn AED

Retail Offering Oversubscription Level

119
x

Qualified Investor Tranche Oversubscription Level

43
x

Excluding cornerstone investors

52
x



29

Trading on DFM



13

Announcement of Offer Price



5

Announcement of Intention to Float on DFM

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Capex-light Business Model

Salik, a model of hi-tech infrastructure asset Enabled by a combination of RFID and OCR technologies, Salik's free flow tolling system operates on highways with no toll collection booths or other traffic flow impediments.

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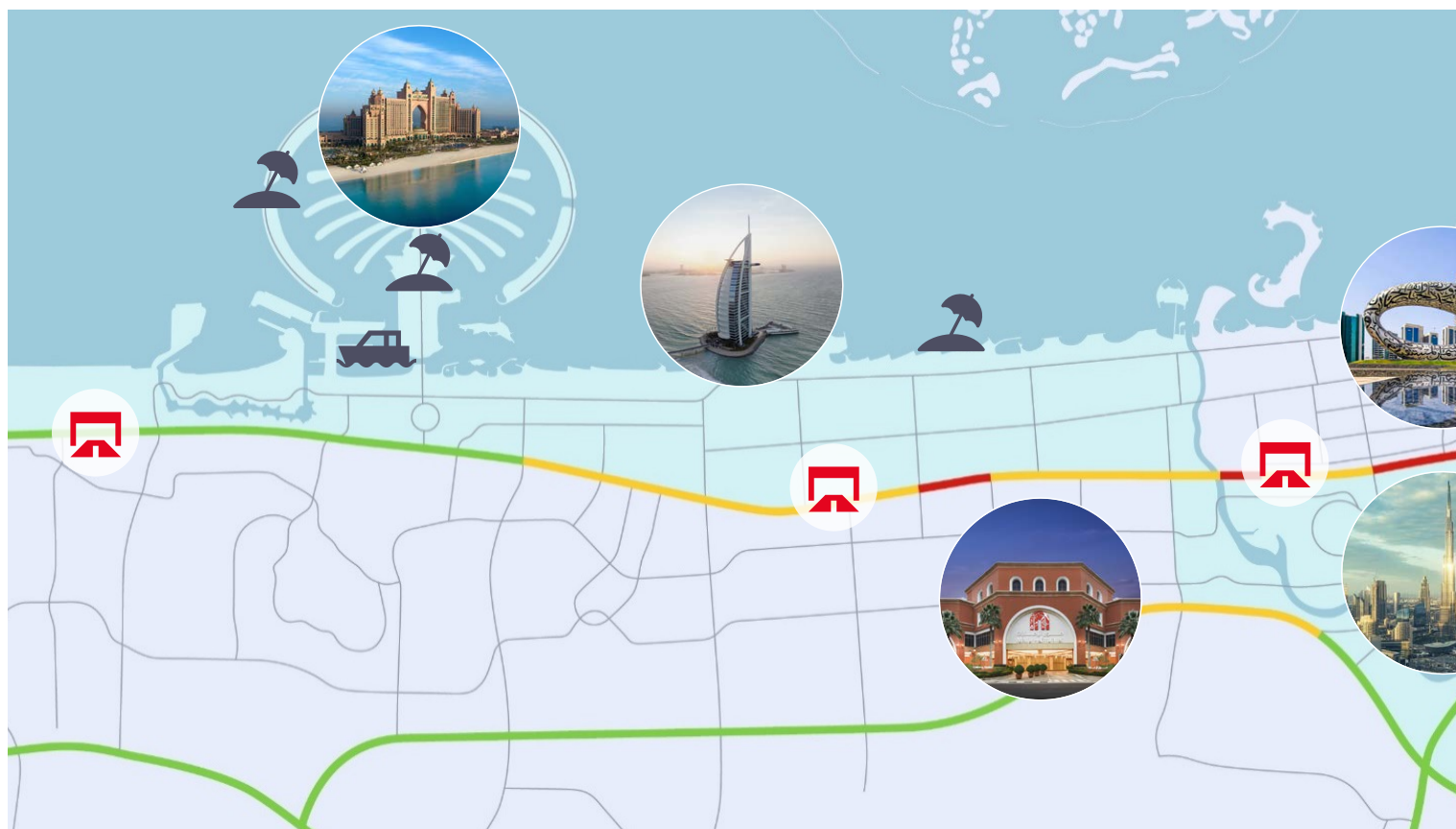
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Dinner to mark Salik listing on DFM

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Salik Company, hosted a dinner party marking the floating of Salik PJSC on the Dubai Financial Market. Attendees included Board Members of the company, CEOs of RTA, and some employees. The event was held at the Address Downtown Hotel, in the evening of the day that saw the ringing of the bell for the starting of trading.

Al Tayer welcomed the attendees and expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the team.





Archive photo

8th Dubai International Project Forum focuses on Fostering Wellbeing

International experts to discuss 14 topics over 4 days (23– 26 Jan 2023)

Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Chairman of the Executive Council, the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is gearing up for holding the 8th Dubai International Project Management Forum (DIPMF) under the theme ‘Fostering Wellbeing’ over 4 days (23– 26 Jan 2023). The event is set to attract a lineup of international experts to discuss 14 topics relating to project management and wellbeing.

The event is hosted by RTA and co-organised by the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) in collaboration with the Project Management Institute (PMI). RTA has opened registration for the activities and events of the Forum through the website (www.dipmf.ae).

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of RTA, said, “The forum cements the leading role of Dubai in driving growth across the region. It underscores the pioneering role and ability of the emirate to lead the development process in the region and identify the right ingredients for accelerating growth on sound and well-rehearsed bases.

“The previous editions of the forum attracted about 10 thousand participants from 45 countries. 378 speakers and thought leaders in project management convened in Dubai to discuss and exchange ideas in project management and operation at the highest international standards and practices

of the industry. The past editions have cemented the image of Dubai as a global platform for setting the best practices and innovative solutions in project management, and reinforcing Dubai’s pioneering role in managing infrastructure projects worldwide,” commented Al Tayer.

Themes

“The selection of Fostering Wellbeing as a theme for the 8th round of the DIPMF is aligned with the UAE’s strategy to enrich the wellbeing of all community segments. It also reflects the keenness of the forum to embed the concepts and practices of wellbeing in the work environment and raise awareness of its importance, which will help enhance productivity and performance levels,” stated Al Tayer.

“The forum will discuss 15 topics that cover: Urban planning Pathway to Wellbeing, Future Trends in Project Management,



Archive photo

Al Tayer:
The forum continues to enhance Dubai's pioneering global standing in project management

Moaza Al Marri:
Dubai has become a model in adopting international standards of project management and operation

Giga-projects in the Region, Portfolio and Programmes Management, Agile Transformation, Value Management, Building Information Modelling, Disciplined Agile Framework for Project Management, Power/Leadership Skills, Creativity and Innovation, Digital Project Management, Sustainability in Project Management, and the Strategic Business Transformation using Project Management in addition to Into the Metaverse (the new virtual reality),” added Al Tayer.

Dubai Model

Moaza Al Marri, Executive Director, Office of the Director-General, Chairman of the Board, Chairperson of the Organising Committee of the DIPMF, stressed the vital role of the DIPMF for Dubai and its pioneering standing in project management and operation. “Dubai has become a role model in adopting the international standards of project management and operation, which has become the backbone of development and a key driver of modern management science,” she noted.

“Over the past editions, the forum heralds of great success including 31 discussion panels, 126 parallel sessions, 16 closed sessions, 31 keynote addresses, 10 workshops, 19 studies, 17 technical visits and 33 masterclasses. It examined a wide range of topics that feature the participation of ministers, top executives of entities and mega international companies as well as project management experts,” added Al Marri.

Themes

Each edition of DIPMF is characterised by a unique theme.

Following the inaugural edition in 2014, the theme of the second edition was Project Management Supports Innovation. The 3rd edition was themed: Shaping the Future, and the 4th edition was held under the theme: Making a Difference. Marking the Year of Zayed, the 5th edition was themed Building Nations, and to commemorate the Year of Tolerance 2019 the 6th edition of the forum had the theme: Cultural Diversity and the 7th edition was held under the theme We Shape the Future in line with the preparations for the Year of the 50, with this year’s theme being ‘Fostering Wellbeing’.

Towards the Future

The previous edition held in January 2022 was attended by 1395 participants from 25 countries covering key topics such as future leadership, sustainable digital economy management, and artificial intelligence. It hosted 30 panel discussions, several scientific seminars, parallel sessions and interactive communication platforms presented by 40 expert speakers and specialists.

The forum published studies related to project management and operations of projects in Dubai such as developing RTA bus routes, intelligent traffic systems, and bus stations. It also hosted discussions relating to the design concepts and agile project management, future trends of management, value and benefits management, digital management and sustainability in transportation projects, hybrid project management, risk and crises management, relationships management, blockchain technology in project management, cybersecurity, and big data.

A package of services, development projects for Dubai Taxi

Initiatives rolled out aim to enhance the performance of vehicles, enhance customers happiness

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has endorsed a package of improvement projects and services for Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC). These initiatives involve expanding the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies, automating processes to raise the level of operational efficiency of the taxi service and enhancing traffic safety. They also aim to provide pioneering, safe and sustainable digital services characterized by excellence, innovation, foreseeing the future, sustainability and the highest standards of customer happiness.

Smart Direction

Al Tayer explained during a meeting with DTC employees that the approved projects include the Smart Direction of taxis system involving the use of AI to analyse big data to automatically direct taxis to the highest demand spots as indicated by the demand forecast system. The project will reduce the consumption of fuel and increase the number of journeys per vehicle.

Robotic Process Automation

“The approved projects include the Robotic Process Automation (RPA), which will improve the operational

efficiency of vehicles by 3%, increase the accuracy of data and forecast of areas with the highest demand by 10%, cut the trip time and increase the percentage of productive kilometres. It will also increase the rate of trip acceptance by 15%, and reduce the cost of human resources by 20%.

“The portfolio of projects includes deploying the Smart Distribution of taxis and Tesla vehicles system, automating the collection of daily revenues of limousine services (Uber and Careem), undertaking preventive maintenance measures for taxis, distributing booking requests according to the capacity of the battery of Tesla vehicles, and sending notifications to drivers when batteries are due for charging,” explained Al Tayer.





Smart Collection

The Smart Collection project aims to deliver smart, digital and sustainable services to drivers through streamlining the collection procedures, enhancing operational efficiency, and nurturing an environment attractive to them. It also aims to increase the operational efficiency of vehicles, increase the number of journeys, reduce maintenance and fuel costs, facilitate procedures for drivers, develop digital solutions for transactions and provide the service 24/7.

Commercial Development

Al Tayer was presented with DTC's commercial companies and investment plan geared towards creating an inclusive and sustainable future by utilising growth opportunities and enhancing profitability. In the first half of 2022, DTC generated AED118 million in profits and signed 7 commercial agreements for taxis, limos and buses.

The gathering reviewed DTC's priorities, which are continually updated. Highlights include reshaping and upgrading services and following up on the 2021-2023 roadmap to improve the Dubai Airports' services besides

developing investment prospects and plans and enhancing the safety roadmap in the taxi sector.

Diversified Income

Al Tayer inspected the Tesla Model 3 vehicle, which has been added to Dubai Taxi Corporation's taxi fleet to expand the use of eco-friendly vehicles. He also inspected the 236 newly deployed school buses comprising 52-seater and 36-seater categories. The buses are equipped with the latest security means, including indoor and outdoor cameras, student's inspection system, motion detectors, and an automatic fire extinguishing system.

Al Tayer reiterated DTC's commitment to overhauling the taxi sector in Dubai by employing artificial intelligence and smart systems to enhance performance and customer satisfaction". The process entails beefing up the fleet of taxis and limos, enhancing the integration of transportation means and providing mobility services featuring a range of comfort and care options to match the rapid growth of the Emirate and ease the mobility of mass transit riders to their final destinations", he concluded.

An American delegation learns about RTA's road projects and public transport systems

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has received an American delegation headed by His Excellency Carlos Braceras, Executive Director of Utah Department of Transportation (UDOT). Attendees included Mr Mike Schultz, Utah House of Representatives and Senator Kirk Cullimore, from Utah.

The meeting discussed cooperation between RTA and American companies specialising in roads and transportation in the State of Utah. The delegation was briefed on RTA's experience in constructing and funding projects.

At the start of the meeting, Al Tayer welcomed the visiting American delegation and recapped RTA's foundation stages along with efforts made in constructing road projects and developing public transport means to make them the first choice of mobility means in the Emirate.

"RTA had undertaken massive and vital public transport projects highlighted by Dubai Metro, the longest driverless metro network in the world extending 89 km, the 11-km Dubai Tram, a public bus fleet of more than 1600 buses in addition to a full range of marine transit modes that include more than 200 mobility means and 10,800 taxis," explained Al Tayer.

"Dubai's public transport means lift about 1.6 million riders every day. The total length of the network has grown from 8715 lane-kilometres in 2006 to 18,475 lane-kilometres in 2021. Likewise, the number of bridges/tunnels increased from 129 to 884 bridges/tunnels during the same period, and the total length of cycling lanes jumped from 9 to 502 kilometres," added Al Tayer.

Smart Technologies

Al Tayer also reflected on the use of smart technologies, apps and artificial intelligence in managing mobility and monitoring traffic movement through the Enterprise Command and Control Centre and Dubai's Intelligent Transportation Centre, and the two rank among the world's biggest and most sophisticated control centres.

The meeting also reviewed RTA's efforts in providing self-driving

Exhibiting projects, initiatives at 'InnoTrans Berlin 2022' to attract investments

A delegation from Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is taking part in the International Trade Convention and Fair for Transport Technology (InnoTrans 2022) in Berlin, Germany (2023- September 2022). RTA's participation in the event aims to showcase a host of projects and initiatives to attract foreign direct investments.

RTA's delegation consists of Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian- CEO of the Public Transport Agency, Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla-Board Member, Hassan Al Mattawa-Director of Rail Operations, and Mohammed Al Amiri-Director of Rail Maintenance.

RTA stand showcases the key projects and initiatives in the field of public transport highlighted by the award-winning online platform for the engineering

information of the Dubai Metro. Exhibits include designing and engineering RTA's rail assets, and initiatives relating to the future of mobility. RTA is using the event to promote Dubai International Project Management Forum and invite companies to take part in it," stated Bahrozian.

RTA also exhibits the gold category certificates for the seven metro stations for Route 2020 awarded by the US Green Building Council under the Leadership in Energy and



transport means through conducting technical tests for self-driving transportation in Dubai's climatic environment. It is part of Dubai's strategy for self-driving transport aimed to convert 25% of total transportation trips in Dubai into self-driving trips through various means of transportation by 2030.

Al Tayer reviewed Dubai Government's efforts in achieving sustainable urban development. Dubai launched its urban plan Dubai 2040. The plan revolves around people, improving their wellbeing and ranking Dubai as the best city for living in the world. According to the plan, green and recreational spaces and public parks will increase by 105%, the area of hotel and tourism activities will rise by 134%, the area of economic activities will increase to 168 square kilometres, and the lengths of open

beaches will increase by 400%. A network of green paths will be established linking service areas, residential neighbourhood, and workplaces.

His Excellency Carlos Bracerás was impressed with RTA's organization chart and its corporate model, which offered it resilience and efficiency in the quick delivery of infrastructure projects. He hailed the quality and integration of mass transit means, and the use of smart technology in facilitating the movement of people. He expressed his aspiration to enhance cooperation and share experiences in the fields of planning, constructing and operating mobility means as well as the development of the infrastructure of the roads and public transport networks.

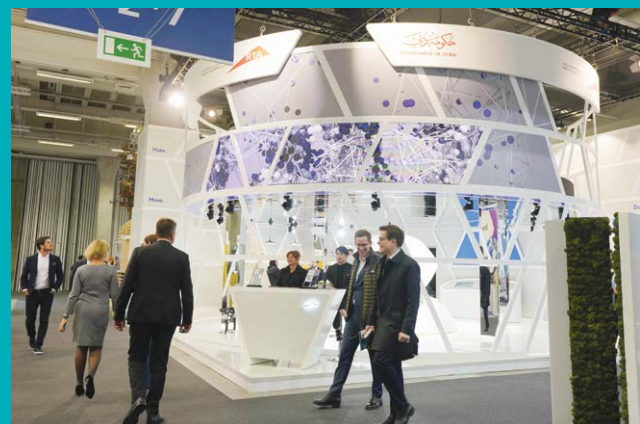
Environmental Design programme known as: (LEED).

RTA is also exhibiting the master rail plan to attract investors and international firms taking part in the exhibition. It will also showcase future rail projects such as the Dubai Sky Pods project which represents the next generation of suspended rail transport. Exhibits also include the innovative rail infrastructure maintenance management system established to manage the maintenance of rail infrastructure assets. The system was named the winner of the UK's best business award.

"InnoTrans is an important global event that brings together a variety of government, semi-government and private entities specialised in the field of transport from all over the world under one roof," said Bahrozian.

"This event is a great opportunity to exchange experiences, information, and knowledge and keep abreast of the latest

technologies of transportation such as innovation, artificial intelligence, data science and analysis, and the Internet of Things among others. It also illustrates the benefits of such cutting-edge technologies in providing services to a broad spectrum of mass transit riders," concluded Bahrozian.



Mohammed bin Rashid: We won't forget our goals

Dubai Metro turns 14, lifts 1.9 bn riders

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, stressed the importance of sustained efforts toward realizing the set goals.

In a video posted on his Instagram account, His Highness said, “We cannot afford to fall back. This is how we live in the UAE. It’s not just about ticking boxes, this commitment is part of our DNA. We work here on achieving our goals.” The video was posted under the hashtag (#FlashesOfLeadership) where His Highness shares parts of life and leadership experiences with his followers.

In the video, which included clips about the Dubai Metro, His Highness said, “Life in the UAE requires living up to the current standards which we have created. If you fall short of this level, you will know yourself. This has become the lifestyle in the UAE. We cannot overlook our goals, rather we need to work to achieve them. We need to continue this drive and develop the required solutions to achieve our goals.”

From the time His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, tapped the first Nol card to become its first passenger at exactly the ninth second of the ninth minute at 9pm on September 9, 2009, Dubai Metro has become the backbone of the emirate’s public transport system.

Since then, Dubai Metro – which is recognised as the world’s longest driverless metro network with a length of 89.3 kms – has served over 1.9 billion commuters in the past 13 years.

As we look back, it is good to note not only the number of passengers who use Dubai Metro that is remarkable but also its safety and operational efficiency that has reached a near perfect score of 99.8 per cent in the first half of 2022, up from last year’s record of 99.73 per cent.

Dubai Metro is also the main showpiece of Dubai’s visionary plan to raise the share of driverless public transport to as much as 30 per cent by 2030.

Realisation of a vision

According to Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), Dubai Metro is one of the visionary ideas of Sheikh Mohammed to provide a world-class infrastructure that will make Dubai a global centre for business and finance, with sustainability at its core.

This is the reason why the seven latest stations on Dubai Metro’s Route 2020 were all awarded with LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Gold



Certification for their efficient infrastructure and “crucial role in protecting the environment, saving costs and preserving resources.”

Leadership in service

The Route 2020 stations, which run from Jebel Ali Station on the

Red Line to Expo 2020 Station, opened for operations on January 1, 2021 initially with four stations (Jebel Ali, The Gardens, Discovery Gardens, and Al Furjan) and followed by Dubai Investment Park station on June 1, 2021; while the opening of Expo 2020 and Jumeirah Golf Estates stations coincided with the start of Expo 2020 Dubai on October 1, 2021. These stations are leaders in international standards for quality and environment friendliness. RTA noted: “Route 2020 stations are designed with the concept of sustainability woven in all dimensions while embracing top international and national initiatives.

The exterior designs of Route 2020 stations feature four different patterns, highlighted by the iconic Expo Station, which emulates the plane wings depicting Dubai’s take-off to the future and innovation.

The interchange station linking Route 2020 and the Red Line at Jebel Ali Station as well as the elevated stations of Route 2020, have a design akin to the design of the current metro stations to maintain the identity and shape of metro stations along the Sheikh Zayed Road.

The colour schemes of the stations were selected to reflect the UAE’s geographic environment and cultural identity. Blue was chosen for Jebel Ali and Al Furjan stations to replicate the aquatic environment, and green was chosen for The Gardens and Dubai Investments Park to symbolise air and nature. A selection of inspiring colours were chosen for Jumeirah Golf Estates Station, the largest metro station in the Dubai Metro network with an area of 28,700 square meters.



Sophisticated operations

RTA noted its Rail Operations Control Centre is one of the most sophisticated control centres in the world. It manages the daily operations of the metro service on the Red and Green lines 247/.

“The process requires a high level of accuracy and speed as well as compliance with the highest standards of safety, security, and convenience to riders. The centre assist Dubai Metro to achieve the highest international levels of safety, operational efficiency, service punctuality, faster maintenance operations, decision-making, and lower potential malfunctions,” it added.

RTA further explained: “The centre enables control and monitoring of the rolling stock as well as the performance of the automated communication systems and electrical transformers of trains and metro stations. It also manages the passenger information system, the entry of trains to the track and controls the operation and movement of trains. It also monitors the environmental control as well as the safety, firefighting, ventilation and air-conditioning systems in tunnels, stations and trains. It also ensures the functionality of brakes, doors and engines in each train.”

Metro amenities

The comfort of passengers is of utmost importance. RTA said the public can avail some of the finest and top-end amenities within stations while commuting, including Wi-Fi access and mobile network coverage across the entire metro network.



Safety and security are also vital. Metro trains and stations have surveillance cameras to ensure security around the clock, as well as emergency communication call boxes. Moreover, a wireless network connects the metro with emergency units, and a special police unit is placed to monitor security and safety.

Metro’s future

There are currently 53 stations in both Red and Green Lines. Dubai Metro also maintains a fleet of 125 trains. Back in January 2021, during the inauguration of Route 2020, Abdul Mohsen Ibrahim Younes, CEO of Rail Agency at RTA, told Gulf News there are plans to extend Dubai Metro’s Red Line up to Al Maktoum International Airport, to create a metro link with Dubai International Airport.

The daily ridership of Dubai Metro has returned to the pre-pandemic levels, and even recorded more than 125 million passengers in the first seven months of the current year alone, nearing the total of 113 million and 151 million recorded in 2020 and 2021 respectively.

“The rise in passenger numbers is a testament confirming the importance of Dubai Metro, which translates the insightful future vision of the mass transportation system,” the RTA said in a statement sent to Gulf News on Thursday, on the eve of Dubai Metro’s 13th anniversary. It added Dubai Metro will continue to serve the community by providing the finest service. “It will also maintain its leading position in areas of safety, adopting effective environmentally friendly solutions and strengthening the foundations of the green economy as well, while achieving

operational efficiency and punctuality.”

FAST FACTS ABOUT DUBAI METRO

- Dubai Metro is the world’s longest driverless metro network, with a length of 89.3km
- 1.9 billion passengers have been served since inauguration on September 9, 2009 until July 2022
- 53 stations, including 7 stations on Route 2020 awarded LEED Gold Certification
- 125 trains Dubai Metro
- 99.80% – almost perfect record adherence to operational efficiency in the first half of 2022

YEAR ON YEAR RIDERSHIP

2009	–	6,089,000
2010	– 39,089,000 (almost 600% jump)	
2011	–	69,001,000
2012	–	109,049,000
2013	–	137,076,000
2014	–	164,031,000
2015	–	178,065,000
2016	–	191,033,000
2017	–	200,075,000
2018	–	204,041,000
2019	–	202,098,000
2020	–	113,063,000
2021	–	151,026,000
2022	–	125,089,000 (until July)

Dubai Metro innovative maintenance operations

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is demonstrating its commitment to enhancing the passenger experience of the Dubai Metro riders in partnership with Keolis-MHI, the operator of Dubai Metro and Tram by undertaking three key projects. These projects aim to re-enforce the metro maintenance operations using cutting-edge technologies that have far-reaching impacts to ensure the delivery of world-class services.

“One of the advance technologies we are deploying in maintenance operations of the Dubai Metro is Sightcall, by First Line Response Teams. It is an augmented reality application on mobile devices that enables live, remote expertise to support diagnosis and quick resolution of complex system faults. It proved a major driver of performance improvement since its deployment and as a result, there has been a significant reduction in response time to incidents,” said Mohammed Al Ameer, Director of Maintenance, Rail Agency, RTA.

Considering Dubai Metro's assets are spread geographically over a network of more than 90 kilometres for both Red and Green line, a portable hand-held technology to manage defects accurately, efficiently and in real-time with integration to the Maintenance Management System is in line with RTA and Dubai's Paperless strategy.

“The centralization of reporting and recording is a key factor to robustly manage faults and defects on the network. Our system allows all scheduled inspection & maintenance activities to be raised directly by the technicians on to the Maintenance Management System. This has been a major driver of performance improvement since its implementation resulting in accurate data recording thereby improving efficiency and effectiveness of the Maintenance activity,” continued Al Ameer.

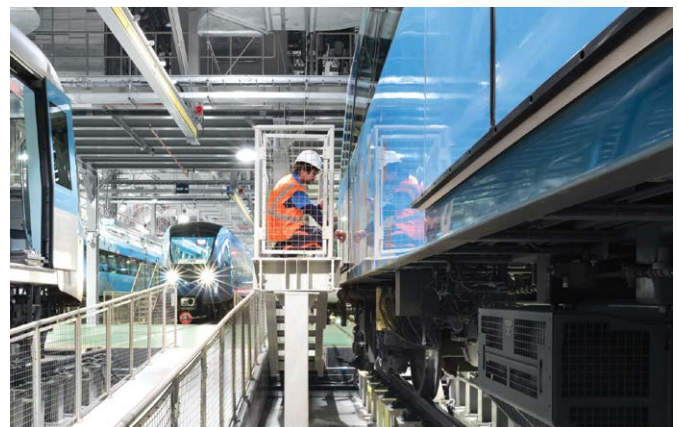
Optimisation of Train Door Obstacle Detection

“Train Door obstacles in the railway industry is a known issue that many operators face globally, the majority of which are due to passenger accidentally blocking the doors. Door obstacle reports can cause unnecessary delays which can affect our customers. Our methodology to avoid false alarms is to undertake forensic analysis through our multi-

disciplinary teams and follow through with adjustment to system parameters. Consequently, there has been a significant reduction in false alarms resulting in an improvement in overall performance” said Al Ameer.

“Innovation has been at the heart of our drive for excellence in all aspects. With innovation, we can enhance our services for continual improvement and develop new and cost-effective methods for the benefit of our passengers. Through our partnership with Keolis MHI, we are confident that this momentum can continue and provide new opportunities to excel in the field of Rail transportation” concluded Mohammed Al Ameer, Director of Maintenance, Rail Agency, RTA.

“Within the framework of our collaborative partnership we strive to support RTA's vision for Dubai Metro and Tram. At Keolis MHI, we are committed to delivering world class customer experience - The values of We Imagine, We Care and We Commit are an integral part of our innovative approach, combined with our Think like a Passenger philosophy, we are confident that we can continue enhancing the passenger experience,” said Wallace Weatherill, Managing Director of Dubai Metro and Tram (Keolis MHI).



A trial Rail Automated System to enhance its paperless transactions



Maintaining the civilized look around metro stations via awareness and inspection

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched an inspection campaign around 27 metro stations. The campaign, which was coordinated with Dubai Municipality, aimed at monitoring abandoned bicycles around the metro stations. The overall objective was to maintain the scenic view of the metro stations which were designed to integrate with the tourist and urban fabric of the emirate. Each station is meant to have its peculiar look and pattern that resonates the local heritage and aesthetic appeal.

Commenting on the results of the campaign, Nazim Faisal, Director of Rail Right-Of-Way, Rail Agency, RTA, said, "In line with RTA's commitment to support soft mobility across Dubai and protect the general outlook of the city, this campaign was launched to inspect the surroundings of 27 metro stations and monitor violating bikes abandoned in the vicinity.

"The campaign, which was conducted in coordination with Dubai Municipality, removed all abandoned bikes and attended to the feedback of the public on the matter through the concerned communication channels. The campaign will continue according to plan as RTA is keen to educate the public to avoid leaving bikes at the racks designated for the metro and tram riders for more than 24 hours."

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in collaboration with Keolis-MHI (operator of Dubai Metro and Tram) have launched the Rail Automated System (RAS) Project to trial a paperless initiative reliant on advanced technology. This system is aimed to enhance paperless transactions that RTA is progressively committed to ensure on purpose of supporting the Paperless Government policy as well as the UAE's Fourth Industrial Revolution Strategy 2017 aimed to raise the profile of the UAE as a

global hub for the 4th Industrial Revolution.

Through close collaboration between RTA's Rail Agency and Keolis MHI, the scope of work for this initiative was mapped out to ensure its success, and a total of 11 business modules were identified as having the greatest need for digitisation, including Permit to Work which allow access to large-scale work and activities to happen on the Metro/ Tram, Dubai Metro Operation Control Centre, Dubai Tram Operation Control Centre, Environment – Management of

Power/Energy/Waste, and others.

The initiative is compatible with RTA's objective of expanding and improving its level of digitisation and sustainability in rail operations. It ushers a migration from manual paper transactions into a fully digitised platform to transform the processes, save paper, eliminate printer dependency and most importantly bring the efficiency necessary to accomplish various tasks, besides saving expenditure.



It is noteworthy that RTA has provided a variety of utility services to the public at the facilities of the Dubai Metro such as Wi-Fi service, an Emergency

Call Box in addition to three thousand surveillance cameras for trains and stations, and a wireless communication system.

Buses lift passengers between Ibn Battuta and Abu Dhabi International Airport

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed an agreement with Capital Express for Rapid Intercity to transport passengers between Dubai and Abu Dhabi International Airport (Terminals 1,2,3). The service will connect Abu Dhabi International Airport with Dubai's Ibn Battuta Bus Station on an Express Bus Route.

Currently, this service is only dedicated for passengers flying Wizz Air. The bus fare will be included in the Wizz Air tickets. The coach buses on this route will be equipped with passenger luggage facilities.

Within the agreement RTA will provide the parking spaces and infrastructure needed to facilitate the service within the Emirate of Dubai through Ibn Battuta Bus Station. RTA monitors and supervises the workflow at Ibn Battuta Bus Station to ensure the safety of all passengers at the station, while the Capital Express For Rapid Intercity will handle the safety of passengers transported on their buses from Ibn Battuta Bus Station to Abu Dhabi International Airport and vice versa, as they are the service operator.

Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO, Public Transport Agency, RTA, expressed deep satisfaction over the signing of the agreement with Capital Express For Rapid Intercity, which will greatly enhance Dubai-Abu Dhabi transport services, as well as

those for travelers departing from Abu Dhabi International Airport. "Joining forces with the private sector will strengthen RTA's public-private partnership, which RTA always seeks to undertake as a means of exchanging experiences and enhancing its public service offerings. It comprises the extension and enhancement of UAE's transport network by offering bus services within cities, including Abu Dhabi," said Bahrozian.



RTA invites participants to attend Dubai's ITS World Congress – (1620- September 2024), the biggest edition of the event

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) took part in Intelligent Transportation Systems World Congress – Los Angeles (ITS 2022), USA, one of the biggest specialist global platforms of intelligent transportation and futuristic mobility communities. The convention discussed a host of topics that included automation, communication, mobility, digital infrastructure, and innovation among others.

RTA capitalised on the event to promote Dubai's hosting of the ITS World Congress (1620- September 2024). This unique upcoming edition of the Congress promises to be the biggest of its kind worldwide in terms of attendees, participants and firms. Mohammed Yousef Al Mudharreb, CEO of Corporate Technology Support Services Sector, represented RTA at the

congress that brought together heads of global transport authorities, major technology manufacturers, private companies, start-ups and manufacturers of transportation means.

"RTA was keen to take part in this prominent global event to familiarise the world with Dubai's achievements in this regard. It had embarked on the practical implementation of a smart mobility

Car rental records 24% growth in first half of 2022

Dubai's car rental industry reported a significant 23.7% growth in the number of companies registered in the first half of 2022, up from 1087 companies registered in the same period last year. As well, 78,000 vehicles were registered in the first half of 2022, up 11.8% from 69,000 in the same period last year.

These figures confirm the competitiveness and attractiveness of Dubai to attract numerous companies and promote the economic growth, besides highlighting RTA's pioneering efforts in facilitating the business of car rental companies through offering services and incentives.

"The rapid expansion of Dubai's car rental sector in the first half of 2022 underscores RTA's efforts in implementing Dubai's comprehensive development vision. By offering facilities and overcoming obstacles, RTA is able to attract companies and investors, and raise their confidence in Dubai's business environment. It also highlights Dubai's profile as a financial and business hub, a place where business can be conducted in a friendly and competitive atmosphere," said Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, CEO, Licensing Agency, RTA.

"Following periodic meetings with several companies in this sector, RTA has undertaken six initiatives which have had a considerable impact on leveraging the car rental market. The initiatives included exempting new vehicles from testing, limiting the number to 10 vehicles per car rental license, extending the lifetime of vehicles in

use from two to four years, and abolishing the surcharge on car rental vehicles," added Al Ali.

"RTA stands committed to continuously raising the improvement and competitiveness in delivering services and introducing solutions to the obstacles experienced by companies in their daily business. Our ultimate objective is to ensure the sustainable growth of the commercial transport sector, besides enhancing the satisfaction customers and their confidence in the business and investment models of Dubai and the UAE in general," concluded Al Ali.



strategy highlighted by the Dubai Metro, which lifts more than 650,000 riders per day, and the Dubai Tram powered by self-driving technologies. In the second phase, Dubai Tram will migrate to a 100% self-driving experience. RTA is also trialling the operation of self-driving vehicles and minibuses," he explained.

Al Mudharreb exuded confidence in the success of the current edition of the ITS World Congress that has spotlighted the latest ITS trends, which enhances the standing of the congress as a unique platform that brings together industry leaders, specialists, decision-makers, academia, and investors from all over the world to share experiences, knowledge and communication.

Invitation's Future in Dubai

At the end of the Los Angeles ITS World Congress, Al Mudharreb invited all participants to attend the next round of the ITS World Congress in Dubai (1620- September 2024), which promises to be unique and the largest of its kind.

He added: "ITS World Congress – Dubai 2024 is poised to attract about 20 thousand visitors/participants, and 500 exhibitors from 100 countries. The event will hold about 700 panel discussions and arrange 15 technical site visits to projects across the emirate. It has what it takes to be the biggest ever edition in the history of the event.



Society of Engineers awards Al Tayer honorary membership

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) received Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, President of the UAE Society of Engineers (SoE), alongside Shaikha Dr. Nahla Al Qassimi, Vice President of SoE and Eng. Rashad Bukhash, General

Secretary of SoE.

The meeting discussed matters related to boosting cooperation between the two parties. In the meantime, His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer received an honorary membership certificate from the SoE in recognition of his significant contributions to the UAE's engineering.



Al Tayer honours first female Emirati engineer to obtain British ICE's Chartered Engineer certification

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Director-General, Chairman of the Board of Executive Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) honoured the employee Fatima Abdul Aziz Al Shareef for obtaining the British ICE's Chartered Engineer certification in the field of Professional Engineering and Skill Development. Thus, she became the first Emirati engineer to make this achievement as part of the 4th

Qiyadi programme aimed to qualify Emirati engineers. "The 4th edition of Qiyadi was aimed to qualify young Emirati engineers and prop up their scientific credentials such that they will be able to contribute to RTA's progression. It is a core objective of RTA's strategy aimed to empower Emiratis, who will be crucial for the future, particularly as engineers are vital for the construction and operation of infrastructure projects.

Al Tayer visits Qassim Sultan

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Commissioner General for Infrastructure, Urban Planning and Well-Being Track paid a friendly visit to His Excellency Qassim Sultan Al Banna, former Director General of Dubai Municipality.

During their cordial conversation, the two dignitaries shared memories from their years serving the Dubai Municipality and discussed the Dubai Government's efforts to improve the quality of life and bring happiness to citizens.



Winners of RTA Bowling Competition crowned

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) hosted a bowling tournament at Dubai's International Bowling Centre in Al Mamzar where 40 participants represented various RTA's agencies and sectors. The competition saw a large turnout of RTA employees who love bowling to support their colleagues.

The Rail Maintenance Department swept first and second places – Asagani Manakil placed first and Muhammad Darwish Al Ansari ranked second. The third place went to Ahmed Al Saadi from the Roads Department.

It is RTA's goal to organise sporting, cultural, social, recreational, and other non-office activities for employees to promote a fun environment and offer them an opportunity to engage in different events away from daily work routines. Additionally, these activities allow talented employees to showcase their talents at work, which adds a human dimension to corporate relations and strengthens employees' social relations.



Coordinative Meeting about FIFA World Cup

A coordinative meeting was held between the Drivers Affairs Department and Dubai Taxi Corporation to discuss upcoming local and international events, such as the FIFA World Cup 2022 in Qatar.

The meeting discussed challenges related to recruiting drivers, as well as recommendations for accelerating the recruitment process in preparation for the World Cup event, besides setting up a phaseout plan for 24-hour work shifts. The meeting also discussed RTA's objectives for this event, as well as the work process, such as facilitating obtaining permits for certain activities through bulk editing, training courses, and other related activities conducted during key events.

Saeed Al Ramsi, Director of Driver Affairs, Public Transport Agency, RTA, said: "A close working relationship with the Licensing Agency, franchise companies, and other relevant RTA departments is essential to simplifying procedures and ensuring quality customer support."

The meeting coincides with the arrival of fans to attend the World Cup 2022 in Qatar, which runs from 21 November to 18 December. The event takes place during Dubai's busy tourist season, which is packed with events, exhibitions, and conventions.



Offering specialist jobs for young Emirati talents via ‘Ru’ya Careers UAE Redefined’ exhibition

Dubai’s Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is taking part tomorrow (Tuesday) in the 21st edition of ‘Ru’ya Careers UAE Redefined’ exhibition (2022- September 2022) at the Dubai World Trade Centre. A host of government and semi-government entities as well as private companies are participating in the fair.

“Through this edition of ‘Ru’ya Careers UAE Redefined’ exhibition 2022, we aim to attract talented Emiratis to place them in diverse jobs and trending specialties such as artificial intelligence, data science, corporate agility and data analysis. Job offers also include a wide range of engineering disciplines and key positions that RTA always seeks to attract through this important annual showpiece,” said Sultan Al Akraf, Director of Human Resources and Development, RTA.

“The exhibition offers an important communication platform between job seekers among skilled young Emiratis, and public, semi-public and private entities. It also offers a chance to recruit and groom talented young nationals that have the ambition to succeed and excel in a variety of specialist jobs,” he explained.

“RTA is enthusiastically committed to supporting the Emiratisation strategy and attracting skilled and talented Emiratis who are keen to advance their career chart. Visitors can directly apply jobs on offer through RTA’s stand at the ‘Ru’ya Careers UAE Redefined’ exhibition 2022,” added Al Akraf.

RTA always endeavours to be part of this event to recruit fresh university graduates and degree holders in various paths. Moreover, the event supports the Emiratisation drive as it offers a working environment appealing to Emiratis in a host of administrative, supervisory, operational and technical fields.



Archive photo

Al Khawaneej Council

Al Khawaneej Council, part of the Dubai District Councils, hosted a gathering of the Passenger Transport Activities Monitoring Department at Public Transport Agency. During the event, employees were honoured with the Director’s Insignia among other activities.



Digital permits for passenger transport drivers and school transport attendants

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has launched digital permits for passenger transport drivers (bus and taxi drivers and limousine chauffeurs) as well as school transport attendants of companies and entities operating in this field. The permits are accessible via RTA's website and RTA Dubai Drive app. The move is part of RTA's transformation of services to digital platforms. It is also in line with the Smart City initiative and RTA's 3rd strategic goal (People Happiness).

"The aim of the new digital permits for practicing professional passenger transport drivers (bus and taxi drivers and limousine chauffeurs) as well as school transport attendants is to bring happiness to customers through offering services that save their time and effort.

It enables them to have such permits issued via smart channels and obtain digital cards via RTA's app (RTA-DUBAI DRIVE) on smartphones," said Saeed Al Ramsi, Director of Drivers Affairs, Public Transport Agency, RTA.

The process of the smart transformation of professional

'Tamkeen' qualifies Emirati graduates to be job-ready

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced the launch of 3rd Edition of Tamkeen (Empowerment) programme designed to attract fresh Emirati graduates from local and international universities and colleges in various academic specialisations.

The programme will enable graduates who have been unemployed for the past three years to pick up the skills needed to be job-ready and qualified to work for RTA once they have proven their merits and suitable opening arise. Participants can register for the programme through the QR Code of the online registration of Tamkeen programme. "This programme aims to maximize the benefits

of graduates' skills and employ their scientific abilities in various sectors and agencies of RTA to put into practice the skills and knowledge they have acquired at university. Tamkeen, which began in January 2022 and runs until the end of this year, focuses on exceptional and high-demand scientific and administrative specialisations. These include Transportation Engineering, Railway Engineering,

permits has been rolled out by sending letters and holding workshops for stakeholders in the fields of taxis, limo, and school transport to introduce them to the digital card through smartphones via the Dubai Drive app. A manual has been issued for using the RTA-DUBAI DRIVE app on

smartphones and displaying the virtual card.

“RTA is keen to keep pace with the government’s directions, especially with regards to providing convenient services that add to customers’ happiness, a top priority of RTA’s strategies and service products,” concluded Al Ramsi.



Robotics Engineering, Infrastructure Engineering, Mechatronics Engineering, as well as Transport Economics and Urban Planning,” said Yousif Al Redha, CEO, Corporate Administration Support Services Sector, RTA.

Standards

“RTA has set certain conditions for joining the programme. The applicant has to be Emirati, males should have completed the national service, and should hold a university degree. The applicant should not have joined any job for three years since graduation, and the major of the applicant should be

matching to RTA’s needs,” explained Al Redha. The launch of the programme is part of RTA’s efforts to realise its strategic goals and objectives, which focus on social responsibility. It also runs other youth empowerment programmes such as the Talented Youth Mobility Programme, Ajyal, and Summer Internships for university students. These programmes aim to offer youth opportunities to benefit from practical training and promote their skills besides offering a chance to attract talented Emiratis.

Sensor technology remotely weighs trucks in motion

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has developed a pilot monitoring safety system for weighing loads on trucks remotely, without having to stop on the road.

"Currently in the experimental phase, the truck axle weighing system measures the axial weight of vehicles in motion through advanced sensors installed under the road surface. The sensors measure the vehicle's axle weights, and the total weight as the vehicle passes over the measurement station," said Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, CEO, Licensing Agency, RTA.

"The laser camera can then measure the dimensions of the vehicles and their speed under normal traffic conditions without stopping the vehicles, resulting in a more efficient measurement process. Monitoring the weight of trucks is primarily intended to prevent overloads, as they adversely affect roads, bridges, and infrastructure and result in financial and human losses," added Al Ali.

"Loads are electronically monitored in a fast and efficient manner, preventing obstructions, congestion and traffic jams. The signal illuminates a warning when the driver exceeds the legally permitted weight, and the truck is

subsequently stopped for further inspection and action," explained Al Ali.

"There are other systems in place to monitor and inspect the safety of heavy vehicles, including the Vehicle Safety Service System, and the Drone Technology Inspection System. The Vehicle Safety Service System, in which 25,000 trucks were registered since launched in 2017, is an optional service where a smart monitoring device is installed in heavy vehicles registered in Dubai. The service allows owners of heavy vehicles and fleets to improve their operational processes by tracking the movements of their vehicles and the behaviour of drivers.

"Features of the system include tracking the locations, paths and speeds of vehicles along with their operational status. It also monitors the misconduct of drivers while driving, and reveals the identity of the driver. Drone technology is used in monitoring and field inspection of heavy vehicles to check the upper side of heavy vehicles,

Renew your driving license before boarding on an airplane

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is plans to open a new service outlet enabling the renewal of vehicle driving licenses at the Dubai International Airport – Terminal 1 (Departure Concourse) in the third quarter of this year, in partnership with the private sector and trusted agents.

"Eyesight testing is a key requirement of renewing the driving license. The client is required to visit one of the approved optical centres in Dubai to undergo eyesight testing. Upon clearing the test, the driving license will be issued or renewed through the available

channels. The license will be printed or delivered to the client, depending on the type of channel and the preference selected," said Ahmed Mahboub, Executive Director, Drivers Licensing, Licensing Agency, RTA.

which is normally difficult to reach. The use of technology contributes to ensuring the safety of the staff by avoiding climbing over vehicles to verify violations related to cargo and loading requirements, and detecting the technical defects on the upper side of the vehicle,” explained Al Ali.

It is noteworthy that the Heavy Vehicles Control Section at the Licensing Agency is cooperating with the Dubai Police Patrols in carrying out periodic and surprise crackdowns to check the technical specifications of vehicles and tires, which entitles them to impound the vehicle until the violation is rectified. However, it offers the driver a moratorium to deliver the cargo if the vehicle was loaded at the time of the violation. Otherwise, the driver is required to immediately head to the impounding site to park the vehicle.



2000 violations

RTA's statistics during the past years showed that the rate of reporting violations against heavy vehicles due to non-compliance with technical standards and tire safety conditions amounted to 2,000 violations annually at a time when the number of heavy vehicles registered in Dubai exceeded 45,000 vehicles according to the latest declared numbers.

The service will be provided initially from 08:00 am to 08:00 pm, and from the start of next year, the service will be available 24/7. The initiative targets travellers and airport staff to facilitate the processing of their transactions, thanks to offering the service at new locations that meet the needs of clients. At the end of the day, the initiative is bound to raise the customers' satisfaction index.

“Through this initiative, RTA seeks to play a pioneering role in delivering government services that respond to the needs of clients. It is part of RTA's efforts to enhance social responsibility, simplify customer procedures and support the Dubai Government's drive to engage the private sector in the delivery of services to all community members,” concluded Mahboub.



Releasing RTA's 7th Sustainability Report

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has published its 7th Sustainability Report 2021. The report showcases RTA's practices in matters related to the Environment, Society, and Governance (ESG). The publishing of the report reflects RTA's keenness to enhance transparency and disclosure of its annual performance in sustainability.

The 7th Sustainability Report 2021 reflects RTA's pioneering standing as the first public transport entity to achieve reliable and data-driven achievements over five years (2017-2021) in line with the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE 3000) using DNV GL VeriSustain protocols.

RTA was also among the first public transport entities worldwide that publishes its sustainability report as per the latest GRI standards, which will be mandatory in 2023. Such a practice underscores RTA's effort to achieve its vision 'The world leader in seamless & sustainable mobility' and the sustainable development goals of the United Nations.

In the first sustainability pillar (Social Stewardship), the report explained that about 5 million individuals had benefited from 43 social responsibility initiatives undertaken within RTA, in the local community and abroad. The customer satisfaction rating reached 91.3% in 2021.

In the second sustainability pillar (Environmental Stewardship), the report indicated that the number of users of public transport and shared mobility means increased by 18.5%, and as a result of implementing 36 energy and green economy initiatives, RTA



achieved record savings in 2021 exceeding 68 million kilowatt-hours of electricity, and 43 million litres of fuel. the initiatives also contributed to eliminating emissions of 155,000 tons of carbon dioxide equivalent and diverting about 450,000 tons of waste from landfill through effective waste management practices.

In the third sustainability pillar (Economic Prosperity), the report stated that RTA had achieved 161% of its planned achievement related to cost rationalisation. In the meantime, RTA's suppliers' satisfaction



rating clocked 91.8%, and asset value maximization reached 110% through implementing a host of initiatives compatible with the strategic objective of financial sustainability. In 2021, RTA also developed an asset management roadmap up to 2030.

The report spotlights RTA's key role in shaping the future of sustainable transport by foreseeing the future, adopting strategic projects that support the economy, and contribute to the wellbeing and happiness of Dubai's residents and visitors. RTA had developed a roadmap to achieve zero-emission from public transport means by 2050. In the process, RTA has become the first government entity in the Middle East and North Africa to develop a comprehensive roadmap of public transport and its infrastructure.

Mass transit means and shared transport in Dubai (Dubai Metro, Dubai Tram, public buses, marine transport means, e-hail rides, smart rental cars, and taxis) lifted about 461 million riders in 2021, compared to 346 million riders served in 2020. The daily average ridership of public transport means and taxis last year clocked 1.3 million riders, compared to 948 thousand riders in 2020. The results underscore the success of RTA's efforts that contributed to the fast recovery of the public transport sector and the restoration of services to pre-pandemic levels. Such a drive had boosted the confidence of riders in the public transport means and the efficient health and preventive measures for protecting public transport riders, employees and workers deployed on public transport means and related stations and facilities.



RTA's Youth Council holds (Get Closer to Your CEO) initiative

Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) Youth Council has held an initiative entitled (Get Closer to Your CEO). It is one of the Council's initiatives planned for 2021-2022, which aims to hold friendly meetings with the CEOs to promote transparency and direct communication between the senior management and youth. It sets a communication platform for sharing exceptional expertise and reviewing achievements. The initiative targeted youth segment among RTA employees to help them enrich their experiences besides enhancing coordination and nurturing a stimulating environment.

In its last gathering, RTA's Youth Council hosted Ahmed Hashim Bahrozian, CEO of the Public Transport Agency, who briefed the youth about the importance of professional ambition and how can youth carry out the strategic goals and objectives of RTA that encompasses pioneering roles, honing talents and driving excellence.

The initiative showcased the professional career of the CEO, achievements, difficulties and challenges encountered and how they were tackled. The CEO also

shared valuable insights to the youth about the present and future as well as the government's drive for them to benefit from followed by questions from the attendees.

The initiative is expected to yield results highlighted by goal setting since the youth can benefit from the experience of senior leaders, adhere to their experience-based advices, and get an insight into future developments. It also elevates the ambition of youth, and encourages them to contribute, work and improve.

More than AED37 million raised in Dubai's 110th open auction for premium vehicle plates

The proceeds of the 110th Open Auction for Distinctive Vehicle Number Plates held by Dubai's Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) held at Grand Hyatt Dubai Hotel on Saturday 17th September amounted to AED37.328 million.

The sale topper was Plate (AA 13), which was exchanged for AED4.42 million, followed by Plate (U 70) which was sold for AED3 million. Plate (Z 1000) brought back AED2.21 million, and Plate (V

99999) fetched AED1.26 million.

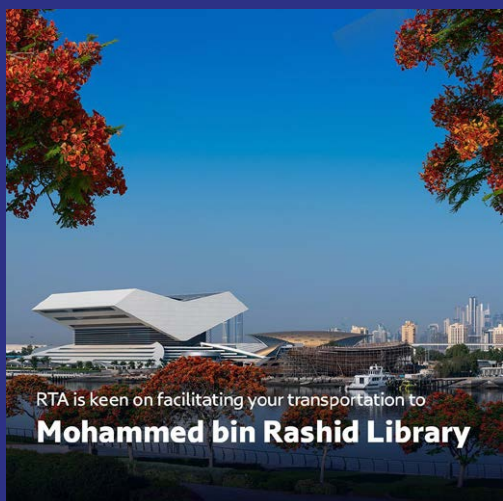
RTA offered 90 fancy plates for bidding in this auction comprising of two, three, four and five-digits bearing (AA-J-K-L-M-N-O-P-Q-R-S-T-U-V-W-X-Y-Z) codes.



By offering distinctive licensing plates at open or online auctions, RTA seeks 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 is keen to ensure the convenience of visitors to Mohammed Bin Rashid Library by facilitating their access to first & last mile journeys via stations for shared bikes (Careem) and e-scooters in designated paths, in addition to chairs and ornamental plants for shading the way.



#Mahboub is at your service to help you pay for public parking fees via Whatsapp at +971588009090, in addition to the new feature to extend the time when renewing parking tickets to ensure the comfort of all users.

#YourComfortOurPriority





#RTA is keen on the comfort of residents and visitors of #Dubai, as it constantly develops public bus routes for easy commute in the Emirate. #Shail app helps you plan your journeys and track the location & route of the bus you want to use.

You can download the app via App Store, Google Play, or Huawei AppGallery.



Are you a #PublicBus user?

You can check the arrival and departure times of buses and your journey's details by scanning the QR code at all stops via #Shail app. #YourComfortMatters

You can download the app via the App Store, Google Play, or Huawei App Gallery.



#RTA provides the notification feature to confirm payments on #Sundays and official occasions, where parking is free, and no value is deducted when paying parking fees in #Dubai via Mahboub on Whatsapp at +971588009090.



China boasts 4 of the world's biggest metro systems, 7 of them among the world's Top 10

The large population prompted China to offer unique means of transportation for residents. It is why China has now four of the world's largest metro systems, and seven of them rank among the world's top 10.

Beijing Subway

Upon completion of this year's improvements, Beijing's subway system will be the world's longest, stretching 844 kilometres. It ranked second only to Shanghai Subway, nearly 1,214 kilometres away. In the process, Shanghai now has the second biggest metro system in the world, after previously ranking first until earlier this year.



Shanghai Metro lifted 13 million passengers in a single day

Since opening in 1993, Shanghai's metro has been renovated and expanded to become the world's longest metro system before Beijing's upgrades in 2022. With a total length of 743 km, the metro system connects all districts of the city across 18 lines.

The lines pass through 381 subway stations, which are the second biggest in the world.

The metro serves over 10 million passengers daily, and a record 13 million passengers were logged on March 8, 2019.



Guangzhou Metro

Another subway system in China, about 2000 km from Beijing, is the Guangzhou Metro, constructed in 1960.

With a total length of 531 km, it is the third largest subway system in the country and world.



Chengdu Metro

Chengdu Metro is the rapid transit system of Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan.

The system consists of 7 subway lines and 1 light rail line.



The 10 longest metro systems in the world

Metro	Country	Length (km)
Beijing Metro	China	844
Shanghai Metro	China	743
Guangzhou Metro	China	531
Chengdu Metro	China	519
Moscow Metro	Russia	412
Shenzhen Metro	China	411
London Underground	England	402
New York City Subway	USA	399
Nanjing Metro	China	378
Chongqing Metro	China	370

Are all fats in the human body harmful?

Some people believe that fats, grease, and oils are harmful in all circumstances, and if avoided and eliminated, they will be healthier fitter, and disease-free. However, this is not true because fats and grease are essential for the human body to function. They must be constantly boosted to avoid any fatal health crises that might result if left untreated.



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There are several different types of fat in the human body. Each type of fat serves a different role. Some promote healthy metabolism and hormone levels, while others if increased beyond the acceptable limit can contribute to life-threatening diseases, including diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and cancer.

Here are the most important fats in our bodies: 1- White Fat

White fat is made up of large, white cells stored under the skin or around the organs in the belly, arms, buttocks, and thighs. These fat cells are the body's way of storing energy for later use.

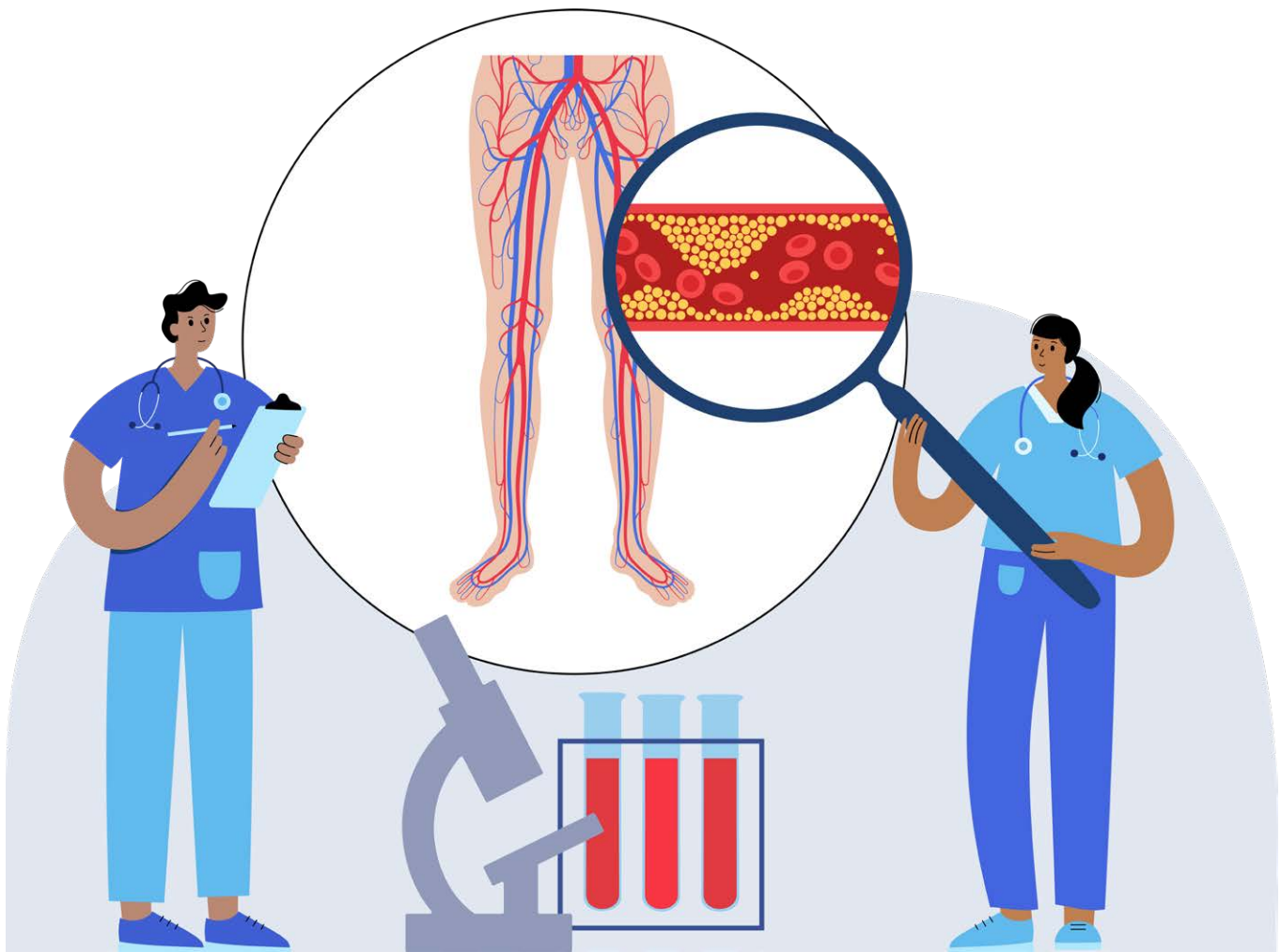
This type of fat also plays a large role in the function of hormones such as estrogen, leptin (one of the hormones

that stimulate hunger), insulin, cortisol, and growth hormone.

While some white fat is necessary for good health, excessive amounts can be very harmful. Healthy body fat percentages range depending on your level of fitness or physical activity. According to the American Council on Exercise, men who are non-athletes should have a total body fat percentage in the 14 to 24 per cent range, while women who are non-athletes should be in the 21 to 31 per cent range.

A body fat percentage higher than recommended can put you at risk for the following health issues: type 2 diabetes, coronary artery disease, high blood pressure, stroke, hormone imbalances, pregnancy complications, liver disease and cancer.





2- Brown Fat

Brown fat is a type of fat primarily found in babies, although adults do still retain a very small amount of brown fat, typically in the neck and shoulders. This type of fat burns fatty acids to keep you warm. Researchers are interested in finding ways to stimulate the activity of brown fat to help prevent obesity.

3- Essential Fat

Essential fat is essential for your life and a healthy body. This fat is found in your brain, bone marrow, nerves and membranes that protect organs.

Essential fat plays a major role in hormone regulation, including the hormones that control fertility, vitamin absorption, and temperature regulation.

According to the American Council on Exercise, women need at least 10 to 13 per cent of their body composition to come from essential fat to be in good health, while men require at least 2 to 5 per cent.

4- Subcutaneous Fat

Subcutaneous fat refers to the fat stored under the skin. It's a combination of brown, beige, and white fat cells. The majority of our body fat is subcutaneous. It's the fat that you can squeeze or pinch on your arms, belly, thighs and different areas of the body. Fitness professionals use callipers to measure subcutaneous fat as a way of estimating total body fat percentage.

5- Visceral Fat

Visceral fat, also known as “belly fat” is the white fat that's stored in your abdomen and around all major organs, such as the liver, kidneys, pancreas, intestines, and heart. High visceral fat levels can increase your risk for diabetes, heart disease, stroke, artery disease, and some cancers.

Visceral fat provides the body with many benefits such as temperature regulation, adequate vitamin storage, good neurological function, enhanced reproductive health, healthy metabolism, and balanced blood sugar.