

Bank Muscat extends support to the education sector



Bank Muscat, the flagship financial services provider in the sultanate, as part of its commitment to promote education and support the future generations, has extended partnership to the Directorate General of Education in the governorate of Muscat.

The move is aimed at providing support to all major activities

organised by the Directorate General of Education in Muscat governorate, thereby complementing the learning experience of school children and motivating the teacher community.

Abdullah Tamman al Mashani, AGM – direct & institutional sales, and Khamis al Wahaibi, director of education, discussed the framework of the

partnership between the bank and the Ministry of Education in a review meeting held at the bank’s head office.

Mashani said, “The partnership comes within the framework of joint co-operation between the public and private sectors in order to contribute to the support and development of the community, and stemming

from the belief of Bank Muscat in linking the development of community projects to achieve common goals in sustainable development. The initiative stems from our commitment to the country’s future generations.”

Bank Muscat has adopted a series of measures to support various community activities

complementing the progressive march of the nation.

The bank remains committed to shouldering its developmental and social responsibilities within the framework of co-operation and co-ordination with all segments of society, especially children and youth who represent the country’s future.

OAB’s Al Yusr opens new branch in Nizwa



To reach out to the largest number of customers in the sultanate, Al Yusr Islamic banking of Oman Arab Bank, has opened a new branch in Nizwa town in Dakhliyah governorate.

Abdul Qader al Balushi, general manager of Al Yusr Islamic banking said, “Our choice of opening our new branch in Nizwa coincides with Nizwa being selected as the ‘Capital of Islamic Culture’ by the Islamic Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (ISECO). We are sure that Al Yusr branch in this historic city will meet the Islamic banking needs of the dense population homed there.”

Al Yusr branch in Nizwa is a

full-fledged branch and it offers a suite of products for the retail, SME and corporate banking segments.

All products are in compliance with the Sharia’a (Islamic law) and are very popular in the market. Al Yusr plans to launch several innovative products suitable to the needs of many customers in the near future.

The retail products include Al Yusr current account, savings account, fixed deposit, auto finance and home finance, among others. The range of corporate and SME banking products includes trade finance services, term finance and commercial real estate finance.

New India Assurance bids adieu to outgoing envoy



Indian Ambassador H E J S Mukul, was honoured by K V Francis, chief operating officer, along with Majid Abdul Rahim Jaffar, chairman of Abdul Aziz & Brothers Co (Majid Group) and all staff members of the New India Assurance Co Ltd – the Indian giant in the insurance sector, in a small but glittering ceremony at the head office premises in Hamriya (Ruwi).

Francis in his brief speech revealed with high regards on the tremendous achievements made by the Indian ambassador with regard to further strengthening

the bilateral relationship of India and Oman during his three years plus tenure as ambassador of India to the sultanate.

An all round development in the bilateral trade, socio-developmental programmes initiated and implemented by the ambassador are also remembered in the function.

Best wishes are extended by the entire New India team to the outgoing ambassador, for his new assignment in The Netherlands.

H E Mukul in his thanksgiving speech remarked about various

people-oriented programmes endeavoured by New India – Oman. “Introduction of new Insurance schemes (health insurance) exclusively for Indian expatriates and other innovative insurance schemes are highly commendable,” the outgoing ambassador said.

A memento was presented by Jaffar, chairman of Majid Group – chief agents for the New India Assurance Co since 1974, as a token of respect and appreciation for all the good work done by an outstanding personality like H E Mukul.

Salalah Rotana Resort named Oman’s leading beach resort at World Travel Awards

Salalah Rotana Resort has been named ‘Oman’s Leading Beach Resort 2015’ at the Middle East edition of the 22nd Annual World Travel Awards, dubbed ‘The Oscars of the Travel Industry’ by *The Wall Street Journal*. The WTA recognised Salalah Rotana Resort among five of the country’s leading names in hospitality for setting industry benchmarks in Oman.

“Earning the recognition of our peers in the industry to win this title demonstrates how far the resort has come since opening only a year ago,” said Hosam Kamal, general manager of Salalah Rotana Resort. “Oman and equally the governorate of Dhofar are emerging as destinations of choice in the Middle East for tourists the world over, and we are proud to be a landmark in setting the tone of hospitality. We have always and will continue to work with the governorate that is preparing to receive an influx in international tourists by meeting the demands for high-quality accommodation and expanding our resort offering to better cater to our guests.”



Serving the ever-growing market, Salalah Rotana Resort is the sultanate’s largest free-standing, five-star beachfront hotel with 400 rooms and suites positioned along an elaborate network of Venetian waterways which connect the property to the Indian Ocean. Throughout its

opening year, the resort enjoyed high occupancy, welcoming over 200,000 visitors, a number expected to rise this year, especially during the popular Khareef season. With a promise of treasured time, Salalah Rotana Resort’s hospitality offering is all encompassing and caters to

every type of traveller, be it leisure or business.

Representing the 50th Rotana-operated hotel in the region, the property features four food and beverage venues, a grand ballroom, fully-equipped meeting rooms and business centre among many other facilities.

Sultanate’s e-government initiative receives boost through latest Singaporean technology



SQL View, Singapore-based leading enterprise software solution provider, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with eDOC Data to provide cutting-edge IT solutions into the Omani market. The two organisations will work closely to develop an e-government records management solution to provide expertise and assistance

to state and local government agencies in managing records and information. The decision will help to accelerate decision-making and to ensure accountability and regulatory compliance.

The MoU, signed by Alvin Low, senior vice president at SQL View, and Mustafa Abdullah al Mahrooqi, managing director at eDOC Data, outlines the basis

for ongoing collaboration and alignment between the two organisations. One of the key elements of the agreement is to launch and localise SQL View’s KRIS e-Records Management Solution to cater the requirements of the Omani market. This is the first time the solution will be available in Arabic, and Oman will be the first market to deploy

this solution in the Middle East.

Commenting on the agreement, Low said, “Oman is at the cusp of transforming its e-government offering and we’re pleased to partner with eDOC Data to support this growth. eDOC Data is one of our key partners in Oman and we are looking forward to together supporting Oman’s e-government and smart nation initiative through solutions tailored for the Omani market.”

SQL View specialises in providing tech products that serve the needs of different sectors including real estate, healthcare and government, amongst others. One of its key solutions is KRIS e-Records management solution that is designed to ensure important government records are captured, managed and retained, while maintaining integrity and longevity.

Today, KRIS is widely adopted by over 15,000 users across many government organisations.

Samsung introduces washing machine for Gulf customers

Samsung Electronics Co, Ltd. a global home appliance innovator, announced the WA6700 washing machine range, a one-stop laundry solution. Samsung’s new innovation in top-load washing machine caters to homes in the region by simplifying the tedious tasks of pre-treatment and pre-wash with its revolutionary Active dual wash feature.

To aid consumers who pre-wash clothing and then lumber over to a washer with wet clothes, Samsung equipped its new machine with Active Dualwash, a water jet and gentle scrubbing surface built right into the machine. Thanks to the Active Dualwash, users can pre-treat tough stains, such as heavily soiled sports uniforms or hand wash items like delicate sweaters, and easily pour the water right into the machine.

“We are guided by a single philosophy at Samsung: Design for real people and meet real needs, and our new washer



meets a real need for Gulf consumers. What we heard is that more than a third of consumers in the Gulf still transfer wet clothes from a bathtub or a sink to the washing machine. Often that machine isn’t even in the same area,” said Mohammed Gharaibeh, general manager of digital appliances at Samsung

Gulf Electronics. “The Active Dualwash is a simple, sophisticated solution to the problem, and it gives our consumers one less thing to worry about in their day.”

The WA6700 is also the first Samsung Top loader with Magic Dispenser technology. Consumers have even greater peace of mind with the Magic Dispenser, a powerful water vortex that instantly dissolves detergent inside the dispenser and spreads it evenly onto the laundry. The result is less residue on clothes and no mess in the detergent compartment. Meanwhile the Wobble technology pulsates to prevent clothes from tangling, while creating a powerful vertical motion that keeps clothes outstandingly clean, as the Magic Filter captures lint and particles that conventional washers leave on clothes. In line with Samsung’s home appliances, the WA6700 comes with an intuitive interface and is easy to use and operate.