



2021

Saudi Aramco President's Excellence Awards

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Excellence recognized in testing times



Aramco launches CitizenShop Pop-up Campaign

In Dhahran’s al-Mujamma’ center, and in community centers around the Eastern Province (Dhahran, Ras Tanura, and Abqaiq), Aramcons can sample some of the products from a number of micro-industry ventures supported by Aramco’s Corporate Citizenship Division.

From the famous Taif Rose body care products from “Roseyar” to the honey and coffee products of Jazan, these products show the impact of Aramco’s investments in small businesses that have a potential economic impact on local communities. By helping provide the necessary tools for self-sustaining and prosperous communities, promoting knowledge and inspiring innovation, we can build better, sustainable communities together.

The Pop-up Campaign, which runs from June 10-29, is intended to provide platforms for showcasing local products that draw on the Kingdom’s rich natural resources, and that accelerate human potential and enable better lives.

“We at Aramco are proud of the impact we can have on communities in the Kingdom, promoting sustainable livelihoods and economic improvement,” said Nabeel A. Al-Jama’, senior vice president of Human Resources & Corporate Services. “By promoting knowledge and inspiring innovation, we are aligning our efforts with Saudi Vision 2030 to build a thriving economy, and helping individuals and entrepreneurs to take the next leap forward.”

Al-Taif rose products

Aramco’s citizenship projects have leveraged al-Taif’s famed rose products in-



Nabeel A. Al-Jama’, senior vice president of Human Resources & Corporate Services visited the CitizenShop Pop-up booths in Dhahran’s al-Mujamma’ center. The Pop-up booths feature honey, coffee, and rose products produced with technical and financial support from Aramco’s Corporate Citizenship Division.

dustry to enable communities to create a sustainable commercial ecosystem, which drives local economic growth and creates jobs.

Located at the Roseyar Factory, the project strives to help 40 underprivileged women to find employment while producing high-end skin care products from al-Taif roses. Aramco helped Roseyar to achieve ISO 9001 certification as well as approval by the Saudi Food and Drugs Authority, and to increase production capacity to 100,000 units per year.

Coffee

With the Coffee Plantation & Production project, Aramco helped to improve Jazan’s traditional coffee industry to

positively impact the Kingdom’s economy. The project trains local farmers in the latest coffee farming and irrigation methods to increase the production and the quality of locally grown Kholani Coffee beans, thereby creating sustainable incomes for farmers.

Piloted in Jazan, the project has expanded to include 970 farmers in the Jazan and Asir regions, producing 812 tons of specialty beans per year. More than 203,000 seedlings were planted as part of the program, and the Ministry of Environment provided irrigation systems to all farms in the program.

Honey industry

This initiative supports the production

“By promoting knowledge and inspiring innovation, we are aligning our efforts with Saudi Vision 2030 to build a thriving economy, and helping individuals and entrepreneurs to take the next leap forward.”

— Nabeel A. Al-Jama’

of high quality honey, protecting the role of local bee species in the ecosystem of the al-Baha region. In addition, the project delivers resources and skills training to make beekeeping and honey production in the al-Baha region sustainable.

Established in al-Baha in 2016, and expanded to cover al-Taif and Asir, this program includes around 1,500 beekeepers, of which, 50 are women. Centered around the first Honey Research Center to ensure honey quality, the program helps beekeepers to market their products, which now include beeswax, propolis, royal jelly, and pollen. A Honey Museum and marketing center will be inaugurated in the fourth quarter of 2021 to showcase the honey journey.

Your voice



By Leena M. Alawami
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Your Voice reflects the thoughts and opinions of the writer, and not necessarily those of the publication.

The evolution of project management: how has project management shaped us

For as long as we can remember, mankind has been executing and carrying out projects in almost every aspect of our lives; from the construction of the Great Pyramids of Giza during 2500 B.C., to the erection of the breathtaking Burj Khalifa during the 21st century.

During the early days, there was no systematic framework or established set of tools and techniques recognized worldwide that was applied from project imitation to close out; activities were carried out informally and haphazardly, however, as humans progressed and projects became larger and more complex, the need for a recognized and formal established approach was crucial in delivering successful projects meeting time and budget goals, fulfilling business expectations, and mitigating risks.

It wasn’t until the 1950s that the modern project management era was born.

In 1969, the Project Management Institute was founded and established an international guideline recognized by countless companies and businesses.

The list of notable successful projects commissioned within Aramco are endless, and is attributed to the effective methodology our company has shaped and adopted over the years such as the capital management system (CMS) that incorporates systematic stages, defined roles and responsibilities for its stakeholders, and implementation of Value Improvement Practices. The Fadhli Gas Plant project is an example; the first plant to treat nonassociated gas from both onshore and offshore fields, was executed per CMS, which enabled the team to optimize costs and increase efficiency.

Not only that, but Aramco has provided an array of resources and platforms

to support its projects, including enterprise project management, SafeLife, the Lesson Learned database, and more. Project Management teams from project engineers to schedulers have put these resources to use in their day-to-day work activities to progress their projects toward the desired results. Aramco’s project teams are continuously exploring and taking advantage of optimum execution practices to enhance the process and delivery of their respective projects.

The growth of such a well-respected field within our company has also paved the way for Saudi females to be part of this journey, and opened doors of opportunities where creative and inspired minds can come together to voice a change that echoes for years ahead. The field of project management is ever-changing and evolving, and Aramco will continue to strive to implement the best practices.

New Mechanical Shops hub opens for business in Ju’aymah

By Scott Baldauf

For more than 80 years, Aramco’s talented maintenance professionals have shown their prowess in repairing equipment to keep company facilities producing oil and gas.

With the inauguration of a new Mechanical Services Shops Department (MSSD) facility in Ju’aymah, Aramco now has the Fourth Industrial Revolution tools to move beyond repair toward the localization of design and manufacture of precision equipment and spare parts that will keep company facilities operating safely, reliably, and efficiently.

The project was made possible with the patronage of Nabeel A. Al-Jama’, senior vice president of Human Resources & Corporate Services.

Cutting-edge technology

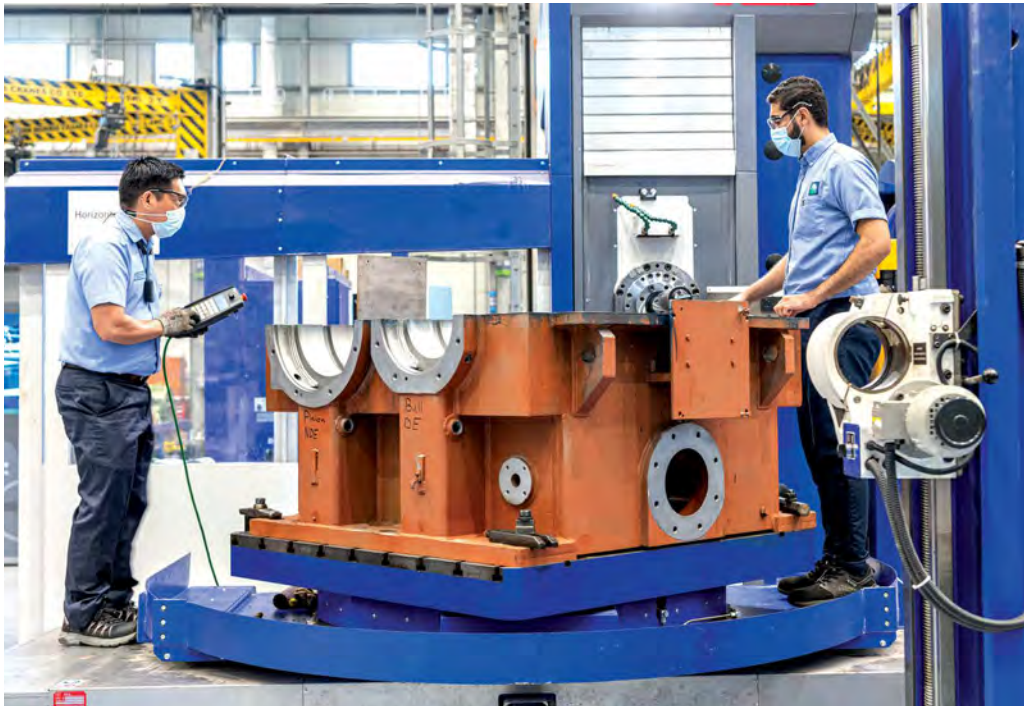
Executives and senior management were hosted during the inauguration by Fahad M. Al-AbdulKareem, executive director of Industrial Services, and welcomed to the new facilities by Saad I. Al-Shamrani, acting manager of MSSD.

Attendees at the event included Al-Jama’, Nabil K. Al-Dabal, vice president of Human Resources, Suleiman A. Al-Bargan, vice president of Global Manufacturing, and Faisal A. Al-Hajji, executive director of Community Services, along with other management of Aramco organizations and facilities from across the Kingdom.

“This inauguration marks a major milestone in utilizing cutting-edge technology that takes Aramco equipment repair to a higher level,” said Al-AbdulKareem.

A dream come true

“This new facility is a dream come true,” said Al-Shamrani. “It helps us to achieve our strategic goal to be the best-in-class service provider for innovative and value added mechanical services and equipment repair solutions.”



Top: The new MSSD shop in Ju’aymah includes advanced tools, such as this five-axis milling machine, which makes use of computer numerical control technologies to manufacture replacement parts in only hours. Left: Technicians Chris D. Nablo (left) and Sajjad A. Alzayer from the Mechanical Services Shops Department in Ju’aymah are machining the bearing seal in preparation for alignment and repair of a load gear box, using a new Computer Numerical Control Horizontal Boring machine.

From the earliest days of the company in the 1930s, Aramco has established mechanical shops with the capabilities to repair and maintain equipment to the highest standards of safety and reliability. In these shops, located at drilling sites and facilities across the Kingdom, mechanics and specialists worked day and night to return equipment to operation, reducing turnaround time from months to weeks or even days.

An expanded footprint

As the company’s operations expanded, MSSD’s capabilities and services have grown with them, to include repairing different types of rotating equipment. In 2005, MSSD further expanded its scope to repair heavy industrial turbines, and now services 60% of the company’s giant rotors. MSSD’s footprint has expanded to seven strategic locations across the Kingdom.

Before the tour began, executives visited the MSSD Pulse Center, which monitors MSSD’s work for over 70 customers across the company. MSSD Pulse is an interactive, analytical dashboard, which

provides live analysis of each job’s status, along with cost, turnaround time, and customer satisfaction. It enables MSSD to proactively plan job distribution and execution to enhance customer experience.

Reverse engineering brilliance

The centerpiece of the operation is the Reverse Engineering Center (REC), where damaged parts are brought in to be evaluated, 3-D scanned, tested, and mapped out through CAD design software. Many of these parts come from obsolete equipment, where the original manufacturer itself no longer produces spare parts. This is no obstacle for the REC. Parts can be sent to the shop floor to be manufactured in-house, saving the company time and money while maintaining high standards of quality assurance and safety. In 2020, MSSD was able to manufacture 487 components for 28 organizations for a total cost savings of \$21.1 million.

The 9,500-m² shop floor has some of the most advanced manufacturing tools in the world, including:

- An abrasive waterjet machine — A

high-pressure stream of water, which performs high precision metal cutting, with a capacity of up to 6 meters in length and 3 meters in width to an accuracy of within 0.003”

- Five-axis milling machine — These fully automated lathes and milling machines make use of computer numerical control technologies to manufacture spare parts in hours, compared with the days or months required for importing parts from abroad

- A motor testing system — This system tests up to 35,000 horsepower alternating current electric motors and up to 2,500 horsepower direct current motors, with in-depth analysis to motor behavior and the ability to reduce power consumption

- A smart transporter — These self-propelled, remotely guided trolleys provide easier maneuverability for the safe transport for equipment weighing up to 100 tons.

In alignment with the company’s support for localization, the facility also allows the company to increase the amount of local content that the Kingdom produces, rather than importing it from abroad.

Northern Area sees motor vehicle violations crash to zero

By Adai Onazi

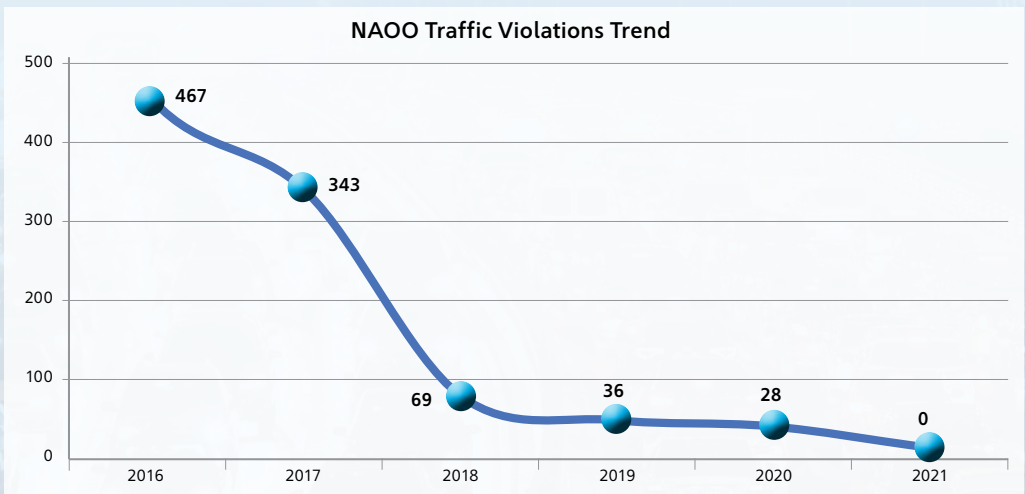
Two Northern Area Oil Operations (NAOO) departments and 32 divisions have set record traffic safety results. In recognizing the divisions and their employees, plaques with engraved names of all employees with zero traffic violations were distributed.

The Northern Area Gas Producing Department achieved a record of zero traffic violations for a second consecutive year, while the Northern Area Technical Support Department (NATSD) completed 2020 without a single traffic violation.

Dawood M. Al-Dawood, vice president of NAOO, said the two records were the result of structural behavior changes. “This is a true testament of the organization’s commitment to traffic safety.”

Journey to zero

The results are even more impressive when allowing for the expansion of construction projects across the area and a corresponding increase in the workforce. NAOO predicted a potential surge in traf-



fic-related issues in 2016 and embarked on a series of proactive measures to mitigate any rising trend, which resulted in zero traffic violations for six consecutive months from October 2020.

Supervisors regularly held counseling sessions with employees who violated traffic safety rules and regulations. Depending on the nature of the offense, employees met with senior management for counseling. Traffic safety campaigns were conducted to reinforce safe driving

behaviors, including regular text messages. Traffic safety performance indicators were also monitored on a weekly basis. A culture of zero tolerance over time led to a sharp decline in traffic violations and a corresponding drop in motor vehicle accidents.

Everyone’s business

Hamad M. Al Sharekh, a compliance coordinator with the NATSD, said traffic safety was everyone’s business. “It is

“This is a true testament of the organization’s commitment to traffic safety.”

— Dawood M. Al-Dawood

no longer management’s responsibility alone, but a collective responsibility and concern of all employees,” he said.

Meshal Al-Amri, a compliance group leader with the Northern Area Well Completion Operations Division, said he was proud to be part of a positive change. “Departments have been empowered to step in with diverse efforts to govern the admin area’s traffic safety equation and implement applications, tools, and technologies to ensure continuous improvement.”

Excellence recognized in testing times

By Scott Baldauf

In a year of unprecedented challenges for the global economy and the world's energy industry, Aramco has stood out with impressive accomplishments, which have enabled the company to remain a reliable energy provider during critical times when supply chains in different parts of the world were disrupted due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Despite the challenges posed by the pandemic, the company did not waver on its strategy to strengthen its position as a global energy and technology leader. During the 2021 President's Excellence Awards held this week, these achievements from last year were on full display.

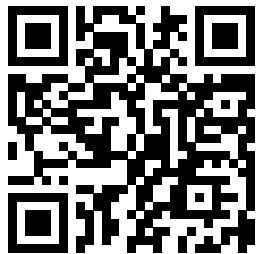
Expanded categories

This year the awards categories have been expanded to include Safety, Environment, Maintenance and Reliability, Operational Excellence (OE), Employee Engagement, and Affiliate Excellence. By focusing on a spirit of innovation and measurable improvements in efficiency, winning organizations are helping the company to develop best practices, and to achieve its long-term goals for growth and value creation, goals that help the Kingdom to achieve, in turn, its own ambitious economic and social objectives of Saudi Vision 2030.

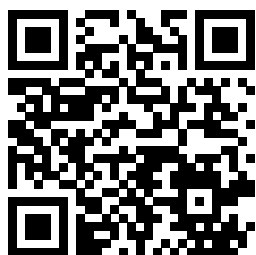
Amin Nasser, Saudi Aramco president and CEO, congratulated the winners. "In testing times your determination to be the best has pushed our great tradition of excellence to even greater heights," Nasser said during the awards ceremony. "All of you, as one global team, are creating value for our customers and our shareholders. All of you are helping to secure Aramco's future. You have shown us that we really can be the world's greatest energy and chemicals company. And for that I am truly grateful."

Safety Excellence

Maintaining a keen focus on safety in operations helps the company not only sustain its commitment to the health of its people and our commu-



Watch: Amin Nasser recognizes the winners of the President's Excellence Awards 2021.

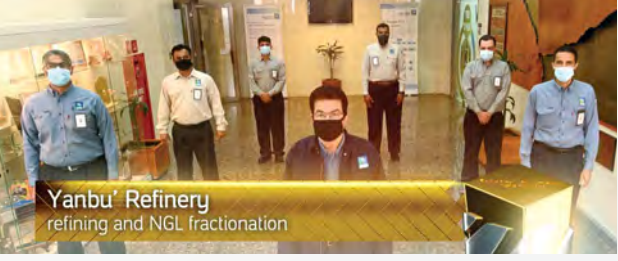


Watch: Excellence is at the core of our value.

President's Safety Excellence Award



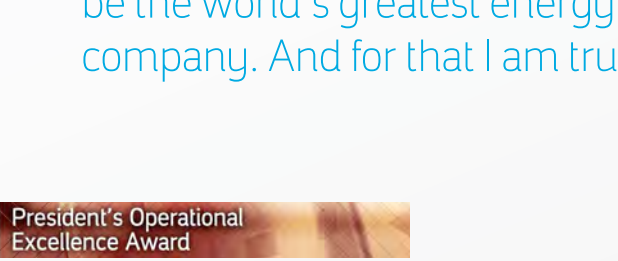
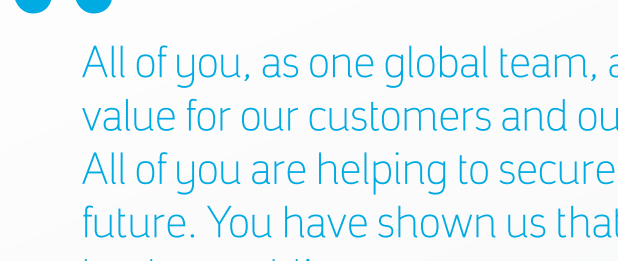
President's Environmental Excellence Award



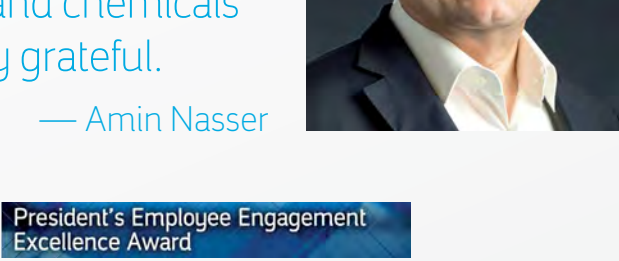
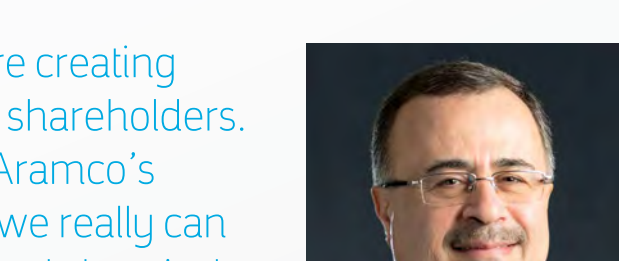
President's Maintenance and Reliability Excellence Award



President's Operational Excellence Award



President's Employee Engagement Excellence Award



President's Affiliates Excellence Award



All of you, as one global team, are creating value for our customers and our shareholders. All of you are helping to secure Aramco's future. You have shown us that we really can be the world's greatest energy and chemicals company. And for that I am truly grateful.

— Amin Nasser



Environmental Excellence

Aramco's commitment to maintaining environmental safety in all its operations, through reducing emissions and promoting a circular carbon economy, is a critical way in which the company can contribute solutions to a range of global environmental challenges, including climate change.

Six organizations topped the company's rigorous environmental safety performance in areas such as air quality, water treatment and conservation, environmental health and industrial hygiene, biodiversity conservation, waste management, groundwater protection, and green energy. Five of these organizations won Gold awards, including **North Ghawar Gas Producing** for Best Performing Operating Organization, **Southern Area Well Completion** for Best Performing Services Organization, **Hawiyah NGL Recovery Plant** for Best Gas Operations and NGL Recovery, **Safaniyah Offshore Producing**

for Best Producing Operations, and the **Yanbu Refinery** for Best Refining and NGL Fractionation. The sixth, **Shedgum Gas Plant**, won a silver award for Continuous Improvement for an Operating Organization.

Maintenance and Reliability

This award targets line organizations that conduct maintenance as part of their function, recognizing those which strive for higher levels of excellence. The anticipated outcomes include: promoting stewardship of maintenance and reliability; creating a competitive work environment to drive performance; recognizing role models to learn from and create proposition value;

developing a platform for benchmarking and knowledge sharing; accelerating the implementation of corporate maintenance programs; and spreading awareness of the Aramco Maintenance Council's initiatives and programs.

For operating organizations, the **Sea Water Injection Department** won gold, while the **Abqaiq Plants Maintenance Department** won silver. For service organizations, the **Central Community Services Department** won gold, while the **Mechanical Services Shops Department** won silver. The **Shaybah Producing Department** won the bronze award for the most improved organization.

Operational Excellence

Integrating the mindset of continuous improvement is crit-

ical for remaining competitive in a fast-changing world, and for Aramco the driving force for this mindset is OE. This award recognizes the top performing hydrocarbon operating facilities and service organizations that have successfully implemented OE in their organization, promoting process improvements, and introducing best practices that lead to excellence in performance.

For operating facilities, **Berri Gas Plant** came out on top with the gold award, while **Safaniyah Offshore Producing** received the silver award. For service organizations, **Northern Area Power Operations** received the gold award, while the **Industrial Security Support Department** won the silver award.

Employee Engagement

First introduced in 2019, the Employee Engagement Excellence Award recognizes champions who

are leading the way in building exceptional experiences to engage employees, and to create a high performance culture within the company.

Northern Area Power Operations won the gold for Most Engaged Department, with **Academic Programs and Partnerships** taking the silver award. **Oil Supply Planning and Scheduling** earned the gold award for most improved organization, and **Gas Drilling Engineering** took the silver award in this category.

Affiliates Excellence

Formerly known as the Joint Ventures Excellence Award, the Affiliates Excellence award is designed to promote and recognize the safety and operational performance of refining and petrochemical affiliates and subsidiaries, as well as the sharing of best practices for the common good of the business and our most precious asset, our people.

The gold award for Best Performance in Health, Safety, and Environment went to **Luberef**, with **SATORP** taking the silver award for most improved. The gold for Best Performance in Asset Availability went to **SAMREF**, with **SATORP** taking the silver for most improved. The gold award for Best Performance in Energy Intensity went to **Hyundai Oilbank**, with silver going to **Luberef**. And the gold award for Best Performance in OE went to **S-Oil**, with **SATORP** taking the silver for most improved.

In his remarks, Nasser told awardees he was proud of their achievements. "As we emerge from the pandemic, please know that your work is greatly valued ... that it's vital to Aramco, to our industry, and to Saudi Arabia," he said. "The eyes of the world are on us like never before. So, let's show the world what we are made of and what we can achieve together."

Aramco young guns attempt to solve environmental, social, and governance challenges

By Michael Ives

Young company professionals and students in the energy industry spent three months developing their technical, leadership, and communication skills as part of the Aramco-sponsored Endogenous program, a three month flagship collaboration run each year by the Society of Petroleum Engineers–Kingdom of Saudi Arabia section.

Participants were divided into teams of between three to six members, and challenged to come up with innovative solutions to strategic problems related to environmental, social, and governance (ESG) issues, under the three themes of: the “Circular Carbon Economy,” “A Resilient Built Environment for a Prospering Ecosystem,” and “Data Governance in the Digital Age.”

Ali A. Al-Meshari, acting chief petroleum engineer, attended the program closing ceremony virtually to award the winning team from each challenge, and said the program had quickly proven itself a valuable platform for youth empowerment in technical, strategic, and leadership skills.

“I can assure you that these skills are critically needed for the future of the energy industry ... and the future of the Kingdom,” Al-Meshari told his youthful audience.

“You have reached this impressive milestone after an extremely challenging program ... and under truly unprecedented circumstances.

“It makes me so proud to see bright young minds from different parts of the world collaborate to find innovative solutions to major global challenges. Especially in fields such as ESG, which will play such a crucial role in our future sustainability.”

Al-Meshari went on to note that the Endogenous participants have set upon a path of excellence that shows they have the ability — and the opportunity — to create a better future for people



The winning team of challenge 1: The Circular Carbon Economy.



The winning team of challenge 2: A Resilient Built Environment for a Prospering Ecosystem.



The winning team of challenge 3: Data Governance in the Digital Age.

“These skills are critically needed for the future of the energy industry ... and the future of the Kingdom.

— Ali A. Al-Meshari

and the planet. “I cannot wait to see all that you will accomplish,” he said.

Challenge One: The Circular Carbon Economy

Energy companies globally are working to reduce their carbon footprint through the 4Rs (Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, and Remove). How can we achieve a circular carbon economy with zero net carbon emissions while meeting short- and long-term commitments in supply, in addition to maintaining a healthy fiscal regime?

Winners

Project Name: Promoting Saudi Arabia's Circular Carbon Economy

Team Members:

- Reem A. Alsadoun — Reservoir Description and Simulation Department
- Sarah S. Alruwaily — Upstream Development Strategies and Reserves Department
- Hala A. Al-Sadeg — EXPEC Advanced Research Center (EXPEC ARC)
- Dana B. Dabbousi — ESG Strategy and Reporting Department
- Hashim A. Awwami — Workover Engineering Department
- **SME:** Ahmed Z. Attar — Upstream Development Strategies and Reserves Department

velopment Strategies and Reserves Department

Challenge Two: A Resilient Built Environment for a Prospering Ecosystem

To be resilient we must embrace change and learn how adapt. The world's ecosystem is threatened because of climate change. The challenge is planning for resilient infrastructure that can accommodate disruptions in the ecosystem by capitalizing on sustainable development goals. The challenge will focus on power distribution and water treatment.

Winners

Project Name: Integrating V2G/H to Grid-tied Solar System for P2P Micro-grid Improvement

Team Members:

- Musab M. Talal — Consulting Services Department (CSD)
- Ibrahim A. Albrahim — CSD
- Dakhel A. Aldakhil — CSD
- Ahmed F. Al Habib — Ras Tanura Producing Department
- Fawaz M. Al-Boghail — Southern Area Reservoir Management Department
- Mohamed Alherz — National Energy Services Reunited Corporation

• **SME:** Jean-Michel Mufuta Mukena — Renewables Department

Challenge Three: Data Governance in the Digital Age

With the emergence of the Fourth Industrial Revolution and the continuous global efforts for massive digital transformation, data has been perceived as the “new oil.” Due to powerful applications in artificial intelligence, machine learning, and advanced data analytics, data has been increasingly shared and used on an unprecedented scale. How can we govern and fully secure data while increasing its use?

Winners

Project Name: A Smart Contracts Carbon Emissions Trading System for Saudi Arabia

Team Members:

- Ali H. Alshuwaikhat — Southern Area Production Department
- Klemens Katterbauer — EXPEC ARC
- Abdullah A. Al Shehri — EXPEC ARC
- Abdulaziz S. Al Qasim — EXPEC ARC
- Khalid A. Al-Yahya — Reservoir Description and Simulation Department
- Zainab A. Homoud — King Abdulaziz University of Science and Technology
- **SME:** Robert Borne — Global Director Digital Transformation at Weatherford

Aramco signs 22-year deal as anchor tenant at King Salman Energy Park

Aramco and Horizon Project Company Ltd. signed a 22-year contract to build, own, operate, and transfer (BOOT) an office building and related industrial facilities at King Salman Energy Park (SPARK). Horizon is jointly owned by the Alfouzan Alsabiq Holding Company and the Almutlaq Real Estate Investment Company.

The office building and industrial facilities will position Aramco as an anchor tenant in SPARK, and illustrates the company's interest in working with key public-private partnership developers in line with Saudi Vision 2030. The office building and industrial facilities, scheduled to be completed by June 2023, will cater to around 1,200 employees and contractors in Aramco's Drilling & Workover Services Department.

Waleed A. Al-Saif, executive director of New Business Development, said, “These



new facilities at SPARK will support Aramco's drilling operations through new warehouses, industrial shops, staging yards, and other support facilities. The project will be part of an integrated ecosystem for the energy sector where SPARK captures the full economic value

of demand for energy related goods.”

Speaking at the contract signing, Omar S. Al Husaini, then general manager of Northern Area Drilling & Workover Operations, said the agreement demonstrated a long-term partnership. “[It] is

part of our key strategic planning for our service operations to be centralized, and for Drilling & Workover to be one of the key tenants at the energy hub where we attract, synergize, and pave the way for other oil field service entities to be established in a collaborative setting.”

Mohammed Alfantoukh, chairman of Horizon and CEO of the Alfouzan Alsabiq Holding Company, commented, “This ceremony today, and our BOOT investment with Aramco and SPARK, speaks loud on behalf of Aramco and shows its role in crowning private investment.”

Omar Al-Khudairi, CEO of Almutlaq Group (AMG) and managing director of Almutlaq Real Estate Investment Company, commented, “AMG is pleased that Horizon Project Company Ltd. was awarded by Aramco to lead this important facility in the iconic SPARK.”

YLAB engages with Olivier Le Peuch, CEO of Schlumberger

“If you keep learning, you’ll be ahead of the disruption,” was one of several nuggets of wisdom that Olivier Le Peuch, CEO of Schlumberger, offered the Young Leaders Advisory Board (YLAB) during a recent engagement in Dhahran’s Main Administration building.

YLAB hosted Le Peuch in an interactive discussion about the oil and gas industry, leadership, and youth. The engagement opened with an introduction and presentation from YLAB, then moved into a discussion on the industry’s current and future prospects, and young people’s roles in it.

Be proactive

“This is a chance for the industry not to be defensive, but to be proactive, and to create new value chains,” Le Peuch said. He stated that, currently, there is no energy carrier that is more efficient than oil, and that energy consumption and production will continue to become more efficient through the production of lower intensity energy and less carbon emissions.

He emphasized that the key to an energy transition is understanding energy at a molecular level, explaining that this is an opportunity to create new businesses and further explore



the concept of “regionalized energy markets.”

Have a vision

When asked about how Schlumberger attracts and retains its younger employees, Le Peuch said that the organization did so by accelerating its digital transformation and new business ventures. Le Peuch emphasized the importance of having a purpose and a clear vision in attracting and retaining youth. “Do not underestimate the power of having a vision,” he said, as it is where an organization’s competitive edge lies.

Be yourself

Le Peuch also emphasized what he called the human factor. “Decision making used to be the most important characteristic in a leader, but not anymore,” he said. “You need to care, listen, engage, and make yourself accessible.” Le Peuch then elaborated on the importance of being able to seamlessly move between operational and strategic ways of thinking. He then focused on the importance of having a thirst for knowledge to adapt to changing market and industry conditions. He finished by underscoring the impor-

“As a leader, you need to care, listen, engage, and make yourself accessible and never stop learning.”
— Olivier Le Peuch

tance of genuineness and authenticity. “Be yourself and remember where you came from,” he said, reminding his audience of the importance of not forgetting their roots.

Never stop learning

The session came to an end with Le Peuch reiterating the importance of the youth’s role in strategy, technology, and sustainability. In an age of accelerated transformations, Le Peuch’s advice to the youth is to assume a proactive role in creating innovative solutions to the industry’s challenges, and to never stop learning.

Memory Lane: From trademarks to fires to pop stars and golf through the years

Once, readers of the Arabian Sun and Flare were tasked with coming up with an idea for the company’s trademark.

June 9, 1946

Time for a Trademark

Have you given some thought to your suggestion for a Trade-Mark? Aramco is looking for your ideas.

Three prizes are offered to men, and three prizes to the ladies. Contest closes June 30, 1946. Place your suggestion in a closed envelope, sealed and addressed to the Dhahran editor.

It will not be opened or returned until after the contest closes.

June 16, 1976

AEA sponsors magician, pop star

The Amazing Mendoza, world-renowned magician, and B.J. Thomas, a singer whose record sales top 20 million, are being sponsored by the Aramco Employee Association (AEA) for appearances in Abqaiq, Dhahran, and Ras Tanura.

Tickets for both acts will be SR10 and available at the box office.

Mendoza has performed throughout the U.S. and Europe and has appeared on TV. B.J. Thomas, whose hit records include “Hooked on a Feeling,” “I’m So Lonesome I Could Cry,” and “Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head,” will appear twice in each community.

June 1991

Saudi Aramco affiliate opens new Tokyo office

The Saudi Arabian Oil Company (Saudi Aramco) affiliate office in the United Kingdom, Saudi Petroleum Overseas Ltd. (SPOL), last week opened its new office in the Ark Mori Building in Tokyo's Akaska district.

SPOL's Tokyo office was opened primarily to facilitate communications and to enhance relations between Saudi Aramco and its customers in Japan and the Far East. The new office will provide crude oil marketing support and tanker management services for the sale of Saudi crude.

Additionally, the office will facilitate the purchase of Japanese goods and services for Saudi Aramco affiliates.

June 7, 2006

165 Golfers vie for Cup

Rod McDonald took the men’s championship and Beatriz Neimeyer the women’s trophy in the 2006 President’s Cup in May at the Rolling Hills Golf Club in Dhahran.

The winners among the 165 competitors vying for this year’s cup. The top 97 players from Day One qualified to continue playing on Day Two.

Day One brought a new course record, set from the white tees by Othman Al-Mulla, who carded a 69.



Memory Lane:
From trademarks
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Aramco industrial trainees become citizen naturalists in biodiversity challenge

By Gregory R. Askew

To ease the mental strain of the COVID-19 pandemic and raise awareness of the enormous variety of wildlife in the Kingdom’s communities, company trainees attending the Mubarraz Industrial Training Center (ITC) in al-Hasa have taken part in a technology driven biodiversity challenge.

Using their smartphones, the ITC trainees were asked to submit pictures of animals they encountered using “iNaturalist,” a crowd-sourced mobile application and website that maps and shares millions of observations of the natural world.

From April 11 to May 17, the trainees explored their homes, communities, farms, neighborhood parks, and nearby natural areas to document as many species as they could. Their contributions added to a database of more than 60 million pictures of fauna and flora uploaded by users around the world.

Newly discovered neighbors

Some participants initially quipped that there were only feral dogs and cats outside their homes, however, they soon found that they had a diverse community of neighbors in the form of insects, lizards, small mammals, and birds. As Mohammed A. Al-Naas, an apprentice operator, said, “I learned a lot by par-



ticipating in the challenge. For example, I learned how many creatures you can find around you when you really look for them.”

Many participants searched further afield for new species to capture on their smartphones, and observations came in from across the Kingdom. Fawaz Y. Bu Rasis, a craftsman apprentice, took a picture of a Hamadryas baboon sitting on a goat in the highlands of the southwest.

With the challenge period aligned with the spring migration in Saudi Arabia, several lucky participants were able to capture images of migratory birds passing through their neighborhoods.

Challenge winner Hussain Y. Al-Jumah, an apprentice operator, photographed a European bee-eater.

Six types of ants, not two

Surprised to find a variety of creatures living nearby, second-place winner Abdulmajeed M. Al-Hamada, an apprentice technician, said, “I thought that there were only two kinds of ants in my house, but there are six different kinds of them in reality.”

“Going outside and walking slowly made me realize how beautiful the nature is that surrounds the area where I live,” Al-Hamada added, encouraging

people to participate in a biodiversity challenge. “It will make you think more about the environment and living creatures, and show you the world from a different perspective.”

According to Al-Naas, people should participate in a biodiversity challenge because, “They will get the chance to discover new places and learn about creatures they might have never seen before.”

Hussain T. Al-Yami, an apprentice operator, also recommended participating in a biodiversity challenge. “It is a great way to spend your free time and it helps you learn about animals and where to find them. Whenever I got bored, I would take my camera and go to the park,” he said.

For Bu Rasis, “the competition between friends” was the best thing about the challenge.

Using nature to soothe stress

The main objective of the challenge was to promote physical and mental health during Ramadan and ‘Id al-Fitr amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Research shows that spending time outdoors, doing activities like hiking and bird-watching, can help manage stress and enhance overall mood. All challenge participants reported spending more time outdoors.



Photographic memory

At left in this March 1938 photo is Tom C. Barger, a young geologist from North Dakota. Barger was a relative newcomer to Saudi Arabia, having arrived in December 1937. To his right is T.F. Harriss. Barger’s boss, Max Steineke, told him, “I don’t know what I am going to do with you, but I am certainly glad to have you on board.” Many people felt the same way. Barger went on to become president of Aramco on May 20, 1959, and then CEO on December 1, 1961.