

Business

Al Mulla Automobiles delivers 258 Mercedes-Benz Actros Trucks to NCC

Trucks to be used in ten areas of Kuwait in 6-year contract with Municipality



KUWAIT: Al Mulla Automobiles, the authorized dealer of Mercedes-Benz in Kuwait, delivered 258 Actros 2032 Trucks to NCC, in the presence of Muhsen Boshehri, CEO of National Cleaning Company, Imad Flayhan, the Managing Director of the Automotive at Al Mulla Group, and a number of the top management team from both companies, as well as delegates from Daimler Commercial Vehicles MENA.

The trucks were delivered on schedule and will be

used by the National Cleaning Company and its subsidiaries in ten areas in Kuwait, as part of a six-year contract with Kuwait Municipality.

Imad Flayhan, the Managing Director of the Automotive at Al Mulla Group, said: "We are delighted to cooperate with the National Cleaning Company. During the last period, we have worked closely with the company to identify their needs, to design the best suitable specifications and to deliver this large number



of trucks on the fixed date and according to the agreed specifications."

Muhsen Boshehri, CEO of National Cleaning Company, stated: "The Mercedes-Benz Actros trucks are the best in their class and we believe it will help us serve Kuwait areas better and more efficient and we will continue to work with the Commercial Vehicles Division at Mulla Automobiles to ensure that we always provide the highest quality of service to our society."

The Mercedes-Benz Actros advanced specifications make it the most efficient vehicle in its class. In addition to its distinctive design that holds the features of the latest generation of trucks, it is provided with a PowerShift automated gearbox equipped as standard, in addition to a powerful and efficient engine to achieve the highest levels of fuel efficiency, which makes it a perfect choice for companies that are looking for powerful and economical trucks at the same time.

Gulf Air's inaugural Maldives flight touches down



MALE: Gulf Air - the national carrier of the Kingdom of Bahrain - celebrated its inaugural service to the Maldives as its flight GF144 landed in Velana International Airport in the capital, Male. The landing aircraft, a new Airbus 320neo, was welcomed with a water cannon salute and, upon arrival, a celebratory event was held at the airport which saw the attendance of Gulf Air's Chief Commercial Officer Vincent Coste, the Managing Director of Maldives Marketing & Public Relations Corporation Thoyyib Mohamed and Chief Executive of Maldives Civil Aviation Authority Hussain Jaleel along with various dignitaries, a number of local media, travel industry representatives and airport officials.

At the inaugural event in Velana International Airport, Coste said: "This is a remarkable event for us to fly, for the first time, to the Maldives. This tourist destination is widely popular amongst premium leisure travelers being honeymooners or fami-

lies seeking luxurious holidays". He also added: "With five weekly direct flights between Bahrain and Male and with great connectivity through our hub, this destination promises to be a key route within our growing network."

Acting Head of Operations of Maldives Airports Company Ltd Ibrahim Hareef said: "It's an honor that 'Gulf Air' the flag carrier of Bahrain has become our newest partner and we are confident that the airline will add value to our airport and benefit the Maldives in terms of Trade & Tourism and I thank Gulf Air Team for choosing Velana International Airport in their route expansion and I wish Gulf Air success in their future endeavors".

Gulf Air will deploy its new aircraft the Airbus A320neo on this route. With its latest technologies, the aircraft is eco-friendly as it produces low fuel emissions while in the same time it is equipped with latest cabin comfort features.



Gulf Bank executive attends session on ISO 27001 certification

KUWAIT: In line with Gulf Bank's ongoing efforts to strengthen and optimize its information security, the Bank's executive leadership team attended an awareness session on ISO 27001 certification. The ISO 27001 certification is a widely recognized international standard outlining best practices for information security management systems.

Gulf Bank security processes and procedures are continuously updated to mitigate risks and to support organizational growth. ISO 27001 is a globally recognized standard mandating numerous controls for the establishment, maintenance, and certification of an information security management system (ISMS). This ISMS framework consists of all the legal, physical, and technical controls which allow companies to manage the security of assets such as financial information, intellectual property, employee details, or information entrusted by third parties.

Commenting on the session, General Manager of Human Resources at Gulf Bank, Salma Al-Hajjaj, said: "At Gulf Bank, we continuously strive to ensure our workforce is trained to consistently enhance our operations in line with global business trends. This initiative, amongst others, is a testament to Gulf Bank's commitment to operate in line with the latest industry standards and best practices, especially in regards to the protection of



Salma Al-Hajjaj

customer information and providing our clients with the highest levels of information security."

The awareness session was delivered by Protiviti, a global consulting firm that delivers deep expertise, objective insights, a tailored approach and unparalleled collaboration to help leaders confidently face the future.

Infiniti Al-Babtain brings the best service offers

KUWAIT: Abdulmohsen Abdulaziz Al-Babtain Co (AABC), the sole authorized dealer of Infiniti vehicles in the State of Kuwait encourages its customers who own any Infiniti vehicles prior to August 2016 to avail a spe-

cial service campaign. Delivering on the promise of exceptional aftercare and support to ensure seamless driving experiences, the offer is part of an ongoing effort to facilitate the requirements of all of its owners. The offer includes: a 30 percent discount on car parts, 15 percent off on service labor with 13 points free checkup. Infiniti Al Babtain seeks to create the perfect opportunity for customers to maintain their premium Infiniti car.

Equipped with the best capabilities, Infiniti Al-Babtain invites its customers to avail the deal at its service center located in Al-Rai.

In Argentina grains belt, farmers ready to 'unsaddle' as Peronists return

ALADILLO, Argentina: There is a saying among farmers when times are hard on the Argentine Pampas: "Unsaddle the horse until the sun comes out". That saying is starting to spread in farm towns like Saladillo, after the populist-leaning Peronists won back power on Sunday.

This dusty soy, corn and cattle ranching town in the bread-basket province of Buenos Aires was a bastion of support for farm-friendly incumbent Mauricio Macri. He was seen here as a free-markets messiah when elected in 2015 after eight years of populist, protectionist rule.

Farmers "saddled up" by planting at record levels when Macri, only days into his administration, ditched the heavy handed trade controls and export limits that previous President Cristina Fernandez de Kirchner had put on corn and wheat. Now she is back as the running mate of president-elect Alberto Fernandez, who will take office in December. Questions are swirling about his policies for the farm sector, Argentina's main source of sorely needed export dollars.

Around Saladillo, a town soaked in farming, growers and traders said Fernandez would likely increase grains export taxes, which would hit profits. Some fear a full-on return to

Fernandez de Kirchner's policies, which included strict export limits during her two-term 2007-2015 administration.

"If that happens again, I will produce the minimum to get by, unsaddle, in other words, until the market comes back. We've done it before. We can do it again if we have to," said Eduardo Bell, 63, who owns a 2,000-hectare farm and cattle ranch. As popular as Macri is in Saladillo, where the town crest includes a cow and bags of wheat, his image nationwide had been battered by recession and high inflation. He came to power on promises of "normalizing" Latin America's No. 3 economy after the distortions caused by robust state intervention in the markets under the Peronists before him.

But his orthodox policy signals were not enough to attract significant foreign direct investment to a country still plagued by cyclical financial crises and high business costs. The economy slumped, inflation ignited and debt fears rose.

And he underestimated the inflationary effect of his fiscal policies, which included cuts to public utility subsidies, which heaped more costs on already hard-hit voters and small businesses, including farmers.

Argentina is a major world supplier of soybeans, corn and wheat, as well as the No.1 exporter of soymeal livestock feed, fueling Asia's shift in diet from rice toward animal protein.

But uncertainty abounds in Saladillo, a quiet community of 27,000 residents. While voters turned against Macri in the August primary vote nationwide, handing Peronist Fernandez a huge margin of victory, Saladillo stuck by him. "I'm afraid they'll come at the agricultural sector with every short-sighted policy they can think of, like export limits (quotas) and more export taxes," said Roberto Vaccarini, 60, a cattle broker in the town as he went to vote for Macri.— Reuters