



# TRANSPORTATION AND LOGISTICS AROUND THE KSA IN APRIL



A newsletter in the field  
of local logistics



## **SAUDI ARABIA'S LOGISTICS SECTOR SURGES AMID E-COMMERCE AND INVESTMENT BOOM**

Saudi Arabia's industrial and logistics sector is booming, with warehouse occupancy in Riyadh hitting 98%, and rental prices rising 16% year-on-year, according to Knight Frank. This growth is driven by e-commerce expansion, government initiatives, and foreign investment. Key hubs like Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam are nearing full capacity. Projects such as the Special Integrated Logistics Zone and Sino-Saudi Logistics Zone are reshaping the sector, while sustainability and digital tools play an increasing role. The government aims to raise the sector's GDP share from 6% to 10% by 2030. With 36,000 factories expected by 2035, Saudi Arabia is poised to lead the region's logistics landscape.



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## STRONG GROWTH FORECAST FOR SAUDI ARABIA'S STORAGE SYSTEMS MARKET

Saudi Arabia's storage systems market was valued at USD 419.2 million in 2023 and is projected to reach USD 620.5 million by 2028, driven by digital transformation, e-commerce expansion, and government-backed infrastructure investments. Major cities like Riyadh, Jeddah, and Dammam are central to demand, with racking systems dominating the product segment. Warehouses and the food and beverage sector are key end-users. Challenges include high setup costs and regional geopolitical risks. However, rising trends like self-storage solutions, automation, and green warehousing offer new opportunities. Government programs and private sector investments are fueling modernization, especially in temperature-controlled logistics and fulfillment centers across the Kingdom.



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## ARAMCO AND BYD PARTNER TO BOOST SAUDI ARABIA'S ELECTRIC VEHICLE PUSH

Saudi Aramco has signed a joint development agreement with Chinese EV giant BYD to advance new energy vehicle technologies. The deal, led by Aramco Technologies Company, supports the Kingdom's goal to transition toward cleaner transportation and increase EV adoption from 1% to 30% in five years. The collaboration follows Tesla's recent expansion into Saudi Arabia, which included an event in Riyadh and plans for online sales and Supercharger stations. With only 101 charging stations as of 2024, infrastructure remains a hurdle. Aramco is also exploring low-carbon fuels and powertrain innovations to enhance mobility efficiency. BYD and Tesla continue to battle for global EV leadership.



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## SAUDI ARABIA LAUNCHES NEW LOGISTICS ZONES IN DAMMAM TO BOOST GLOBAL TRADE ROLE

Saudi Arabia's Mawani has signed two major deals to develop logistics zones at King Abdulaziz Port in Dammam worth SR500 million. The first, with Alissa International Motors, will create a 382,000 sq. m facility for vehicle imports and re-exports, including a 7,000 sq. m spare parts warehouse. The second, with Sultan Logistics, covers 197,000 sq. m and includes warehouses, offices, and container storage. These initiatives support the National Strategy for Transport and Logistics, aiming to make Saudi Arabia a global logistics hub. With over SR2.9 billion in private investment across eight logistics zones in 2024, the Kingdom continues its push for supply chain excellence and economic diversification.



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A photograph showing a line of semi-trucks traveling on a two-lane desert highway. The lead truck is a large white Peterbilt with a tall chrome grille and dual exhaust stacks. Behind it are several other trucks, including a blue one. The landscape is arid with low-lying shrubs and distant hills under a clear sky.

## **SURGE IN TRUCK MOVEMENT OUTSIDE CITIES REINFORCES SAUDI ARABIA'S ROLE AS REGIONAL LOGISTICS HUB**

According to the General Authority of Roads. This growth highlights the importance of road networks in easing urban congestion and enhancing supply chain flows. Major infrastructure projects like the Riyadh Eastern Bypass and Jeddah–Jazan Highway are optimizing freight movement. The authority also began enforcing new truck dimension and weight regulations to reduce infrastructure strain. In parallel, SAR railways moved over 28 million tons, cutting over 2 million truck trips. Saudi Arabia is advancing multimodal integration to boost trade and logistics in line with its economic diversification goals.



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## STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN FLYNAS AND SAR TO LINK AIR TRAVEL BOOKINGS WITH HARAMAIN HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY

Flynas, the leading low-cost airline, and Saudi Arabia Railways (SAR) have announced the signing of a strategic partnership aimed at providing an integrated travel experience by linking flight bookings with the Haramain High-Speed Railway through a unified booking system. This step supports digital transformation and strengthens the multimodal transportation ecosystem in the Kingdom.

The service was launched during the Arabian Travel Market exhibition in Dubai. This partnership allows passengers to issue both flight and train tickets through a single booking platform, streamlining travel procedures and integrating air and rail transport. It also enhances planning efficiency and increases the value provided to customers on both sides.

Flynas is one of the most prominent low-cost airlines in the region, operating over 1,500 weekly flights to more than 70 domestic and international destinations across 30 countries through a network of 139 routes. Since launching operations in 2007, flynas has transported over 80 million passengers and continues to expand its network to reach 165 destinations, in support of Saudi Vision 2030 objectives in tourism, transport, and logistics sectors.



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Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources



### LAUNCH OF THE "FUTURE MOBILITY SANDBOX" PROJECT

The Ministry of Transport and Logistic Services, in partnership with King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST) and in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Mineral Resources, has announced the launch of the "Future Mobility Sandbox" initiative—marking a significant step in advancing the transportation sector in the Kingdom with global implications.

The project covers an area of 1.56 square kilometers within the KAUST campus and offers an integrated platform to test the latest technologies and modes of land, air, and sea transportation, making it a unique model in the region.

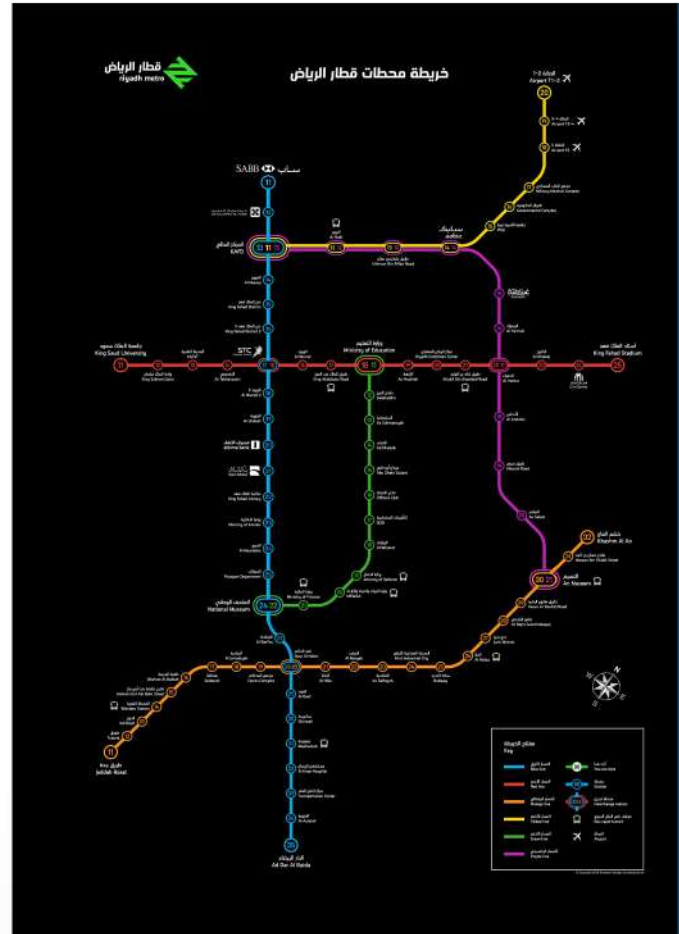


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## RIYADH METRO ADDS NEW RAILWAY STATION ON ORANGE LINE

Saudi Arabia has inaugurated the new “Railway Station” stop on Riyadh Metro’s 41-km Orange Line (Line 3). Nestled beside the Saudi Railway Company’s East-bound terminal, it delivers the network’s first walk-through connection between the metro and inter-city rail, allowing passengers arriving from Dammam and other Eastern Province cities to transfer without leaving the concourse. Transport officials say the link will shorten door-to-door journeys and ease peak-hour traffic on Riyadh’s eastern gateways. The Orange Line—opened in January 2025 and set to include 32 stations—forms part of the six-line, 176-km Riyadh Metro being rolled out under Vision 2030. The new stop is expected to boost ridership and encourage greener, multimodal travel.



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