



January - April 2013

**Chairman
Dr. Mohammed
Al Barwani,
visits KSA office** 8



Koller celebrates 100 years of operations

30



Usama Al Barwani,
Managing Director – UES & Director – MB
Holding meets **Prince Charles**

9



**Mohammed Barwani
Charity Foundation**
and Ministry of Social Development
sign agreement on several social projects

11



Mohammed Al Kharusi,
Director - Corporate Operations participates
in the **PEIE** Seminar as a guest speaker

12

7 | Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Group meets Rt Hon Prime Minister Dr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi, the premier of Rwanda

8 | Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Group visits the KSA office

9 | Usama Al Barwani, Managing Director – UES & Director – MB Holding meets **Prince Charles**

10 Vice Chairperson Sharifa Al Harthy is among **top 20 Most Powerful women** in Oman

11 Mohammed Barwani Charity Foundation and **Ministry of Social Development** sign agreement on several **social projects**

14 MB Holding conducts **Corporate Employee Induction Programme** for its new employees

17 MB Holding sponsors **'Between Empires – The life & times of an Omani Gentleman'**

26 Petrogas Rima holds **HSE Day**

29 Petrogas affirms its commitment to the Association of **Early Intervention for Children with Disability**

30 Koller celebrates **100 years of operations**

38 MB AL Ghalib participates in **Basra Exhibition**

45 | HSE corner

48 | Talent Showcase-Hamdan Al Juneibi

50 Mining Operations – An Update

51 UES participates in **EPC Projects Conference 2012**

52 UES launches **Corporate Social Responsibility initiative** with **Rehabilitation Centres** in Al Khoud

18 | Peter Salleh wins second place in the **Al Nahda Golf Cup Tournament**



• *Published by Marketing & Communications Department*

• *Editor-in-chief: Mohammed Al Kharusi*

• *If you wish to contribute in the next issue, please email us at marcom@mbholdingco.com with an outline of what you wish to contribute.*

MB Holding Company LLC

P O Box 695, CPO Seeb, PC: 114, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: (968) 24580580 Fax: (968) 24580589

www.mbholdingco.com



4 | MB Holding participated in **Adipec 2012**, in Abu Dhabi

CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE



“While we have witnessed some tough times in the last couple of years, I am happy to note that our overall growth has been positive and we hope to better our performance this year.”

Dear Colleagues,

We have started 2013 on a very happy note. The Koller Group has recently completed 100 years of operations. The company which started operations in 1912 is an enterprise operating in three sectors – Koller Machinery & Plant Engineering, Koller Workover & Drilling and Rellok Cutting Solutions. Koller marked this huge milestone with a celebration that was held at its offices. What made this event even more exciting was the fact that the company felicitated its long serving employees. It is indeed a privilege to have a renowned brand with such a rich heritage as part of our family.

One of the key factors driving the success of the MB Group of Companies is the organic growth of its people and this is a notion that we carry across our businesses. The ‘Talent Showcase’ section in the previous issue of the MB News Review is a perfect example of that. Reading Khamis Al Hinai’s story was motivational and without the loyalty and dedication of our employees we would not be where we are today or tomorrow.

While we have witnessed some tough times in the last couple of years, I am happy to note that our overall growth has been positive and we hope to better our performance this year. I am also thrilled with the fact that we are taking sincere steps to grow responsibly. This is evident from the fact that there have been several social initiatives undertaken by different group companies.

The MB Group of Companies have identified and finalised three broad categories within which to undertake social initiatives. These include ‘The Drive Safe Campaign’, ‘Employment & Training of Omani Youth’ and ‘The Going Green Campaign’.

MB Petroleum Services & Petrogas E&P have partnered with prominent schools such as Al Imam Muhanna Bin Sultan School &

Dohat Al Adab School respectively. As part of the initiative, we have branded the school buses operating under the school’s supervision with ‘drive safe’ messages in both Arabic & English. We have even put up ‘drive safe’ boards at the entrance/exit gate of the school. To further reach out, we are providing lunch coupons to children under the social welfare scheme.

Additionally, Petrogas has also partnered with the Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability by sponsoring the care of 4 children who fall under the purview of this programme.

United Engineering Services has also partnered with the Rehabilitation Centres in Al Khoud, Muscat, Oman. The company has pledged two electrical wheelchairs, 20 regular wheel chairs, 20 walkers and 4 laptops across the two centres.

As part of the ‘Going Green Campaign’, it gives me great pleasure to announce that we have placed recycle bins across the head office premises. Since 90% of the waste generated in our offices is paper, this initiative has worked very well. So far we have sent about 1, 250kgs (as of January 2013) of waste paper for recycling. We will also be extending this initiative to our other group companies across Oman.

I would like to add here that we are placing increasing emphasis on our CSR activities and I hope that going forward the businesses will sustain this momentum.

Regards & Good Luck!

Dr Mohammed Al Barwani
Chairman MB Holding Company LLC

MB Group of Companies participated in **Adipec 2012**, in Abu Dhabi



MB Holding Company LLC represented by its key group companies - MB Petroleum Services (MBPS), Petrogas E&P & United Engineering Services (UES) took part in the 15th edition of ADIPEC held in Abu Dhabi. The exhibition was held under the patronage of the President of the United Arab Emirates, H. H. Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, at the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC).

The conference and exhibition which was held between the 11th – 14th of November 2012, saw the biggest names in the Oil & Gas Industry converge under one roof. MB Holding was represented by its flagship brand MB Petroleum Services - a one-stop shop for integrated drilling & oilfield services, Petrogas E&P which is engaged in exploration & production of oil & gas along with United Engineering Services – the leading oilfield, marine & defence engineering services provider internationally.

The exhibition gave the MB Group of Companies an opportunity to present their credentials and offer their services on the same platform as some of the biggest names in the oil and gas sector in the world. One of the key highlights of the MB Holding stand was the MB Flow Master – a commercial Multiphase Flow Meter technology pioneered by MB Petroleum Services. What makes the Flow Master unique is the fact that the gas, liquid flow rate measurements and the water cut determination are carried out independent of each

other by conventionally proven meters. This allows highly accurate determination of the discrete flows and computation of the flow rates and gas fractions.

The exhibition saw participation from major oil and gas companies from all over the world, including many national companies as well as support services companies. The event hosted more than 1,500 exhibitions and attracted more than 45,000 attendees. More than 200 speakers from 39 countries through various sessions shared their professional experiences and high level expertise and research across 5 different industry disciplines ranging from geosciences, field development, projects, drilling and completions, and maintenance/integrity/HSE/operations.

“ADIPEC is a platform where oil and gas industry professionals get together to experience, discover, network, discuss and debate core industry issues. It provided us with an opportunity to establish direct contact with key industry personnel and network with international experts and leaders in the oil & gas industry. The exhibition helped us present our products & services to our partners and seek new developments within the industry,” said Usama Al Barwani, Director - Business Development, MB Holding LLC.





Adipec 2012



Dr Mohammed Al Barwani meets Rt Hon Prime Minister Dr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi, the premier of Rwanda



“One of the main reasons for the company’s interest in Rwanda is stability, peace, security, stringent anti-corruption laws and clean and smooth investment opportunities”

Rt Hon Prime Minister Dr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi, the premier of Rwanda recently received a delegation of investors from Oman which was led by Dr Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Group of Companies. During the meeting with the Prime Minister, the Omani delegation showed interest in oil & gas exploration as well as the mining sector. Apart from this, Dr Barwani also revealed the company’s interest in the tourism and hospitality sectors.

Dr Barwani said, “When I am back home, I will send specialists in all these various sectors of investment to come to Rwanda and undertake in-depth research and studies, so that we can consider our options for investment.”

He stated that one of the main reasons for the company’s interest in Rwanda is stability, peace, security, stringent anti-corruption laws and clean and smooth investment opportunities.

Rt Hon Prime Minister Dr Pierre Damien Habumuremyi, the premier of Rwanda thanked the Omani delegation for their interest in Rwanda and assured them Government support and cooperation to make their investment process easier.

DR. MOHAMMED AL BARWANI, Chairman, MB Group visits the KSA office



Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Group & Eamon Gormon, Group CEO, MBPS recently visited the MBPS office in KSA. During their visit, Dr. Barwani & Eamon felicitated the long serving employees at a ceremony attended by all employees.



Usama Al Barwani, Managing Director – UES & Director – MB Holding meets **Prince Charles**



The Prince of Wales acknowledged and thanked Usama Al Barwani for the investments made by the MB Group of Companies in Scotland.

VICE CHAIRPERSON SHARIFA AL HARTHY is among top 20 Most Powerful women in Oman

Sharifa Al Harthy, Vice Chairperson, MB Holding Company LLC has once again made it to the Top 20 most powerful women in Corporate Oman in a survey conducted by one of Oman's leading business publication – Oman Economic Review (OER). She has a B.A in Business Administration from Jordan University (Amman, Jordan), and also holds a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Texas Southern University (Houston, Texas, USA).

Sharifa has played a pivotal role in setting up the MB Group of Companies since its inception in 1982. She has been instrumental in advising the group companies on human resources policies and development. She also plays an active role in nurturing and developing government and community relations.

In addition to her role as Vice Chairperson, Sharifa Al Harthy heads the Mohammed Al Barwani Charity Foundation. The foundation aims to support needy patients who require medical treatment locally or abroad, support to families under the social care (insurance) scheme, provide scholarships to needy students, distribute *zakat* and *sadaqa* and offer humanitarian aid in cases of emergency and disasters and also support Omani Women Associations.



MB Clinic team visit the Mandoos site in Shinas

The MB clinic Team visited the Mandoos site in Shinas. The primary aim of this visit was to perform 'Fitness to Work Medical Examinations' among the mine workers.

As part of the medical test, Chest X-rays were conducted for employees working in the mines for 4 years or above to rule out Silicosis (previously referred to as 'Miner's Phthisis' or 'Grinder's Asthma'). Silicosis

is a respiratory disease caused by breathing (inhaling) silica dust which is mostly found in rock beds during mining, quarrying, tunneling and working with metal ores. Furthermore, sandblasters and glass workers are also exposed to silica.

During the medical examination, it was also found out that most of the employees were overweight while some suffered from hypertension and diabetes. In order to mitigate

the impact of a sedentary lifestyle, an awareness campaign on these health hazards has been initiated under the supervision of the Mawarid Medical Team. These medical issues were also discussed with the mine's General Manager.

The MB clinic Team is scheduled to visit the Mandoos mine once a month to check on the progress of the campaign or as and when the need arises.



Mohammed Barwani Charity Foundation and Ministry of Social Development sign agreement on Several Social Projects

The Mohammed Al Barwani Charity Foundation (MBCF) and the Ministry of Social Development signed an agreement on several social projects which are currently being implemented. This agreement signed between Sharifa Al Harthy, Chairperson, Mohammed Al Barwani Charity Foundation and Khalfan Bin Harub Al Jabri, Director General – Planning & Research Development, Ministry of Social Development; provides financial aid to various scholarship programmes that are currently being undertaken by the Ministry. The total value of this aid is RO 162,240.

The Mohammed Al Barwani Charity Foundation is offering scholarships worth RO 65,280 to 4 students under the social welfare scheme. The charity foundation also provides 3 scholarships for disabled students including the foundation course at a cost of RO 48,960. Furthermore, the agreement also includes using a special bus for the disabled children to be used at one of the Al Wafa Rehabilitation Centres. Additionally, three technical units are being planned at the Al Wafa Rehabilitation Centres in Mudhaibi, Bidiyah and Ibra at a cost of RO 18,000.



Sharifa Al Harthy, Chairperson, Mohammed Al Barwani Charity Foundation, said, "We are extremely happy to partner with the Ministry of Social Development. It is part of our charity foundation's mandate to provide scholarships to needy students. Through this, we hope to make a small difference in the lives of a few children. We are glad that the ministry has supported us and will fulfill our objectives."



Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director - Corporate Operations participates in the PEIE Seminar as a guest speaker

Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director – Corporate Operations, MB Holding recently participated in a seminar titled ‘Uplifting Local Workforce Skills’ organized by Public Establishment for Industrial Estates (PEIE), which took place at the Grand Hyatt Muscat.

The seminar reiterated the strengthening of an effective partnership between the private and public sectors in order to develop training plans for the national workforce. It called upon the setting up a legislative and regulatory framework responsive and consistent with Omanisation strategies to achieve Vision 2020 in the growth and development of the required manpower. The seminar also highlighted the need to adapt to the changing market needs and offer flexibility to the current and future workforce in Oman.

The Uplifting Local Workforce Skills seminar featured two discussion sessions by individuals with extensive

experience in workforce development who highlighted ways to find appropriate mechanisms to encourage the private sectors in uplifting their employees’ skills and knowledge through responsive training programmes; enhance the quality, effectiveness, and efficiency of the required qualification and the training provided; and evaluate the outcomes of the training programmes that are intended to uplift the employees skill and knowledge. Giving his comments on the seminar to the audience, Hilal bin Hamad Al Ahsani, PEIE CEO said, “Developing Omani workforce skills is certainly one of the most important issues that need to be raised. Schemes have to be outlined to achieve all ambitions. The Public Establishment for

Industrial Estates is undertaking significant efforts in a way to develop and enhance human resources in the industry. We are currently conducting a study on how to enhance the manpower and apparently there are several challenges that have to be tackled in this area. PEIE has also initiated a set of programmes in various areas to boost skills and capabilities of the human resources.”

The first session of the seminar was moderated by Malak Al Shaibani, Director General of the National Business Centre, and the speakers comprised Mohammed Masoud Al Kharusi, Director Corporate Operations at MB Holding Company LLC; Steve Butler, HRD Manager at Sohar Aluminum; Andrew Card, General Manager of EMIC Training in Bahrain; and Dr. Khamis Said Al Muniri, Academic at Muscat’s Higher College of Technology which is supervised by the Ministry of Manpower.

On the other hand, the second session was moderated by Tonia Gray, General Manager of Competence HR, and the speakers included Abdulmajeed Al Balushi, HR Capability Development Project Leader at Oman Oil

Company; Faiz Al Maskiry, Chief Executive of Ajyal HR Solutions & Services; Andrew Croft, General Manager of Talent2 - UAE; and Salim Al Riyami, HR Manager at Gulf International Pipe Industry.

Mohammed Al Kharusi emphasised on the need of stressing and instilling commitment, management, investment, training and education in all organisations. “Organisations need to have well-directed human resources departments and trainers who understand the principles of developing skilled and capable human resources. There should also be a clear curriculum and a vision to meet the necessities of industries. Public and private sectors should collaborate to achieve the desired goals towards developing the Omani workforce.”

The two sessions affirmed that due to noteworthy growth in the number of Omanis joining all sectors and with the growing demand for a qualified, reliable and resourceful Omani workforce, it is essential that qualification and training reflect the needs of the variety of industries and eventually build a better skilled and qualified workforce in the Sultanate.

“Organisations need to have well-directed human resources departments and trainers who understand the principles of developing skilled and capable human resources.”



MB Holding conducts Corporate Employee Induction Programme for its new employees



In the last 3 months, two corporate induction programmes have been conducted for new employees who have joined the MB Group of Companies. The first session was held in October 2012 and the second one was held in January 2013. As part of the Group “on-boarding” process for new employees, the programmes were a means to formally welcome, introduce and induct the new employees to MB Holding and the Corporate Office.

As a new employee, it is both in the interest of the individual and the Company that they quickly establish and settle themselves down in their new roles and work environment and are able to contribute with immediate effect. With this objective in mind, the induction programmes were designed to provide the new employees with the following information:

1. Information about the organization they are working with from the Group perspective i.e. who we are, what we do, where we operate, where we aspire to be, etc.
2. What they can expect from the Group i.e. how will they grow and be developed as an employee, how will they be rewarded and recognized for their





Below were some of the comments received from the participants ...

- ***“A fantastic programme – lots of useful information, detailed explanation and description about MB Holding Company.”***
- ***“Thank you for an excellent induction programme. It was comprehensive, clear and a good opportunity to meet the other new employees.”***
- ***“It is a pleasure to be part of the MB Family and looking forward to an exciting future.”***

contribution, and what support and services they can get from the respective service providers.

3. What the organization expects from them as an employee i.e. their roles and responsibilities, how they should behave and treat their fellow employees, and what standards and work ethics they should adhere to.

The programmes started with a personal introduction and an “ice-breaking” activity amongst the participants, as a means for them to get to know each other. This was followed by a series of presentations by the respective Department Heads from MB Holding Company on the various topics covering the three areas outlined above. It started with an “Overview of MB Group” by the Manager, Corporate Finance that covered the background and history of the Group, its vision & mission, the corporate structure and business portfolios, business performance and plans for the future. This was followed by a presentation on “People Management” by Group L & D Manager, “IT Support & Services” by Group IT Manager, “Corporate Values, Work Ethics & Local Culture” by the Management Trainer, “Medical Services & Occupational Health” by the Chief Medical Officer, “Marketing & Communication” by the Group Chief Marketing & Communication Officer, and finally “Operating Standards & Compliance” by the Group Chief Internal Auditor.

The programme ended with an engaging Q & A session with Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director - Corporate Operations. He welcomed the new employees into the MB family and wished them the very best. He reiterated the company’s commitment to the employees and looked forward to their contribution to help their respective Companies and the Group grow and prosper, and achieve the desired objectives.

The programme was well received and appreciated by the new employees.



MB Clinic conducts a **SEMINAR** on Computer Vision Syndrome



According to Wikipedia, computer vision syndrome (CVS) is a condition resulting from focusing the eyes on a computer display for protracted, uninterrupted periods of time.

As a part of its objectives, the MB clinic organized a lecture on 'Computer Vision Syndrome & its prevention'. This talk was held in association with Al Amal Medical Centre and was presented by Dr. Mohammed Anwar, Specialist Ophthalmologist, Al Amal Medical Centre. The talk was held at the MB Holding head office in Azaiba and was attended by employees from several departments.

The talk focused on some of the most common vision related issues faced by individuals such as dry eyes, blurred vision, and neck & shoulder pain. The primary objective of this talk was to create awareness towards better vision and guide the employees towards a healthy lifestyle.

Dr Yahya Abdul Gawad, Chief Medical Officer, MB Holding Company said, "With the huge advancement and development in technology especially in IT sector, almost all our work is done on computer and other gadgets. The radiation emitted by these gadgets can have harmful effects. What's worse is that we cannot discard them as it is a necessity to use them. What we can instead do is mitigate its harmful effects."

The talk witnessed an enthusiastic participation from the employees within the MB head office and a long Q/A session which clarified several doubts. All in all, it was a successful programme with the employees taking back some valuable lessons!

Tips to avoid Computer Vision Syndrome:

- 1) Move your computer monitor away from the window
- 2) Adjust your monitor height
- 3) Exercise your eyes frequently
- 4) Adjust your computer display
- 5) Take frequent breaks
- 6) Adjust your monitor distance
- 7) Get your eyes tested periodically with an eye care professional
- 8) Use proper lighting indoors
- 9) Hold digital devices farther away
- 10) Affix paper documents so they are in line with your monitor

MB Holding sponsors

'Between Empires - The life & times of an Omani Gentleman'



MB Holding recently sponsored the official launch of 'Between Empires – The life & times of an Omani Gentleman'. The event which was held at Bait Al Zubair Museum and under the auspices of His Highness Sayyid Shihab bin Tareq Al Said, Adviser to His Majesty the Sultan; is an eye opening epic biography detailing the life and times of Sheikh – Sir Mbarak Bin Ali Al Hinawy KBE. Written by Dr Zulfikar Hijri, Associate Professor at New York, Toronto; the book focusses on one of the most prominent and decorated Omanis in coastal east Africa during the first half of the 20th century. The book combines a unique family archive of pictures and documents, oral testimonies with research conducted in Muscat, Zanzibar, Mombasa and London.

The book also highlights Oman's historical connections to East Africa and the prominent role Omanis played in its socio-political development.

Mohammed Al Kharusi, Director – Corporate Operations, MB Holding Company who attended the launch event, said, "Sheikh-Sir Mbarak Al Hinawy's contribution to the progress and development of Oman cannot be forgotten. His unrelenting commitment to developing the community, society

and the nation through education and forward thinking values are well known. His life and times are indeed worthy subjects of historical reflection.

We are happy to be part of this memorable event in history."



Peter Salleh wins second place in the Al Nahda Golf Cup Tournament



Al Nahda Resort & Spa's inaugural Golf Cup tournament recently took place at the Muscat Hills Golf & Country Club. In the 18-hole Stableford tournament, players swung their way around the course aiming to pick prizes for the longest drive, nearest to the pin and the ultimate first, second and third spot. The competition also included a woman winner in the overall tournament.

Peter Salleh, Group Learning & Development Manager, MB Holding Company, who has been an avid golf player the last couple of years, secured the coveted second position. The @MB News Review team caught up with the golfer and asked him to reveal his tee secrets... Read on!

1) When did you take up golfing?

I took up golf about 3 years ago at the Ras Al Hamra Golf Club in Petroleum Development Oman (PDO). It began when a close friend who worked with PDO (an excellent golfer with a very low handicap!) encouraged me to take up the game when I came back to Muscat for the second time in August 2009.

I was very reluctant initially as I did not see the benefit in playing the game unlike other sports that provided me the kind of physical exercise that I am accustomed to and enjoy very much e.g. football, badminton, jogging and working out in the gym. I could not see myself going to the golf course and spending 2 hours (for a 9 hole) or 4 hours (for an 18 hole) hitting a “small white ball” with all the kinds of tools available (i.e. the driver, the irons, the pitching wedge and the putter) and trying to put it in a hole the size of a cup!

However, my friend was very persistent to the extent of lending me his spare golf set. The other person who had a very big influence was my wife, who took up the game much before me and even bought a set of Ping golf set for herself. Her persistence and encouragement finally made me decide to give golf a try. I thought to myself, “There is nothing to lose. If I don’t like the game I don’t have to play it.” And as the proverbial saying goes, “The rest is history!”



2) How long have you been playing the game?

I have been playing for about 3 years now as an amateur. Nonetheless, much like other golfers, I too have my own golf "idols" (i.e. currently Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy) and will always aspire to try and emulate the way they play, strike the ball, position themselves and plan their strategy. It is truly amazing to see the patience, precision and accuracy that these individuals portray during a game. I will never ever reach that level of competence in the game. However, I must say that I have slowly developed my skills to the level wherein I am comfortable and to a degree where I can participate in club tournaments (i.e. Ghala, Muscat Hill and Almouj) or locally organized golf competitions with confidence.

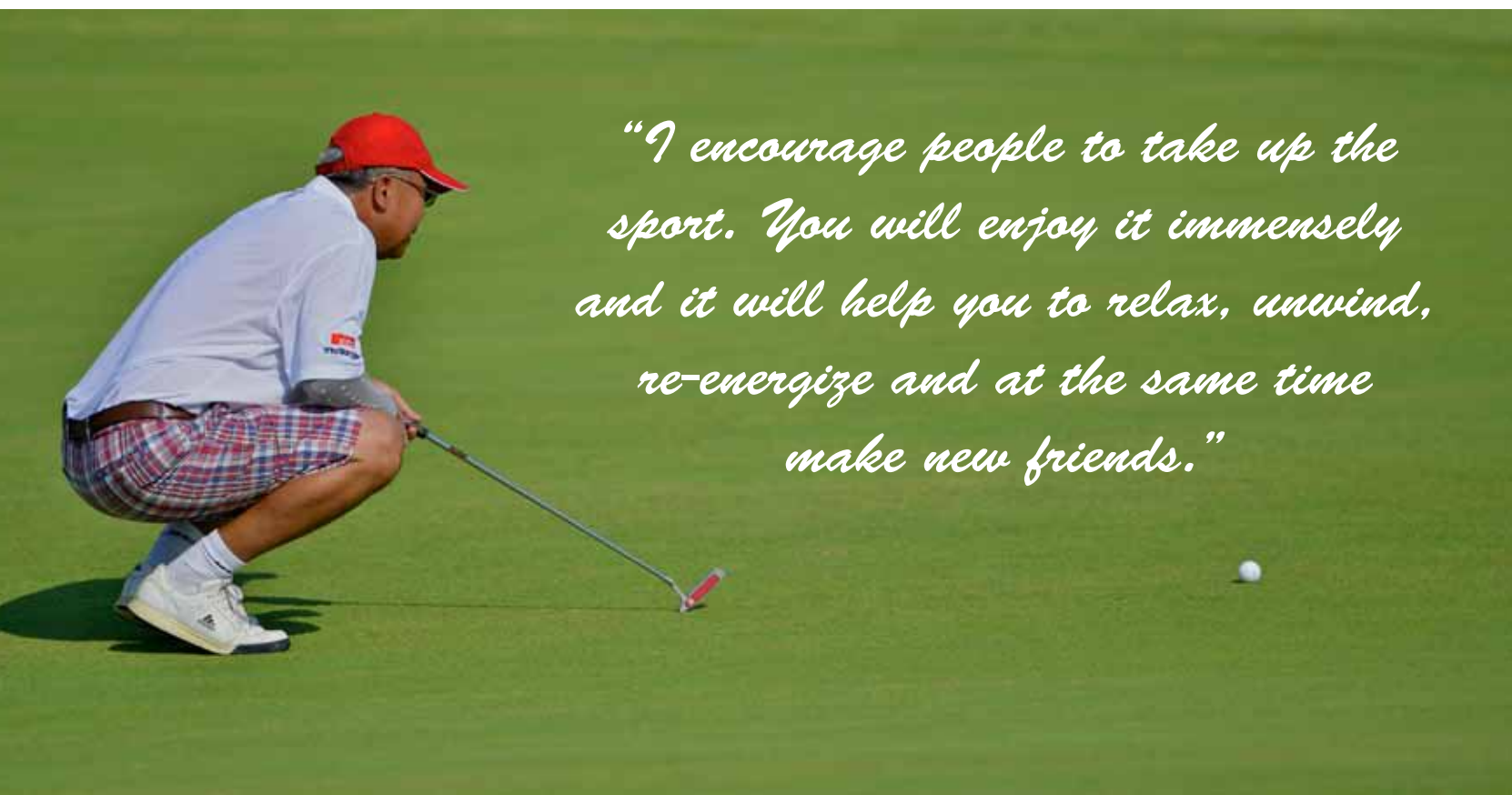
There are certainly many aspects of the game which I need to develop and improve upon. I am doing that with help of my golf buddies and even taking some golf lessons from professional instructors. However, an important aspect is the fact that I am enjoying my game and I look forward to every weekend to "hit and hole the ball."

3) What are some of the things one needs to know about golf?

I am not an expert in the game and would not be able to provide a professional perspective on it. However, based on what I have learnt over the years, I must admit that it is a beautiful and enjoyable sport, especially when you take it up when I did. I have always been a sportsman and played almost every team sport during my heydays - right from football, hockey, badminton, volleyball, rugby, and basketball. Of course, football has always been my



"I encourage people to take up the sport. You will enjoy it immensely and it will help you to relax, unwind, re-energize and at the same time make new friends."



passion and I was very good at it having played for my school, college, university and state. Each and every one of these sport had provided me with the physical, mental and psychological satisfaction that I was looking for. They have also helped shape my character, strength and confidence as a person.

In this respect, golf is no different. Golf has helped me augment and further develop my character – the need to be patient, to stay focused and concentrate, respect others and accept people as they are. But more importantly, it is a game that keeps me going and refreshes me. It is an activity that I look forward to every weekend. It has helped me to make new friends and developed my contacts. I find this very useful and enriching, as they come from different walks of life and trade. And the one thing that I have truly picked up on the golf course is this – a person's true character will unfold during the game i.e. the good, the bad and the ugly side of it! For example, when he/she hits the ball wrong, misses the putt, goes into the bunker or water, or strikes the ball perfectly ('the sweet spot'), holed a birdie, or an eagle or a hole-in-one. This is where the challenge to behave and conduct oneself properly and to remain calm at all times, comes into play and becomes the defining moment in the game!

4) You recently took part in the Pro Am tournament. Can you tell us more about that?

Yes, it's been a little over a year and I have been actively participating in several club and local tournaments at an individual or team level. The Bank Dhofar Pro-Am Tournament was held in November 2012. It was an inaugural event where for the first time, professional golfers across the region participated with local golfers. The game was played over 18 holes in a team alliance format, with the professionals also competing for individual honors. There were 25 teams, each team featuring a regional professional along with 3 amateur players. I played with the MB Team which comprised Jean Denis Bouvier, John Abbs and one of the professional golfers from the region. Although we did not win, we played well enough to enjoy ourselves, the competitive atmosphere, team spirit and the opportunity to play with a professional golfer which is a once in a life time opportunity!

In addition, I have also participated in several competitions in the last few months. These include the Al Nahda Resort & Spa Annual Golf Competition and The Chrysler Cup in 2012 and most recently the Oman LNG National Golf Championship and Oman Amateur Open in January 2013. I won the 2nd place in the Al Nahda Competition as well as the Ras Al Hamra Golf Club Team (as one of the players) in the Chrysler Cup 2012.

5) Personal message for budding golfers?

I encourage people to take up the sport. You will enjoy it immensely and it will help you to relax, unwind, re-energize and at the same time make new friends. We have 3 beautiful 18-hole golf courses in Oman. The sheer walk or drive on the buggy over these courses is an enjoyable experience. The greens, fairways, landscape, the water and the fountain that you see in the ponds and the lakes (and the openness and space of the course) are amazing sights to enjoy. And finally, the services and food that you get at the clubhouse will help you end the day with your golfing buddies and friends, recalling all the excitement, the ups and downs, and the lessons learnt during the game.

So what are you waiting for! See you at the greens...



Capturing Oman



Ahmed Al Hajri - ERP Administrator,
MB Holding

Ahmed Al Hajri's job as an ERP Administrator, MB Holding keeps him extremely busy most times... yet he finds time to pursue his first love – photography. Ahmed reveals the story behind his passion to the Marcom team



through his lens

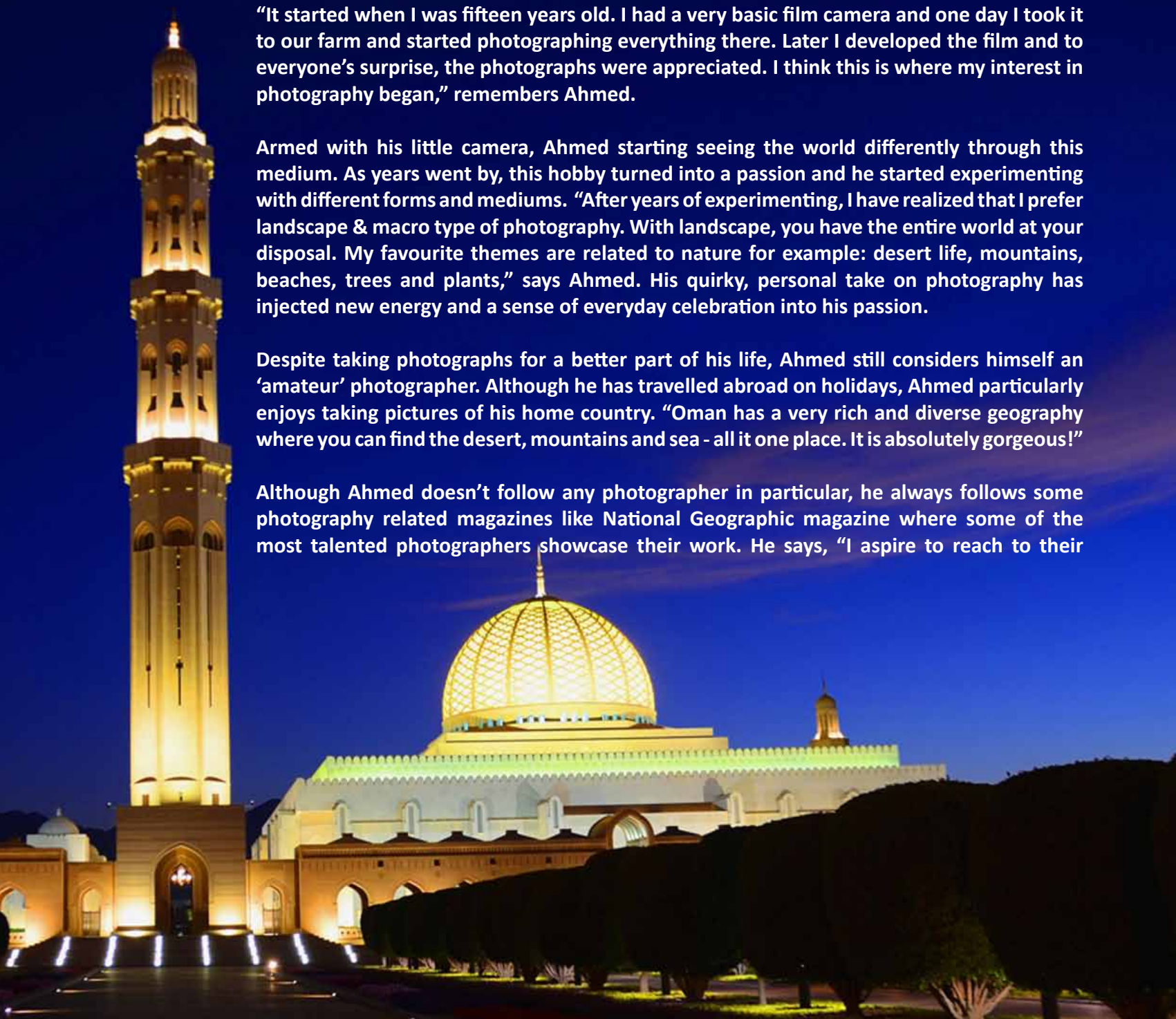
There is more to a picture than what meets the eye. Ask Ahmed Al Hajri and he will concur. Ahmed who works as an ERP Administrator at MB Holding has been a nursing the 'photography' bug ever since he was 15 years old.

"It started when I was fifteen years old. I had a very basic film camera and one day I took it to our farm and started photographing everything there. Later I developed the film and to everyone's surprise, the photographs were appreciated. I think this is where my interest in photography began," remembers Ahmed.

Armed with his little camera, Ahmed started seeing the world differently through this medium. As years went by, this hobby turned into a passion and he started experimenting with different forms and mediums. "After years of experimenting, I have realized that I prefer landscape & macro type of photography. With landscape, you have the entire world at your disposal. My favourite themes are related to nature for example: desert life, mountains, beaches, trees and plants," says Ahmed. His quirky, personal take on photography has injected new energy and a sense of everyday celebration into his passion.

Despite taking photographs for a better part of his life, Ahmed still considers himself an 'amateur' photographer. Although he has travelled abroad on holidays, Ahmed particularly enjoys taking pictures of his home country. "Oman has a very rich and diverse geography where you can find the desert, mountains and sea - all in one place. It is absolutely gorgeous!"

Although Ahmed doesn't follow any photographer in particular, he always follows some photography related magazines like National Geographic magazine where some of the most talented photographers showcase their work. He says, "I aspire to reach to their



level someday,” with a twinkle in his eyes. “I haven’t participated in any kind of competition yet as I believe I have to improve my photography skills further. It is a constant learning process and hopefully this year I will participate in a local contest and test the waters before I participate in international contests,” he adds while answering a question about his personal growth.

Disagreeing with many of his peers, Ahmed feels that a lot is being done in Oman to encourage photography among the youth. “I must say the Omani Photography Club located in Athaibah is helping Omani photographers a lot in terms of providing constant photography workshops and lectures. I encourage Omani photography beginners and amateurs to participate and I’m sure it’ll be very helpful and it will put them on the right track.”

To give added impetus, Ahmed feels that organizing nationwide photography contests will promote photography amongst Omanis. “As the number of photographers grows the chances of them participating in international photography contests will increase. This will not only help in enhancing their skills but also put Oman on the international map and promote it as a tourist destination.”

A shy guy, when we first called Ahmed to check if he would like to be featured in the ‘After Office Hours’ section in the @MB News Review, he was hesitant. His reply was, “I am not sure, I am not used to being written about.” It was only after some discussion and convincing that he agreed to be featured. We are pretty sure when you see the works of this brilliant photographer you will know why!

Personal Message to everyone: I encourage everyone to have a hobby that they feel passionate about. Try to improve on your skills & abilities and keep learning.





PETROGAS RIMA HOLDS HSE DAY



Petrogas Rima held its Office Safety Day at the City Seasons Hotel in Al Khuwair in September 2012. Petrogas Rima employees including the General Manager were joined by members of Petrogas LLC and E&P. A keynote address from the General Manager of Petrogas Rima was followed by presentations delivered by guest speakers from local medical facilities, Environmental experts and local Contractors focusing on key topics associated to Environmental protection and General Health. The presentations supported by on the spot quiz were met with a high level of enthusiasm and enabled employees to take away with them lessons which could be used at home as well as at work and memories of a successful event.





Petrogas E&P strengthens its commitment to Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives by partnering with Dohat Al Adab School



In keeping with its commitment to contribute to communities within which it operates, Petrogas E&P has partnered with Dohat Al Adab School in Al Khuwayr. This association comes in line with the three broad categories finalized by the MB Group of Companies as part of its corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities. These include 'The Drive Safe Campaign', 'Development & Empowerment of the Omani Youth' and 'The Going Green Initiative'.

As part of this programme, Petrogas E&P has implemented an awareness campaign among the school children and the public at large. Drive safe messages have been printed in both Arabic & English on 17 buses operating under the school's supervision. Two 'Drive Safe' notice boards have been fixed within the school premises - at the entrance/exit gate, to encourage safe driving practices. As an effort to support students, Petrogas E&P will also be providing lunch coupons to children under the social welfare scheme.

Iman Al Barwani, Manager – CSR & Corporate Communications, Petrogas E&P, said, "Today, one of the biggest challenges we face is the danger on roads. With the number of road accidents that are taking place in Oman, it has become critical for us to encourage safe driving practices. And what better way to do it, than to reach out to the youth of Oman – since they are the future. Through this initiative, we hope to inculcate safe driving practices among the youth who will also act as brand ambassadors within the community. We would like to thank Dohat Al Adab School for partnering with us and helping us spread the message of safe driving within the community."

Aida Al Busaidi, Principal, Dohat Al Adab School for Girls, Ministry of Education, added, "We would like to thank Petrogas E&P for associating with our school. The traffic

statistics that we see today are alarming and it is for the corporates such as Petrogas E&P to step forward and contribute to society. We hope many such corporates will step forward and make the roads of Oman safe for future generations."



Petrogas partners with the Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability



Iman Al Barwani, Manager – CSR & Corporate Communications hands over the cheque to Sabah Al Bahlani, CEO, AEICD

Petrogas E&P has offered financial aid to the Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability.

The Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability (AEICD) was established in the year 2000 to address the overwhelming needs of young children with disability from birth to age of 6 years and their families. Over the past twelve years, the AEICD has established itself as the only centre in Oman that provides a wide range of services for children with all types of disabilities (except for the blind) and their families. These services include assessment, rehabilitation, kindergarten, portage program, family support, community awareness,

advocacy, capacity building and workshops supportive aids for children. These services are provided by an interdisciplinary team physiotherapist, occupational therapist, speech therapist and psychologist, home visitors and special education teachers. Overall, the association serves about 255 children with disabilities and their families and provides assessment for over 1400 children from all the regions in Oman regardless of their nationality.

Petrogas has offered RO12,000 to the Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability. This means that 4 children will be offered sponsorship for a period of one year under this programme.

Iman Al Barwani, Manager – CSR & Corporate Communications, Petrogas E&P, pointed out, “Petrogas firmly believes in reaching out to communities within which it operates and make a difference. Children are the future of this nation and one of our central pillars is education and empowerment of children. Through our initiative, we hope to make a difference in their lives and give them the opportunity and respect they deserve.”

Sabah Al Bahlani, CEO, Association of Early Intervention for Children with Disability says, “A number of research reports confirms that both professionals and families are indicating that children who received early intervention tutoring had higher IQs, better daily living skills and more advanced language than similar children who had been receiving standard educational provision.

The role of the early intervention centre is to assure that families who have children under 6 years and are diagnosed with disabilities, developmental delays or are at risk of significant delays should receive resources and support that assist them in maximizing their child’s development.”

She added, “We appreciate the generous donation made by Petrogas E&P towards this cause. We are a not-for-profit NGO and we are in constant need of funds. Petrogas E&P has set a benchmark and we hope this encourages other corporates to come forward and help us too.”



KOLLER

celebrates 100 years of operations

Koller Germany celebrated its centennial in 2012. The company which started operations in 1912 is an enterprise operating in three sectors – Koller Machinery & Plant Engineering, Koller Workover & Drilling and Rellok Cutting Solutions. The event, which was held in Germany in November 2012, was attended by the Group CEO of MBPS, Eamon Gorman, key public figures, customers, business partners and employees.

The Group CEO, MBPS, in his address said, “We are delighted to present this honour to our long serving employees. The basis and foundation of Koller in the past and today has been people who are qualified, dedicated and motivated. Over the course of their careers, these employees have struck the perfect balance, generated trust among our customer base and established an ethical work culture.”

“The basis and foundation of Koller in the past and today has been people who are qualified, dedicated and motivated.”



Eamon Gorman, Group CEO, MBPS



Marijan Grahovac, CEO-Commercial, Koller

Koller – key milestones:

- 1907** – Ferdinand Koller became Facility Manager in the ‘Rebeka’ labour union
- 1912** – Founded Koller
- 1921** – Took over locksmith’s shop SchuhstraBe in Celle for production of drilling equipment and tools for deep drilling
- 1930** – Black Friday, New York stock crashes and leads to world economic crisis
- 1933** – Koller’s son Hans joins the business as ‘Joint partner’
- 1939** – The company is called ‘Ferdinand Koller & Sohn General Partnership’
- 1941** – Ferdinand Koller passes away shortly before his 60th birthday
- 1959** – Hans successfully established a hoisting equipment service
- 1969** – The new machine factory was established in Altencelle
- 1972** – Hans Koller passes away
- 1985** – 13 hoisting winches were in use - definitely a peak year
- 2008** – Koller becomes a part of the MB Group of Companies
- 2010** – Rellok Cutting Solutions is established. It offers a one stop solution to everything pertaining concrete and asphalt cutting tools.
- 2012** – Koller celebrates 100 years of operations

Koller – A brief history:

Ferdinand Koller (1881 - 1941) can be regarded as one of the few true pioneers of the German oil industry and the oil service sector which is concentrated around Celle today. In 1912, he laid the foundation of today’s Koller - an enterprise operating in three sectors. One hundred years later, more than 300 employees in Altencelle, Nienhagen and Zistersdorf in Austria still benefit from the founding generation’s boldness and foresight. “Koller had to reinvent himself again and again”, explains CEO-Technical Wilhelm Linnewedel, while narrating Koller’s success story.

In 2008, Koller became a member of the MB Holding Group of Companies and is well on its way to evolving from being a regional player, and a subcontractor and manufacturer of special machines to a “global player” in premium segments of steel construction with documentation and test series on an international level. The worldwide network of the MB Group has significantly boosted Koller’s business and has offered the company new room for innovations and investments, especially in the future.



Wilhelm Linnewedel, CEO-Technical, Koller



The high profile event saw some delightful performances but what made the evening extra special was the felicitation of long serving employees. Employees who have been working with the company for several years were recognised at this special event and were given a token of appreciation for their dedication and commitment. The awards were presented by the Group CEO, Eamon Gorman.

In his opening speech, Wilhelm Linnewedel, CEO-Technical, Koller, enthusiastically noted, "The company has survived the ups & downs of the last century due to the courage, dedication and loyalty of all its employees. Because of our strong commitment to doing what is right for our customers and communities, we have a proud history of high standards for trust, integrity and ethical business practices. Our sector was and is a barometer for the world economy, it went up and down - and it looks as though

oil will continue to be the driving force for our prosperity." He also expressed his gratitude to Dr Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Holding. He said, "In the Chairman, we found a partner, who believed in us, trusted us and who provided us with new options through membership of an internationally active group of companies. We thank you for your support."

Marijan Grahovac, CEO-Commercial, summed up the centennial celebrations in a nutshell, "Koller stands for a colourful mix of employees of all age groups & experience that work hand in hand. Our company is distinguished by an open corporate culture – the individual employee is respected here and there is a great deal of room for manoeuvre. Thus, Koller has successfully grown in the past 100 years and in this spirit, the company continues to mature. And that is what we will strive for in the future. We are hungry for success – success in international business!"









KOLLER SOLUTIONS

lays increasing focus on wireline technology



Measuring wells make up a steadily increasing proportion of well servicing work. Highly sophisticated measuring devices reveal a number of parameters affecting the quality and condition of the well. In order to complete work, which is essential for developing and maintaining wells, companies require high-performance wireline units. KOLLER Maschinen und Anlagenbau GmbH, provides service to suppliers with precisely these solutions. KOLLER has produced advanced wireline units in several variations in Celle, Germany since 2008. The company works closely with their customers during construction in order to effectively fulfil their requirements and also customise solutions when required.





The product range is highly diversified and units of all kinds are available for wireline applications, from slickline to open hole logging with different drum configurations for onshore or offshore use and many other parameters.

A particularly interesting aspect is that KOLLER is boosting its range of units which are suitable for both slickline and e-line jobs thereby targeting a market segment that previously did not exist in this form. These devices enable the user to switch between the wireline processes without the need for extensive retooling.

In addition to the already established, truck-based wireless units for onshore, Koller's focus is increasingly shifting to container-based solutions, which are predominantly used offshore. The latest development in this segment is a 2-split lightweight unit, comprising a winch container and a hydraulic power pack. The battery-free unit starts by using a spring starter and works independently of any power supply.

KOLLER's biggest strength is the extensive specialist knowledge gained over many years. KOLLER's experience from previous projects is applied directly to similar new

projects and this strategy has enabled the company to improve its performance and quality level.

Today, the company offers services which can be compared with the services of large companies and an international sales system is currently being established to present its expertise at various oil & gas exhibitions and conferences.

KOLLER has been a member of the MB Group of Companies since 2008.

This partnership has had a positive impact on KOLLER's performance, as the company benefits greatly from the extensive global network of the MB Group of Companies which enables them to forge ahead with globalization.

KOLLER is proud that its parent company, MBPS Oman LLC is also among their customers today and contributes to the success of the company with several wireline crane units.

It has been a century since KOLLER came into existence and even today, they are not tired of writing the next chapter of the company's success story.



MB Al Ghalib participates in **BASRA** Exhibition

MB Al Ghalib Petroleum Company LLC participated in the 3rd edition of the Basra Oil & Gas International Conference and Exhibition which took place in December 2012 at the Basra International Fairground, Iraq. Officially supported by the Ministry of Oil in Iraq, the event witnessed participation

from 200 exhibitors who gathered to experience, discover, network, discuss and debate core industry issues. The event continues to be the largest oil & gas industry exhibition staged in Iraq, offering clients an opportunity to access the country's oil and gas sector.



MB Al Ghalib team visits IRAQ DRILLING COMPANY to explore business opportunities



IDC Director General (Center) with the MB Al Ghalib & MBPS team

A delegation from MB Al Ghalib & MB Petroleum Services (MBPS) visited Iraq Drilling Company (IDC) in Basra early this year.

The objective of this visit was to explore business opportunities and way of mutual cooperation between the two companies. The Omani delegation comprised

7 members representing all the departments of MBPS. The delegation was headed by Ahmed Al Khodhouri, Acting CEO, MB Al Ghalib. "This visit presented a potential for collaboration between both companies in Iraq within the upstream oil and gas market. It was a fruitful meeting and we hope things will materialise as per plans soon," said Ahmed Al Khodhouri.

MBPS Production Services Update



The first quarter of 2013 brought a whole new set of challenges and opportunities for the MBPS Production Services Team.

Operations continued to be busy with the Jordan Team who contributed to the successful completion of BP's first well, Risha-46. Despite delays caused by snowy weather, Well Test-26 and Coil Tubing Unit-5 will soon commence rigging in preparation for their stimulation and testing programme.

In Oman, the Slickline Team achieved a milestone of 2 years without LTI in Marmul. A total of 12 slickline units are employed by PDO with 4 in South Oman and 8 based in Qarn Alam. In addition the department has been busy with 6 Slickline units working at Occidental in Safah and one each at Petrogas, PTTEP and Daleel. The Non Corrosive Pumping Units and Wellhead Maintenance crews have also been busy with 7 units and 4 crews working for PDO.

The Memory Logging Department completed their first Memory Multi-Finger Caliper Log for BP Oman which was deployed in a deep, HPHT horizontal gas well on Coiled Tubing and successfully identified a liner anomaly which answered a lot of questions for the client relating to operational efficiencies.

Well Test Unit 11 and SMS 11 continue to provide services to Oman Oil at Abu Butabel and Well Test 22 has been on duty at CCED. Well Test 27 is about to recommence testing of BP's KZN-8 whilst Well Test 29 is between wells for BP Oman and has been contributing to a HAZOP on their next well, KZN-12.

CTU-6 has been working for CCED and is expected to return to Muscat in preparation for a mobilization to Musandam to perform Nitrogen Lifting and Acid Stimulation for PetroTel Oman.

In the interim period, Hamyar Al Saadi is in the USA inspecting the latest Coiled Tubing Unit as it is prepared for mobilization to Oman.

The Coiled Tubing Team have introduced an environmental initiative which has been nicknamed "CTU Go Green" to provide leak proof bunding for Coiled Tubing Equipment which will capture any spills of chemicals or hydraulic oil and thus prevent soil contamination.



MBPS launches 'Best Driver' Programme



As part of its initiative to encourage defensive driving, the Transport & Logistics department of MBPS launched the 'Best Driver' programme to promote the advancement of safety benchmarks especially in driving behaviour. The initiative seeks to encourage drivers to proactively engage in HSE challenges and the risks involved to formulate preventative measures with a vigilant and holistic culture of safety. The driver's choice of speed is an important aspect of everyday risk-taking behaviour because it has been shown to be one of the most important predictors of road accident involvement.

The programme is part of MBPS's aim to establish emerging methods and is considered as a behavioural technique to sustain the company's HSE corporate culture by encouraging employees to be accountable for maintaining safe operations.

Madhusudan Swami, CEO – Oman, MBPS, said, "Reward programmes have proven to be a very effective way of saying thank you to drivers for maintaining a clear driving record, avoiding accidents and the associated costs, and thus mitigating a company's risk exposure."

The details of drivers recommended for safety awards for the year 2012 are based on the IVMS RAG report for the period June-December 2012. Hamed Busaidi, who scored the highest (52,361kms) as per RAG report analysis considering highest kilometer driven in 6 months without LTI was nominated as the best driver for the year 2012 and Aiman Akhzami was recommended for 'Special Recognition Award' by MB Holding for his dedication and sincerity even beyond the call of duty.



Winners for 2012:

Hamed Busaidi (52361 kms)

Mohammed Hajri (36087 kms)

Hamad Sharji (34008 kms)

Haroun Jabri (28851 kms)

Yousif Riyami (26500 kms)

Yaqoub Siyabi (21174 kms)

Mohamed Darwish (20491 kms)



MB CENTURY installs one of the most advanced CNC LATHES in the Waikato Bay of plenty area



MB Century has installed one of the most advanced CNC lathes in the Waikato Bay of plenty area. What makes this lathe unique is that it has a Y axis which enables the milling of components off the centre line of machine. This enables complex manufacturing of components, e.g the production of hydro-gate eccentric pins and down-hole logging equipment.

The machine shop manufactures general engineering and precision components to a milling capacity of up to 3 tonne and a turning capacity of 1500dia to 4m. The equipment is used for the repair and manufacture of

drilling equipment and associated hydro components. All drilling equipment is manufactured to API specifications.

MB Century receives API Certification

MB Century has achieved the API Certificate of Registration for Specification Q1 (Manufacture and Repair of Rotary Connection, Subs and Well Head Equipment; Provision of General Machining Services) under the registration number Q1-1514. This allows MB Century to have robust QA systems in place to manufacture componentry within the API regulations.

MB Century works on G1-G4 Turbine Replacements

The MB Century Mechanical team and Toshiba teamed up to undertake the Refurbishment and Runner Replacement of the four Hydro generation units at Ohakuri. This project started late 2010 with the planning and contractual requirements and the site work commenced in September 2011. The first unit to be refurbished was G4, the unit has been commissioned and returned to service in April 2012. The current unit being refurbished is G2 which has been disassembled and the refurbishment phase of the project is underway. The refurbishment involves several departments from MB

Century team, including Mechanical site, Machine Shop, Blasting & Painting, Fabrication along with the support from Wairakei depot.

Toshiba also had a solid contribution with support in Project Management, Quality Assurance and coordination of the technical representatives from Toshiba Japan. The Ohakuri Runner Installation project is due for completion in June 2014. This project has followed on from the award of Class 4 overhauls to MB Century and Alstom for Mighty River Power into the foreseeable future.

MB Century completes work on Rig 27

In September 2012, with the completion of well WK269, a production well in the Te Mihi section of the Wairakei steam field, MB Century Rig 27 completed its contract drilling geothermal wells for Contact Energy. The contract had started 7 + years earlier with the drilling of well WK243 (also at Te Mihi) and since then 57 new wells have been drilled and 4 existing wells worked over or deepened. Rig 27 was mobilised to New Zealand from Australia in 2005 - having drilled the deepest hole in Australia at that time, the 4,420m deep Habanero-1 in the Cooper Basin. After four initial wells at Te Mihi, the rig moved to Tauhara to drill TH6, then to Ohaaki for 3 wells, back to Wairakei for 2 wells - this pattern was continued for the 7 + years. These first 10 wells were completed by August 2006 and Contact Energy added further wells extending the contract. The initial contract with Contact Energy was for 6 wells with the option to extend for a further 4 wells.

By the end of the contract, 35 new wells had been drilled at Wairakei (Te Mihi, Aratiatia Flats, Otupu and Karapiti), 12 at Ohaaki and 10 at Tauhara. Following completion of its contract, Rig 27 has been demobilized to a storage yard until its next contract, be that in NZ or elsewhere. There were many highlights over the 7 + years with one of the more recent being a visit to the rig site by Tana Umaga to pass on the safety awareness message.



MB Century helps SPCA Animal Centre

The Taupo SPCA Animal Centre was one of the fortunate recipients of MB Century's recent donations to local community groups. As the SPCA receives no government funding and is totally reliant on the generosity of the local community, Operations Manager, Helen Rabinska said the donation is greatly appreciated and will be well utilised towards the on-going operational expenses at the Animal Centre.

MB Century gives back to society

The Taupo Food Bank was one of the fortunate recipients of MB Century's recent donations to local community groups. As the Taupo Community Food Bank relies on the generosity of the local community, Food Bank Co-ordinator, Megan George said the donation was much appreciated and will greatly assist with the non-perishables for 2013 and also the fresh produce including fresh fruit, vegetables, mince and sausages.

Rig 16 An update

Rig 16 commenced 2012 by continuing its Contact Energy work programme by drilling two further reinjection wells at Poihipi Rd. The rig was then moved to the Wairakei Valley to drill WK123 and carry out a workover on WK116.

WK123 was drilled vertical to a depth of 700m, and then backfilled to 420m and re drilled as a deviated well. This was the first occasion that Contact Energy had used Rig 16 to drill a deviated well and the process was completed without any issues.

WK124, a further production well in the Wairakei Valley was also successfully drilled. Following WK124, the rig moved to Tauhara for a workover on TH6. In another first for Rig 16, an air package was fitted to it. The well was acidized and then cleaned using aerated fluids. It was then moved to Ohaaki for a workover at BR61 where the acidizing process was used again. This was the final job in the current programme and when completed in October, the rig was demobilized back to Wairakei and stacked awaiting the next drilling programme which will commence early 2013.





MB Century's Reservoir Services Team continue work on R&D projects

During 2012, the Reservoir Services team continued working on R & D Projects along with their normal workload. It's been an exciting time for the Company with the design, development, testing and trialing of numerous reservoir tools (Slim-line HTCC, spinner improvements and a temperature only memory tool). MB Century is currently trialing a PTS (Pressure Temperature Spinner) tool with enhanced capabilities. The smaller sized circuit board rated to 125 degrees Celsius will enable the tool to be run in a well for up to twice as long as the old PTS tool.

Likewise the pressure sensor in the new tool is

set to a higher specification and a temperature compensated calibration procedure will result in a reduction in the margin of error of the temperature and pressure sensors by a factor of four. The PTS tool can be run on either electronic line or in memory mode on slickline using one special AA battery – much more Ecofriendly!

2012 also saw the Reservoir Services and Chemistry Monitoring teams relocated to a new purpose built facility on site at Wairakei. The facility includes a specific area for R & D and tool calibration testing as well as extensive office space upstairs.

MB Century's Design & Development Update

The bulk for the steam and SGW for the TOPP1 plant is being sourced from the KA30 wellhead at Kawerau. The KA30 well, drilled in the 80's but not developed until now, is being piped to the SP30 Separation plant via 1700m of 2 phase Cross Country pipeline featuring two culverts and a bridge crossing of the Kawerau. The SP30 site is located at the southern end of Norske Skog Tasman site with TOPP1 at the north end. The SP30 Separation plant will use steam back pressure control to force Separated Geothermal Water to the TOPP site; eliminating the requirements for pumps to transfer this liquid.



THINK WORK HOME SAFE!



2012 has been a year of challenges and achievements in the area of HSE for MB Century. As the year has progressed the increasing efforts across all departments towards better performance in health and safety has been evidenced in the decrease in recordable incidents in the second half of the year.

In June 2012, MB Century achieved ACC WSMP tertiary level. The auditors commented that MB Century stood out as being head and shoulders above all other audits they had carried out.

Another achievement that the HSE Department is proud of is the involvement in the introduction, commissioning and spudding of Rig 32. The comprehensive risk register, overhaul and transformation of the old Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) into the new format Safe Work Method Statement (SWMS) document was a huge accomplishment. A comprehensive safety culture survey was undertaken by external consultants during the year. Their results showed that, although the company could improve in some areas, when compared to like industries in New Zealand, their HSE culture was among the best.

Suggestions to improve included a HSE strategic plan for the coming year. Drug and Alcohol testing

has now become an integral part of how MB Century manages one of the many hazards in the work place. In August 2012, MB Century CEO visited Taupo-nui-a-tia College and spoke to students and staff about industry expectation of employment and the drive to have a drug and alcohol free workplace. This was received well, also an eye-opener to many. MB Century HSE team, employees and contractors continue their efforts and support in working towards the aim of "Think Work Home Safe."



THE TAILINGS DAM EXPANSION PROJECT NEARS COMPLETION

Mawarid constructed a Tailings Dam in 2007 for holding tailing capacity reservoir of 3 million tonnes against the design reference level of RL 285m.

Currently, Mawarid has completed 5 years of concentrate operation and filling capacity of dam was completed in December 2012. However, Mawarid decided to increase an additional volume of 3 million tonnes against the increased embankment wall elevation level of RL 290m to support operations for next 3 years. This is to be done by means of constructing a new elevation wall, additional side wall with proper HDPE lining as per



the standard design. Keeping in mind future expansion, lining of the side wall of entire reservoir will be done up to RL 301m level. Mawarid

commenced work in March 2012 and construction work started in June 2012. The project was completed in January 2013.

MAWARID MINING EMPLOYEES & CONTRACTORS ATTEND IN-HOUSE TRAINING



Fire Hydrant Course at the Plant Site

Mawarid Mining has continued to offer HSE internal training to its employees across its operational areas with special focus in training workers who carry out heavy duty work and work in high risk areas.

Mawarid has trained 1,120 employees including contractors in the year 2012.

HSE TEAM AT MAWARID CONDUCT EVACUATION EXERCISE AT ITS HEAD OFFICE



To keep its employees abreast of the importance of fire evacuation, the HSE team at Mawarid conducted a mock fire drill at its head office in Sohar. The primary aim of the drill was to inform and train employees on how to safely and quickly evacuate the premises and reach the nearest exit in case of an emergency. The employees were asked to reach the assembly point as quickly as possible without causing panic.

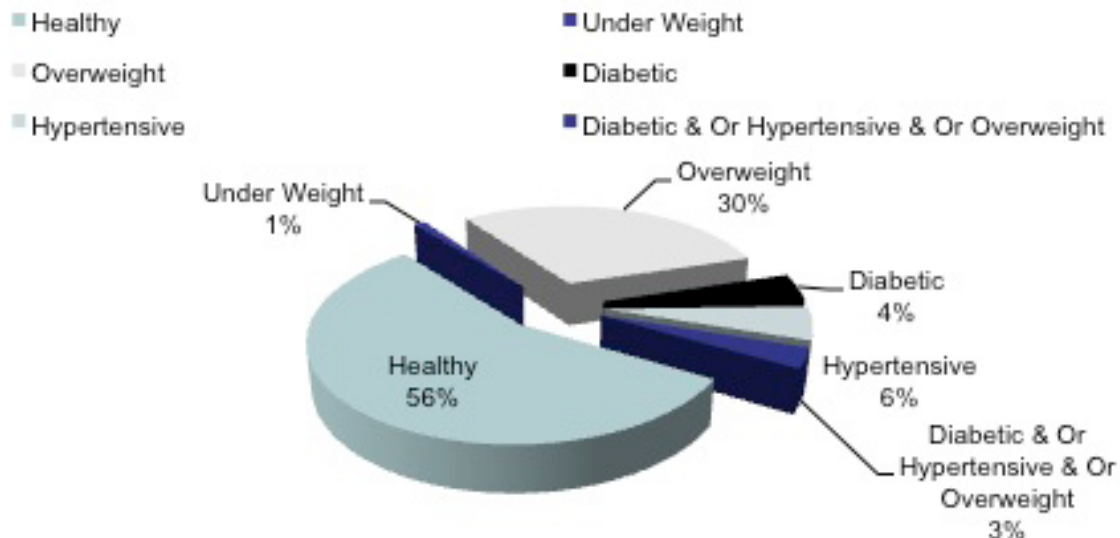
MAWARID CONDUCTS BI-ANNUAL MEDICAL EVALUATION FOR WORKERS AT MANDOOS SITE

Mawarid places special emphasis on the wellbeing of its employees, especially those who work in mines. Apart from health camps, all employees working in the mines have to undergo an in-depth bi-annual medical checkup, which includes review of laboratory workouts, interview with the Chief Medical Officer, physical examination and health counseling. The data collected from these is collected and the final analysis is fed into the system as reference.



Dr. Yahya Abdul Gawad, Chief Medical Officer, MB Holding Company interviewing an employee

HEALTH INDICATOR as of October 2012



Checking of blood pressure, blood sugar, height & weight, visual acuity test, and hearing test done by sister Erna under the CMO's supervision.

The right attitude

Working with Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani, Chairman, MB Holding has been his biggest learning experience – an experience that he cherishes even today. Hamdan Al Juneibi tells us why and also what it takes to succeed.

Hamdan Al Juneibi, Operations Manager, MB Petroleum Services lives by a very simple philosophy -“keep working hard and be humble”. It is a notion that has stood him in good stead and has been instrumental in his success.

The positive attitude that he exudes today has been acquired over years of hard work. He remembers the time when he started his career. “I had started my career as a roustabout with Pool Intairdrill working for Petroleum Development Oman LLC (PDO). This was the first company in Oman which started their Workover business with three hoists for PDO.”

He was one of the first few Omani’s who was selected for the job and worked with an expat crew right from the lower ranks. Despite having had to start from the lowest rank, Hamdan feels he made the right decision to enter the oil & gas industry as it was an up & coming field in Oman. “But more importantly, it gave anyone who was willing to work hard an opportunity to grow” he says.

In 1991, MB Petroleum Services (MBPS) bid for Workover operations in PDO and won the tender. This meant that Pool Intairdrill lost the bid and all Omani employees who were working there were transferred to MBPS. By this time, Hamdan had a couple of years of experience under his belt and had been promoted as Derrick man. And thus began his tryst with one of the most promising companies in Oman.

Hamdan joined MBPS in 1992 as a Derrick man and considers himself fortunate enough to be associated with the organization’s growth over the years. “It has been a symbiotic relationship



where the organization has provided me the support I have required during my career despite the fact that I possess only a secondary school certification.”

Hamdan’s hard work and commitment were noticed early on and he underwent mandatory courses in H2S and Fire Fighting which were conducted periodically. Apart from that, Hamdan and his team also undertook leadership and competency courses which helped improved their efficiency at work. “Our Chairman, Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani emphasized that “the way” to run a successful business is to conduct it in a safe and efficient manner.”

Hamdan has been working in the Workover department at MBPS for 21 years and it says that the job has had its share of challenges. He says, “Working in the Workover operations environment is never without challenges. The challenges cannot be summarized in words; in fact it can best be understood by people in the field. Working with heavy duty equipment’s, fork-lifts, winch trailers, high alert all the time are some of the challenges



we face on a daily basis.”

Despite challenges faced, he hasn’t given up and credits Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani for being a huge motivating factor. “Many employees know Sheikh Mohammed Al Barwani only as the Chairman of the MB Group of Companies but I am one of the few fortunate ones to know him as a colleague. I remember those days when we used to see him regularly at our work site. His constant support, motivation, tool box talks, personal interaction with each crew member were the real on-the-job experience,” he fondly remembers.

He adds, “In spite of being a Petroleum Engineer and the Chairman of such a large multinational company, he is humble and down to earth.”

A man who always smiles and tackles any issue with great patience, Hamdan feels that working in a multinational company such as MBPS has nourished him with a great learning experience. “People from different nationalities, cultures and different languages taught me how to adapt to changes in life and work together safely despite differences. Managing people and work is very challenging but with the support of my team and

the senior management, I am able to overcome most challenges.”

Currently working as an Operations Manager, one of the proudest moments in Hamdan’s career is when he was promoted as the first Omani driller and his promotion letter was signed and handed over by none other than Dr. Mohammed Al Barwani. “I have preserved this letter to date and will continue to do in the future as well since it is extremely special to me,” he says with a smile.

When you talk to Hamdan, you can’t help but notice the sincerity and dedication he brings to the job and the famous quote from the hit movie Spiderman, best summarises his success “With Great Power there comes Great Responsibility”!

Personal message to everyone:

“Keep working hard and be humble in nature. Always train the younger generation and care for the environment.”

MINING OPERATIONS

An Update



An active production pit for Mawarid is presently at Mandoos. Though the actual mining operation started in October 2011, full-fledged production started in January 2012. Due to low fitting ore stock piles and keeping in view the schedule of ore supply to the plant, a high production target was scheduled 2012. The company managed to achieve this target thanks to an experienced and committed team. The actual production was 4,499,361 BCM as against scheduled budgeted volume 4,158,699 BCM for 2012 which was 108% of the 2012 budget.

Key issues and success factors:

- A major mile stone was achieving more than a million tonnes of ore consistently starting from January – May 2012.
- The initial copper ore excavation from the pit started in June 2012 and the target was achieved as per the original planned schedule. The total ore production was

89,000BCM as against the budgeted 93,000BCM. It was slightly low but this was due to a deliberate decision to allow the ore to dry which was stockpiled.

- The company started strip blasting to avoid presplit blasting, which saves time and reduces operational cost. (There was a practice of presplitting drilling and blasting method at every 15 meters interval in all our mined out pits, as it was done to minimize damage to the final wall)
- The company obtained an approval from the ROP to carry out 15tonnes/blast or 600 holes/ blast. This is the biggest blast size approval that has been given to any company in Oman. This will reduce the machine idle time on blasting operations.
- Mawarid has completed the fencing work on all mined out pits in Hatta and Shinas in keeping with the standards of the Ministry of Environment & Climate Affairs.
- Mawarid also successfully completed the earth work at the plant in record time (Tailings Dam Extension work) which was taken up in March 2012.





UES participates in EPC Projects Conference

United Engineering Services participated in the EPC Projects Conference that was held in Oman recently.

The event addressed latest trends, opportunities, challenges, and strategies for delivering quality and sustainable energy and utilities infrastructure. The three day conference included in-depth case studies, keynote presentations, panel discussions and an exhibition to feature the latest solutions to the most critical issues faced by the industry.

Through this exhibition, UES has positioned itself as a reliable and trustworthy partner among the leading international and local EPC contractors with existing first class infrastructure and consistent contribution to the In-Country Value (ICV).

UES is committed to ICV. The company has a high level of Omanisation within its facilities and departments. The

products and equipment's are designed and developed in-house. Furthermore, the company also conducts graduate development programmes with Omani instructors and mentors who train young graduates and students.

The company is more than capable of supporting the service companies for manufacturing of a wide range of equipment in-country. UES continues to develop and manufacture its own range of products and is prepared to invest in people, machinery and facilities in order to support ICV.

One of the biggest challenges that the company faces is the need for major players to be well-informed of local capabilities and support them in the ICV programme.



UES launches **Corporate Social Responsibility** initiative with Rehabilitation Centres in Al Khoud



United Engineering Services LLC (UES) recently launched a Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) activity with the Rehabilitation Centres in Al Khoud.

At a ceremony held recently, UES officials pledged two electrical wheelchairs, 20 regular wheel chairs, 20 walkers and 4 laptops across the two centres. Usama Barwani, Managing Director, UES, said, "UES places strong emphasis on measuring its success, beyond just business and financial gain. Our contribution towards community development is equally important. We are pleased to partner with the Rehabilitation Centres and bring about a positive change in the lives of fellow citizens."

One of the centres where the initiative is being conducted is the Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled (age group of 15-25 years) wherein students receive treatment and rehabilitation services. The second centre under its purview is the Disabled Child Care Centre (3-14years), wherein children are taught soft skills.

Sameera bin Khudadat Al Shehani, Director, Disabled Child Care Centre and Mubarak bin Suleiman Al Qasmi, Director, Rehabilitation Centre for the Disabled lauded UES's efforts in supporting the centre. They said, "We are grateful to UES's unprecedented efforts. The company continues to set a benchmark for social activities that are in the best interests of serving our community. We hope this encourages more private sector companies to come forward to support our centres."



UES focuses on the IRAQI MARKET and participates in the BASRA OIL SHOW



United Engineering Services recently participated in the 3rd Basra Oil Show held in December 2012 in Iraq. A part of UES's international strategy is to seek business opportunities in the Iraqi market. The UES team has also participated in different events such as EIC/UKTI Business summit in Manchester, the event open for Iraqi, Omani and UK companies to share experience and seek grounds for future collaboration.

UES's objective was to introduce the company's profile and to explore opportunities to conduct business with the Iraqi Oil Companies (part of the Iraqi Oil Ministry) such as South Oil Company, South Gas Company, Drilling Company, State Company for Oil Projects, Missan Oil Company etc.

During the keynote addressal, the speakers who were senior level managers from Gulf Energy, General Electric, Shell, South Gas Company and Mott Macdonald put forward their views on their current operations, technology , health & safety and many other topics

related to the conference theme "Iraq: The Hub of Future Energy."

Confirmed oil reserves in Iraq are currently around 12 % of all world reserves. Iraq currently relies almost totally on oil to fund the state's budget. The Iraqi government is committed to sustain the development and encourages international companies to invest in the energy sector.



Our new team members!

MB HOLDING COMPANY LLC



Ali Al-Asmi
Translator & Media
Support Officer



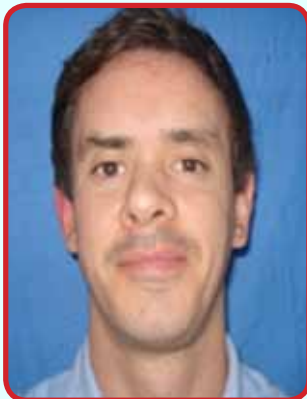
Ibtisam Al Sulaimani
Staff Nurse- MBH Clinic



Khalil Al Jabri
Senior Hr Business Partner
Drilling/Work Over



Abdul Rauf Al Alawi
Manager – Coil Tubing,
Fracking & High Pressure



Paul Ross
Heavy Duty Fishing
Engineer



Mohammed Abdul Rahman
Coil Tubing



Dana Hasan
HR Administrator- MBPS
Jordan



Ayman Shoushi
Accountant- MBPS
Jordan

UNITED ENGINEERING SERVICES



Asad Salim Al Hosni
Business Development
Manager - Marine Division



Safaa Al Musalhi
Sales & Marketing
Executive - Agency Sales



Warda Al Shukairi
Sales Coordinator
Agency Sales



Musab Al Harrasi
Welder
FSD

PETROGAS E&P



Dr. Said AL Mufarji
Senior Technology
Advisor



Ahmed Al Mahrouqi
HSE Manager



Azzan Al Asmy
Field Production
Technologist



Fahad Al Adi
Petroleum Engineer



Khalid Al Sebaai
Drilling Engineer



Samira Al Harthy
Admin Assistant



Arwa Al Shanfari
Desktop Support



Fawaz Ahmed Manoly
Chief Internal Auditor

MAWARID MINING



Nawaf AL Saidi
HSE Officer



Hamuda Al Mazroey
Community Relations
Compliance Administrator



Cesar Cablay Medina
Principal Geologist



Agannath Devendrappa
Drilling & Blasting
Engineer

SULTANATE OF OMAN

MB Holding Company LLC

P O Box 695, Muttrah

Postal Code 114, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968-24580580 - Fax: +968-24580599

Email: mboman@mbholdingco.com

www.mbholdingco.com

United Engineering Services LLC

P O Box 2638, Ruwi

Postal Code 112, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968-24561850 - Fax: +968-24562083

Email: ues@uesoman.com

www.uesoman.com

Petrogas E&P LLC

P O Box 353, Ruwi

Postal Code 112, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968-24527900 - Fax: +968 24527909

Email: petrogasep@petrogas.com.om

www.petrogasep.com

Mawarid Mining LLC

P O Box 476, Sohar

Postal Code 321, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968-26865300 - Fax: +968-26865301

Email: mawaridoman@mawaridmining.com

www.mawaridmining.com

MB Petroleum Services LLC

P O Box 695, Seeb

Postal Code 111, Sultanate of Oman

Tel: +968-24580000 - Fax: +968-24494530

Email: mboman@mbpetroleum.co.om

www.mbpetroleum.com

Contact Us!

