

Maktoum bin Mohammed inaugurates MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2014



**RTA is the first government
entity to acquire ISO of Asset
Management: (Namaa)**

**384 Million is the Cost of the
Second Phase of Dubai Canal**

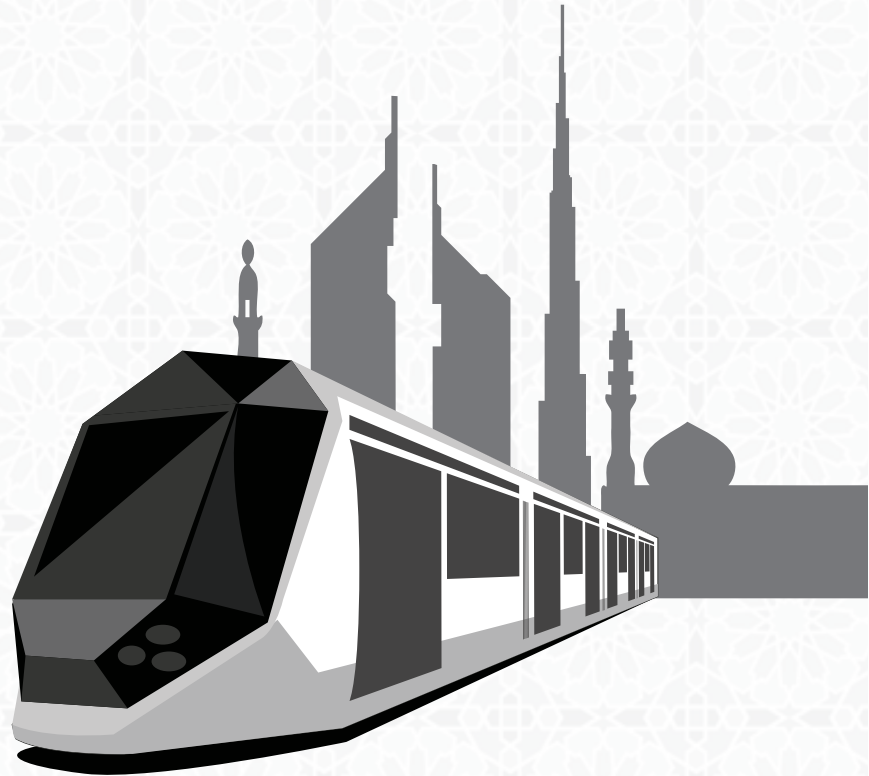
RTA Vision

Safe and Smooth Transport for All

RTA Mission

Develop integrated and sustainable transportation systems and support Dubai's comprehensive growth plans by preparing policies and legislations, adapting technologies and innovative approaches, and implementing world-class practices and standards

ترام دبي
Dubai tram





On Track

Dubai Marvel

Great strides made by the RTA about converting into reality the long-awaited dream linking Dubai Creek to a canal stretching from Sheikh Zayed Road through Safa Park and the second Jumeirah down to the Arabian Gulf at the southern part of Jumeirah Beach Park along three kilometers. The RTA sets the contract of the first & second phase of Dubai Canal project at an estimated cost of AED 884 million. The completion of the two phases work will be in the last quarter of 2016.

The first phase contract, which is estimated to cost around 500 million dirhams, includes the construction of a bridge on the axis of Sheikh Zayed Road with a capacity of eight lanes in each direction, passing upstream canal, allowing free navigation movement around the clock, in addition to adjusting the paths of the affected roads in order to achieve the integration of traffic between the two banks of the new canal. The length of the affected part of the Sheikh Zayed Road is about 800 meters. The project also includes converting the existing service lines affected by the path of the canal in addition to the lighting & water fountains works on the bridge.

The second phase contract, which is estimated to cost around 384 million dirhams, includes the establishment of bridges on Wasl and Jumeirah streets above Dubai Canal so as to allow the passage of yachts, up until 8.5 meters. It also includes the construction of a caste free integrated intersection for connecting traffic among the streets there to achieve a full smooth traffic movement after the completion of the project, and this substitutes the current traffic lights, in addition to establishing bridges to reach the proposed peninsula south of Jumeirah park. Moreover, the contract includes the works of converting services in pathways down the canal, in addition to the establishment of backup ferries for services down the canal to meet the expected future requirements.

The third phase of the vital project includes digging the canal, horticulture, building pedestrian bridges linking the two sides of the canal, building stations for maritime transport to facilitate the movement of the public and encouraging mass & touristic transport. Maritime transport means are expected to transport more than six million passengers annually according to the Strategic Plan for Maritime Transport in Dubai.

Dubai Canal project will add six kilometers from the waterfront of Dubai Emirate, and it will provide an area of over 80 thousand square meters for public places, vital facilities and distinct amenities to meet the requirements of all segments of society. The integrated project will include a set of aquatic luxury villas, boat marines in each villa and walkways for pedestrian & bicycles as well as malls, hotels and luxury restaurant. This greatly enhances Jumeirah area as a distinct tourist destination having strong attraction elements, and this new area is expected to attract from 30 to 36 million visitors a year.

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Maktoum bin Mohammed inaugurates MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2014

Under the patronage of HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of the Executive Council, HH Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, and Vice-Chairman of the Executive Council, inaugurated MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2014 at the Dubai World Trade Centre. The gathering was attended by H.E. Jassim Saif Ahmed Al Sulaiti, Qatari Minister of Transport, and Managing Director of Muwasalat Company in Qatar, Her Excellency Lina Shabib, Minister of Transport in Jordan, and a number of government department directors, as well as 400 participants hailing from 25 countries.



Upon arrival at the Dubai World Trade Center, HH Sheikh Maktoum was received by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), H.E. Peter Hendy, President of the UITP, H.E. Alain Flausch, Secretary General of the UITP, and Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Ohali, Under Secretary of the Ministry of Transport for Transport Affairs, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Chairman of MENA UITP.

His Highness and the attendants headed to ceremony hall where the event was kicked off by the National Anthem, then Al Tayer delivered a speech in which he welcomed the Chief Guest, attendants and participants of the UITP MENA Congress and Exhibition 2014; which is a product of the cooperation and partnership between the RTA and the UITP providing for holding this event biennially for a ten years' period, besides establishing the

Middle East Center for Transport Excellence. "Hosting this regional event as well as the 59th UITP Congress & Exhibition in 2011, by Dubai that made the Emirate a center of public transport in the MENA region a model to be emulated in the integrated transport systems," said Al Tayer. "The Middle East is witnessing a fast growth in all fields and to keep pace with this growth, the region is seeking to undertake promising public



transport projects costing about 100 billion Dollars. This underscores the importance of this congress which is considered a perfect opportunity for the congregation of officials and peoples concerned with the transport sector, as well as service providers, manufacturers, and operators in the sector where they can exchange views & expertise in addition to issues related to future challenges of transport, sustainability, conserving the environment and generalizing the benefits from modern practices and technologies in the field of transport," he continued.

"The mass transportation systems in Dubai have undergone a quality shift over the past five years represented in the construction and operation of the Dubai Metro, equipping a modern public transport fleet with latest international specifications, and uplifting the marine transport systems & taxis; which account for a major portion of peoples mobility in the Emirate as they are being used by about 1.2 million persons per day," he noted.

Al Tayer further added: "To keep abreast of the requirements of the sweeping development seen by Dubai spearheaded by HH Sheikh

Al Tayer: Smart Mobility constitutes a main theme of the smart city

Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, which has been accelerated in tempo since the announcement of the Dubai winning the bid to host the World Expo 2020, and in implementation of the directives of HH to migrate into the Smart City in which the smart mobility is considered a key constituent, the RTA has charted out an integrated plan for converting transport systems into smart, integrated and accessible transport means as the smart mobility is considered a key pillar of smart cities. The RTA will therefore provide more than 200 services by the end of 2015, and in November this year, it will operate the Dubai Tram; the third project worldwide fed by ground cable stretching along the tramway, with no overhead cables involved, besides being the world's first tram that uses the automated door opening technology synchronized with the opening mechanism of platform doors.

"The Dubai Metro riders whose number is

estimated as half a million rider or more per day will be treated to an exceptional experience in March 2015 where six of the metro stations will be converted into art galleries showcasing artworks as well as artistic, cultural and historical innovations. Such a unique initiative is aimed at bringing novelties, artifacts, and cultural icons to the people instead of having the people brought to see them, so that they can savor this experience during their daily travel routines.

"Youth are considered a cornerstone of the development process and they shoulder the responsibility of supplementing the development drive. The RTA took the initiative of patronizing the Dubai Youth for Public Transport initiative launched by the UITP last year such that they act as awareness ambassadors communicating and highlighting the importance of public transport. The RTA has also launched the Dubai Youth for Public Transport to enhance the role of youth in boosting and encouraging the use of public

Al Sulaiti: Giant projects undertaken in Qatar to develop infrastructure for the 2022 World Cup

transport means, and I'm pleased to welcome the participation of 34 male and female youths representing 19 countries to this Congress," added Al Tayer.

Concluding his speech, Al Tayer offered warm thanks to the President of the UITP for cooperation and support accorded to RTA efforts in hosting this important event. He also thanked the participants, attendants and sponsors of the Congress and Exhibition.

Qatar's Development

H.E. Jasim bin Saif Al Sulaiti, Qatar Minister of Transport, said: "The Congress and Exhibition is a splendid opportunity and a great platform to boost the knowledge & expertise as well as raising the awareness of the local transit options that contribute to rejuvenating the communal activities, curbing congestion and streamlining the provision of goods & services for community members. The UITP MENA has about 1,300 member companies through which more than 14,000 officials from various transport sectors between large, local, national and regional cities from 92 countries in all continents of the globe can interact. The Association is also a focal point of expertise and knowledge and a venue for sharing the best practices and standards. It is currently engaged in a process to unify the collective power of members and focus its ability on shaping the future and addressing the urban transport challenges in the waiting.

The MENA UITP had been established in 2004 with a view to raising the awareness and inculcating the culture of public transport in the region as it is considered an accessible global crossroad, besides that the region boasts of rich traditions of hospitality and world-class service levels that help attract visitors.

"In 2022 Qatar will host Soccer World Cup, and a year earlier it will host the Continental Cup.

The country had already embarked on an economic development drive

involving revamping the infrastructure as reflected in a host of mega projects including Hamad International Airport, a new port at Al Wakra, metro & rail system and tunnels network stretching underneath Doha & its bay. Hosting the World Cup has triggered a new dynamism which has been smoothly integrated in infrastructure development plans, and creating a legacy of transport systems dedicated to this event in such a way than ensures a genuine social, human, economic and environmental legacy to keep pace with Qatar National Vision 2030.

"Since Qatar won the privilege to host Football World Cup, Muasalat company made a Memorandum of Understanding with the UITP for hosting and holding Public Transport Summit and great events of MENA for 10 years with a view to providing a platform for sharing knowledge and best practices between professionals of the industry and organizers of big events in addition to cooperating in mapping out superb international standards for fulfilling the requisites of mega events and bringing an immortal legacy.

"The 21st century is witnessing sprawling expansions in terms of infrastructure and mobility in the MENA region; which contributes to removing the barriers in the way of making success and boosting the economy in future, so making public transport means accessible is a key element in realizing that vision. It is imperative to continue investing in upgrading



transport infrastructure in order to make a substantial difference in the economic and environmental efficiency of transport so that the future generations can have the transit means they need to make further successes," added Al Sulaiti.

1300 companies

Here Excellency Lina Shabib, Jordan Minister of Transport reviewed the public transport model in Jordan which is provided by the private sector through licensed operators. The fleet comprises 5,700 buses and 20,000 taxis, which lift about two million persons per day. This sector is considered the second consumer of power in Jordan as the transport sector accounts for about 35% of total energy consumption.

"The Ministry of Transport attends to charting out transport policies, and each of the Land Transport Sector Organizing Authority, Greater Amman Municipality, and Al Aqaba Economic Zone Authority cater to implementing these policies. The Land Transport Sector Organizing Authority regulates transportation through organizing the process of granting licenses and permits, Amman Municipality attends to regulating transport within the capital peripheries, while Al Aqaba Economic Zone Authority is responsible for transportation within Al Aqaba Economic Zone," she added.

Lina touched on the challenges facing the



Lina Shabib : Public transport means consumes 35% of energy in Jordan

public transport sector in Jordan, including: the spreading of individual ownership, and the lack of institutional process amongst owners of individual transit means. Individual operators account for about 88% of the workforce of the sector; which resulted in a host of problems including lack of sustainability in delivering the service, service offering is restricted to areas generating high revenues for operators, depriving low population density areas from the service, poor infrastructure in terms of starting points, stops along the routes, disorderly design of public transport network, lack of financial support for the sector by the government, poor investment attraction of the sector, poor monitoring of public transport means & drivers, and the lack of legislative structures to streamline passenger transport sector.

“The Jordanian Government is currently working on a number of infrastructure projects as well as organizational procedures to improve the quality and attractiveness of the services of the sector through encouraging the use of alternatives of private vehicles on roads in a bid to support a drive for migrating into public transport, providing multi-modes transport, providing good links between long and short distances and urban network and cities in order to ensure high levels of accessibility. Strategies and necessary work plans have been developed which resulted in several projects highlighted by nurturing a proper legislative environment

package of specialized technical studies to assess the volume of demand for the service, restructuring the public transport network to align passenger needs with the public transport system through developing master transport plan, providing infrastructure, and attending to the requirements of public transport in terms of starting points, pick up points and border crossing, constructing and operating intelligent transportation systems in the public transport sector, providing bus tracking systems, and revamping public buses. The government has provide the financial support needed through customs and taxi exemptions to rehabilitate the bus fleet and the number of buses that have been revamped since the start of the project has hit 2000 buses. The Ministry of Transport

for managing & streamlining the sector through rules, regulations and instructions, implementing a

is also seeking to include the transport sector as part of the Investment Act in order to open the door for investors to invest in this sector, and provide the financial support for the sector where the government provides support for the services of lifting students of formal universities. The subsidy is expected to be expanded after the completion of the project of intelligent transport systems project. It also seeks to implement express shuttle bus service through main routes which have high demand within Amman Municipality, and between Amman and Al Zarqaa, in addition to procuring new bus network as suggested in the Master Plan of Land Transport Organizing Authority for restructuring buses along with the hierarchical and integrated structuring of services.

The ceremony ended as H.E. Matar Al Tayer inaugurated the exhibition and toured along with the attendants the stands of the show which comprises 66 pavilions for companies from 16 countries showcasing cutting-edge technologies.



66 Exhibitors

During the opening ceremony, a movie was presented documenting the evolution of the RTA in uplifting the public transport sector; which was restricted to abras and a limited number of buses. Today it boasts an integrated public transport means comprising the Dubai Metro, the longest driverless metro in the world, more than 1,300 modern buses at world-class standards, and a range of diverse marine transport means such as the water bus, water taxi, Dubai Ferry and abras. The film also depicts the growth of public transport sector in Dubai Emirate from the past up to the present time along with a futuristic vision of public transport in Dubai.

Al Tayer Invites Members of Y4PT Foundation to Diffuse Public Transport Culture



H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), in the presence of the Secretary General of the UITP H.E. Alain Flauch, has commended members of the International Youth for Public Transport Foundation as well as members of the Dubai Youth for Public Transport (Y4PT); who act as ambassadors in raising the awareness about the importance of public transport.

The gathering was attended by Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla, RTA Board Member and Chairman of the Higher Committee of the MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition, Mrs. Alessandra GORINI, Executive Director of the International Youth for Public Transport Foundation, and 34 youths hailing from 19 countries.

At the outset of the gathering, Al Tayer welcomed members of the Y4PT Foundation wishing them nice stay in the UAE and invited them to benefit from this visit in exploring the rich tourist, cultural, historical and urban potentials found in abundance in the UAE, besides acquainting with RTA's experience in providing an

integrated infrastructure for public transport systems.

"The RTA has developed a master integrated plan for uplifting public transport systems in Dubai Emirate focused on raising the profile of Dubai as a pioneering city worldwide and a suitable, safe and sustainable place for living. The plan has been put into action through a



Tayer meeting the youth

host of projects in the fields of rail, buses, marine transit modes, traffic systems and road networks. The Dubai Metro, comprising the Red and Green Lines, is the backbone of public transport in Dubai where the metro riders savour state-of-the-art systems & facilities with top-class finishing, and super quality services. The metro ridership currently hovers around 450-500 thousand riders per day, and Dubai is bracing itself for yet another quality addition to its rail network service offerings with the launch of the Dubai Tram project; the third project worldwide powered by ground cabling system stretching all over the track, with no overhead cables involved to provide electric feed,” he continued.

“Public buses play a key role in

providing mobility services to the populace of the Emirate with a fleet comprising 1572 buses including 347 articulated buses, and 170 double deckers. The RTA also operate marine transit modes consisting of 155 abras, 10 water buses, 10 water taxis, and 10 ferries; which play a vital role in the mobility of people in the Emirate,” noted Al Tayer.

“These integrated public transport systems have contributed to doubling the share of public transport in the mobility of people from 6% in 2006 to as much as 13% in 2013, as the number of public transport riders rocketed from 163 million riders in 2006 to 440 million riders last year, and the public transport ridership in the Emirate has currently touched 1.2 million

riders per day,” explained Al Tayer. RTA Chairman of the Board and Executive Director expressed hope that the Y4PT Foundation, and the Dubai Y4PT, to join hands in building a global environmental system for youth leaders who share common values, and diffuse the culture of public transport considering it the best option for the mobility of peoples.

The youth commended RTA’s initiative for inviting them to attend the events of the MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2014, stating that they were impressed with what they had seen in terms of a unique development pattern in Dubai, and hailed the public transport system provided by the RTA for the residents, and visitors of the Dubai Emirate.

Closing Ceremony of MENA Transport Congress 2014



Al Tayer attending the closing of the Congress

His Excellency Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, along with other prolific guests attended the closing session of the UITP MENA Congress and Exhibition 2014. Among the other attendees are H.E. Dr. Ali Fakhro, Ex Minister of Education, Kingdom of Bahrain; H.E. Dr. Abdul Aziz Al Ohali, Under Secretary for Transport Affairs, Ministry of Transport, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia; H.E. Alain Flausch, Secretary General of the UITP; and a host of officials from various entities from the UAE and further afield.

In his speech, Dr. Fakhro stressed the importance for all countries to invest in building and developing public transport systems that meet the needs of various community segments as public transport modes, such as trains and buses. He said public transport system saves about five folds of the power consumed by private vehicles, besides cutting by half the air and soil pollution rates generated by private vehicles in use. He called for public transport to be integrated in future priorities of plans and projects in order to

provide transit means that serve the entire public, particularly low income groups.

"Mass transportation has additional benefits in terms of reducing traffic congestion; which is a constant concern for all metropolitan cities. Mass transportation also improves the interaction and communication between people, giving them a feeling of equality, and suppressing the feelings of isolation, alienisms and depression among those who feel socially isolated in cities worldwide," Fakhro added.

Mohammed Obaid Al Mulla, RTA Board Member and Chairman of the Higher Committee of the MENA Transport Congress and Exhibition, offered cordial thanks to H.H. Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Dubai Crown Prince and Chairman of the Executive Council, for kindly sponsoring the event, and to H.H. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, for the privilege of attending the opening ceremony.

"The Congress, which was attended



by more than 3000 delegates and visitors, discussed the future of public transport in the MENA region, and the main recommendation concluded from the Congress is the importance of putting intensive efforts, sharing views and exchanging the best practices between MENA cities which face similar challenges with a view to providing integrated public transport means in the region. "Providing an integrated public transport can only be achieved through a clear and well-rehearsed strategy, timely implementation and the efficient management of operations. The RTA is endeavoring to make this vision of the smart city a reality through a more efficient & integrated transport system, where customers care rank first and foremost," added Al Mulla.



Al Tayer decorating sponsors



Sponsors Decorated

At the end of the ceremony, Al Tayer felicitated the sponsors of the Congress including but not limited to the Department of Transport in Abu Dhabi, and Al Naboodah, VDL, Emirates Transport, Cars Taxi, Arabia Taxi, Etihad Rail, Al-Futtaim Motors, Dutco Balfour Beatty, United Motors and Heavy Equipment, Salini, AMG, Galadari Driving Center, Emirates Airlines, National Taxi, Al Ghurair and Solaris, Zarouni International Equipment, Khansaheb, and others.

Youth Projects

A number of youth affiliated to the Youth for Public Transport Foundation, made a presentation about the projects currently being developed by the Foundation which include the healthy mobility, Green Path at Al Safouh linking the Dubai Metro and the Dubai Tram, Smile project, which offers rewards to public transport users, and the knowledge bus project targeting school students in a bid to

foster integration between school transport buses and public transport buses. During the event, a movie was presented depicting the activities of the Y4PT Foundation during their participation in the Congress including a visit to the Mohammed bin Rashid Civilized and Cultural Communication Center, and technical visits to transportation systems in Dubai including the Dubai Metro, buses and various marine transit modes.

RTA Inks MoU with NTA to Regulate Issuing of Safety Permits for Etihad Rail

The Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the National Transport Agency (NTA) to regulate the issuance of safety permits in respect of Etihad Rail as regards the construction and operation of Phase I of Etihad Rail stretching from Shah and Habshan up to Al Ruwais.

The MoU was signed on behalf of the RTA by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, and on behalf of the NTA by H.E. Engineer Ibrahim Abdulla Al Wahabi, Director General of the NTA, in the presence of the Acting CEO of Etihad Rail H.E. Faris Al Mazroui, CEO of RTA Strategy & Corporate Governance Sector Abdul Mohsin Ibrahim Younes, CEO of NTA Marine Transport Sector Salim Al Zaabi, and a host of directors. According to the MoU, the two parties will define the requirements and plans as regards the issuance of safety permits to

Etihad Rail Company for operating the train on the federal rail network to be operated in the UAE, and assessing the documents submitted by Etihad Rail Company as well as Etihad Rail DB Company; which caters to the operation and maintenance of the railways, and accordingly issuing safety permits. The MoU also provides for carrying out activities in the post safety permit issuance stage to verify the discharge of safety obligations, monitor the safety performance, carry out annual safety regulation audit, and investigate accidents when necessary. A joint work team of the NTA, RTA and the Department of Transport (DoT) in Abu

Dhabi will cater to those works prior to the issuance of the safety permit.

H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, was delighted with the signing of the MoU; which constitutes a highlight in the drive to develop local and federal rail regulations in the UAE with the aim of supporting the development of a national rail transport system, adding that the RTA would harness all its expertise for the service of federal and local entities.

“The RTA has a good experience in this field gathered during the construction of the Dubai Metro and Dubai Tram projects, besides



Showcases Green Economy Achievements in WETEX 2014

The Green Economy Committee at the Roads & Transport Authority (RTA) reviewed its green economy achievements during its participation in the Water, Energy, Technology, and Environment Exhibition (WETEX); which was kicked off last April 14 at the Dubai World Trade Center. The event, which runs for three days from, features a wide international participation from government, and semi government entities as well as mega international specialized companies in this field.



Al Tayer and Al Wahabi signing the MoU

having exposure to the best international expertise & practices in the rail industry, and the signing of several agreements and memoranda of understanding with the UK Rail Regulation Office and Lloyds among others. The organizational chart of the RTA has an independent safety department affiliated to the Strategy and Corporate Governance Sector named Safety, Risk Regulation & Planning Department, to handle

tasks related to planning, policies, licensing & regulation, investigating accidents, auditing and monitoring. The RTA has also established units to cater to quality, health, safety and environment in various agencies and sectors of the RTA,” explained Al Tayer.

“Experiences gained by the RTA over the past years contributed on boosting the profile of Dubai as a leading and experienced entity at the regional level in

this specialist field. The partnership and cooperative relationships established by the RTA with international agencies in this field contributed to assessing and certifying the requisites of safety in Jumeirah rail system (The Palm Monorail) within a short period of time,” added RTA Chairman of the Board and Executive Director.

H.E. Engineer Ibrahim Abdulla Al Wahabi, Director General of the NTA, said: “The signing of this MoU culminates the close cooperation between the two authorities towards ensuring the safety of the rail system in the UAE. This MoU sets out the institutional framework for solving complex issues relating to the issuance of safety permits for Etihad Rail Company. Experts will be guided by this MoU in examining the documents of safety files submitted by Etihad Rail Company. Such an exercise includes assessing these documents, carrying out field visits to the rail facilities, holding sessions to furnish answers to questions and inquiries, and accordingly

Dr. Yousef Al Ali, CEO of the Public Transport Agency, Head of the Energy and Green Economy Committee in the RTA said: “Throughout all agencies and sectors the RTA assigns paramount importance to the energy, water, environment and public health to keep pace with the achievements made in various RTA’s projects and strategic initiatives, and contribute to fostering a green and sustainable environment to cope with the plans of the UAE and measure up to the highest international standards.”

To showcase their attention in this regard, the RTA is taking part in WETEX 2014; an annual event held by the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy and the Dubai Electricity and Water Authority featuring the participation of the biggest

international businesses to showcase the latest technologies of water, energy and environment worldwide.

The RTA will showcase a number of initiatives in this event such as street lighting units, traffic signals powered by the LED technology, the use of biofuel in buses technology, auto switch off of bus engine technology, and controlling the temperature of bus air-conditioners. It will also exhibit the mParking technology for paying parking fees, journey planner (Wojhati), Nol Card, smart taxi initiative, plantation initiative from the Dubai Taxi Corporation, environment, energy and occupational safety management policy in addition to a number of ISO certificates and the Green Economy Award in the RTA.

“The committee has allocated 200 NOL

silver cards for the first 200 visitors of RTA stand in WETEX 2014 in a bid to encourage the public to use public transit means,” Al Ali added.

It is noteworthy that the Dubai Metro is one the most prominent public transport means that uses clean energy as this modern driverless transit mode is powered by electricity. A special fuel is used in RTA buses which are fitted with engines compatible with the European Standards (Euro IV & V) and only has 50 ppm of Sulfur content; a substance considered harmful to the environment, whereas the diesel used in other public transport means in the UAE contains 500 ppm of sulfur; which itself indicates that RTA buses use fuel which is 10 times cleaner than the fuel used in other transit means.

RTA and Dubai Culture Sign MoU to Transform Six Metro Stations into Art Galleries



Al Owais and Al Tayer signing the two Memoranda of Understanding

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has signed two Memoranda of Understanding (MoU) with the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority (Dubai Culture); the first provides for transforming six of the Dubai Metro stations into art museums showcasing artistic & creative cultural works; a project that carries a total cost tag of 184 million dirham. The other MoU provides for decorating bridges & underpasses in Dubai in a bid to add artistic touches to the streets of the Emirate.

The signing of this MoU comes in implementation of the directives of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to transform the Dubai Metro Stations, which attract more than 137 million visitors per annum, into galleries exhibiting artistic, cultural and creative works. This unique initiative aims at creating permanent museums & art galleries to showcase artistic and cultural works and innovations rendering them an integral part of the lifestyle and mobility experience in Dubai. The initiative will also result in bringing artistic, cultural, aesthetic and historical artifacts & creative works to the attention of the public, rather than

bringing the public to them, rendering them an enjoyable part of the daily life of commuters, thus transforming the metro stations into cultural, artistic and historical hubs.

The MoU was signed on behalf of the Dubai Culture by H.E. Abdul Rahman Al Owais, Minister of Health and Chairman of the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, and on behalf of the RTA by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, in the presence of H.E. Saeed Al Nabooda, Acting Director General of the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, Abdulla Yousef Al Ali, Acting CEO of the Dubai Rail Agency, and a host of Directors from both entities.

Pursuant to the MoU for transforming six

Dubai Metro Stations into art museums exhibiting creative cultural artifacts, the RTA will attend to providing and preparing the infrastructure needed for stations, cater to interior designs & contents, put a tender for interior design & contents besides marketing & promoting the project. The Dubai Culture & Arts Authority will figure out the required infrastructure in terms of power, ventilation, information systems, interior design, gallery contents, tender documents for interior design & developing gallery contents, in addition to identifying & preparing artworks, and setting a plan for modernizing artifacts & gallery contents.

The meeting includes agreement to the theme and pattern of gallery in each

Al Owais: The initiative constitutes a strong offshoot of Mohammed bin Rashid's vision

Al Tayer: The project is set for completion in March 2015



Al Owais presents an artistic showpiece to Al Tayer

station. Accordingly Burjuman Station will be transformed into music and art gallery, Emirates Towers Station will be transformed into Islamic decorations & manuscripts, Financial Center Station will be transformed into an Islamic Numismatics (coins) Gallery, Burj Khalifa / Dubai Mall Station will be transformed into an e-library, and the Business Bay Station will be transformed into a photo gallery. Additionally, Noor Bank Station will play host to a Museum of Contemporary Art offering a unique & comprehensive look into modern art through a diverse collection of artifacts depicting the contemporary creative expression, where the museum will feature paintings, designs, graphics, sculptures, and other collectibles that reflect the intellectual and expressive styles created by contemporary artists from all over the world.

It was also agreed to equip the museums with the latest technologies as well as smart & interactive applications in line with the Smart Dubai initiative. There will also be a variety of artistic performances including music synchronized with the movement of the metro, light show on the roofs of stations, 3-D shows at stations, interactive screens via smartphones in all stations, and wrapping metro carriages using paper technology.

H.E. Abdul Rahman Al Owais, Minister of Health and Chairman of the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority, said: "The purpose &

objectives of the MoU are in coherence with the endeavours of the Dubai Culture and aim on uplifting the innovative profile of the Emirate through interactive communication with all spectrums of the community to keep pace with the growing artistic movement in Dubai such that all components of the city will act as a platform for exhibiting stunning art innovations. The step is also viewed as a vital contribution to realizing the vision of HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum towards enhancing Dubai preparations for hosting the World Expo 2020, and leveraging the performance of all vital sectors, culture & art included, to unprecedented levels of excellence."

"We are excited to proceed ahead in our close & constructive cooperation with the RTA so that we can together add more glamour & elegance to our city through artistic touches illustrating the rich, innovative and unique cultural fabric of Dubai," continued by Al Owais.

HE Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman and Executive Director of Roads and Transport Authority said, "The RTA, in collaboration with the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority will strive to complete the project pursuant to the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, in March 2015, so that Dubai Metro stations art galleries will be as

envisioned by His Highness as key facilities in our society and core ingredients of our daily life.

"The project will be particularly appealing to Dubai Metro riders and add an aesthetic dimension to Dubai Metro stations which are mainly designed to be unique architectural showpiece characterizing Dubai Metro. The project is expected on contributing to achieving RTA's strategic objectives of increasing the number of mass transit ridership. The initiative also hopes to contribute to communicating the sublime mission of Art, as an international language of communication between civilizations and peoples, given that the UAE in general and Dubai in particular embrace more than 200 nationalities. Through arts and cultures we can contribute to disseminating the UAE's culture and civilization as well as the achievements made by our fathers, founders of Union, whose footsteps are followed by the rulers of the emirates and led by His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan President of the UAE.

Al Tayer praised the partnership between the RTA and the Dubai Culture & Arts Authority in transforming the metro stations into cultural, artistic art galleries, stressing that the RTA will provide every support for the work team to accomplish this vital project as per the preset timetable.

Dubai is the Hub of Investment

H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has recently received in the premises of the RTA H.E. Diab Farhan Al-Rashidi, the new Consul General of the State of Kuwait in Dubai. During the meeting, discussions covered means of enhancing cooperation between the RTA and the Kuwaiti Consulate. The two parties also exchanged views on the latest developments and had cordial talks about issues of common interest.



Al Tayer receiving the Kuwaiti Consul

At the outset of the meeting, Al Tayer welcomed the Consul General of the State of Kuwait, wishing him a pleasant stay and successful mission contributing to a broader mutual cooperation in various fields. He praised the brotherly relations between the United Arab Emirates and the State of Kuwait under the wise leadership of the two countries.

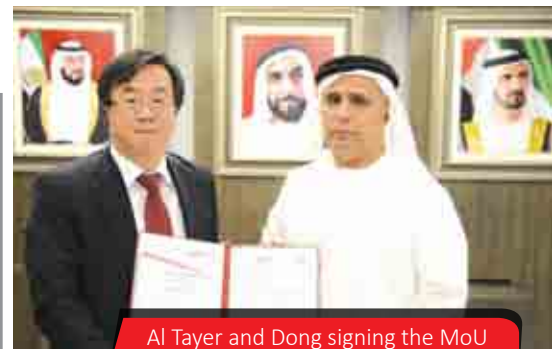
“Visits of delegations from the Gulf

Cooperation Council states constitute perfect opportunities for exchanging experiences, boosting cooperation in various fields, and benefiting from the practices adopted in GCC countries. In keeping with the directives of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the RTA stands ready to offer all expertise and capabilities in the service of

sisterly and friendly countries,” said Al Tayer. The Kuwaiti Consul General praised the upsurge in the development drive witnessed by the UAE in various fields, making it an attractive destination for investors, businessmen and tourists, thanks to the wise leadership and vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai.

MoU with Seoul Metropolitan Rapid Transit Corporation

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Seoul Metropolitan Rapid Transit Corporation (SMRT) in support of the strategic partnership relationships with a view on sharing expertise in the rail sector as well as the fare and ticketing system. MoU was signed on behalf of the RTA by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, RTA Chairman of the Board and Executive Director; and on behalf of Seoul Metropolitan Rapid Transit Corporation by H.E. Dong H. Kim, Vice Chairman of the SMRT Corporation.



Al Tayer and Dong signing the MoU

The MoU calls for boosting cooperation and exchanging expertise between the two parties in various fields of the rail sector spanning commercial development, management of quality, risks and safety, policies & regulations, asset & operations management, and financial systems & sustainable revenues. The MoU also

covers fares & ticketing policy through sharing knowledge in benchmarking studies as well as modern technologies in fare collection.

Through the MoU, the two parties will seek to enhance their partnership efforts to realize their ambitions and aspirations, and ensure reaping mutual benefits

through charting out the framework of the partnership relationships and embedding a joint business culture. Such steps will contribute to improving the performance of operations, simplifying procedures, improving customers' service, maintaining communication to serve mutual interests, exchanging corporate expertise at all levels, and sharing information and studies related to the tasks and specialties of both parties.

RTA World's First Public Entity to Obtain ISO 55001 Certification



The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has obtained the certification of the ISO 55001 standard; which was issued on 15 January 2014, for its NAMA Asset Management System, thus has become the first government entity worldwide to obtain this international certification. Following an audit conducted by the international auditing company SGS through its office in Britain, the achievement reflects RTA's capability to obtain the highest quality standards in achieving top quality standards in maintaining assets on the long run, and ensuring optimal asset utilization in the long run.

Abdullah Ali Al Madani, CEO of RTA Corporate Technical Support Services Sector, said, "RTA's success in making this breaking global achievement originates from adopting global quality standards in several fields. In addition to having in place long-term objectives to maintain assets for future generations, besides utilizing them optimally as per the highest international standards; which enabled the UAE to achieve high ranking in infrastructure quality, this is clearly an evidence of recovery of the local economy, people's happiness and the success of the UAE in general and Dubai in particular in winning the bid to host Expo 2020."

He added: "Over the past few years, the RTA spent huge amounts of its budgets in acquiring different assets and properties such as roads, tunnels and bridges network, as well as metro systems, buses, taxis and marine transit modes, among others in the Dubai emirate. The civic body is keen to ensure that these assets are distinctive not only at the UAE level but also all over the world. RTA's top management, headed by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director, and backed by the directives of Dubai prudent government, has opted to work diligently to implement the best standards, regulations and practices of the industry. Appropriate plans have been developed to build an integrated system to

manage and preserve this huge assets portfolio for the future, given that Dubai has extensive futuristic economic plans and large-scale projects highlighted by hosting the World Expo 2020, which makes it imperative for everyone to take care of these assets properly to ensure sustainability."

"Previously we adopted the PASS 55 system of the British Standards Institutes in order to ensure that RTA's assets are based on scientific principles safeguarding assets sustainability on the long run. But since development knows no limits, it was imperative for us to keep pace with the developments in this field through communicating with industry experts worldwide, and attending relevant international conferences including the international conference which was held in the UK in May 2013 which witnessed an announcement about the impending release of the new ISO standard 55001. However, we were prepared to comply with the new standard as the comprehensive work plan set up by a highly competent and efficient RTA work team four months before the announcement, contributed to raising the performance level of assets, and upgrading work procedures to keep up with the latest standard," added Al Madani.

Omar Al Deesi, Director of RTA Assets, said: "Applying the ISO 55001 is an additional step

in support of RTA's efforts to prop up the development drive, adopt the best systems, and obtain the highest international certifications in all fields. Through continuous efforts, we succeeded in building a solid base for assets & planning their sustainability, and developing plans for their optimal utilization, increased productivity and reduced operation costs. This has contributed to boosting the satisfaction of customers who are the backbone of achieving our objectives. The operational departments of the RTA play a pivotal role through lending all forms of suitable support for achieving the highest deliverables and delivering high-class services to customers.

Highlighting the features of the modern asset management system along with the differences between the system and Pass 55 system, Al Deesi said: "ISO 55001 focuses on the importance of implementing various administrative aspects of the asset management system, rendering it more comprehensive than PASS 55; which focuses on the technical aspects of the asset management process." He reiterated that during this year the RTA will seek to implement several plans on phases including working on updating relevant data, providing support from Asset Management Department to operational agencies in order to raise the efficiency of their asset management, and submitting periodic reports about the performance of assets at RTA level. "We will spare no efforts to launch all initiatives aimed at uplifting the efficiency of assets which we manage, and accordingly ensure the delivery of best-in-class services for RTA clientele at all levels in order to provide safe and smooth transport for all.

construction of bridges on Al Wasl, Jumeirah Roads AED 384M Contract to Phase II of Dubai Water Canal Project

The Board of Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), chaired by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA, has endorsed the award of the contract of Phase II of the Dubai Water Canal Project comprising the construction of bridges across the Canal on Al Wasl and Jumeirah Roads at a cost of AED 384 million. This phase constitutes an important step in the construction of the project which is intended to provide a link between the Dubai Creek and the Arabian Gulf via a water canal passing across the Sheikh Zayed Road, Al Safa Park, Jumeirah 2 and up to the Arabian Gulf near the southern part of the Jumeirah Creek Park.



“Works in Phase II of the project, which has been awarded to China State Corporation, will be completed in the final quarter of 2016 in order to coincide with the completion of Phase I of the project covering the construction of a bridge on the Sheikh Zayed Road passing over the course of the Canal, allowing free navigation around the clock,” announced Al Tayer.

“The contract of Phase II encompasses the construction of bridges on Al Wasl and Jumeirah Roads above the Dubai Water Canal enabling the passage of 8.5 meters-high yachts, and the construction of a free & integrated multi-tier interchange providing a traffic link between Al Wasl, Al Hadiqa and Al Athar Roads in a smooth manner after the project completion to replace the existing light signals. It also includes the construction of a bridges leading to the proposed peninsula to the south of Jumeirah Park. The contract also covers utility diversion works beneath the Canal, in addition to the construction of spare conduits for utility lines underneath the Canal to meet the projected future requirements,” explained Al Tayer.

“The RTA has drawn up plans governing traffic diversion to ensure smooth traffic flow such that the engineering design of the temporary traffic diversion will conform



Al Tayer: Integrated traffic diversion plan made to ensure free traffic movement



to the specifications of permanent roads in terms of engineering design, leveling of the asphalt surface, and the provision of lighting compatible to the design speed of the road in order to ensure the traffic safety of all road users. The contractor’s work area will be fully separated by a high barrier to keep the disturbance to road users and residents of the neighborhood to the minimum. The number of lanes during the diversion stage will be equal to the existing number of lanes in order to make sure that such diversions will not have a negative impact on the existing traffic volumes, and accordingly avoid any congestion or delay caused by construction works,” added Al Tayer.

Sheikh Zayed Road

Commenting on the work progress in the construction of Phase I of the Canal project, Al Tayer said: “The contractor is about to finalize the diversion of all utility lines within the right of way of the Sheikh Zayed Road, and the company will embark on the traffic diversion works on the Sheikh Zayed Road in the direction from Dubai to Abu Dhabi next July and such that the traffic diversion will be made on 25 October.”

The contract of Phase I; which costs about 500 million dirham, includes the construction of a bridge on the Sheikh Zayed Road comprising 8 lanes in each direction passing over the Canal course in a way enabling free navigation 24/7. Routes of impacted roads will be modified in order to ensure an integrated traffic movement between the two banks of the Canal, noting that the impacted part of the Sheikh Zayed Road extends 800 meters. The project also includes the shifting of the existing utility lines works which are impacted by the course of the canal in addition to lighting works, and water fountains on the bridge.



Work progresses in Dubai Water Canal, Jumeirah Corniche



Al Tayer briefed about work progress in the Dubai Water Canal

H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), revealed that the company undertaking the construction of Phase I of the Dubai Water Canal was about to complete the diversion of all utility lines, and that it would start traffic diversion works on the Sheikh Zayed Road in the direction from Dubai to Abu Dhabi in July, such that traffic diversion to start from October 25th this year.

Al Tayer made these remarks during an inspection tour to the Dubai Water Canal and the Jumeirah Corniche during which he was accompanied by Engineer Maitha bin Udai, CEO of RTA Traffic & Roads Agency; Nabeel Mohammed Salih, Director of Roads; Husain Mohammed Al Banna, Director of Traffic; and a host of engineers from the RTA and project contractors.

Al Tayer was briefed on the work progress in the Dubai Water Canal, which is carried out by the Turkish Gunal company. The contract of the initial phase, costing about 500 million dirham, comprises the construction

of a bridge on the Sheikh Zayed Road, with a capacity of 8 lanes in each direction, crossing over the canal in a way enabling free marine navigation 24/7, besides diverting the routes of impacted roads to ensure integrated traffic movement between the two shores of the canal. The impacted sector of the Sheikh Zayed Road extends about 800 meters, and the project also includes the diversion of the utility lines which are impacted by the course of the canal, as well as lighting and fountain works for the bridge.

Al Tayer directed the concerned parties to give paramount care and attention to the

project as it is situated on the Sheikh Zayed Road; which is a key traffic corridor linking various districts and townships of the Dubai Emirate. Moreover, both sides of the road border several government organizations and tourist facilities, and the road links Dubai Emirate with Abu Dhabi Emirate towards the south, and other Emirates towards the north. Al Tayer also directed to ensure all security & safety standards are well addressed in the project.

It is noteworthy that works of the Dubai Water Canal project have been divided into three contracts; the first and second

contracts are for constructing bridges across the water canal on the key roads traversing the route of the canal i.e. the Sheikh Zayed Road comprising 8 lanes in each direction in addition to Al Wasl Road and Jumeirah Road, each comprising the construction of a bridge of 3 lanes in each direction. The third contract is dedicated to drilling works of the canal, landscaping works, constructing four footbridges to link both sides of the canal, and four marine transport stations to ease the mass transit and encourage the use of public and tourist transport modes.

Jumeirah Corniche

Al Tayer also inspected work progress in the Jumeirah Corniche Project which runs along the beach of six residential communities starting from the area at the back of the Dubai Marine Beach Resort, and up to Burj Al Arab Hotel in a 14 km-long stretch, rendering it the longest corniche in the Emirate.

Al Tayer was briefed about the work progress in the project which was started by the RTA in the middle of February last and completion rate has now touched 20% in

the project which is scheduled for opening next November.

Al Tayer stressed the importance of paying full attention to details of the project in

terms of quality & durability of floors of the jogging and walking track, benches, and kiosks among others such this project will be carried out as envisioned by HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, rendering it an avenue for fun, practicing activities, top-class care for visitors from citizens, residents and tourists as well as a destination for relaxation and practicing sports.

Besides the added value of the project as another aesthetic destination in the city of Dubai, it also has a special importance as it contributes to enhancing the social infrastructure in the Emirate, particularly in the field of public health. The project aims to transform the sand beach into a more vibrant venue through providing aesthetic, decorative and entertainment elements as well as public services to visitors of the Beach from residents and tourists descending on the Emirate to enjoy seaside sitting or practicing jogging and walking sport.



Al Tayer inspects work progress in Dubai Water Canal, Jumeirah Corniche

Traffic diversion on Sheikh Zayed Road to start on Oct 25th: Al Tayer

Work completion in Jumeirah Corniche touches 20%, Project opening in Nov



13 pedestrian bridges have been completed, 4 tram bridges are currently under construction

The Board of Directors of the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), chaired by H.E. Mattar Al Tayer, RTA Chairman of the Board and Executive Director, has endorsed a plan to construct 19 pedestrian bridges in 2014 and 2015 in various vital parts of the Dubai Emirate. According to the plan, 7 bridges will be constructed this year, and the remaining 12 bridges are set for construction next year.

“Constructing footbridges stems from the commitment of the RTA to provide safe means for pedestrians to cross roads. The new bridges will be constructed in a number of vital locations that have been identified in traffic studies focused on the dense movement of people between the two sides of the road, areas with abundant shops and organizations, and locations recording high run-over accidents (black points),” said Al Tayer.

“During this month of April, the RTA will start the construction of seven pedestrian bridges, five of which will be fitted with lifts, including a bridge on Bani Yas Street near the Marina, a bridge on Al Mina Street, two bridges on Baghdad Street; the first near the Pakistani School, and the second near the Aqua Park, and one bridge at each of Al Maktoum Street, Amman Street, and Al Rasheed Street. The new bridges will be completed in the last quarter of 2015,” he added.

“Next year the RTA will construct 12 pedestrian bridges distributed over a

number of vital locations including Bani Yas Street near Dubai Municipality building and a bridge on Damascus and Al Nahda Streets. The RTA adopts specific standards in designing and constructing pedestrian bridges in Dubai Emirate through carrying out traffic studies that address population density, driving speed, services provided on both sides of the road and the number of traffic accidents in the area. Depending on the solutions concluded in those studies, deliverables are reflected in the form of technical and traffic projects such as pedestrian bridges, signalized pedestrian crossing areas, humps, and speed calming devices among others,” explained Al Tayer.

“The RTA has recently completed the construction of 13 footbridges comprising a pedestrian bridge on Al Saada Street opposite to the World Trade Center (Conventions Hall) spanning 92 meters and fitted it with two lifts in each direction to accommodate the huge number of visitors to the Center. It has also completed the construction of two bridges on the Sheikh



Mohammed bin Zayed Road, the first is near the Fruits and Vegetables Market stretching 100 meters, and the second is near Workers Quarters at Muhaisnah extending 86 meters. It has also constructed other bridges on Al Mina Street, Sheikh Rashid Street, Umm Suqeim Street, Al Whuhaida Street, Amman Street, LatifabintHamdan Street, Abu Baker Al Siddique Street, Al Khaleej Street (Deira City Center Metro Station), Al Munkhool Street, and Al Rasheed Street, besides constructing lifts for the existing bridge at Al Nahdah. Work is currently underway in constructing four covered and air-conditioned pedestrian bridges for the Dubai Tram project; two at Al Suffouh Street to serve tram users and



RTA Plans to Construct 19 Footbridges in 2014, 2015

residents on both roadsides, and the other two link Tecom with the community in the opposite side of the Road, and the Dubai Marina Mall; offering the public a safe mobility means to cross the street in that vital area,” he further added.

The Chairman of the Board and Executive Director of the RTA concluded by calling on citizens, residents and visitors to use the bridges and subways dedicated for crossing roads, and also called motorists to abide by the specific speed limits and slow down at pedestrian crossing points for their own safety and the safety of road users.



RTA Carries Tourists and Visitors to “The Heart of Europe Islands”



RTA's Public Transport Agency will transport onboard their marine transport modes tourists and visitors to “The Heart of Europe Islands” located on the World Islands after the project is completed.

This has recently been stated during a ceremony of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing between RTA's Public Transport Agency and Kleindienst Group, the developer of “The Heart of Europe Islands,” at the Agency Headquarter in Dubai. For the RTA, the Agreement was signed by Dr. Yousef Al Ali, CEO of Public Transport Agency and for the Group Mr. Josef Kleindienst, CEO of the Kleindienst Group in the presence of several directors and managers from both parties. Dr. Yousef Al Ali reiterated RTA's serious endeavors to open up cooperative channels and establish a long-term public private partnership (PPP), especially with tourist operators in the UAE. Through launching joint ventures and reciprocal activities in the field of marine transportation in Dubai with a view to boosting tourism in the Emirate and keeping abreast

of the global progress afoot in this field, Dubai's tourism could flourish. “The objectives of signing this Agreement revolve around achieving mutual benefits through outlining the framework of the partnership relationships between both parties,” said Al Ali. “We, at Public Transport Agency, are always keen on improving the performance & efficiency of our marine transit modes including the Water Bus, Water Taxi and Dubai Ferry services, engaging in new investment prospects in commercial marine transport services, cooperating in the fields of advertising & marketing to promote our marine transit modes through profiling the Water Bus, Water Taxi and Ferry Dubai in the Kleindienst Group's media channels,” he added.

The CEO of Public Transport Agency reaffirmed RTA's commitment to deliver world class services to the

public from all social segments including the daily public transportation commuters, tourists and visitors flocking into Dubai from different parts of the world particularly during the high season of organizing the conferences and exhibitions representing different sectors and industries. For his part, Mr. Josef Kleindienst, expressed his satisfaction and pleasure to join forces with RTA's Public Transport Agency and jointly deliver marine transportation services to tourists and visitors of their prospective landmark “The Heart of Europe Islands” tourist venture. “We definitely get along with RTA's strong customer oriented initiatives and plans to delivering the world's best services in tourism and public transportation sectors and enhance Dubai's internationally reputed position as an economic and servicing center,” said Mr. Kleindienst.

Private Cruises Aboard Dubai Ferry to follow Al Gaffal 2014

The Public Transport Agency, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has recently launched a dedicated service for enthusiasts of tourist marine transport, particularly Dubai Ferry fans, offering them an opportunity to savor watching

the 60 feet Dhow Sailing Race, locally known as Al Gaffal, on Saturday 17th of May 2014.

Hussain Khansaheb, Director of Marine Transport, RTA Public Transport Agency, said: “Through this initiative we are seeking

to effectively contribute to the success of this race as it reminds us of our deeply rooted past which is closely related to marine life in the Arabian Gulf represented in fishing and pearl diving. “The RTA is

Telephone and Household Surveys to Update Roadway & Transport Strategic Plans

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently embarked on revising and updating its road and transport strategic plans, and in this context, it is conducting telephone surveys and field visits at homes to gather information about all society segments and better understand mobility patterns of individuals and families taking residence or jobs in the Emirate of Dubai.

The move is part of a scheme through which the RTA is seeking to improve the travelling experience through boosting roads network and developing an integrated mass transit system in the Emirate.

Abdul Mohsen Ibrahim Younes, CEO of RTA Strategy and Corporate Governance Sector, said: "The RTA is currently updating its strategic & implementation roadway & transport plans in a bid to develop comprehensive, integrated and effective solutions that serve the future requirements of the economic & urban development in Dubai, and fulfill RTA's vision of providing safe and smooth transport for all. The RTA has tasked a specialized international consultancy firm to undertake telephone and field surveys over three months in an effort to develop effective and efficient concepts and plans that pave the way for achieving concrete results in this field for the benefit of a wide spectrum of roadway & public transport users in Dubai." "The survey encompasses telephone interviews with a large number of citizens and expatriates of various nationalities, besides visiting a large number of houses to interview targeted samples, be it individuals or families, in order to identify their mobility patterns

along with the factors affecting their choice of mode of transportation in order to benefit from such inputs in improving, expanding and upgrading roads and public transport networks and services in the Emirate. Field visits will start on 21st April this year and have been preceded by telephone calls made to a large number of individuals starting last March," added Abdul Mohsin.

"The RTA will handle in strict confidentiality personal data to ensure the privacy of respondents, be it individuals or families. All information & data expressed by the public will be collated, analyzed and studied in a professional, transparent and accurate manner in order to achieve the best results that inform the RTA in updating its strategic and implementation plans of roadway network and mass transit systems, including the metro, public buses and various marine transport modes, in addition to the Dubai Tram," he noted.

"The RTA," he continued, "views the public as a key partner in enhancing its transport system since they are the beneficiaries of its various services, which are oriented to all society segments, including citizens, expatriates, tourists and visitors."

always keen on participating in all sports, social and economic events among other local, regional and international events held by various entities in the Emirate of Dubai with a view to raising the image of Dubai, considering it a leading tourist, commercial and service hub in the region and the world

over," he explained.

"Fans interested in watching Al Ghaffal race 2014 on board the Dubai Ferry can buy tickets for the tour by calling 050-5875531 or 04-3963135," added Khansaheb.

This annual event is supported by HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Rashid Al Maktoum,

RTA Updates Wojhati App



The Public Transport Agency, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has introduced new updates to Wojhati App on smartphones in the context of its continuous efforts to upgrade the quality of services offered to customers to match their needs which are getting more diverse and ambitious in maximizing the benefits from smart service devices.

"Having Wojhati App as the winner in the Hamdan bin Mohammed Smart Government Program, provided a renewed motivation for a comprehensive quest for added quality to our technological service offering. This has prompted us to introduce new features to the service such as enabling public transport users to use Wojhati app to access name addresses stored in the mobile phone, and automatically select a name by a single touch from any active window the customer might be in without having to return to the address menu of the phone," said Adel Shakri, Director of Transportation Systems, RTA Public Transport Agency.



Deputy Ruler of Dubai, who initiated the idea and inaugurated the race back in 1991; which continued to roll on till reaching its present 24th renewal.

Dubai Metro Ridership Hits 40M in Q1

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) announced that the Dubai Metro, comprising of the Red and Green Lines, has posted high ridership during the first quarter of this year clocking up to 40,655,978 passengers, which compares well with the ridership recorded for the same period last year amounting of 33,341,095 riders.

Abdullah Yousef Al Ali, Acting CEO of RTA Rail Agency, said: “The number of the metro riders during the first three months of this year constitute a solid indicator that the Dubai Metro has become one of the prime transit means commanding the attention of the Dubai residents, visitors and tourists, offering smooth mobility and access to key parts of the city in a way that measures up to the needs and expectations of users. “This year has witnessed a remarkable growth in the number of metro riders

compared to the previous year; which has always been the core of our plans tailored to delivering a whole host of initiatives and service improvements capable of enticing all community members to use the metro as a primary transit means characterized by security, luxury and safety. The directives of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, is to transform the metro stations into galleries radiating the stylish as well as

the heritage-inspired features of Dubai Emirate. It is bound to have a robust contribution to uplifting the footfall of the metro stations rendering them a venue for visual pleasure and peace of mind,” added Al Ali.

Elaborating the breakdown of the metro ridership per line and station, Al Ali said: “The number of Red Line trips made during the first quarter of the current year has reached 30,400 compared to 26,359 trips during the same period last year. The number of the Green Line trips

Dubai Taxi Lifts 45M Passengers; Make 26M Trips in Q1 More than 2 million calls picked up by the Booking

The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) revealed that the number of taxi trips in Dubai Emirate has posted a significant increase during the first quarter of this year reflecting the ability of the sector, and all public transport systems in the Emirate, to handle the increasing ridership of public transport modes in which taxicabs are considered key component characterized by flexibility to users’ needs and the offering diverse and specialized services that meet all the needs of community segments. “The number of trips made by taxicabs during the first quarter of this year has hit 26,142,496 trips, reflecting more

than 5% increase when compared with the figure posted during the same period last year, which amounted to 25,022,423 trips,” announced Adel Shakeri, Director of Transportation Systems, RTA Public Transport Agency. “Likewise, the number of taxi users during the first quarter of this year reached 45,487,943 passengers; reflecting a 4% growth rate from the same period last year where it lifted 43,539,290 passengers,” he continued. Commenting on statistics about the Booking and Dispatch Center, which provides taxi service via telephone calls, Shakeri said: “The number of booking

executed during the first quarter of this year amounted to 1,272,276 booking whereas it was 1,133,733 booking last year. Hala Taxi service, which was launched in the first of November 2013 as a service dedicated to taxi bookings made through the Booking and Dispatch Center, handled 222,807 bookings during the first quarter of this year; which reflects the role of the new service in catering to the needs of the Booking and Dispatch Center clients. The number of calls received by the Booking and Dispatch Center during the first quarter of this soared by 20% reporting 2,039,926 calls whereas the

topped 23,876 compared to 7,841 trips made during the same period last year. The number of passengers using the Red Line during the first quarter of this year amounted to 26,138,923 passengers, compared to 21,803,705 passengers lifted during the same period last year and the total number of users of the Green Line in the first quarter of this year soared to 14,517,055 riders compared to 11,537,390 riders last year. Deira City Centre station on the Red Line has topped passengers count clocking 1,841,072 passengers, with Burj Khalifa - Dubai Mall Station ranking close second with ridership hitting 1,813,854 passengers. The Union Station came third reporting 1,705,712 passengers, and Al Rigga Station was fourth in the passenger pecking order recording 1,626,775 passengers”

Al Ali went on saying, “Al Fahidi Station



on the Green Line came first during the first quarter of 2014 recording a ridership of 1,657,650 passengers, followed by Baniyas Station with 1,609,747 passengers, and in the third place came

Al Ghubaiba Station recording 1,207,237 passengers, ahead of Oud Metha Station ranking fourth with ridership as much as 1,054,012 passengers.”

number was 1,689,444 calls during the first quarter of last year.

“This achievement has been made available thanks to the use of one of the most sophisticated and accurate technological systems worldwide, known as the Dispatcher System (D8); and is viewed as the backbone of monitoring taxi operations in Dubai Emirate,” noted Shakeri. “This advanced system supports the drive initiated by the prudent Dubai Government towards the Smart Government as it links all customers with service providers through a variety of smart communication channels, rendering the service accessible at any time and place in the UAE in general and Dubai in particular. Among the key features of the D8 system is the zoning of areas in a way that makes

it easy for cab drivers to understand districts and locations, and enhances their ability to access borderlines and other geographical locations defining the borderline of each district, which contributes to a better distribution of bookings and enabling drivers to pick up bookings from the nearest point to the customer.

“This advanced system identifies the number and types of bookings, and the number of taxicabs in general; which helps in drawing up development plans and making good preparations for events held in the Emirate. The system also enables identifying the most and the least frequented areas in terms of the taxi booking service; which helps in the distribution of taxicabs per district,” added Shakeri.

The Booking and Dispatch Center was established in 1995 and is responsible for executing the procedures of booking various taxicabs and taxi services between customers and franchise companies, following up the dispatch of the cab (service) to the customer, and attending to customer calls 24/7 through 3 daily shifts. The Center also offers a range of specialized services to meet various needs of community members such as Hala Taxi, Limousine Service, VIP Service, Family Vans, Ladies-Dedicated Cabs, Special Needs Vehicles, and the booking of a taxicab for 6 or 12 hours. Those figures and information is an accurate indicator of the factual operation of the taxi sector; and contribute to an optimal planning process based on realities on the ground in terms of ridership volumes and public needs.

Public Transport Agency Honors Partners, Suppliers and Employees

The Public Transport Agency at the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has decorated scores of partners and suppliers, who represented various vital sectors in the UAE, in addition to honoring distinguished employees at all departments.



The decoration was made during the Public Transport Agency's annual recognition ceremony held in the presence of Dr. Yousef Mohammed Al Ali, CEO of the Public Transport Agency, along with directors and managers along with delegates from partners and suppliers of the Agency, representing Taxi franchise companies in addition to various companies and institutions from the business community in the UAE. The event is held in the context of the policy of the Public Transport Agency and its plan aimed at promoting and galvanizing the efforts of employees. Through the event, the Agency reviewed its achievements in 2013 and the key plans it seeks to implement in the near future.

Dr. Al Ali reiterated the Agency's unremitting commitment to recognize its distinguished employees and appreciate the great efforts they have made and the dedication they have

shown in performing tasks entrusted to them, with such creativity and innovation in a way that enhances RTA's reputation among various social strata in Dubai Emirate, especially amongst public transport users and recipients of diverse services on offer by the RTA.

Dr. Al Ali paid tribute to the sincere efforts of the Agency's staff that have spared no effort and worked continuously to make achievements; which speaks volumes of their commitment to achieve their common target vis-à-vis the integrating of mass transit means in Dubai in keeping with the emirate's status as a key global, economic and commercial business hub. Dr. Yousef Al Ali delivered a speech on the occasion where he highlighted the importance of team work and collective thinking in inducing the required change towards the better, besides accomplishing high-quality tasks at par with

the highest international standards. This has been achieved by the Public Transport Agency thanks to the keenness of its staffs on sharing responsibilities and ideas, which contributed significantly to making achievements and successes.

The attendees reviewed the achievements made by the Agency in 2013 towards realizing RTA's strategic goals, signing several cooperation agreements with various bodies including government, semi-government and private companies, besides lending support to various social events. Moreover, 2013 saw a significant improvement in customers satisfaction rating compared to previous years, coupled with a rise in the ridership of public buses, inter-city buses and marine transport modes, in addition to the noticeable growth in the culture of using public transport means in general among various community segments.

Dubai Taxi Launches Smartphone App

The Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC), Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has recently launched its application made available on smartphones such as iPhone, Android and BlackBerry. This App will enable users to access Dubai Taxi's main services offered. The move comes

in the context of DTC's plan to keep pace with the smart transformation drive involving the use of cutting-edge and smart technologies in various services provided to customers.

Mansour Rahma Al Falasi, Acting CEO of Dubai Taxi Corporation, said: "The

DTC has carried out this project under the new policy for migrating into the Smart City drive in the Emirate of Dubai, characterized by quality service offering and enhanced service delivery at world-class standards observed at the advanced countries. This will provide

Dubai Taxi Hosts Rhetoric Arab Contest



The Dubai Taxi Corporation (DTC), at Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) in collaboration with UAE Toastmasters Club, has hosted the Rhetoric Arab Contest for Section F, Sector 20, in order to support Arabic Language and National Identity. The step will have a positive bearing on nurturing a generation of employees' capable of delivering public speeches in Arabic and acquiring the key leadership qualities, namely communicating, public speaking and inspiring people.

Mansour Rahma Al Falasi, Director of Resources and Support at Dubai Taxi Corporation, said: "The Contest, which was held on 23rd of March 2014 at DTC's Head Office, Muhaisina 4, witnessed the participation of about eight contestants from UAE Leaders Toastmasters Club and Pioneers Club in two competitions: the first is the improvised orations contest, attracting 5 contestants, while the second contest is the international oration Contest, featuring the participation of 3 contestants.

"Three contestants have qualified for the Rhetoric Arab Contest for Sector 20, which will be held in May 2014 in Muscat, Oman, where Mansour Al Falasi will represent the DTC in the Comic Contest and the

Toastmasters Evaluation Contest," he said. "The Toastmasters Clubs aim to provide a positive learning environment characterized by mutual support where club members will have the appropriate opportunity to refine their communication and leadership skills, besides assisting men and women to learn the arts of rhetoric, along with listening and thinking skills, which are crucial for ensuring self-realization, improving leadership capacities and enhancing understanding among all human beings," explained Al Falasi.

Citing statistics from the American Toastmasters Organization, the Director of DTC Resources and Support said, "There are more than 14,000 clubs spreading

over 122 countries all over the world, with 292,000 members. The Annual Global Rhetoric Contest will be held in Malaysia in August 2014 for the first time, as all previous editions used to be hosted annually by United States."

At the end of the meeting, Essa Al Suwaidi, Chairman of the UAE Leaders Toastmasters Club, honoured the DTC for the unlimited support accorded to the Club as it hosts the Club's meetings every two weeks, besides hosting the Arab Rhetoric Contest and providing all kinds of logistical support. A number of employees from both DTC and the RTA participated in the Club's meetings and improved their skills in the art of communication, public speaking, elocution and leadership.

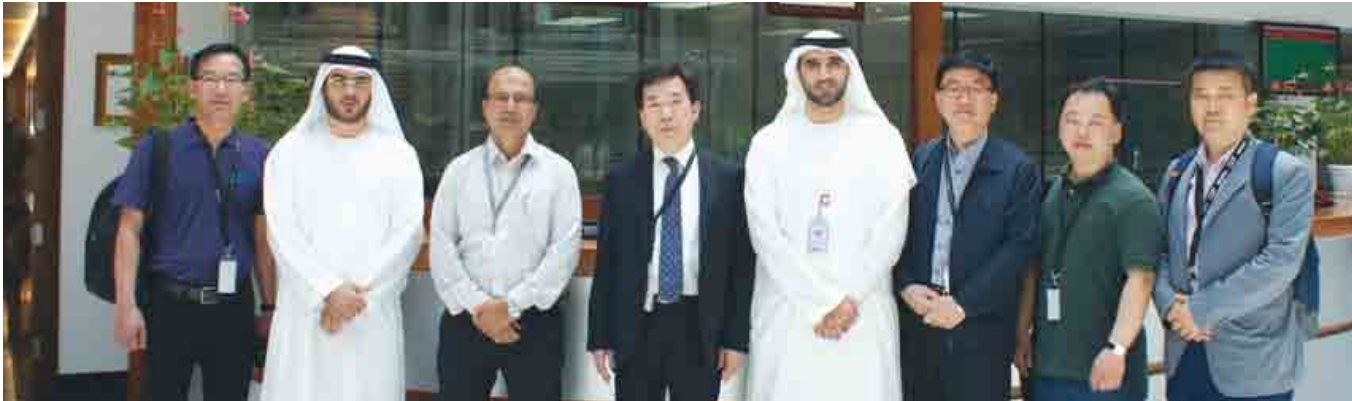
a smooth, speedy and transparent mechanism to cater to the needs of customers spanning various community segments, and exerting more efforts towards making taxi services one of the most luxurious and distinctive services in the transport sector.

"Customers can download the App free

in their iPhone, Android and BlackBerry devices (from Apple Store or Google Play), enabling them to access a range of services in the App including: booking a taxi, fare calculation, trip tracking. News feed about various projects, initiatives and services of the DTC including Mashaweer service (hiring drivers

without a vehicle), safe hands taxi, saying thank you to the driver (through dropping customer details), and points of interest such as airlines, cinema, hotels, banks, schools, hospitals, restaurants, and beaches among others will be included as well.

RTA Shares Rail Operation, Maintenance Practices with Korean Delegation



The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) has recently briefed a visiting South Korean delegation, representing Seoul Metro Company, about its experience in rail operation and the best relevant practices in the field of rail technology, control mechanism and maintenance and give illustration of the operations carried out at Rashidiya Depot of the Dubai Metro.

Mohammed Al Mudharreb, Director of Rail Operation at RTA's Rail Agency, said: "The RTA is always keen on sharing experiences with countries concerned in the field of rail operation, given that the Dubai emirate has a pioneering experiment in mass transit, particularly in the Dubai Metro project, which is the longest driverless metro system in the world."

"The delegation visited the Operations Control Center at Rashidiya Depot, where it was briefed on employees'

tasks as regards coping with emergency cases such as responding to early warning devices, and attending to issues related to security, communication, malfunctions, metro operation & stopping control systems, as well as monitoring the electricity network & feeding systems." He pointed out that the delegation was also briefed on how to monitor the movement of trains, the safe operation, how to provide alternatives in case of any emergency, and the 2,000

digital cameras deployed in metro lines and operated in cooperation with the Transport and Security Department of Dubai Police through the closed-circuit television (CCTV), which is monitored by a dedicated security officer.

"The delegation was also acquainted with the work mechanism of the Maintenance Department in terms of two types of workshops: The first is designed to address light and simple breakdowns and simple as well as routine & regular maintenance, while

RTA Holds Induction Course About 'Idikhari Initiative'

The Human Resources & Development Department at the Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), and in collaboration with the National Bonds Corporation, has recently held an introductory workshop to enlighten employees about 'Idikhari Initiative'. It was rolled out by the Human Resources Dep't of the

Dubai Government last year and aims to educate public servants about the importance of saving for securing their future.

Kawther Kazim, Director of RTA Human Resources & Development Dep't, said: "The RTA is always keen on holding a number of educative workshops for

employees in coordination with other community organizations in a bid to work with them towards fostering their competencies, honing their thoughts and boosting their inherent talents. The civic body also seeks to instill in its employees the importance of having secured as well as sharia-compliant

RTA Hosts International Expert Forum on Delivering Superior Services

The Human Resources and Development Department, Administrative Corporate Support Services Sector, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has organized a lecture entitled 'Secrets of Superior Service,' delivered by the renowned world expert Mr. Ron Kaufman. Kaufman is an author of several books in service provision, self-development and positive energy among other fields and one of the best 25 speakers, trainers, advisors and thought-leaders worldwide.

Kawthar Kazim, Director of RTA Human Resources and Development, reaffirmed RTA's keenness to hone capabilities & skills of all employees, not only customer service employees, in order empower them to provide best-in-class services starting from domestic inter-employees service and finishing up with services offered to the public as well as RTA customers spanning



all community segments. "This workshop, she added, is part of a series of workshops discussing positive energy, which is catalyst for providing sterling services to all customer categories".

"Excelling in service provision is one of the key objectives that we always strive to realize at all RTA's agencies and sectors since our tasks are based on delivering services at world-class standards to our clientele including public transport passengers & recipients of our diverse services, which have become a distinctive feature of Dubai emirate. Therefore, we are very keen to organize such lectures, and having them delivered by the most prominent international speakers" Added by Kazim. The international expert Ron Kaufman delivered a suspenseful, interesting lecture, featuring active participation from

RTA's male & female employees; and has significantly helped in communicating the required information to the audience who interacted with the lecturer as well as with each other, thus creating a wonderful and energetic atmosphere.

Kaufman said "Excelling in service delivery means keeping services on the up. The service delivery levels, be it among employees or services on offer to the public, can be divided into basic, expected, required, amazing and unbelievable services. Since the RTA is a service entity that provides public transport and a diverse array of services, its employees had to take the pains of putting excellent performance characterized by high positive energy since it is the vital driving force for progress and advancement."

savings to protect them and safeguard the future of their families, and coaching them to reset their budgets & outlays according to the set priorities; which will ultimately result in financial stability and peace of mind."

"No doubt 'Idikhari Program' launched by the Human Resources Dep't of the Dubai Government is considered one

of the key and important initiatives at the Government level as it bears a positive message to employees in the entire public sector, thus makes the first step towards epitomizing the strategic objectives of Dubai in terms of increasing the productivity and improving the quality of delivering services," she continued.



RTA Takes Part in 14th Careers Show



The Roads and Transport Authority (RTA) is taking part in Careers Show UAE; which was opened last April 22 in the World Trade Center and continues through Thursday, April 24th. The job fair features a wide participation of various entities and firms in the UAE with the aim of boosting the Emiratization drive by offering placements for fresh UAE graduates.

Public Transport Agency Signs Strategic Partnership Agreement with Big Bus Company

The Public Transport Agency, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), has recently signed a strategic partnership with Big Bus Company in Dubai Emirate. The Agreement provides for both parties is to develop a joint strategies and plans to link the Big Bus service, which is becoming very popular with a large segment of tourists and visitors flocking to Dubai from all parts of the world, with RTA's marine transit means in order to enhance the tourist transport service in the emirate.

A meeting to this effect was held between the two parties in the premises of the Public Transport Agency where the agreement was signed on behalf of the RTA by Dr. Yousef Mohammed Al Ali, CEO of Public Transport Agency, and Mr. Mike Lees the General Manager of Big Bus Company.

In a speech delivered on this occasion, Dr. Yousef Al Ali said: "By signing this partnership agreement with the Big

Bus Company, the Public Transport Agency is seeking to realize a number of strategic objectives and goals capable of promoting and upgrading tourist transport services, which will bring about economic & social benefits, and promote tourism in the Dubai emirate. Accordingly, Big Bus Company will direct its customers and tourists coming to Dubai from all parts of the world to use public buses within Dubai emirate

to add more fun and comfort to their tourist experience in the emirate."

Al Ali added: "Through the Big Bus Company, the Public Transport Agency will offer incoming tourists a chance to experience the riding of public buses, and marine transit modes including Dubai Ferry, Water Bus, and the Water Taxi to enjoy a cruise between the two shores of Dubai Creek."

Mr. Mike Lees, General Manager of

Kawthar Kazim, Director of Human Resources and Development at RTA Corporate Administrative Support Services Sector, said, "The RTA is keen on participating in this event on an annual basis, as it contributes to availing qualified citizens the opportunity to find suitable jobs in various fields, not to mention the role of the Career Fair in promoting RTA's Emiratization strategy. The event attracts a large chunk of fresh graduates from universities, colleges and institutes as well as leading and administrative Emirati cadres in various technical capacities, especially engineering fields. This has rendered Careers UAE an ideal platform for offering various jobs required by the

labor market. It is worth-mentioning that Emiratization rate in RTA's leadership positions has soared to 97%, whereas the overall jobs Emiratization jobs rate has reached 81%.

"RTA's participation in Careers UAE this year has involved delivering a comprehensive presentation of plans and programs of human resources adopted by the RTA in the context of the Emiratization strategy adopted by various affiliated sectors and agencies, besides familiarizing job seekers with RTA's professional work environment, explained Kawthar.

"RTA's participation in this year's edition of Careers UAE is reflected in offering vacancies available at the

RTA, be it in the technical or specialist fields such as engineering, accounting and IT jobs, which are directly offered to job seekers, who will be subjected to instant interviews conducted by the concerned directors throughout the event," continued by Kazim.

"The selected fresh grads will be subjected to training sessions according to their specialties, in order to enhance their abilities, hone their talents and leverage their performance efficiency in the work environment in a bid to provide the RTA with young promising Emiratis capable of adding to the legacy of RTA through a host of future projects," said RTA Director of Human Resources and Development in his final remark.



Big Bus Company expressed his delight to sign this agreement with the Public Transport Agency, saying "We are delighted to support this strategic initiative from the RTA by participating in shaping the future of Dubai through signing this agreement with the Public Transport Agency. This agreement would avail us an opportunity to

contribute effectively to strengthening the mass transport network and tourist transport, besides leveraging the standing of Dubai in the region and the world over."

"Big Bus Company will play a vital role in achieving this common objective by promoting the public bus service as well as all other mass transport services such

as the metro, buses, Water Bus, and the Water Taxi among the Company's customers, tourists and visitors. The Company will promote these means by distributing publications and leaflets using pre-agreed fare between the parties," concluded the General Manager of Big Bus Company.