

رؤية جامعة جدة برنامج مجـــال تركيز الجامعة

TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS AROUND THE KSAIN MAY

A monthly local newsletter in transportation and logistics



20 26

The Kingdom Wins the Hosting of the UNCTAD Global Supply Chain Forum in 2026

Saudi Arabia has affirmed its leadership in the maritime and logistics sector on both regional and global scales by securing the right to host the UNCTAD Global Supply Chain Forum in 2026. This milestone reflects the success of #Mawani's initiatives to reinforce Saudi Arabia's global standing and improve its international rankings.









The Master Plan to Commence Development of the Globe Logistics Park Project at Jeddah Islamic Port has been Launched.

The "Globe Logistics Park" project was recently inaugurated at Jeddah Islamic Port, significantly enhancing Saudi Arabia's logistics capabilities. This project aligns with Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 to transform the Kingdom into a global logistics hub. Covering 135,000 square meters, the logistics park offers advanced storage facilities, specialized refrigerated areas, modern assembly spaces, and a free zone for storage and re-export, supported by smart distribution systems. The Globe Academy, integral to the park, focuses on training Saudi youth in logistics, fostering local expertise and job creation, and enhancing the Kingdoms strategic position in international trade and logistics.

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Minister of Transport: Flying Taxis and Drones to be Tested During this Year's Hajj Season

Saleh Al-Jasser, Saudi Arabia's Minister of Transport and Logistics, announced that this year's Hajj season will include trials of modern transportation technologies like flying taxis and drones. Speaking to Al-Arabiya channel, he emphasized the importance of these trials as these technologies are nearing practical application, with numerous companies competing to develop viable transportation products for the near future. Al-Jasser highlighted the importance of understanding how these technologies fit with the current environment and operational conditions, particularly during important periods like the Hajj season, which will be a primary focus for these innovative transport models.





Almarai Acquires Etmam Logistics to Expand Frozen Product Distribution in the Kingdom

Almarai has announced the completion of its acquisition of Etmam Logistics Co. for SAR 182 million, as per a statement on Tadawul. This strategic move will enhance Almarai's capacity to deliver an extensive variety of frozen products to its customers across the Kingdom. The acquisition is set to boost the development of Almarai's catering services by expanding its product offerings. Furthermore, it will contribute to growth in several sectors, including poultry, ice cream, and baked goods, with plans for further expansion into additional categories in the future. Etmam Logistics, acquired in December 2023, is a company specializing in the storage and distribution of frozen products.





SAL Launches New Fulfillment Business Unit to Revolutionize Logistics in Saudi Arabia

"SAL, Saudi Arabia's leading logistics and supply chain solutions provider, has launched its Fulfillment Business Unit to revolutionize the Kingdom's logistics industry. This strategic move addresses the growing demand and rapid expansion in the sector by integrating air cargo handling with comprehensive logistics solutions, thereby enhancing operational efficiency and reliability. The new Fulfillment Business Unit operates as a one-stop-shop, offering a wide range of services including cold chain logistics and advanced digital capabilities. This holistic approach facilitates a seamless process from order to delivery, improving customer experience and ensuring operational transparency. Central to this initiative is SALs advanced warehouse management system, which supports real-time operational data tracking. This system empowers customers to manage orders, monitor progress, and generate customized reports, key for maintaining high logistical standards. To extend its service reach, SAL is expanding its network of fulfillment centers in strategic locations across key Saudi cities like Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam. These facilities are equipped to serve various industries, including pharmaceuticals, perishables, and high-value goods. Faisal Albedah, CEO of SAL, asserts that this expansion underscores the company+s dedication to delivering unmatched logistics solutions, positioning SAL to meet evolving customer needs and drive growth in the Saudi logistics sector.



Saudi Arabia Expands Airports to Boost Global Connectivity and Support Vision 2030 Goals

"During a discussion at the Future of Aviation Forum in Riyadh, Saleh bin Nasser Al-Jasser, the Saudi Minister of Transport and Logistics, announced plans to expand the airports in Al-Baha, Jazan, and Al-Jouf. This expansion aims to increase the number of flights and passengers through these airports, building on the recent capacity increase at Prince Mohammad bin Abdulaziz Airport in Medina from 8 million to 17 million passengers, in partnership with the private sector.

Minister Al-Jasser highlighted that these expansions are part of Saudi Arabia's ambitious goals under Vision 2030, which includes enhancing the nation's role as a global aviation hub by increasing passenger capacity to 330 million and destinations to 250. The forum also showcased significant investment opportunities in the Saudi aviation sector, worth \$100 billion, and anticipated the signing of over 70 agreements and deals valued at \$12 billion. Additionally, the Saudi Group announced the largest deal in Saudi aviation history with Airbus, involving the purchase of 105 aircraft for Saudi Airlines and Flyadeal, expected to be delivered starting in the first quarter of 2026. These efforts underscore Saudi Arabia's strategic initiatives to boost tourism, pilgrimage, and global connectivity under Vision 2030.







Saudi Arabia Advances Procurement and Supply Chain Innovation Across Key Sectors

"Saudi Arabia is advancing innovation in procurement and supply chains, as showcased at the Chartered Institute of Procurement & Supplys MENA Conference in Riyadh. The focus includes strengthening supply chains, boosting local content, and enhancing government procurement to spur economic growth. Significant sectors such as real estate and water desalination are adopting advanced technologies to improve efficiency.

The National Housing Co. (NHC) leads in real estate supply chain optimization, supporting local production and SMEs, with initiatives like Mawad, an online platform aimed at streamlining procurement and stabilizing prices. NHC aims to construct 600,000 housing units by 2030. Additionally, government digital platforms like Etimad enhance procurement transparency. The Saudi Water Authority has also digitalized its operations, utilizing analytics and AI to optimize water desalination processes and support sustainable water management.



Saudi Transport Sector Profits Rise by 31.1% in Q1 2024

According to a "Maaal" newspaper report based on Q1 2024 disclosures on the Tadawul stock exchange, net profits in the Saudi transport sector rose by 31.1% year-on-year to SAR 365 million, supported by a 24.8% increase in sector revenues to SAR 3,089 million. Not all companies saw profits, with SAPTCO's losses widening to SAR 49 million due to higher financing costs, and Cisco Holding experiencing losses of SAR 21 million due to increased direct costs. Conversely, companies like Ground Services and SAL reported substantial profit increases, driven by significant growth in air cargo handling and logistics solutions revenue.

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Editorial Board

