



**BAHRAIN AND OMAN
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"A NEW ERA" IN F1 SET TO
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**SKYDIVING, HOT AIR
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BIC LAUNCHES F1 2022 – “A NEW ERA” IN F1 SET TO BEGIN IN BAHRAIN



Bahrain International Circuit (BIC) this evening unveiled details of the 2022 Formula 1 Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix, a once in a generation event for fans. An incredible line-up of attractions both on and off the track was announced for the race weekend taking place 18 to 20 March in Sakhir as the first race of “A New Era” in F1.

The launch of the 18th edition of the Gulf Air Bahrain Grand Prix took place at a special press conference held today at BIC’s Media Centre, which included the unveiling of the new 2022 F1 car, with a special Bahrain livery.

Addressing the media and guests were BIC Commercial Director Sherif Al Mahdy and Gulf Air Marketing Director Mohamed Jamsheer, in the presence of Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive of Bahrain International Circuit and Gulf Air’s Acting Chief

Executive Officer Captain Waleed Al Alawi.

These included the announcement of Grammy Award-winning DJ and producer Afrojack as the first megastar concert act of the weekend.

Sheikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa, Chief Executive of Bahrain International Circuit, said: “Our 2022 race is a landmark moment for the sport. Fittingly being held under our slogan ‘A New Era’, the race will usher in the next chapter of F1 following perhaps the biggest revolution of rules in the history of the sport.

“The new seasons follows the epic championship battle we witnessed last season, with the whole world still talking about F1. In addition to the excitement on track, we have put together a mix of incredible concerts and entertainment, suitable for fans of all ages.

“Together with our partners at Gulf Air and all of Team Bahrain we are honoured and proud to be the hosts of such a landmark event. We urge fans across the world to get booking their tickets as soon as possible as seats are already selling fast under our Early Bird discount.

Captain Waleed Al Alawi, Acting Chief Executive Officer of Gulf Air, commented: “The race has always been an important global event for the Kingdom of Bahrain and Gulf Air and we are proud of have been the Title Sponsor since 2004 making this our seventeenth race. Together, we collectively navigated through a strange 2020 but were proudly one of the few airlines globally that continued to fly people around our network and supported vaccines, medical and food supplies to Bahrain”.

“This did not prevent us from celebrating our 70th anniversary in the 2020 race including a flypast with our iconic vintage livery of the 70th anniversary and in 2021, we made history together by performing a lower emission flypast to start the race using sustainable aviation fuel as we unveiled our new slogan ‘A class of our own’ to the globe”, he added.

Captain Al Alawi concluded “This year, there is so much to look forward to as we proudly announce the return of our exclusive Formula One packages on gulfair.com in coordination with Bahrain Tourism and Exhibition Authority and the Bahrain International Circuit! This would allow eligible visitors to book a flight, accommodation, 3-day pass to the race and transport to and from the race”.

BIC announced that Grammy Award-winning producer, songwriter and DJ Afrojack is set to put on a spectacular concert over the Grand Prix weekend. Afrojack is one of the world’s most innovative and sought-after artists. He continues to shatter boundaries that push music into bold new directions. The Dutch-born genre-bending musician has co-created major hits for such artists as Beyoncé, Pitbull, will.i.am and David Guetta.

Afrojack is the first internationally renowned artist to be announced for this year’s F1 weekend at BIC and will be lighting up the stage at the F1 Village vending area on the Friday evening. All Bahrain Grand Prix ticket-holders will be able to attend the concerts at no extra cost

F2, F3 headline weekend’s stellar support race programme

There will be plenty of other racing action this Bahrain Grand Prix with the FIA Formula 2 Championship, the FIA Formula 3 Championship and the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East all supporting F1.

F2 and F3 will be holding their season-opening rounds in Bahrain featuring many of motor racing’s stars of the future. Meanwhile, the Porsche Sprint Challenge Middle East will be holding the final round of its 2021/2022 season in Bahrain, with the series’ newest champion set to be crowned in front of a global audience.

Fun family entertainment awaits all those attending Bahrain Grand Prix weekend at BIC

Always a big part of any major racing event at BIC is the off-track entertainment, and this will be no different at this year’s Bahrain Grand Prix with a fantastic array of attractions for the whole family.

Fans will be able to step onto the 42-metre-high Ferris Wheel and enjoy a bird’s eye view of the surrounding Sakhir area or feel the adrenaline rush by fastening their seat belts in the carousel-like Ghost Rider speed ride.

Amongst the other attractions at BIC over the race weekend are stage acts and roaming performers, such as renowned street performer Abraham Thill, a life-sized Toy Brigade, Funky Style Band from Italy, Jam Batucada musical show from Spain, and plenty of other kids entertainment.

BIC to host pre-season testing the week before Bahrain Grand Prix

BIC also announce today that Bahrain will be hosting F1 pre-season testing from 10 to 12 March – just a week before the start of the new championship.

The tests will be a crucial opportunity for F1’s teams and drivers to evaluate the performance of their new cars ahead of the new season.

The sessions will be open to spectators, giving F1 lovers an early preview of the 2022 cars. More details on testing will be announced over the next few days, including ticketing arrangements for fans.

Tickets now available with up to 15% under Early Bird scheme

Tickets to this year’s Bahrain Grand Prix have already been selling fast and they are currently still available with up to 15% off under BIC’s Early Bird promotion. This offer is available for a limited period only and it is the last chance for fans to get Grand Prix tickets at reduced prices.

Discounts are also available for children aged three to 12 at 50 per cent off, with reductions also available to students, those with special needs, and senior citizens.

BIC has also introduced an enhanced refund policy for 2022. Full details of this are available on BIC’s website but the enhanced policy for both local fans and international travellers means you can buy with confidence.

INJAZ BAHRAIN PROGRAMS INTRODUCED INTO MOE CURRICULUM



The Minister of Education has confirmed that cooperation between the Ministry of Education and INJAZ Bahrain had begun many years ago, which has provided thousands of students with the opportunity to benefit from this initiative and its distinguished programs. He has also indicated that the Ministry is pleased to carry on its cooperation with this leading national institution in order to better prepare students in the

various stages of education for the future. In fact, the Ministry has taken advantage of INJAZ Bahrain programs to enhance its national curricula in the primary and intermediate stages in particular. This comes within the context of the Ministry's efforts to upgrade its curricula in line with both national and international trends, especially through the inclusion of entrepreneurship education as a core transversal competency.

These programs, His Excellency has noted, prepare students to get actively involved in the development of their country and accordingly meet the needs and requirements of the labor market. He has added that they offer them real opportunities and experiences to further learn about the business world and become better prepared for their future careers as active and innovative entrepreneurs. H.E. the Minister of Education has reiterated his gratitude to all those who are in charge of INJAZ Bahrain wishing them all continued success for the good of our beloved country under its wise leadership."

Latifa Isa Al-Bonoudha, Assistant undersecretary for education at the Ministry of Education, commented: "MoE was keen to implement curricula integration plan that was proposed by INJAZ Bahrain, which is considered one of the most important institution in the Kingdom that contributes to achieve MoE's objectives represented in developing students' capabilities within economic and educational levels, aiming at enhancing educational processes and occupying them with requested skills. This will contribute in identifying students' future directions aligned with labor market requirements.

INJAZ BAHRAIN has succeeded in

consolidating economic aspects and enhancing the leadership spirit among students to qualify them as leaders and entrepreneurs, aiming at offering experienced human competencies.

The Ministry of Education has developed the curricula in specific subjects by integrating INJAZ Bahrain programs aligned and integrated with the curriculum in different subjects by adding activities and exercises that enhance student's capabilities and skills based on twenty-first century and labor market requirements.

Curricula development has a crucial role in achieving MoE's desired goals and objectives and raising students' outcomes reflected on the Economic Vision 2030 as well as accomplishing international objectives including the fourth objective of sustainable development that consists of providing quality, equity and comprehensive education for all and promoting opportunities for lifelong learning."

The newly amended curriculum is also an opportunity for students to acquire leadership and creative thinking skills to prepare and qualify them for the labor market, make them active members in the economic development of the Kingdom and inspire them to succeed locally and globally.

INSIDE ARABIA

SKYDIVING, HOT AIR BALLOONING AND AEROBATIC FLIGHTS LAUNCHING SOON IN RAS AL KHAIMAH



Residents and visitors in Ras Al Khaimah will soon take part in some of the most adrenaline pumping activities of aviation adventures such as aerobatic flights, skydiving, and hot air ballooning.

Ras Al Khaimah International Airport (RKT) has signed an agreement to establish its airfield as the operational base for new aviation adventure tourism business, Actionflight Aviation LLC.

This will see RKT become a hub for unique aerial experiences for residents and visitors to the Emirate, as well as providing a base for Vertical, ActionFlight's advanced pilot training program.

The agreement has been established to help support Ras Al Khaimah's strategic plans to expand the travel and tourism landscape of the Emirate.

Bringing a unique set of aviation experiences for the first time, the agreement also aims to contribute to Ras Al Khaimah's ambitious destination development strategy and

enhance its growing reputation as the adventure capital of the UAE.

The new alliance will deliver a further boost to RKT's status as the UAE's fastest growing aviation hub as it is set to provide an operational base for Action Flight's Vertical training program.

Specializing in Upset Prevention and Recovery Training (UPRT), which is now mandated for all new commercial, private jet, and airline pilots, both locally and internationally, the program will attract professional pilots from across the region and beyond to upgrade and refresh their skills.

With its competitive growth strategy and the recent announcement of a Dh60 million five-year development plan, RKT is becoming one of the most attractive airports in the region.

The Vertical program will help to further the airport's connections across the international aviation community.

PR THIS WEEK

#BHinsafehands



BATELCO ANNOUNCED "CHAIRMAN'S AWARD" WINNERS FOR 2021

Batelco Chairman Shaikh Abdulla bin Khalifa Al Khalifa announced the winners of the Chairman's Award during the annual Town Hall that took place virtually at Batelco's Headquarters on Tuesday 18th January. The Town Hall is an annual gathering for all Batelco team members where the achievements of the previous year and the strategy for the year ahead is presented.

The Chairman's Award, taking place for the second year, was introduced under the direction of the Chairman to acknowledge and reward Batelco's team members who have accomplished outstanding achievements while also demonstrating the Company's values. For 2021, 17 candidates were nominated from a pool of high performing team members and went through a selection process which

included assessments and interviews with top management and members of the Board.

The names of the winners were revealed by the Chairman for the first time to all Batelco team members in an exciting and enthusiastic atmosphere. The three winners are Fahad Bardooli - Fixed Assets Manager in first place, Walaa Radhi - IT Development Specialist in second place, and in third place Elham Al-Moosawi - Client & Partner Management.

At the end of the ceremony, a group photo was taken of all the nominees including the three winners with the Chairman and members of the top management. The winners expressed their appreciation and gratitude for receiving the Chairman's Award, and conveyed their commitment to continue excelling in their careers.



NISSAN BAHRAIN & INFINITI BAHRAIN SUPERSEDE SALES TARGET IN 2021

Y.K. Almoayyed & Sons (YKA), exclusive dealers of Nissan, INFINITI and Renault vehicles in the Kingdom of Bahrain has recently announced that its premier brands Nissan and INFINITI have successfully achieved the sales target of 2021 with a record growth of 45 % from that of the sales of 2020.

This grand success was recently celebrated by the officials of YKA with a ceremonious cake-cutting in the presence of the staff, stakeholders and partners. Addressing the attendees at the occasion, Mr Anas Abdullah, General Manager, Nissan Bahrain congratulated the amazing Nissan and INFINITI teams and

stated, "We are extremely proud to have made these outstanding achievements at Nissan and INFINITI, and attribute this success to the basic tenets of the YKA DNA that stands for world class services keeping the 'customer first' principle in all their offers, services and initiatives. We are grateful to the people of Bahrain for their unfailing support and faith in us over decades.

"The strength of the team is each individual member, the strength of each member is the team", Mr Anas Abdullah added, harping how at YKA every employee is a pillar of strength and asset to the organization.



BAC JET FUEL COMPANY (BJFCO) LAUNCHES OPERATIONS

BAC Jet Fuel Company (BJFCO) officially launched commercial operations at its new fuel farm complex. A delegation, including BJFCO Chairman and Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) CEO, Mohamed Yousif Al Binfalal, BJFCO Director and Project Manager, Engineer Abdul Majeed Alqassab and BJFCO Director Khalid Haddad, visited the fuel farm complex. The complex, located within the Bahrain International Airport's (BIA) vicinity, will play an important role in plans to restructure the Kingdom's aviation industry by turning it into a major aviation fuel services hub. The launch of the new facility also means that the old fuel farm tanks, which are located in Arad, will cease to operate completely as part of the transfer of operations. Following the tour, Mr. Al Binfalal said: "This important national project has now come to fruition, ushering in important changes to our industry. In line with directives from the Cabinet, a decision was made to relocate the fuel from its previous location in Arad to be within the boundary of BIA. BJFCO, which is responsible for managing the fuel farm and hydrant system at the airport, signed a two-year operations and maintenance contract with

Bahrain Aviation Fuelling Company (BAFCO). Aircraft will be supplied with fuel through an upgraded hydrant system with newly installed hydrant lines that meet the requirements of the main apron servicing the new passenger terminal." He added: "The fuel farm complex is a vital component of the Airport Modernization Program (AMP) that will add value for airlines by streamlining aviation fuel supply and operations at BIA. It will position Bahrain as a major aviation fuel services hub in the region and contribute to the sustainable economic growth of the aviation sector in a major way, in line with the Kingdom's Vision 2030." Housing aviation fuel tanks with a total capacity of 30,000 cubic meters, the complex covers an area of 77,000 sqm, including dedicated operational and service buildings. It is equipped with state-of-the-art safety and security features and the latest aviation product handling technologies. BJFCO is a joint venture between Bahrain Airport Company and Noga Holding. It was formed in 2016 with the goal of restructuring the aviation fuel sector in the Kingdom and constructing and managing the fuel farm complex.



GULF AIR CONTINUES ITS STRIVE TO MAINTAIN BAHRAINI TALENT

Gulf Air - the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain - recently awarded a number of its Bahraini staff contracts with open ended contracts, as it continues its efforts to maintain its Bahraini calibre and lead the way to their development and prosperity.

Gulf Air Acting Chief Executive Officer Captain Waleed AlAlawi commented "This is the first batch of a number of Bahraini Gulf Air staff that will be included in this initiative, as the airline has always been keen on increasing its percentage of Bahrainisation and looking after the rights and wellbeing of its Bahraini cadre. We will continue to develop and elevate our Bahraini talents in line with our goals of serving the people of Bahrain and in its national economy."

Captain AlAlawi also expressed his gratitude to Gulf Air's Board for blessing this initiative of positive effect on the future of the airline's Bahraini staff, and congratulated beneficiaries of this first batch, wishing them all success and advancement in their careers.

Gulf Air committed to invest in Bahraini workforce, it is a leader in the Bahrainisation programme in the Kingdom as it provides the opportunity for local experienced talents to work in its various areas of the airline's business and is committed to invest in its Bahraini workforce and their career development. The airline continues to provide opportunities for Bahraini nationals to take over higher management positions in the company.

BAHRAIN CELEBRATES LAUNCH OF TEXEL AIR'S BOEING 737-800BCF



Texel Air, an established airline and MRO based in Bahrain, celebrated the launch of the latest addition to its fleet and the very first for the region, a 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighter (BCF).

Present at the launch ceremony were senior government and aviation industry leaders alongside Texel Air management and Board members including

Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed, Minister of Transportation and Telecommunications, Anbessie Yitbarek, Boeing Vice President of Commercial Services Sales and John Chisholm, Chairman and Founder Chisholm Enterprises / Texel Air and George Chisholm, CEO of Chisholm Enterprises.

The 737-800BCF is a full freighter aircraft that is highly in demand in

the global air cargo market and is the first of its kind in the Middle East with a second of the same aircraft type due to arrive in September 2022.

Anbessie Yitbarek said, "We are thrilled to welcome Texel Air to the Boeing Converted Freighter family with the arrival of their first of two market-leading 737-800 Boeing Converted Freighters. The 737-800BCF is the right-sized freighter to support Texel Air's fleet expansion plans, providing the reliability, efficiency and world-class in-service technical support that will help Texel Air capitalize on rapid growth in e-commerce and express cargo demand."

This aircraft, registration A9C-GWC (MSN 29985), underwent conversion from passenger to freighter aircraft at a Boeing MRO supplier facility, with further client specific modifications at Texel Air's hangar facility prior to transferring onto their Bahrain Aircraft Operators Certificate.

"We are pleased to see Bahrain as a launchpad for yet another new aircraft, the first of its kind in the Middle East, which is being operated by a Bahrain registered

company, Texel Air," Kamal bin Ahmed Mohammed said. The Boeing Converted Freighter is capable of carrying up to 23.9 tonnes (52,800 pounds) and flying up to 2,025 nautical miles (3,750 kilometers). It has 6,546 cubic feet (185.4 cubic meters) of total cargo volume, with 12 positions – 11 standard (88"X125") positions and one (60.4" X 61.5") position on the main deck providing 4,993 cubic feet (141.4 cubic meters) and 1,553 cubic feet (44 cubic meters) in the lower hold.

"We are very proud to welcome the arrival of the region's very first Boeing 737-800BCF to the Kingdom of Bahrain," Chisholm said.

"Along with our two versatile B737-700Flex Combi's™ that recently joined our fleet, this addition will further boost our capabilities. We look forward to offering greater innovation and more varied cargo solutions to our global customer base."

A9C-GWC is expected to enter into service in mid-January. Our home, Bahrain, is a strategic location and a regional hub for aviation and logistics, Chisholm added.

TECH UPDATE

BRINGING VOICE TECHNOLOGY AND VIDEO COLLABORATION TO THE MOON



Lockheed Martin (NYSE: LMT), Amazon (NASDAQ: AMZN) and Cisco (NASDAQ: CSCO) have teamed up to integrate unique human-machine interface technologies into NASA's Orion spacecraft, providing an opportunity

to learn how future astronauts could benefit from far-field voice technology, AI and tablet-based video collaboration.

The Callisto technology demonstration will be integrated

into NASA's Orion spacecraft for the agency's Artemis I uncrewed mission around the Moon and back to Earth. Callisto uses Amazon Alexa and Webex by Cisco to test and demonstrate commercial technology for deep space voice, video and whiteboarding communications. Lockheed Martin, which designed and built the Orion spacecraft for NASA, is leading the development and integration of the payload.

Callisto is named after a favorite companion of the Greek goddess Artemis. The payload features a custom hardware and software integration developed by engineers from Lockheed Martin, Amazon and Cisco, and includes innovative technology that allows Alexa to work without an internet connection, and Webex to run on a tablet using NASA's Deep Space Network.

Since Artemis I is an uncrewed mission, Callisto partners have worked with NASA to build a virtual crew experience at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, allowing operators to interact with Callisto from the Mission Control Center. These remote interactions will test and demonstrate how voice and video collaboration technologies can help astronauts improve efficiency

and situational awareness during their mission, providing access to flight status and telemetry, and the ability to control connected devices onboard Orion. Video and audio of the interactions will be transmitted back to Earth many times throughout the Artemis I mission, allowing engineers to analyze the performance of the onboard systems while also sharing interactions with the public.

The Callisto technology demonstration will also allow students, families, space enthusiasts and the general public to engage with and virtually "ride along" with the Artemis I mission. They can follow the mission on Alexa-enabled devices by saying "Alexa, take me to the Moon," and the Webex video collaboration capabilities will offer opportunities for STEM education and remote classroom teaching events.

Artemis I is currently scheduled to launch in early 2022 from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida, for a multi-week journey around the Moon and back. Artemis I will provide the foundation for future crewed missions to the Moon and deep space and is part of NASA's goal to land the first woman and first person of color on the lunar surface.

EGOVERNMENT

Individuals can now report self-COVID-19 - Rapid test results via BeAware App



In its continued efforts to control the spread of the coronavirus, the Government of Bahrain urges the public to self-test if they experience any symptoms or have been exposed to affected individuals. The self-test can be done easily from the comfort of your home or office. Following the emergence of the Omicron variant, the COVID-19 Rapid Test Protocol has been updated to include swabs for both the throat and nose. The test kit can be purchased from any leading pharmacy.

You must report positive the results via the BeAware app to help protect public health. You can do this by opening the BeAware app, navigating to the eServices tab at the bottom of the screen, and clicking on 'Reporting Rapid Test Result' under the 'Coronavirus Tests and Results' section. You must enter your ID card number and contact number, take a photo of the positive test result and upload it.

Then put the test device in a tightly sealed transparent bag and go directly to one of the Drive Through Testing Centres, which are located near the

King Hamad University Hospital in Muharraq (Al Saya Area), near the Bahrain Centre for Strategic, International, and Energy Studies (Derasat) in the Southern Governorate and in Salman City in the Northern Governorate. There is no need to call the 444 hotline.

During the visit to the centre, a PCR test will be performed, and the person must isolate his or herself and follow precautionary measures.

The service is provided by the Ministry of Health, in association with the Information & eGovernment Authority (iGA). For more information, please visit the National Portal, bahrain.bh.

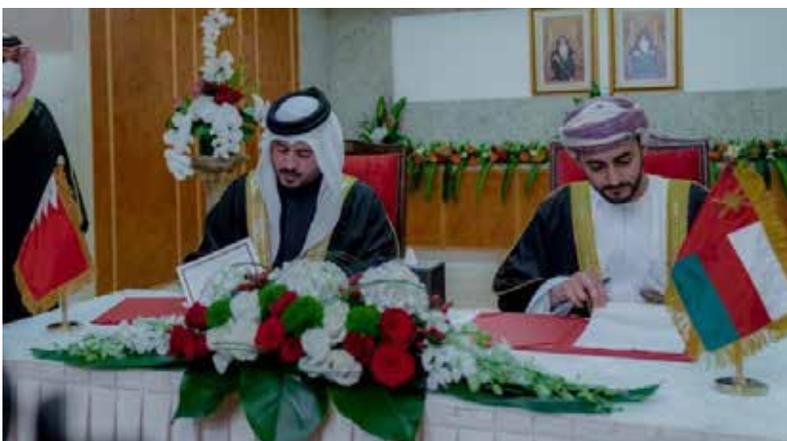
For inquiries on usage of the BeAware Bahrain App, visit the National Suggestions and Complaints System, Tawasul available via bahrain.bh/tawasul, download the Tawasul app from the eGovernment Apps Store bahrain.bh/apps, or call the Government Services Contact Center on 80008001. To receive updates on the latest news and developments, follow the iGA's social media channels @iGAbahrain

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 INFORMATION &
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SPORTS

BAHRAIN AND OMAN SIGN SPORTS AGREEMENT



First Deputy Chairman of the Supreme Council for Youth and Sport (SCYS), Board of Directors Chairman of the General Sports Authority (GSA) and President of Bahrain Olympic Committee (BOC) His Highness Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa met Oman's Crown Prince and Minister of Culture, Sports and Youth HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Al Haitham Al Saeed.

The meeting discussed ways to

strengthen bilateral and support joint works in sports.

HH Shaikh Khalid stressed his great pride in the deep historical Bahraini-Omani relationship, and the two countries' keenness to expand aspects of cooperation in various fields, especially sports, stressing the importance of working to reinforcing partnerships that contribute to the development of the sports field

between the two countries.

The GSA and Omani Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports signed an Executive Sports Program agreement to activate cooperation in the sports field.

The agreement was signed by HH Shaikh Khalid bin Hamad Al Khalifa, and HH Sayyid Theyazin bin Al Haitham Al Saeed.

The terms of the agreement include exchanging joint programs to train and qualify national cadres in the

sports field, exchanging experiences in the field of discovering, refining, and highlighting talents and exchanging visits of delegations and setting up training camps.

They also include exchange experiences in the field of sports medicine and physical therapy, organize friendly matches, trade research, and implement joint programs to promote sports tourism among both countries.

