**Zain Group's API platform rebrands as Dizlee, signs deals with Garena and LG U+**

132 words
14 April 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
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English
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Zain Group said it has rebranded its API platform under the name Dizlee with silver lettering. The new operating entity and brand represents the evolution of the Group API programme into a digital monetisation system provider for direct operator billing, messaging and digital authentication, among other services. Dizlee has become the preferred digital service aggregator for all Zain operations in the Middle East and Africa as well as for Omantel, it said.

The launch of the Dizlee brand coincides with the signing of partnership agreements with Garena, the publisher of the battle royale game "Free Fire", and with South Korean network operator and LG U+. The pair join fifteen other global partners, including Apple, Google, Digital Virgo and Docomo Digital.

Document TELEAST020220414ei4e0002t

# telecompaper

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Document TELASI0020220414ei4e000b5

**Zain focused on providing meaningful <mark>connectivity</mark>**

Bader Al-Kharafi Zain Group is focused on providing meaningful <mark>connectivity</mark> and driving equitable systematic change, centered on a five-year corporate <mark>sustainability</mark> strategy, said Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO.

"Throughout 2021, Zain Group, a leading telecom innovator in seven markets across the Middle East and Africa, remained unwavering in its determination to drive equitable systemic change in the communities in which it operates by providing access to meaningful <mark>connectivity</mark>, especially in the face of many socio-economic and environmental challenges, and lasting impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, which hindered development across the globe," he said after the group published its 11th consecutive annual <mark>sustainability</mark> report, entitled 'A resilient journey across a challenging year'.

"Nevertheless, 2021 was a significant year for progress with respect to Zain's sustainability agenda, underscored by the many initiatives successfully implemented across our footprint, and highlighted by the upgraded A- score received from CDP indicating our regional leadership in addressing climate change," Al-Kharafi said.

Grounded on UN SDGsIn the report, Zain summarises its sustainability-related activities during the year based on its new five-year Corporate Sustainability strategy that is grounded on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), with the purpose being centered on and driven by empowering and establishing long lasting value for the communities it serves.

The report showcases how Zain continues to improve and adapt its activities to align to international best practices and reporting that follows the GRI Standards Framework. Zain is also implementing the Sustainability Accounting Standard Board (SASB) framework for Telecommunications Services. Both standards are externally assured by Ernst & Young (Al Aiban, Al Osaimi and Partners) providing limited assurance.

Jennifer Suleiman, Zain Group's Chief Sustainability Officer commented: "We are all aware of how tumultuous the last couple of years have been to live and work through. Being a customer-focused organisation with the responsibility to maintain meaningful connectivity and productivity for 7,000 staff and 50 million customers in an inclusive and equitable manner, was a challenging situation to overcome.

Supporting communities"The contents of this report highlight how together we have managed that responsibility and supported our communities extremely well under the circumstances. We continue to learn and transition across all of our diverse sustainability activities and are delighted to be pioneering this area across the region."

Zain's five-year Corporate Sustainability strategy formulated in 2020 is centered on four pillars: Climate Change; Social Business; Inclusion; and Generation Youth. It is based on the UN's SDGs, aiming to establish purpose-driven activities anchored in meaningful connectivity to drive equitable systematic change. Qualitative and quantitative targets have been embedded to ensure measurable metrics are set to assess and track the progress of Zain's sustainability-related activities. The vision is to reduce inequalities, safeguard the planet, foster innovation, and build prosperous communities.

Highlights of sustainability initiatives Most of the sustainability programmes implemented by Zain in 2021 addressed the challenges wrought by the pandemic and the company's response to them: •Expanding digital financial services, providing far-reaching benefits to needy groups within communities in Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan and Sudan, reaching a combined customer base of 1.5 million, undertaking 25 million transactions with an aggregate value of $2.3 billion in 2021•Through its value chain, Zain was able to maintain 80,116 jobs. •The annual Zain Ramadan commercial in partnership with UNICEF entitled, "No one is safe, until we are all safe", addressed the challenge of vaccine hesitancy across the region, with the 2.55-minute-long video going viral and exceeding 10 million views on YouTube, as well as on regional satellite and local TV networks •In Kuwait, the Shlonik application created by Zain assisted the Ministry of Health to ensure residents adhere to quarantine regulations, with 1.77 million people registering on the app. •Supporting governments, Zain organised vaccination drives in markets resulting in over 12,000

vaccinations•Fostering the development of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Zain launched the Women in Tech initiative undertaking 256 mentorship sessions across its operating markets •Zain worked with the Canadian Centre for Children Protection to integrate Project Arachnid, software to reduce the availability of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) globally successfully integrated in Kuwait and is currently working on integrating it across other markets•Launch of a Child Online Safety Booklet in collaboration with UNICEF, promoting safe esports and gaming to schools and universities•Zain Jordan's Basma Line+, a mobile bundle package, attracted 329 people from the deaf and mute community, while in Kuwait, Zain introduced two postpaid packages dedicated to people with disabilities •With respect to products for the youth, in Sudan, discounted data bundles reached 6.2 million users•The Zain Kids platform became available in several markets offering safe online content, reaching 1.6 million children, a quadrupling of child subscribers over the year •Launch of BE WELL, a Group-wide diversity and inclusion programme aiming to foster the mental well-being of employees across operations •Zain began to measure its water consumption across operations, implementing water reduction initiatives aiming to eliminate plastic consumption in addition to reducing waste in its warehouses by 50% by 2025•Zain's climate actions saw the company upgraded to A- in latest 'CDP Score Report – Climate Change 2021', ranking it first in-region and among leaders globally. This ranking is higher than the regional average for Asia of B-, and higher than the Media, Telecommunications & Data Centre Services sector average of B. Additionally, Zain took a major step in expanding its Scope 3 emissions inventory to report more accurately.-- TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020220413ei4d000ma

**Zain Group publishes its 11th annual <mark>sustainability</mark> report**

1,036 words
12 April 2022
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

* Bader Al-Kharafi: Zain focused on providing meaningful <mark>connectivity</mark> and driving equitable systematic change, centered on a five-year corporate <mark>sustainability</mark> strategy

* 11th consecutive report charts Zain's activities through the unprecedented circumstances brought about by the global pandemic

* Zain stands out distinctly in the region with respect to the transparency it reports sustainability activities and outcomes, and in its regional leadership in addressing climate change

Click to view image KUWAIT: Zain Group, a leading telecom innovator in seven markets across the Middle East and Africa, announces the publication of its 11th consecutive annual sustainability report, entitled 'A resilient journey across a challenging year'. In the report, Zain summarizes its sustainability-related activities during the year based on its new five-year Corporate Sustainability strategy that is grounded on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDG),with the purpose being centered on and driven by empowering and establishing long lasting value for the communities it serves.

The 11th edition of the report showcases how Zain continues to improve and adapt its activities to align to international best practices and reporting that follows the GRI Standards Framework. Zain is also implementing the Sustainability Accounting Standard Board (SASB) framework for Telecommunications Services. Both standards are externally assured by Ernst & Young (Al-Aiban, Al-Osaimi and Partners) providing limited assurance.

Commenting on the publication of the 11thconsecutive annual sustainability report, Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO, "Throughout 2021, Zain remained unwavering in its determination to drive equitable systemic change in the communities in which it operates by providing access to meaningful connectivity, especially in the face of many socio-economic and environmental challenges, and lasting impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which hindered development across the globe."

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Qualitative and quantitative progress in Zain's Corporate Sustainability strategy

Zain's five-year Corporate Sustainability strategy formulated in 2020 is centered on four pillars: Climate Change; Social Business; Inclusion; and Generation Youth. It is based on the UN's SDGs, aiming to establish purpose-driven activities anchored in meaningful connectivity to drive equitable systematic change. Qualitative and quantitative targets have been embedded to ensure measurable metrics are set to assess and track the progress of Zain's sustainability-related activities. The vision is to reduce inequalities, safeguard the planet, foster innovation, and build prosperous communities.

Highlights from Zain's 2021 Sustainability initiatives

Most of the sustainability programs implemented by Zain in 2021 addressed the challenges wrought by the pandemic and the company's response to them:

* Expanding digital financial services, providing far-reaching benefits to needy groups within communities in Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan and Sudan, reaching a combined customer base of 1.5 million, undertaking 25 million transactions with an aggregate value of $2.3 billion in2021

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* Supporting governments, Zain organized vaccination drives in markets resulting in over 12,000 vaccinations

* Fostering the development of women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM), Zain launched the Women in Tech initiative undertaking 256 mentorship sessions across its operating markets

* Zain worked with the Canadian Center for Children Protection to integrate Project Arachnid, software to reduce the availability of child sexual abuse material (CSAM) globally successfully integrated in Kuwait and is currently working on integrating it across other markets

* Launch of a Child Online Safety Booklet in collaboration with UNICEF, promoting safe esports and gaming to schools and universities

* Zain Jordan's Basma Line+, a mobile bundle package, attracted 329 people from the deaf and mute community, while in Kuwait, Zain introduced two postpaid packages dedicated to people with disabilities

* With respect to products for the youth, in Sudan, discounted data bundles reached 6.2 million users

* The Zain Kids platform became available in several markets offering safe online content, reaching 1.6 million children, a quadrupling of child subscribers over the year

* Launch of BE WELL, a Group-wide diversity and inclusion program aiming to foster the mental well-being of employees across operations

* Zain began to measure its water consumption across operations, implementing water reduction initiatives aiming to eliminate plastic consumption in addition to reducing waste in its warehouses by 50 percent by 2025

* Zain's climate actions saw the company upgraded to A- in latest 'CDP Score Report – Climate Change 2021', ranking it first in-region and among leaders globally. This ranking is higher than the regional average for Asia of B-, and higher than the Media, Telecommunications & Data Center Services sector average of B. Additionally, Zain took a major step in expanding its Scope 3 emissions inventory to report more accurately.

More detailed information of Zain's 2021 sustainability report, entitled 'A resilient journey across a challenging year'can be downloaded by visiting https://zain.com/en/sustainability/sustainability-report/.

Document MEWKUT0020220413ei4c00005

**Zain Global Connect to link Jeddah to Marseille through J2M undersea cable**

557 words
4 April 2022
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

KUWAIT/HONG KONG: Zain Group, a leading telecom innovator in seven markets across the Middle East and Africa, announced that Zain Global Connect (ZGC), its wholly owned subsidiary in charge of consolidating Group's initiatives into the Wholesale Carrier domain, is connecting the Middle East with Europe through the J2M (Jeddah, Saudi Arabia to Marseille, France) submarine cable system.

The **investment** marks ZGC's first subsea cable ownership, in a portion of the state-of-the-art Pakistan and East Africa Connecting Europe (PEACE) cable system, that will offer Zain full operational independence, a genuine critical factor capable to foster digital transformation initiatives in the region, particularly for **cloud** and IoT services.

Through the investment in J2M, that will be ready for service in early 2023 with Zain Saudi Arabia as the cable landing party, Zain achieves a higher degree of diversity when it comes to its international infrastructure while making available to global carriers and enterprises a brand-new entry point in Saudi Arabia for their connectivity requirements in the Kingdom and beyond.

Eng Sultan Bin Abdulaziz Al-Deghaither, CEO of Zain Saudi Arabia, said, "This historic achievement marks another milestone in the journey of Zain KSA. By investing in the J2M submarine cable, Zain reconfirms its commitment to the Kingdom's digital-savvy consumer and business community by making available a robust, fault-tolerant international connectivity platform that will support the ambitious digital transformation objectives of Saudi Vision 2030, while contributing to position the Kingdom as a global ICT and digital services hub."

Kamil Hilali, CEO, ZGC, said, "J2M represents a major breakthrough for Zain and ZGC as we look to develop our wholesale capabilities further while ensuring an even better quality of service to all Zain operations offering international connectivity services. We are excited indeed to be a relevant partner of such a successful project and believe its positive economic impact will be greatly appreciated by communities and enterprises across the region."

ZGC was created by Zain Group as a wholesale division for the purpose of executing the Group's strategic plan to enter the wholesale data and voice services space. With an eye on the present as well as the future, ZGC proactively looks for and implements state-of-the-art equipment functionalities significantly supporting the growing needs of Zain operating markets and other global carriers for high-quality international connectivity.

Frederick Chui, Chief Commercial Officer, PCCW Global, said, "The collaboration with Zain Global Connect has been strategic and is transformative for the region. The undersea cable is set to contribute to greater capacity availability in the Middle East. In an era when low-latency data access is a key differentiator, we believe this is the right time to be expanding investment in undersea infrastructure."

The PEACE cable system is a 15,000 km-long, privately owned cable system that provides open, flexible and carrier-neutral services for its customers. It is designed with the latest 200G transmission and WSS ROADM BU technologies, which provide the capability to transmit over 16Tbps per fiber pair servicing growing regional capacity needs. The PEACE cable system substantially reduces network latency by adopting shortest direct route connectivity, providing cost-effective capacity in an economically growing region and enhancing route diversity between Asia, Africa and Europe.

Document MEWKUT0020220405ei4400003

**Zain Global Connect to link Jeddah to Marseille through J2M branch of PEACE cable**

124 words
4 April 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Zain Group has announced that Zain Global Connect (ZGC), its subsidiary consolidating group wholesale carrier initiatives, is connecting the Middle East with Europe through the J2M submarine cable linking Jeddah in Saudi Arabia to Marseille in France. This is ZGC's first subsea cable ownership and concerns a portion of the Pakistan and East Africa Connecting Europe (PEACE) cable system.

J2M will be ready for service in early 2023 with Zain Saudi Arabia as the cable landing party. It will provide Zain with greater diversity when it comes to its international **infrastructure** and offer global carriers and enterprises a brand-new entry point in Saudi Arabia for their **connectivity** requirements.

Document TELEAST020220404ei440002t

# telecompaper

**Zain Global Connect to link Jeddah to Marseille through J2M branch of PEACE cable**

124 words
4 April 2022
Telecompaper Europe
TELEUR
English
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Document TELEUR0020220404ei440008d

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124 words
4 April 2022
Telecompaper Asia
TELASI
English
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Document TELASI0020220404ei44000b5

**Abu Dhabi Avenue is 28th site in Forever Green afforestation campaign**

293 words
31 March 2022
Bahrain News Agency
BAHRNA
English

Manama, Mar. 31 (BNA): The National Initiative for Agricultural Development (NIAD), in cooperation with the Ministry of Works, Municipalities Affairs, Urban Planning and the Supreme Council for the Environment, planted Abu Dhabi Avenue in the Southern Governorate with 100 roller and Bauhinia trees.

Zain Bahrain has contributed generously to the planting of the tree within its drive to strengthen community ==partnership== and stimulate a culture of environmental protection.

The tree planting, part of the "Forever Green" campaign, to improve a vital avenue located near service facilities, which enhances the area's need to plant shade and ornamental trees.

The ceremony was attended by Director of Communications & Investor Relations at Zain Bahrain Shaikh Abdullah bin Khalid Al Khalifa, Southern Governorate officials and 15 employees from Zain Bahrain who volunteered to contribute to the Forever Green initiative in a boost to the public and private sector partnership.

Zain Bahrain was among the first national companies to support the Forever Green campaign by supporting the afforestation of the Istiqlal Walkway in the Southern Governorate.

Zain Bahrain has been committed to supporting various national projects to achieve Bahrain's 2030 Vision and promote sustainable development goals in implementation of Bahrain's environmental commitment to reach zero neutrality by 2060 as announced by His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and Prime Minister.

Abu Dhabi Avenue is the 28th site to be included in the Forever Green campaign implemented under the directives of His Majesty King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa and the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Sabeeka bint Ibrahim Al Khalifa, the Wife of HM the King and President of the NIAD Consultative Council.

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Document BAHRNA0020220331ei3v000jm

**Viverse signs partnership for Viverse**

151 words
31 March 2022
Telecompaper World
TELWOR
English
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HTC said Viverse, HTC Vive's place in the metaverse, signed a first wave of partners during Mobile World Congress. Over the course of this year, Vive and its partners will develop new metaverse experiences for people across the world, with a range of hardware and software. Across Asia, partners include China Mobile Migu; China Telecom Xinguomai; China Unicom Xiaowo; Chunghwa Telecom; Far East Mobile, and Taiwan Mobile. In EMEA, partners include Etisalat, Hutchinson Group and Zain Group.

During MWC, Vive announced several new elements to Viverse including Vive Connect, new parental controls to help keep young people safe and cryptowallet integration.

Vive also announced the adoption of open standards for avatars, using VRM so that people can more easily carry their visual identity between worlds. Vive showcased single-login single-avatar, demonstrating how easy it can be for people to move between 3rd party experiences.

Document TELWOR0020220331ei3v00004

**'Zain Business' showcases latest ==cloud== solutions to Kuwait business community**

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, hosted a two-day event to mark the launch of its managed ==cloud== services and ==cybersecurity== solutions. The event took place at the Recital Hall in Jaber Al-Ahmad Cultural Center (JACC), and featured top executives from business, banking, and retail sectors. The new services are powered by ZainTech, Zain Group's regional digital and ICT solutions arm in the MENA region.

The event was attended by Zain Kuwait's Chief Enterprise Business Officer Hamad Al-Marzouq, Zain Group's Chief Technical Officer Nawaf Al-Gharabally, ZainTech CEO Andrew Hanna, and top executives from banking, investment, and local business sectors as well as Zain's global partners. The launch is part of the company's continuous efforts to offer a portfolio of world-class, advanced security solutions to the local business community, serving businesses of all sizes, including large enterprises, SMEs, startups, and government institutions. This comes in line with Zain's digital transformation strategy that aims at empowering a more efficient business sector in the Kuwaiti market under the New Kuwait 2035 vision.

The first day's program featured a number of panel discussions that hosted executives from Kuwait's banking and financial sectors. The discussions focused on the multi-cloud environment challenges in banking and finance, cloud challenges and opportunities in the financial sector, digital transformation trends in banking, leveraging the power of data in the banking and financial sectors, and cybersecurity challenges in the new COVID era.

The second day's program featured panel discussions that hosted representatives and officials from the Kuwaiti private sector's biggest institutions. The discussions highlighted the future of the digital retail experience, offloading the ERP onto the cloud, the challenges COVID posed on the retail sector, cybersecurity challenges during the pandemic, and leveraging the power of data in retail.

ZainTech was introduced in October 2021 as Zain Group's regional digital and ICT solutions arm. The company unifies Zain Group's ICT assets to offer enterprises and governments a unique value proposition and comprehensive enterprise digital solutions and transformation services under one roof across the MENA markets. With this announcement, Zain takes a new step towards its pledge to enable a full and secure digital transformation within the Kuwaiti business community. The company is introducing an integrated portfolio of managed cloud services and cybersecurity solutions to enterprises in join collaboration with ZainTech.

During the past few years, the local business market witnessed an accelerated wave of implementing digital transformation within private sector companies, SMEs and startups, and government institutions. However, at the same time, many new challenges surfaced along with this wave, emphasizing the importance of preserving data and protecting the digital infrastructures of companies from security breaches. Zain took the responsibility to offer an all-inclusive and integrated portfolio of cloud services and digital solutions built on the latest world-class technologies and provide cybersecurity solutions to the local business community.

Kuwait has always been a flagship market for Zain Group operations, and its pioneering developments in the enterprise segment have helped inspire initiatives in other Zain markets. ZainTech's establishment as the driver of the Group's digital and ICT solutions regionally reflects the need to continue to upgrade and evolve business solutions in order to manage the needs of transformational enterprises and continue providing customers, through the Zain operations, with the best-in-class services.

Technologies such as big data, cloud, artificial intelligence, IoT and cybersecurity are defining the next stage of digital solutions, and ZainTech is positioned to support entities such as Zain Business in Kuwait with a wide range of best-in-class business offerings, leveraging its own expertise as well as the deep and wide partner relationships that it possesses. Zain recognizes the importance of data in driving digital transformation in Kuwait. For this, the company has partnered with renowned global providers in cloud computing, data center solutions, and IT services to bring the best-in-class solutions to its business customers.

Zain's cloud solutions are custom-built by our talented solution architects to enable sustainable digital transformation, innovation, cost optimization and accelerated time to market. Zain solutions are backed by industry-leading SLAs with proactive 24/7 support through an advanced network operations center. Zain's

portfolio covers a wide range of solutions from cloud advisory, virtual private servers and cloud containers to in-country datacenters and fully managed applications.

As global cyber threats continue to rise, the early detection and fast response to cyber security incidents can significantly help organizations contain risk and reduce the economic impacts on their operations, and bottom lines. Zain's fully managed cybersecurity solutions are built on the same premise and are designed to help businesses in Kuwait in swiftly detecting and responding to cyber threats, to ensure full protection of their operations and meet compliance requirements. Zain's solutions are custom-built by skilled security engineers and offer flexible payment models to suit every customer's specific requirements.

Zain Group recently introduced ZainTech across MENA, providing a center of excellence and managed solutions across the ICT stack including cloud, cybersecurity, big data, IoT, AI, smart cities, robotics, drones, and emerging technologies. ZainTech leverages Zain's global reach, unique footprint and infrastructure across its operations as well as other key markets in the Middle East to offer a single point of contact for sales and personalized customer care for multi-national corporations with multiple points of presence across the region.

Zain's strategy is centered around digital transformation leadership and empowering the community to enjoy a smarter portable lifestyle, as well as using advanced technology to enable an easier and more flexible life. The company places itself as an active partner in creating the future of smart life in Kuwait. Today's launch will contribute to prove the company's full potential in triggering the digital community.

Document MEWKUT0020220331ei3u00009

**Zain South Sudan selects Tecnotree as a strategic partner for its Digital BSS Transformation**

posted by Tecnotree
377 words
30 March 2022
Total Telecom Plus
TOTEL
English

Tecnotree, a Finnish-based global provider of digital transformation solutions for Communication Service Providers (CSPs) and Digital Service Providers (DSPs), has today announced the signing of one of the largest digital transformation projects for its award-winning BSS (Business Support Systems) Suite. Tecnotree has been chosen for this project by Zain Group, a leading telecom services provider in the Middle East & Africa for its operations in South Sudan.Tecnotree will implement their complete range of BSS Suite products and services. This full stack deployment will offer Zain South Sudan a new set of capabilities such as Advance Customer Experience, Quick Time to market with new unified Product Catalogue, Convergent Billing and Charging solutions, as well as other key solutions. The deployment will help drive digital transformation of Zain's current legacy products and BSS **infrastructure**, making them 5G ready.

Tecnotree's award winning BSS suite and extensive experience over the last 40 years across the globe will enable the operator to improve operational efficiency, sustain rapid growth and redefine their customer experience.Commenting on the project, Khalid Abdalla, Zain South Sudan CEO said,"We are looking forward to this partnership with Tecnotree, which will help us update our BSS infrastructure in order to unlock our digital transformation strategy. This implementation will be a first step towards facilitating our business processes efficiently, and achieving our goals to provide innovative services to our customers."Padma Ravichander, CEO Tecnotree Corporation, stated,"We are delighted about winning this deal and are eager to embark on this new transformation journey with Zain South Sudan. It is a testament to Tecnotree's growth and expansion as well as our commitment to using our market-proven framework of products and services to provide premium digital experiences. This is yet another chapter in our success story and gives us the motivation to continue providing our clients with state-of-the-art products and solutions."Tecnotree will be involved in delivering the licenses, implementation services, as well as support services. The company had already received orders from the same operator last year, and the new order enhances the existing relationship between the groups and opens avenues for future opportunities.

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Document TOTEL00020220330ei3u0000d

![telecompaper](telecompaper logo)

**Zain Business launches managed <mark>cloud</mark> and <mark>cybersecurity</mark> services in Kuwait**

Zain Kuwait has announced the launch of managed <mark>cloud</mark> and <mark>cybersecurity</mark> services powered by ZainTech, the Zain Group's MENA region digital and ICT product arm. It aims to serve businesses of every size, including large enterprises, SMEs, start-ups and government institutions.

ZainTech was introduced in October 2021 as Zain Group's regional digital and ICT solutions arm. It unifies Zain Group's ICT assets to offer enterprises and governments a value proposition and comprehensive enterprise digital services. Zain products are backed by SLAs with round-the-clock support through an advanced network operations centre. Zain's portfolio ranges from <mark>cloud</mark> advisory, virtual private servers and <mark>cloud</mark> containers to in-country data centres and fully managed applications.

Document TELEAST020220328ei3s0005l

**Addendum Announcement from Mobile Telecommunications Company Saudi Arabia (Zain KSA) in regard to the Board of directors'' approval of the offers received from the Public ==Investment== Fund (PIF), HRH Prince Saud Bin Fahad, and Sultan Holding Company, to acquire stakes in the Zain KSA towers ==infrastructure==.**

tadawul-

ELEMENT LIST EXPLANATION

Introduction Further to the company''s announcement published on the Tadawul website on 15-02-2022 regarding the Board of directors'' approval of the final offers from PIF, HRH Prince Saud Bin Fahad, and Sultan Holding Company will acquire stakes in the Tower Infrastructure after completing the due diligence and internal approvals of all parties.

As part of Zain KSA' transparency, Zain KSA would like to clarify that the decision to approve the final offers by the Board of Directors was unanimous, after excluding the following members: H.H. Prince Naif bin Sultan, Mr. Raied AlSaif, Mr. Saud AlBawardi, and Mr. Hisham Attar from voting on the offers, because they are related parties once the transaction is executed.

As H.H Prince Naif bin Sultan is the Chairman of Sultan Holding Company, while Mr. Hisham Attar works for PIF, Mr. Raied AlSaif works for Sultan Holding Company. In addition, Mr. Saud Al-Bawardi works for United Company, where H.R.H Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz have an interest in.

Date of Posting the Previous Announcement of Development on Tadawul''s Website 2022-02-15 Corresponding to 1443-07-14

URL of the Previous Announcement Click Here

Change on the Development Clarify the related parties of the board of directors approval.

Financial Impact on the change This disclosure does not have any financial implications.

Additional Information As mentioned in the previous announcement,

Zain KSA will work with the parties on the best way to execute the Final Offers, noting that the Final Offers are subject to obtaining the required approvals from the relevant official authorities, and other conditions that may be agreed between the parties.

Any material developments will be announced in due course.

The Capital Market Authority and Saudi Exchange take no responsibility for the contents of this disclosure, make no representations as to its accuracy or completeness, and expressly disclaim any liability whatsoever for any loss arising from, or incurred in reliance upon, any part of this disclosure, and the issuer accepts full responsibility for the accuracy of the information contained in it and confirms, having made all reasonable enquiries, that to the best of their knowledge and belief, there are no other facts or information the omission of which would make the disclosure misleading, incomplete or inaccurate.

Document MISTNW0020220328ei3s000gq

**Zain Business launches managed ==cloud== services and ==cybersecurity== solutions**

853 words
27 March 2022
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, announced the launch of managed ==cloud== services and ==cybersecurity== solutions, offering a wide and comprehensive range of world-class services to its corporate customers in the Kuwaiti market. The new services are powered by ZainTech, Zain Group's regional digital and ICT solutions arm in the MENA region.

The announcement is part of the company's continuous efforts to offer a portfolio of world-class, advanced security solutions to the local business community, serving businesses of all sizes, including large enterprises, SMEs, startups, and government institutions. This comes in line with Zain's digital transformation strategy that aims at empowering a more efficient business sector in the Kuwaiti market under the New Kuwait 2035 vision.

Click to view image

ZainTech was introduced in October 2021 as Zain Group's regional digital and ICT solutions arm. The company unifies Zain Group's ICT assets to offer enterprises and governments a unique value proposition and comprehensive enterprise digital solutions and transformation services under one roof across the MENA markets. Commenting on the announcement, Zain Kuwait's Chief Enterprise Business Officer Hamad Al-Marzouq said: "Today, we take a new step towards our pledge to enable a full and secure digital transformation within the Kuwaiti business community. We are introducing an integrated portfolio of managed cloud services and cybersecurity solutions to enterprises in joint collaboration with our colleagues at ZainTech".

Al-Marzouq added: "During the past few years, the local business market witnessed an accelerated wave of implementing digital transformation within private sector companies, SMEs and startups, and government institutions. However, at the same time, many new challenges surfaced along with this wave, emphasizing the importance of preserving data and protecting the digital infrastructures of companies from security breaches. We have taken the responsibility to offer an all-inclusive and integrated portfolio of cloud services and digital solutions built on the latest world-class technologies and provide cybersecurity solutions to the local business community".

Partnership

Commenting on the partnership, ZainTech CEO Andrew Hanna said: "Kuwait has always been a flagship market for Zain Group operations, and its pioneering developments in the enterprise segment have helped inspire initiatives in other Zain markets. ZainTech's establishment as the driver of the Group's digital and ICT solutions regionally makes us acutely aware of the need to continue to upgrade and evolve business solutions in order to manage the needs of transformational enterprises and continue providing customers, through the Zain operations, with the best-in-class services."

Hanna continued: "Technologies such as big data, cloud, artificial intelligence, IoT and cybersecurity are defining the next stage of digital solutions, and we are pleased to be positioned to support entities such as Zain Business in Kuwait with a wide range of best-in-class business offerings, leveraging our own expertise as well as the deep and wide partner relationships that we possess." Zain recognizes the importance of data in driving digital transformation in Kuwait. For this, the company has partnered with renowned global providers in cloud computing, data center solutions, and IT services to bring the best-in-class solutions to its business customers.

Zain's cloud solutions are custom-built by our talented solution architects to enable sustainable digital transformation, innovation, cost optimization and accelerated time to market. Zain solutions are backed by industry-leading SLAs with proactive 24/7 support through an advanced network operations center. Zain's portfolio covers a wide range of solutions from cloud advisory, virtual private servers and cloud containers to in-country datacenters and fully managed applications. As global cyber threats continue to rise, the early detection and fast response to cyber security incidents can significantly help organizations contain risk and reduce the economic impacts on their operations, and bottom lines.

Cybersecurity solutions

Zain's fully managed cybersecurity solutions are built on the same premise and are designed to help businesses in Kuwait in swiftly detecting and responding to cyber threats, to ensure full protection of their operations and meet compliance requirements. Zain's solutions are custom-built by skilled security engineers and offer flexible payment models to suit every customer's specific requirements.

Zain Group recently introduced ZainTech across MENA, providing a center of excellence and managed solutions across the ICT stack including cloud, cybersecurity, big data, IoT, AI, smart cities, robotics, drones, and emerging technologies. ZainTech leverages Zain's global reach, unique footprint and infrastructure across its operations as well as other key markets in the Middle East to offer a single point of contact for sales and personalized customer care for multi-national corporations with multiple points of presence across the region.

Zain's strategy is centered around digital transformation leadership and empowering the community to enjoy a smarter portable lifestyle, as well as using advanced technology to enable an easier and more flexible life. The company places itself as an active partner in creating the future of smart life in Kuwait. Today's launch will contribute to prove the company's full potential in triggering the digital community.

Document MEWKUT0020220328ei3r00004

**Zain Bahrain offers valet parking discounts with ParkPass**

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23 March 2022
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English
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Zain Bahrain has signed an agreement with digital parking <mark>platform</mark> ParkPass, a sister company of ParkPoint, to offer all its customers valet parking membership. ParkPass offers discounted access at different valet parking locations in Bahrain, such as City Centre, Seef Mall, Moda Mall, Bahrain Bay, Bahrain Defence Force Royal Medical Services and Block 338. Under the deal, Zain Bahrain customers will receive 15 percent off valet parking, and members of the exclusive package 'Al Zain' will receive a 30 percent discount.

The offer is available for prepaid and postpaid mobile subscribers until 15 February 2023. Customers can activate the service using the Zain Bahrain app by accessing "Zain Delights Deals".

Document TELEAST020220323ei3n0005m

**Zain Group inks MoU with Huawei to accelerate 5.5G innovation**

Zain Group has chosen Huawei to accelerate the migration from 4G to 5G including 5.5G innovation to enrich the customer experience across multiple markets.

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) establishing the ==partnership== was signed at the recently held Mobile World Congress in Barcelona. MoU aims to fast-track the introduction of new digital services across multiple Zain markets.

Present during the signing ceremony were Zain Group CTO Nawaf AlGharabally, Zain Group Network Director Mohammad AlMurshed, Zain Group Radio Manager Rami AlJazzar, Zain Group FM Manager Wilfried Bationo, President of Huawei Wireless Product line Yangchaobin, President of Huawei Zain Group Key Account Rico Lin, Vice-President of Huawei Middle East Marketing and Solutions Vanness You, as well as executive management teams from both companies.

Within the scope of the MoU, Huawei will support Zain Group to optimize its network architecture to extend 5G capabilities to support IoT, Ultra-Reliable Low Latency Communications, uplink centric broadband, real-time broadband communication, harmonized communication, and sensing. The two entities will also work together to define autonomous driving network-level criteria and explore new use cases.

In 2019, Huawei supported Zain Group launching commercial 5G services in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and Zain has since experienced rapid growth of 5G uptake. For example, Zain Kuwait's 5G data traffic already accounts for 46% of its total wireless traffic, and it is likely to become the first mobile operator in the MEA region that has more active 5G traffic than 4G. Zain Saudi Arabia launched the largest 5G network in the region now covering 51 cities.

Nawaf Al-Gharabally, Zain Group CTO, said: "Zain aims to provide a seamless converged experience for customers on 5G. Therefore, Huawei's network technologies will play a big part in user migration, 5.5G innovation, and intelligent network development fast-tracking the introduction of new digital services. Zain Group will work closely with Huawei to provide the required technologies that enables us to further advance AI and digital solutions that could immensely benefit our customers across multiple markets."

Yangchaobin, President of Huawei Wireless Product line, said: "As a global ICT and network technologies provider, Huawei is committed to support Zain to achieve their strategy aimed at providing a seamless converged experience for customers. In the past year, Zain ranked as number one in terms of 5G offload ratio and proved to be one of the leading telecom operators in the Middle East."

"In the future, 5G needs to support multi-dimensional services such as AR/VR, cloud gaming, passive IoT, autonomous driving, and so on. Therefore, both parties will need to pursue even deeper collaboration. In addition, Huawei's autonomous driving network (ADN) capabilities are supporting Zain improve network efficiency and serve society more efficiently," Yangchaobin added.

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**Zain Group signs MoU with Huawei to accelerate 5.5G innovation**

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21 March 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Zain Group has selected Huawei to accelerate its migration from 4G to 5G, including 5.5G innovation. Huawei will support Zain to optimise its network architecture to extend 5G capabilities to support IoT, ultra-reliable low latency communications, uplink-centric broadband, real-time broadband communication, harmonised communication, and sensing. They will also work together to define autonomous driving network-level criteria and explore new use cases.

Zain aims to provide marginalised and disadvantaged communities with access to <mark>connectivity</mark>, IoT, digitalisation of Zain's core products and services, and the development of digital verticals. It will work closely with Huawei to develop the application of new 5G services and intelligent networks to accelerate the digital transformation of the societies it serves.

Document TELEAST020220321ei3l00002

**Zain Group signs MoU with Huawei to accelerate 5.5G innovation**

128 words
21 March 2022
Telecompaper Asia
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English
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**Zain signs MoU with Huawei to hasten 5.5G innovation**

546 words
20 March 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Officials after signing the MoU Zain Group has selected Huawei to accelerate the migration from 4G to 5G including 5.5G innovation to enrich the customer experience across multiple markets.

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Zain Group is a leading ICT service provider in the Middle East and Africa region launching commercial 5G services in 2019 in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia and has since experienced rapid growth of 5G uptake.

For example, Zain Kuwait's 5G data traffic already accounts for 46% of its total wireless traffic, and it is likely to become the first mobile operator in the MEA region that has more active 5G traffic than 4G. Zain Saudi Arabia launched the largest 5G network in the region now covering 51 cities.

Zain aims to empower marginalised and disadvantaged communities by providing digital transformation solutions to create social and financial value. This will be achieved by ensuring inclusive access to connectivity, IoT, digitalisation of Zain's core products and services, and the development of digital verticals.

In addition, Zain will work closely with Huawei to develop the application of new 5G services and intelligent networks to accelerate the digital transformation of the societies it serves.-- TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020220320ei3k0015p

**HTC Vive signs distribution deal with Zain Group**

83 words
10 March 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

HTC Vive has signed a partner agreement with Zain Group to bring Vive's VR range to the Middle East, making Vive **devices** available via the Zain e-commerce **platform**, and Opco stores and e-shops. The Vive and Viveport **content platform** will be marketed by Zain esports and Zain operators in Kuwait, the KSA, Bahrain and Jordan. Zain Group intends to offer subscribers a Viveport service through operator billing/ bundling on the operator's API **platform**.

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83 words
10 March 2022
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Document TELASI0020220310ei3a000b6

**Six Middle East players make ==sustainability== pledge**

Melanie Mingas
694 words
7 March 2022
Capacity Magazine
CAPMAG
English
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STC, e& - the new name of Etisalat - Zain Group, Batelco, du, and Omantel signed a Memorandum of Understanding at MWC last week, which in addition to the carbon footprint pledge, aims to "accelerate and tighten cooperation to preserve and protect the environment".

Jennifer Suleiman, Zain Group chief ==sustainability== officer, said: "Climate change and reducing our carbon footprint are material to Zain's strategic objectives across our markets. This collaboration between like-minded operators is a transformative step towards advancing ==sustainability== across the GCC and is in line with our ==sustainability== ambition of providing meaningful ==connectivity== leading to systemic change."

It isn't the first sustainability pledge for any of the six, however, it will see them assess the impact of their operations in more detail and "highlight the importance" of collaboration in this area.

Of the six, STC said last year that it has developed a Sustainable Energy Framework designed to take the business through to 2030. Group CEO Olayan M. Alwetaid said at the time the focus will fall on "better energy management, monitoring, and reporting - with clear benchmarks and KPIs", although specific figures were not released.

In its second sustainability report, published in August of last year, "revealed its efforts to" decrease water use by 40% from 509,768m3 in 2019 to 303,789m3 in 2020; and reduce the total electricity consumption by 16%, gasoline by 18%, and the use of paper documents in procurement by 100%.

Alwetaid added: "We will also develop renewable energy generation at our campus and facilities throughout Saudi Arabia. What's more we will ensure energy efficiency in our existing buildings and assets and finally new buildings will be designed and built with energy-saving features."

Zain's last sustainability report - its 10th - was published in March 2021 and highlighted the firm's 2020-2025 Corporate Sustainability Strategy. It detailed how Zain "took major steps in reducing its emissions", installing more than 370 outdoor base station and power station solutions, 54 smaller sized generators, and upgraded 266 sites "to use more efficient DC power solutions across all markets".

The group also has a tree planting programme, however, its reported power use is divided into two categories to reflect the "low influence and control" Zain has over the energy sources for its base station operations, data centres and core sites. Due to this, its CO2 emission reduction range was set at 5-10% by 2022.

Over in Bahrian, Batelco inaugurated the Batelco Solar Park in late 2021, in line with Bahrain's target to reach "zero-carbon neutrality" by 2060.

The UAE's net zero carbon target has been set for 2050 and, in line with that, e&

During Expo2020, which concludes in less than a month, e& has worked with Ericsson to highlight ICT's role in the target.

On the suitability of its own operations, Etisalat's last sustainability report was published in 2020, which detailed how "environmental management" is one of five pillars in its sustainability framework, alongside marketplace and customers , accountable business practices, connecting communities and our people.

In 2020, Etisalat said it saved 9,404,362 kilowatt-hours (kWh) of electricity, while displacing 5,548 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) and saving 1,191 trees or 12,330 barrels of oil.

As much as 40% of waste generated was recycled and total water consumption was reduced by 11%.

du's last sustainability report was also published in 2020 and detailed the company's gains on hybrid generators - which at that point had resulted in diesel savings of approximately 1.79 million litres/year, or a carbon footprint reduction of 4,540 tonnes/year, according to du's calculations - and solar energy.

On solar, du had 30 active sites at the time, resulting in a total diesel saving of approximately 2.4 million litres, or a carbon footprint reduction of 6,000 tonnes.

Lastly, over at Omantel, last year its HQ was awarded LEED certification by the United States Green Building Council. With a score of 86 points - out of a potential 110 - it achieved Platinum status, the first building in Oman to do so.

Document CAPMAG0020220328ei3700004

**Zain KSA expands Nvidia GeForce Now cloud gaming to other regional markets**

186 words
7 March 2022
Telecompaper Asia
TELASI
English
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Zain KSA said that it has strengthened its partnership with cloud computing provider Nvidia to more markets in the region. Subscribers of regional telecom operators will be able to play a range of cloud-based games as part of their 5G and home fibre packages without owning and maintaining their own gaming rigs, via GeForce Now from Zain KSA. GeForce Now is Nvidia's open cloud gaming service that supports PC gaming by streaming from Nvidia GPUs.

Playing PC games on GeForce Now uses Game Ready Drivers for performance. Even gamers on low-powered hardware can play with GeForce quality. Zain KSA provides the infrastructure to meet the requirements of cloud gaming, which needs very fast transfer of player inputs to servers and fast responses to their screens.

Zain KSA has developed a network infrastructure that has contributed to Riyadh ranking first among the world's capitals in 5G internet speeds, demonstrating speeds of 317.3 Mbps, ahead of Tokyo and Dublin. The expansive network currently covers 51 cities with more than 5,000 towers.

Document TELASI0020220307ei370008f

![telecompaper logo]

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186 words
7 March 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Document TELEAST020220307ei3700001

**Zain Group enters strategic cooperation with GCC operators to address environmental challenges**

BARCELONA/KUWAIT: Zain Group signed a MOU at the Mobile World Congress 2022 in Barcelona along with stc Group, e& formerly known as Etisalat Group, Batelco, du, and Omantel, aiming to accelerate and tighten cooperation to preserve and protect the environment and enhance climate change challenges as well as reduce the carbon footprint through operations. This memorandum comes within the cooperation of major telecom operators in the Gulf Cooperation Council Countries to improve the ICT industry and activate their roles in facing environmental challenges, focusing on climate change and advancing the regional ==sustainability== agenda.

The MOU aims to accelerate cooperation on climate change and highlight the importance of collaboration to preserve and protect the environment as well as to maintain a sustainable economy. The actions involved include a better understanding of the carbon footprint across operations. The memorandum also seeks to strengthen work across strategic partners and policy makers around necessary measures that contribute to avoiding the climate crisis and achieving sustainable growth.

Jennifer Suleiman, Zain Group Chief Sustainability Officer, said: "Climate change and reducing our carbon footprint are material to Zain's strategic objectives across our markets. This collaboration between like-minded operators is a transformative step towards advancing sustainability across the GCC and is in line with our sustainability ambition of providing meaningful connectivity leading to systemic change."

"This memorandum is an extension of KSA's vision in strengthening partnership between all sectors to preserve and sustain the economic, social and environmental resources achieved by the Gulf Countries for future generations" said Abdullah Abdulrahman Alkanhl, Chief Corporate Affairs Officer.

"As a leading national company, stc has sensed this importance for a long time, and launched programs for sustainability and preservation of the environment. One of the most important results of which was a decrease in paper consumption to 50 percent, and a reduction in water use by 40 percent. Today we will work according to this memorandum to transfer these experiences to our partners in the sector from the companies of the Gulf Cooperation Council countries," added Alkanhl.

Salem Al-Mannai, Vice President of Technology Infrastructure and in charge of the climate change file at e&, said: "Through this memorandum, the group seeks to strengthen its partnerships to confront climate change and make all possible efforts to motivate other sectors to join these endeavors aimed at accelerating the achievement of carbon neutrality in the possible time frame in addition to our commitment to the GSMA initiative; to move the entire mobile industry to carbon neutral by 2050."

"The group also seeks, through this memorandum, to exchange experiences and best practices with regional counterparts regarding the pioneering role of the technology sector, which would become a major enabler to limit climate change," Mannai added.

Commenting on this cooperation, Shaikh Bader bin Rashid Al Khalifa, General Manager Corporate Communications and Sustainability at Batelco, said: "Batelco attaches great importance to environmental sustainability and reducing the carbon footprint. We have started implementing initiatives in line with the company's aims of becoming an environmentally friendly entity and achieve our corporate sustainability goals. Batelco's most notable accomplishment is the launch of Batelco Solar Park, which contributes to the production of clean and renewable energy to support with running the company's operations. We are eager to continue with our environmental initiatives to help create a more sustainable future."

Saleem Al-Blooshi, Chief Technology Officer, du said: "We, at du, recognize the crucial role played by ICT in strengthening the digital economy and ensuring long-term sustainable growth in the GCC region. We have put in place sustainability objectives that aim to guide us towards achieving our vision in alignment with the region's leadership vision. As forerunners in digital innovation along with our strategic partners, we are committed to work towards a truly sustainable future with and for our stakeholders."

Said Al-Ajmi, Vice President Operations, of Omantel, said: "At Omantel, we have great concern towards sustainability, and our focus includes three main pillars: the economic pillar, the social pillar, in addition to the

environmental pillar. We are proud to be one of the first telecommunication companies in the region to issue a sustainability report covering performance in all these aspects, as we issued our first report in 2012, in addition, we launched several initiatives aimed at reducing our impact on the environment by building on the digital transformation and automation and benefiting from it, in developing and transforming our procedures and processes."

"We are pleased to sign this agreement with stc and the other Gulf telecom companies to exchange knowledge and experiences, emphasizing our quest to preserve the environment and play the expected role in combating climate change and reducing the carbon footprint of our operations," Ajmi concluded.

Document MEWKUT0020220307ei3600007

**Joint strategic cooperation among stc Group, Etisalat, Zain, Batelco, du and Omantel to enhance <mark>sustainability</mark>'s regional agenda**

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"We are pleased to sign this agreement with stc and the other Gulf telecom companies to exchange knowledge and experiences, emphasizing our quest to preserve the environment and play the expected role in combating climate change and reducing the carbon footprint of our operations", Al Ajmi concluded.

Document SAUDGZE020220304ei3400003

**매일경제**

, Biz&Company
**LG Uplus to leverage on XR and <mark>metaverse</mark> employing K-pop power for global drive**

Lim Young-shin and Susan Lee
369 words
4 March 2022
Maeil Business Newspaper
MAEIL
English
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South Korean wireless carrier LG Uplus Corp. will field immersive extended reality (XR) service <mark>platform</mark> leveraging on K-pop <mark>content</mark> and <mark>metaverse</mark> application to break out of the Korean borders and reach out to global audience.

LG Uplus CEO Hwang Hyun-sik said during a press conference at the Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2022 in Barcelona on Tuesday that LG Uplus signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to collaborate the development of XR <mark>content</mark> with Zain Group at the MWC 2022. Zain Group is a mobile carrier in the Middle East with 50 million subscribers in seven Middle Eastern countries.

The wireless carrier also signed an MOU with Oman's top mobile carrier Omantel to collaborate on XR content and solutions.

XR is a technology that encompasses virtual reality (VR) and augmented reality (AR). Out of Korea's three major wireless carriers, LG Uplus has been the most aggressive in developing XR platform and content after Korea became the first country in the world to successfully commercialize 5G in 2019.

LG Uplus has been exporting XR content to countries in Southeast Asia and is now expanding into the Middle East. LG Uplus also held discussions with Celcom, Malaysia's No. 3 wireless carrier, regarding the supply of new Korean content such as K-pop.

LG Uplus aims to expedite the export of XR content service platform with K-pop content. It will first introduce "Idol Live", which allows fans to watch concerts of their favorite K-pop stars in augmented reality from various angles, to more countries.

As content is becoming more important in computer-altered reality solutions like XR, LG Uplus will enhance content business after hiring a Chief Content Officer (CCO) last year, said Hwang.

Hwang also said that LG Uplus will focus on the development of metaverse services that can create better value for the users instead of simply following the current metaverse hype.

For its business-to-business transaction (B2B) service business, Hwang revealed that it plans to mainly focus on smart factories and AI contact centers (AICC).

[Photo provided by LG Uplus Corp.]

Document MAEIL00020220304ei340005l

Business
**[MWC 2022] LG U+ CEO pledges to export XR ==content== to Middle East**

Son Ji-hyoung and Kim Byung-wook Korea Herald correspondents (consnow@heraldcorp.com) (kbw@heraldcorp.com)

BARCELONA, Spain -- LG U+ will export ==virtual reality content== to Zain Group, a mobile carrier in the Middle East with more than 50 million users, in its effort to take initiative in the burgeoning global XR market.

During a press conference held at the Mobile World Congress 2022 in Barcelona on Wednesday, local time, LG U+ CEO Hwang Hyun-sik said the South Korean telco will aim to sell ==content== to Zain Group, Oman's No. 1 mobile carrier Omantel and Malaysia's No. 3 player Celcom.

"Starting with the partnership with Zain Group, which has 50 million users, LG U+ will aim to export its platforms including U+ Idol Live and U+ Live," Hwang said.

"When 5G was commercialized in 2019, we thought deeply about what kind of value we can provide to customers. We thought that the way we watch videos should be different and decided to offer XR service."

The CEO further added that LG U+ has since exported $24 million of XR content and solutions. The firm will further supply the global market with K-Pop content, which is taking the world by storm.

In particular, Idol Live, which allows fans to participate virtually in concerts with hyper reality in real time will play a critical role in spreading Korean content, the CEO added.

Regarding the dispute between LG U+ and CJ ENM, the CEO explained that the conflict has been resolved, adding that CJ ENM content will continue to stream on the LG U+ platform.

In June, CJ ENM, a Korean entertainment giant, cut the feed of its 10 channels to LG U+, demanding a 175 percent increase in royalties. LG U+ refused to accept the demand, saying that it had already raised royalties 9 percent in 2019 and 24 percent in 2020.

As the conflict continued, authorities intervened to protect consumers. But the two firms failed to reach an agreement, resulting in the termination of the partnership last year. The two reportedly filed lawsuits against each other, but dropped their cases for strategic reasons.

Now that the conflict has ended, the two companies are tasked with signing a contract for the next two years. The two companies agreed on signing a contract first, but challenges remain. LG U+ expressed concerns about how access to information about CJ ENM's content had been denied. Simply put, LG U+ didn't know which content would come from CJ ENM. It remains to be seen whether CJ ENM will provide LG U+ with information such as ratings.

On top of targeting K-pop fans, LG U+ will provide business-to-business 5G solutions, targeting smart factories and artificial intelligence contact centers as their main customers.

[Click here to see image](#)

LG U+ CEO Hwang Hyun-sik speaks to reporters during a press conference held at the MWC 2022 in Barcelona on Wednesday, local time. (LG U+)

Document KORHER0020220303ei34000gp

**Middle East telecom operators to cooperate on <mark>sustainability</mark> agenda**

160 words
3 March 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Middle East operators STC Group, e& (formerly known as Etisalat), Zain Group, Batelco, Du and Omantel signed an MOU at the Mobile World Congress 2022 aimed at strengthening their cooperation to preserve and protect the environment and reduce the carbon footprint through operations. This deal comes within the cooperation of major telecom operators in the Gulf Cooperation Council countries to improve the ICT industry and activate their roles in facing environmental challenges, focusing on climate change and advancing the regional <mark>sustainability</mark> agenda.

The MOU aims to accelerate cooperation on climate change and highlight the importance of collaboration to preserve and protect the environment as well as to maintain a sustainable economy. The actions involved include a better understanding of the carbon footprint across operations. The memorandum also seeks to strengthen work across strategic partners and policy makers around necessary measures that contribute to avoiding the climate crisis and achieving sustainable growth.

Document TELEAST020220303ei33000dx

# telecompaper :::

**Middle East telecom operators to cooperate on <mark>sustainability</mark> agenda**

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Document TELASI0020220303ei33000rt

**LG U+ signs deal with Kuwait's Zain Group for K-pop VR, AR**

LG U+ is targeting the Middle East to export K-pop-related ==content== based on virtual and augmented reality technologies via an agreement with Zain Group, a Kuwait-based telecommunication company operating throughout the region.

LG U+ is targeting the Middle East to export K-pop-related content based on virtual and augmented reality technologies via an agreement with Zain Group, a Kuwait-based telecommunication company operating throughout the region.

The mobile carrier announced the agreement during MWC 2022 in Barcelona Thursday in a move aimed at seizing on the popularity of K-pop groups.

LG U+CEO Hwang Hyeon-sik said that telecom operators in the Middle East and Latin America expressed interest in bringing the K-pop-focused service to the region.

"The major source of our extended reality content includes live performances by K-pop groups," Hwang said during a press conference. "Since they are well-received around the globe, I met with the interested companies from the Middle East and South America regions."

Zain Group offers wireless network services to around 50 million subscribers in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Jordan, Bahrain and South Sudan.

Asked whether those countries have built 5G network infrastructure required to stream the content using VR or AR, Vice President Choi Yoon-ho said "it varies depending on country, but they are on track to launch 5G service."

Rollout for the service will differ by country, according to Choi.

CEO Hwang expressed expectations to extend the deal to export its U+DIVE app to Kuwait.

Introduced last year in Korea, the app let viewers travel through a virtual exhibition hall featuring K-pop stars and play different games and participate in various missions prepared in the virtual space.

At the MWC, Hwang struck an agreement with Omantel, the top mobile carrier in Oman, to sell the content and the technologies used to realize the extended-reality offering.

LG U+ sold a combined $24 million worth of such content to Asian telecom players, including China Telecom, Hong Kong's PCCW, Japan's KDDI and Taiwan's ChungHwa Telecom.

Hwang also met with Qualcomm CEO Cristiano Amon to discuss ways to increase membership of an alliance on extended reality content.

LG U+ presently chairs Global XR Content Telco Alliance, a multinational alliance intended to foster cooperation in creating AR or VR based content running on 5G networks.

The member companies include: Qualcomm, Bell Canada, China Telecom, Japan's KDDI; Montreal, Canada-based Felix & Paul Studios and Paris-based Atlas V. The members have jointly invested to create large-scale AR and VR videos.

BY PARK EUN-JEE [park.eunjee@joongang.co.kr]

Click here to see image

LG U+ CEO Hwang Hyeon-sik speaks during a press conference at the MWC 2022 in Barcelona, Spain, on Thursday. [LG U+]

**Zain KSA taps Ericsson to modernise charging systems**

141 words
3 March 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Zain Saudi Arabia said it has extended its ==partnership== with Ericsson to upgrade and modernise its Charging systems. The scope of the ==partnership== includes upgrades across ==hardware==, software, and services. Ericsson will modernise Zain KSA's systems while upgrading Ericsson Charging, Ericsson Mediation, Ericsson Activation and Ericsson CSS (Communication Solution Server), Ericsson's strategic ==platform== for next-generation intelligent-network applications.

As part of the agreement, Ericsson will also introduce its modular, scalable, open, and single convergent Online Charging System and Ericsson 5G Standalone charging into Zain's network. This will enable Zain KSA to accelerate the time-to-market speed and revenues from new services including 5G. Ericsson's digital business support systems enables customer-centric business operations and digital engagement while also enabling communication service providers to monetise on improved customer experience.

Document TELEAST020220303ei3300001

**Middle East operators establish region's first Open RAN centralised test lab in collaboration with TIP and Intel**

Middle East operators have opened the first regional community lab in collaboration with Telecom Infra Project(TIP) and Intel, following the signing of the Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) MoU last year. The move will accelerate the implementation of Open RAN solutions in their existing telecom networks in order to support the early adoption and development of a robust regional ICT ==ecosystem==.Two new operators Batelco and Omantel have also signed the Open RAN MoU, joining the e& formerly known as Etisalat Group, stc, Zain Group, Mobily, and du from Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (EITC), in their commitment to deploy Open RAN across their footprint and enhance supreme network experiences for end-users.The Middle East lab will provide a ==platform== for the parties to jointly deploy open and disaggregated technologies into their networks to optimize the online experiences of businesses and consumers.

Flexible, interoperable and standards-based solutions such as OpenRAN present a compelling opportunity for operators to become more efficient in meeting the ever-growing need for high bandwidth, low latency, and advanced connectivity.The lab will provide shared facilities and access to Intel technologies for members and vendors, and catalyst for OpenRAN deployments.Through the TIP end-to-end process, operators become empowered to deploy more flexible and resilient networks optimized for specific use cases. By sharing industry knowledge to align and prioritise their technical requirements, TIP participants contribute to the creation of centralized technical roadmaps that will set the direction for the development of new network infrastructure products and solutions. Operators can then leverage TIP's test and validation process to quickly and easily assess those products and solutions that will best contribute to the transformation of their networks.Mohamed Al Marzooqi, Vice President, Technology Synergies, said:"More than ever, our customers rely on high-quality connectivity for their daily requirements. The need for such smart connectivity will only increase in the future. I'm delighted to witness more operators from our region partnering with us in our efforts to position the Middle East as a global leader in developing and deploying such innovative network solutions."Etisalat is committed to supporting technology and service innovation within the markets where we operate, through our participation in TIP and our partnership with Intel. We strongly believe open technologies present the right prospects to achieve this, while helping enhance the flexibility and efficiency of our networks."Nawaf Al Gharabally, Group's Chief Technology Officer, Zain, said:"We are pleased to welcome Batelco and OmanTel to the MoU. Through broad regional alignment on OpenRAN and standardization over Intel technologies, we will provide a clear demand signal to the industry that reflects the needs of our respective markets and customers. The new [Open RAN Labs] is a testament to this. We will work together through this collaborative hub to find solutions that address the specific use cases we encounter in the Middle East and are an essential component to faster commercial deployments. We urge all regional players to join us in this drive to deliver new and innovative solutions."Referring to the operator collaboration, Rashid Mohamed, General Manager Networks, Batelco said:"This collaboration and alignment of operators on OpenRAN is a milestone for the telecommunications ecosystem in the Middle East. It will create a more competitive and robust supply chain, leading to faster 5G deployment, network efficiencies, opportunities for new technology vendors, and unlock advanced services for customers. We are pleased to join other like-minded and leading organizations in amplifying innovative opportunities in the region."Bernhard Merwe, CTO, OmanTel commented:"OmanTel is excited to be joining this ground-breaking MoU. This is an initiative that will help us deliver on our mission to provide the highest quality connectivity to our customers while also benefiting from the shared experiences of our community in deploying open network technologies. We see a clear opportunity to enhance the way we work with the vendor community and build a more resilient and diverse ecosystem that benefits the region as well as?our industry."Hisham Alabdaly, GM Infrastructure Design, stc said:"By partnering with TIP, Intel and the operator community in the Middle East, we are helping pioneer a new and innovative approach to developing the solutions that align with our strategic goals and best support the present and future needs of our customers. In doing so, we are also supporting the growth of our local ICT sectors because open network technologies like OpenRAN provide a trusted avenue for new entrants in both the hardware and software space to work with service providers."Saleem Al Balooshi, CTO, du commented:"du is committed to improving its networks while boosting the digital economy by stimulating

greater technological innovation. We are excited to take the next step in accelerating the pace of innovation and promote the development of an open technology that will help to enhance the flexibility, efficiency and security of our networks. This has multiple advantages for the customers as our networks will become highly programmable and automated, so we can foster collaboration and innovation, release new features quickly, provide capacity on demand, automate network management and deliver tailored enterprise solutions."Mohammed Al Atawi, VP Technology Governance, Mobily said:"Mobily is already committed to making our vendors active partners in our business operations, and the move towards open network technologies is the next logical step in that journey. We believe the end-to-end process established by the Telecom Infra Project, supported by Intel standard technologies is the best way to ensure we all benefit from the paradigm shift that open and disaggregated technologies represent. We are confident of its cooperative test and validation framework where results and learnings are shared between industry players."Referring to the partnerships among regional mobile operators, Caroline Chan, VP, Network and Edge Group & TIP Board Member, Intel said:"This is a great example of how industry collaboration can accelerate the shift toward a software-defined infrastructure at the network edge. A virtualized, Open RAN is an area of tremendous innovation, which can be further propelled by leveraging Intel's FlexRAN reference architecture with optimized software and hardware components. The lab opens new possibilities to innovate 5G services that can accelerate the digital transformation in the Middle East."Vishal Mathur, Global Head of Engagement, Telecom Infra Project highlighted the shared responsibility of each telco operator in the successful deployment of Open RAN. He said:"Regional collaborations on Open RAN development, such as the Middle East MoU and the European MoU, clearly illustrate the growing momentum behind disaggregated technologies in our industry."He added:"While specific use cases may differ depending on the region, the need for these technologies is universal. TIP and Intel play a key role in this context, bringing together stakeholders from across the world, such as the MoU signatories, to accelerate the development of a critical mass of open and disaggregated network solutions in response to operators' needs. We hope to see more regional initiatives that leverage TIP and welcome all industry organizations to join our efforts to advance global connectivity."?

512662

Document TOTEL00020220302ei3200005

**Middle East operators open region's first Open RAN test lab**

1,197 words
2 March 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Middle East operators have opened the first regional community lab in collaboration with Telecom Infra Project (TIP) and Intel, following the signing of the Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) MoU last year.

The move will accelerate the implementation of Open RAN solutions in their existing telecom networks in order to support the early adoption and development of a robust regional ICT ==ecosystem==.

Two new operators 'Batelco' and 'Omantel' have also signed the Open RAN MoU, joining the e& formerly known as Etisalat Group, stc, Zain Group, Mobily, and du from Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (EITC), in their commitment to deploy Open RAN across their footprint and enhance supreme network experiences for end-users.

The Middle East lab will provide a platform for the parties to jointly deploy open and disaggregated technologies into their networks to optimise the online experiences of businesses and consumers.

Flexible, interoperable and standards-based solutions such as Open RAN present a compelling opportunity for operators to become more efficient in meeting the ever-growing need for high bandwidth, low latency, and advanced connectivity.

The lab will provide shared facilities and access to the most innovative Intel technologies for members and vendors, and catalyst for Open RAN deployments.

Through the TIP end-to-end process, operators become empowered to deploy more flexible and resilient networks optimised for specific use cases. By sharing industry knowledge to align and prioritise their technical requirements, TIP participants contribute to the creation of centralised technical roadmaps that will set the direction for the development of new network infrastructure products and solutions. Operators can then leverage TIP's test and validation process to quickly and easily assess those products and solutions that will best contribute to the transformation of their networks.

Mohamed Al Marzooqi, Vice President, Technology Synergies, e& said: "More than ever, our customers rely on high-quality connectivity for their daily requirements. The need for such smart connectivity will only increase in the future. I'm delighted to witness more operators from our region partnering with us in our efforts to position the Middle East as a global leader in developing and deploying such innovative network solutions.

"e& is committed to supporting technology and service innovation within the markets where we operate, through our participation in TIP and our partnership with Intel. We strongly believe open technologies present the right prospects to achieve this, while helping enhance the flexibility and efficiency of our networks."

Nawaf Al Gharabally, Group's Chief Technology Officer, Zain, said: "We are pleased to welcome Batelco and OmanTel to the MoU. Through broad regional alignment on Open RAN and standardisation over Intel technologies, we will provide a clear demand signal to the industry that reflects the needs of our respective markets and customers.

"The new [Open RAN Labs] is a testament to this. We will work together through this collaborative hub to find solutions that address the specific use cases we encounter in the Middle East and are an essential component to faster commercial deployments. We urge all regional players to join us in this drive to deliver new and innovative solutions."

Referring to the operator collaboration, Rashid Mohamed, General Manager Networks, Batelco said: "This collaboration and alignment of operators on Open RAN is a milestone for the telecommunications ecosystem in the Middle East. It will create a more competitive and robust supply chain, leading to faster 5G deployment, network efficiencies, opportunities for new technology vendors, and unlock advanced services for customers. We are pleased to join other like-minded and leading organisations in amplifying innovative opportunities in the region."

Bernhard Merwe, CTO, OmanTel commented: "OmanTel is excited to be joining this ground-breaking MoU. This is an initiative that will help us deliver on our mission to provide the highest quality connectivity to our

customers while also benefiting from the shared experiences of our community in deploying open network technologies. We see a clear opportunity to enhance the way we work with the vendor community and build a more resilient and diverse ecosystem that benefits the region as well as our industry."

Hisham Alabdaly, GM Infrastructure Design, stc said: "By partnering with TIP, Intel and the operator community in the Middle East, we are helping pioneer a new and innovative approach to developing the solutions that align with our strategic goals and best support the present and future needs of our customers. In doing so, we are also supporting the growth of our local ICT sectors because open network technologies like Open RAN provide a trusted avenue for new entrants in both the hardware and software space to work with service providers."

Saleem Al Balooshi, Chief Technology Officer du commented: "du is committed to improving its networks while boosting the digital economy by stimulating greater technological innovation. We are excited to take the next step in accelerating the pace of innovation and promote the development of an open technology that will help to enhance the flexibility, efficiency and security of our networks.

"This has multiple advantages for the customers as our networks will become highly programmable and automated, so we can foster collaboration and innovation, release new features quickly, provide capacity on demand, automate network management and deliver tailored enterprise solutions."

Mohammed Al Atawi, VP Technology Governance, Mobily said: "Mobily is already committed to making our vendors active partners in our business operations, and the move towards open network technologies is the next logical step in that journey. We believe the end-to-end process established by the Telecom Infra Project, supported by Intel standard technologies is the best way to ensure we all benefit from the paradigm shift that open and disaggregated technologies represent. We are confident of its cooperative test and validation framework where results and learnings are shared between industry players."

Referring to the partnerships among regional mobile operators, Caroline Chan, VP, Network and Edge Group & TIP Board Member, Intel said: "This is a great example of how industry collaboration can accelerate the shift toward a software-defined infrastructure at the network edge. A virtualised, Open RAN is an area of tremendous innovation, which can be further propelled by leveraging Intel's FlexRAN reference architecture with optimised software and hardware components. The lab opens new possibilities to innovate 5G services that can accelerate the digital transformation in the Middle East."

Vish Mathur, Head of Engagement Telecom Infra Project highlighted the shared responsibility of each telco operator in the successful deployment of Open RAN. He said: "Regional collaborations on Open RAN development, such as the Middle East MoU and the European MoU, clearly illustrate the growing momentum behind disaggregated technologies in our industry."

He added: "While specific use cases may differ depending on the region, the need for these technologies is universal. TIP and Intel play a key role in this context, bringing together stakeholders from across the world, such as the MoU signatories, to accelerate the development of a critical mass of open and disaggregated network solutions in response to operators' needs. We hope to see more regional initiatives that leverage TIP and welcome all industry organisations to join our efforts to advance global connectivity."-- TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020220302ei320012x

**Top telcos Batelco, Omantel join ground-breaking Open RAN**

1,185 words
2 March 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Middle East operators have opened the first regional community lab in collaboration with Telecom Infra Project (TIP) and Intel, following the signing of the Open Radio Access Network (Open RAN) MoU last year.

The move will accelerate the implementation of Open RAN solutions in their existing telecom networks in order to support the early adoption and development of a robust regional ICT ==ecosystem==.

Now two new operators - Bahrain's leading telecom services operator Batelco and Oman's telco group Omantel have also signed the Open RAN MoU, joining the e& (formerly Etisalat Group), stc, Zain Group, Mobily, and du from Emirates Integrated Telecommunications Company (EITC), in their commitment to deploy Open RAN across their footprint and enhance supreme network experiences for end-users.

The Middle East lab will provide a platform for the parties to jointly deploy open and disaggregated technologies into their networks to optimise the online experiences of businesses and consumers.

Flexible, interoperable and standards-based solutions such as OpenRAN present a compelling opportunity for operators to become more efficient in meeting the ever-growing need for high bandwidth, low latency, and advanced connectivity.

The lab will provide shared facilities and access to the most innovative Intel technologies for members and vendors, and catalyst for OpenRAN deployments.

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Mohamed Al Marzooqi, Vice President, Technology Synergies, e& said: "More than ever, our customers rely on high-quality connectivity for their daily requirements. The need for such smart connectivity will only increase in the future. I'm delighted to witness more operators from our region partnering with us in our efforts to position the Middle East as a global leader in developing and deploying such innovative network solutions."

"e& is committed to supporting technology and service innovation within the markets where we operate, through our participation in TIP and our partnership with Intel. We strongly believe open technologies present the right prospects to achieve this, while helping enhance the flexibility and efficiency of our networks," he added.

Welcoming Batelco and OmanTel, Nawaf Al Gharabally, Group's Chief Technology Officer at Zain said: "Through broad regional alignment on OpenRAN and standardisation over Intel technologies, we will provide a clear demand signal to the industry that reflects the needs of our respective markets and customers."

"The new [Open RAN Labs] is a testament to this. We will work together through this collaborative hub to find solutions that address the specific use cases we encounter in the Middle East and are an essential component to faster commercial deployments. We urge all regional players to join us in this drive to deliver new and innovative solutions," he noted.

On the operator collaboration, Rashid Mohamed, General Manager Networks, Batelco said: "This alignment of operators on OpenRAN is a milestone for the telecommunications ecosystem in the Middle East. It will create a more competitive and robust supply chain, leading to faster 5G deployment, network efficiencies, opportunities for new technology vendors, and unlock advanced services for customers."

"We are pleased to join other like-minded and leading organisations in amplifying innovative opportunities in the region," he stated.

Bernhard Merwe, CTO, OmanTel, said: "OmanTel is excited to be joining this ground-breaking MoU. This is an initiative that will help us deliver on our mission to provide the highest quality connectivity to our customers while also benefiting from the shared experiences of our community in deploying open network technologies."

"We see a clear opportunity to enhance the way we work with the vendor community and build a more resilient and diverse ecosystem that benefits the region as well as our industry," he added.

Hisham Alabdaly, GM Infrastructure Design, stc said: "By partnering with TIP, Intel and the operator community in the Middle East, we are helping pioneer a new and innovative approach to developing the solutions that align with our strategic goals and best support the present and future needs of our customers."

"In doing so, we are also supporting the growth of our local ICT sectors because open network technologies like OpenRAN provide a trusted avenue for new entrants in both the hardware and software space to work with service providers," he added.

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Referring to the partnerships among regional mobile operators, Caroline Chan, VP, Network and Edge Group & TIP Board Member, Intel said: "This is a great example of how industry collaboration can accelerate the shift toward a software-defined infrastructure at the network edge. A virtualised, Open RAN is an area of tremendous innovation, which can be further propelled by leveraging Intel's FlexRAN reference architecture with optimised software and hardware components. The lab opens new possibilities to innovate 5G services that can accelerate the digital transformation in the Middle East."

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"While specific use cases may differ depending on the region, the need for these technologies is universal. TIP and Intel play a key role in this context, bringing together stakeholders from across the world, such as the MoU signatories, to accelerate the development of a critical mass of open and disaggregated network solutions in response to operators' needs," observed Mathur.

"We hope to see more regional initiatives that leverage TIP and welcome all industry organisations to join our efforts to advance global connectivity," he added.

Document TRADAR0020220302ei3200106

**INSEEGO 5G MIFI M2000 SOLD IN SAUDI ARABIA.**

531 words
1 March 2022
Connectivity News
MUNW
NA
Volume 34; Issue 3
English
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The Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 mobile hotspot has been sold in Saudi Arabia by Zain KSA, a member of the Zain Group, one of the largest Group mobile network operators in the Middle East delivering mobile voice and data services to over 48 million customers. Winner of dozens of awards and accolades, including the 2022 CES Innovation Honoree award, the MiFi M2000 puts reliable, lightning-fast 5G and Wi-Fi 6 into the hands of Zain KSA business and consumer customers, with best-in-class performance capable of delivering gigabit internet speeds and robust security.

The 5G MiFi M2000 is purpose-built for a reliable broadband experience. Unlike a smartphoneÃ¢s hotspot feature, which is intended only for quick, temporary ==connectivity==, the MiFi M2000 allows an entire family to connect all their Wi-Fi ==devices== simultaneously, and provides mobile and remote business staff with a secure, reliable all-day* connection.

The MiFi M2000 provides:

Ã¢Â¢ Faster throughput with Wi-Fi 6 Ã¢ With increased capacity, customers can experience up to 4x greater throughput per user* and significantly faster speeds compared to Wi-Fi 5, providing reliable, simultaneous data-intensive internet connectivity. The MiFi M2000 can connect up to 30 Wi-Fi devices, along with a USB-C port for direct tethering.

Ã¢Â¢ Enterprise-grade security Ã¢ Designed and developed in the USA, the 5G MiFi M2000 series provides multiple layers of security, with no back doors. Features include the latest WPA 3 Wi-Fi security protocol, advanced encryption, hacker prevention, password protection, Guest Wi-Fi network, VPN pass-through, Open VPN, a hardened web interface and more.

Ã¢Â¢ All-day connectivity, at home or on the go Ã¢ With its sleek, compact design, long battery life, fast recharging, and built-in power bank to charge a userÃ¢s phone or tablet, the MiFi M2000 is flexible enough to take on the road or short vacation stays to power Wi- Fi connections all day.*

Ã¢Â¢ Hassle-free connectivity so that users can turn any Wi-Fi enabled device into a 5G powerhouse, easily Ã¢ With a large 2.4Ã¢ touchscreen color display and simple menus supporting multiple languages, the plug-and-play 5G MiFi M2000 makes it easy to customize settings, view important information and connect up to 30 Wi-Fi enabled devices, including laptops, smartphones and tablets.

Ã¢Â¢ Support for multiple languages, including Arabic

About Inseego Corp.

Inseego Corp. is an industry provider of smart device-to- cloud solutions that extend the 5G network edge, enabling broader 5G coverage, multi-gigabit data speeds, low latency and strong security to deliver highly reliable internet access. InseegoÃ¢s mobile broadband, fixed wireless access (FWA) solutions and software platform incorporate the most advanced technologies (including 5G, 4G LTE, Wi-Fi 6 and others) into a range of products that provide connectivity indoors, outdoors and in the harshest industrial environments. Designed and developed in the USA, Inseego products and SaaS solutions build on the companyÃ¢s patented technologies to provide wireless connectivity for service provider, enterprise, and government entities worldwide.

For more information, visit [www.inseego.com](http://www.inseego.com) or call 212/868-6760

Document MUNW000020220223ei3100005

**MTC, EIF to establish community seedbank project in Kavango West**

Donald Matthys
266 words
23 February 2022
Namibia Economist
NAMBCO
English

Mobile Telecommunications Company, MTC, and the Environment **Investment** Fund (EIF) will jointly avail N$400,000 for the establishment of a community seedbank in the Ncuncuni constituency's Sarukwe village in the Kavango West Region.

This comes after an agreement was signed between the two organisations in September 2021 to pool their resources for some corporate social responsibility projects.

Environmental Commissioner, Timoteus Mufeti said this partnership would go a long way in assisting the government to build on the 5000 generic seeds that are already stored at the National Botanical Research Institute.

EIF Chief Executive, Benedict Libanda said Namibia is recovering from an unprecedented drought period that has been ongoing for eight years and the ecosystem is deteriorating as a result of the contestant and intensive farming, and climate change, putting biodiversity at risk.

"Hence conserving our generic resources is essential if we are to counter those trends that are threatening our biodiversity. It is fascinating that very old plant accessions that are housed here serve as a priceless reserve for the agricultural sector and that they can restore plant resources if wiped out by severe weather or disease," Libanda said.

The MTC-EIF partnership will cover three areas that being the Seedbank initiative, Cleaning Campaign and Early Warning System in the Kunene Region.

"MTC believes that environmental sustainability is everybody's responsibility and because MTC wants to preserve and sustain life and this can only be done through initiatives of this kind," MTC's Chief Human Capital and Corporate Services Officer, Tim Ekandjo said.

Document NAMBCO0020220227ei2n0000n

**Approval for PIF-led acquisition of telecom towers**

James Hebert
188 words
21 February 2022
IJ Global
PTF
English
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Zain Group has approved a SR3.026 billion ($807 million) offer from a Public **Investment** Fund-led consortium to acquire an 80% majority stake in Zain KSA's fleet of 8,069 passive tower **infrastructure**.

The offer was submitted in September 2021 and due diligence and compliance with regulations have now been completed.

"Zain KSA will sell its passive, physical towers infrastructure and retain all other wireless communication antennas, software, technology, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network," Zain Group said in a release.

The ownership structure of the towers infra will resemble:

* Zain KSA - 20%

* PIF - 60%

* Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz - 10%

* Sultan Holding Company - 10%

The last 2 entities were additional members of the PIF-led consortium.

The transaction is expected to provide Zain KSA with additional capital to invest in new telecoms infra technology, in order to improve its mobile and data services. The PIF's investment in the Saudi telecoms sector is the government's indirect use of state resources to achieve the conditions of its Vision 2030 initiative.

Document PTF0000020220314ei2l0000l

**THE JOURNAL OF ENGINEERING**
IET Open Access Research

**Inseego Corp. Inseego 5G MiFi(R) M2000 Now Sold at Zain KSA in Saudi Arabia**

817 words
21 February 2022
Journal of Engineering
JOENG
259
English

2022 FEB 21 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Journal of Engineering -- Inseego Corp. (Nasdaq: INSG), a leader in 5G and smart device-to-<mark>cloud</mark> solutions, announced the Inseego 5G MiFi(R) M2000 mobile hotspot is now being sold in Saudi Arabia by Zain KSA, a member of the Zain Group, one of the largest Group mobile network operators in the Middle East delivering mobile voice and data services to over 48 million customers. Winner of dozens of awards and accolades, including the 2022 CES Innovation Honoree award, the MiFi M2000 puts reliable, lightning-fast 5G and Wi-Fi 6 into the hands of Zain KSA business and consumer customers, with best-in-class performance capable of delivering gigabit internet speeds and robust security. This press release features multimedia. View the full release here: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220208005499/en/Award-winning Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 brings gigabit speeds to Zain KSA customers in Saudi Arabia.

(Graphic: Business Wire) "We're proud to provide our award-winning 5G mobile broadband solution to Zain KSA customers. This is Inseego's first 5G launch in Saudi Arabia, and we look forward to growing our relationship with Zain by providing 5G solutions that are packed with advanced features," said Simon Rayne, Inseego Senior Vice President and Managing Director for UK, EMEA, and Asia-Pacific. "The M2000 is a powerful solution for both personal and business use, from remote work to education to streaming entertainment and gaming - all with fast, reliable, secure internet access." The 5G MiFi M2000 is purpose-built for a reliable broadband experience. Unlike a smartphone's hotspot feature, which is intended only for quick, temporary connectivity, the MiFi M2000 allows an entire family to connect all their Wi-Fi devices simultaneously, and provides mobile and remote business staff with a secure, reliable all-day* connection. The MiFi M2000 provides: Faster throughput with Wi-Fi 6 - With increased capacity, customers can experience up to 4x greater throughput per user* and significantly faster speeds compared to Wi-Fi 5, providing reliable, simultaneous data-intensive internet connectivity. The MiFi M2000 can connect up to 30 Wi-Fi devices, along with a USB-C port for direct tethering. Enterprise-grade security - Designed and developed in the USA, the 5G MiFi M2000 series provides multiple layers of security, with no back doors. Features include the latest WPA 3 Wi-Fi security protocol, advanced encryption, hacker prevention, password protection, Guest Wi-Fi network, VPN pass-through, Open VPN, a hardened web interface and more. All-day connectivity, at home or on the go - With its sleek, compact design, long battery life, fast recharging, and built-in power bank to charge a user's phone or tablet, the MiFi M2000 is flexible enough to take on the road or short vacation stays to power Wi-Fi connections all day.* Hassle-free connectivity so that users can turn any Wi-Fi enabled device into a 5G powerhouse, easily - With a large 2.4" touchscreen color display and simple menus supporting multiple languages, the plug-and-play 5G MiFi M2000 makes it easy to customize settings, view important information and connect up to 30 Wi-Fi enabled devices, including laptops, smartphones and tablets. Support for multiple languages, including Arabic

*Actual speeds and coverage may vary. 4x higher Wi-Fi 6 throughput per user when multiple devices are connected. Battery life and charge time may vary depending on the number of connected devices and activity. Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 chipset: Qualcomm(R) Snapdragon(R) X55 5G Modem-RF System. To learn more about Inseego 5G solutions or schedule an executive interview, please contact press@inseego.com. About Inseego Corp. Inseego Corp. (Nasdaq: INSG) is an industry leader in smart device-to-cloud solutions that extend the 5G network edge, enabling broader 5G coverage, multi-gigabit data speeds, low latency and strong security to deliver highly reliable internet access. Inseego's mobile broadband, fixed wireless access (FWA) solutions and software platform incorporate the most advanced technologies (including 5G, 4G LTE, Wi-Fi 6 and others) into a wide range of innovative products that provide robust connectivity indoors, outdoors and in the harshest industrial environments. Designed and developed in the USA, Inseego products and SaaS solutions build on the company's patented technologies to provide the highest quality wireless connectivity for service provider, enterprise, and government entities worldwide. www.inseego.com #Putting5GtoWork (c)2022 Inseego Corp. All rights reserved. The Inseego name and logo is a registered trademark of Inseego Corp. View source version on businesswire.com: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220208005499/en/

Keywords for this news article include: Business, Networks, Technology, Electronics, Cybersecurity, Inseego Corp., Mobile Broadband.

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Document JOENG00020220221ei2l000ol

**Zain Kuwait offers carrier billing for mobile ==gaming platform== Gizer**

147 words
21 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

Zain Kuwait has announced a ==partnership== with global ==gaming platform== Gizer, which that connects players to popular and competitive mobile ==gaming== titles. As part of the Zain Esports network and through Direct Operator Billing (DOB) run by SLA Digital, Zain customers can now subscribe to Gizer and enjoy playing various mobile games. Customers can select from a range of subscription plans without the need to use bank cards as the fee is added to the postpaid customer's bill or deducted from the prepaid customer's balance.

Zain Kuwait customers can download the Gizer app to play their favourite games, earn rewards, compete in head-to-head challenges, rank in leaderboards, live stream games and chat with friends. Popular titles including "Clash Royale", "Brawl Stars", "Critical Ops", "Call of Duty Mobile", "PUBG Battlegrounds" and "Fortnite Battle Royale".

Document TELEAST020220221ei2l0002t

# THE CAPITAL QUEST

Private Equity
**PIF leads $807 mn deal for Zain's tower biz, invests in digital bank D360**

Team CQ
470 words
18 February 2022
The Capital Quest
CPLQST
English
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A consortium of investors led by the Saudi Arabian sovereign wealth fund Public **Investment** Fund (PIF) is set to acquire 80% of the tower **infrastructure** assets of telecom firm Zain KSA for about $807 million.

The board of Zain KSA, the Saudi arm of the Kuwaiti telecom major Zain Group, approved the sale of 8,069 towers to PIF, Prince Saud Bin Fahad, and the Sultan Holding Company.

PIF itself will acquire 60% of the towers while the other two investors will snag 10% each. Zain KSA will own the remaining 20% towers.

The announcement comes more than five months after the PIF-led consortium made an offer for Zain KSA's towers.

PIF's final offer includes a call option that will grant it the right to buy the remaining 20% stake from Zain KSA for an undisclosed amount.

Zain KSA, Saudi Arabia's second-largest telecom company, hopes that by exiting most of its tower business, it will be able to manage its business in the kingdom more sustainably. It will make the company's business more capex-light and help it channel more money towards value added services for its customers.

"The proceeds of this sale will enhance the company's financial liquidity and profitability … the unlocking of capital to focus on higher yielding digital investments and optimisation of infrastructure that creates internal efficiencies is a core element of Zain's transformational '4Sight' strategy," said Bader Al Kharafi, vice chairman of Zain KSA.

Before Saudi Arabia, Zain had also offloaded its tower businesses in Jordan and its home country Kuwait.

For PIF, this is a strategic buy, aligned to the kingdom's Vision 2030 goal, to diversify its economy away from oil and gas and into tech-enabled sectors.

D360 bank

In another transaction, PIF has decided to back newly minted digital bank D360 with a $440 million (SAR 1.65 billion) investment. This comes after the kingdom's cabinet approved a licence for the bank.

The new bank is backed by a consortium of individual and corporate investors led by Derayah Financial Company, according to a statement, which also said that PIF was one of its key investors.

D360 is the third digital bank to be licensed by the kingdom, as it looks to digitise and diversify its economy in line with the country's Vision 2030 program.

The first two digital banks to receive licences were the STC Bank and the Saudi Digital Bank; both were cleared by the Saudi cabinet in June last year.

In November last year, Saudi authorities said more digital banks would be granted licences. Apart from digital banks, 19 licences have been approved for payment services, consumer microfinance and digital insurance brokerage.

Document CPLQST0020220218ei2i0005o

**Zain Iraq and Unicef join forces to help children and promote maternal health**

117 words
17 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Zain Iraq and Unicef have signed a three-year <mark>partnership</mark> to adopt joint work plans in children's <mark>education</mark>, child health and nutrition, social protection, water and sanitation and youth engagement. Unicef will use Zain's network and digital services to communicate with young people and children in Iraq with critical information and run surveys to improve Unicef schemes.

The <mark>partnership</mark> will support over 5 million children under five years old and 2 million women by promoting maternal, newborn and child health digital initiatives. It will also provide at least 1,000 youths in Iraq with opportunities to reach their full potential through <mark>education</mark> and engagement opportunities.

Document TELEAST020220217ei2h000b5

**Mobile Telecommunications Company Saudi Arabia**
MarketLine Company Profiles, 16 February 2022, 1389 words, (English)
Mobile Telecommunications Company Saudi ArabiaMobile Telecommunication Co Saudi Arabia ( Zain KSA), offers telecommunications products and services. The company's products include smart phones, car accessories, modem, power bank, headset, ...

**Zain KSA sells 80 pct <mark>infrastructure</mark> stake worth $807 million to PIF, investors**

357 words
16 February 2022
Al Arabiya
ALARAB
English

Zain KSA has approved the sale of over 8,000 tower <mark>infrastructure</mark> to the Saudi Public <mark>Investment</mark> Fund (PIF) and a consortium of investors, according to a statement issued by the telecommunications company on Wednesday.

Zain KSA is a mobile telecommunications company based in Saudi Arabia that is publicly traded on the Saudi Stock Exchange, Tadawul.

Advertisement

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The sale marks an 80 percent stake for the investors and has reportedly been valued at $807 million (SAR 3,026 million).

Of the investors who have own a stake, PIF will acquire 60 percent, while Prince Saud Bin Fahad and Sultan Holding Company will each receive a 10 percent stake.

The remaining 20 percent will be owned by Zain KSA, with a call option from the PIF that reserves the right for it to buy Zain KSA's stake at an undisclosed price.

The statement from Zain KSA said: "The deal builds on PIF's strategy to develop the Kingdom's innovation capabilities and to position it as a globally competitive hub for technology, media, and telecom (TMT)."

Meanwhile, a statement from PIF said: "The Fund aims to enhance and develop the technology, media & telecom sector, one of PIF's strategic sectors domestically, by localizing cutting-edge technology and knowledge in line with Saudi Vision 2030."

The deal will also "help Zain KSA move to a capex light model and focus its investments on innovation and value-added services" said the statement, adding that "the final offers are subject to obtaining required regulatory approvals and completing other necessary conditions as agreed between PIF, the consortium and Zain KSA."

Shares of Zain KSA have risen by 10.91 percent over the past month and recorded a 2.06 percent increase after news of the sale broke.

Four Saudi women listed in Forbes top 50 most powerful businesswomen

Saudi Telecom sets up new wholly-owned entity for data centers, cable assets

LEAP 2022: Huawei announces plans to build new cloud region in Saudi Arabia

Document ALARAB0020220217ei2g00013

# telecompaper

**Zain KSA confirms deal to sell over 8,000 towers for SAR 3 bln to PIF**

Zain Saudi Arabia (Zain KSA) has approved the binding offer submitted by a consortium led by the country's Public **Investment** Fund (PIF) to acquire an 80 percent majority stake in Zain's 8,069 passive towers **infrastructure** for a value of SAR 3.026 billion (USD 807 million). The companies first announced a preliminary agreement last September.

The consortium offer will see the PIF acquiring a 60 percent stake, Sultan Holding Company acquiring 10 percent, and Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz acquiring 10 percent. Zain KSA will own the remaining 20 percent stake, with the PIF having a call option to buy this 20 percent for a specified amount.

Zain KSA will sell its passive, physical towers infrastructure and retain all other wireless communication antennas, software, technology, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

PIF is already an investor in the telecom sector, as the controlling shareholder of Saudi Telecom Co. The latter already spun off its towers in a separate company, Tawal, after previously considering a joint venture with the other operators.

The latest transaction follows an in-depth evaluation to complete due diligence and ensure compliance with the Kingdom's regulatory requirements and obtain the necessary approvals, and is in line with the strategy to develop the local ICT sector and localize the related technologies in the country, Zain said. The completion of this transaction in Saudi Arabia follows similar tower deals by Zain at its operations in Kuwait and Jordan.

Document TELEAST020220216ei2g00001

**Zain KSA sells 80% stake in tower ==infrastructure== operations to PIF-led consortium for $807mn**

Kuwaiti mobile operator Zain has agreed to sell an 80% majority stake in the Saudi tower ==infrastructure== operations of Zain KSA to an investors' consortium led by the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund Public ==Investment== Fund (PIF) for SAR3.026bn ($807mn).

The consortium offer will see the PIF acquiring a stake of 60%, Sultan Holding Company 10% and Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz 10%. Zain KSA will own the remaining 20% stake, with the PIF having a call option to buy this 20% for a specified amount.

Zain KSA will sell its passive physical tower infrastructure –comprising 8,069 towers – but will retain all other wireless communication antennas, software, technology, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

The transaction will help enhance the efforts of both Zain KSA and PIF to upgrade the Kingdom's ICT ecosystem, by maximising the efficiency of the tower infrastructure through the combined expertise of Zain KSA and the PIF to enhance the sector's efficiency and financial feasibility, Zain KSA said in a regulatory filing.

Document BNEINT0020220216ei2g001s1

**Zain Saudi to sell 8,069 tower <mark>infrastructure</mark> for $807m to PIF**

373 words
15 February 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Leading telecom group Zain has announced that the board of directors of its Saudi unit (Zain KSA) has approved the binding offer submitted by a consortium led by the kingdom's sovereign wealth fund Public <mark>Investment</mark> Fund (PIF) to acquire a 80% majority stake in its 8,069 passive tower <mark>infrastructure</mark> for SR3.026 billion ($807 million).

The consortium offer will see the PIF acquiring a 60% stake, Sultan Holding Company acquiring 10%, and Prince Saud bin Fahd bin Abdulaziz acquiring 10%.

Zain KSA will own the remaining 20% stake, with the PIF having a call option to buy this remaining 20% for a specified amount, said the statement from the leading telecom group.

Zain KSA will sell its passive, physical towers infrastructure and retain all other wireless communication antennas, software, technology, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

This transaction follows an in-depth evaluation to complete due diligence and ensure compliance with the kingdom's regulatory requirements and obtain the necessary approvals, and is in line with the strategy to develop the local Information and Communication Technology (ICT) sector and localize the related technologies in the kingdom.

This step will enhance the efforts of both Zain KSA and PIF to upgrade the Kingdom's ICT ecosystem, by maximizing the efficiency of the tower infrastructure through the combined expertise of Zain KSA and the PIF to enhance the sector's efficiency and financial feasibility.

Bader Al Kharafi, Zain Vice Chairman and Group CEO, and Zain KSA Vice-Chairman, said: "This transaction creates enormous shareholder value and gives Zain KSA greater financial muscle to invest in cutting-edge technologies and innovation that enhance the customer mobile and data experience."

"We congratulate the Kingdom's leadership, the PIF and regulatory authorities for their wisdom in creating an environment that raises the telecom sector to new heights in line with Saudi Vision 2030," he stated.

Al Kharafi said: "The proceeds of this sale will enhance the company's financial liquidity and profitability. The completion of this transaction in Saudi Arabia, follows similar pioneering tower deals Zain has completed in its operations in Kuwait and Jordan," he added.-TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020220215ei2f001gu

**BRIEF-Zain Saudi Approves Final Offers To Acquire Stakes In Zain Ksa's Towers <mark>Infrastructure</mark>**

197 words
15 February 2022
13:07
Reuters News
LBA
English

Feb 15 (Reuters) - MOBILE TELECOMMUNICATIONS COMPANY SAUDI ARABIA:

* UPDATE ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS' APPROVAL OF THE OFFERS RECEIVED FROM THE PUBLIC <mark>INVESTMENT</mark> FUND ("PIF"), HRH PRINCE SAUD BIN FAHAD, AND SULTAN HOLDING COMPANY, TO ACQUIRE STAKES IN THE ZAIN KSA TOWERS <mark>INFRASTRUCTURE</mark>

* APPROVED FINAL OFFERS WERE TO ACQUIRE STAKES IN ZAIN KSA'S TOWERS INFRASTRUCTURE COMPRISING OF 8,069 TOWERS, VALUING THESE ASSETS AT SAR 3,026 MILLION (USD 807 MILLION).

* PURSUANT TO THE FINAL OFFERS, PIF, HRH PRINCE SAUD BIN FAHAD, AND SULTAN HOLDING COMPANY WILL ACQUIRE 60%, 10%, AND 10% STAKES IN THE TOWER INFRASTRUCTURE, RESPECTIVELY

* ZAIN KSA WILL OWN THE REMAINING 20% STAKE

* PIF'S FINAL OFFER ALSO INCLUDES A CALL OPTION THAT WILL GRANT PIF THE RIGHT TO BUY THE REMAINING 20% STAKE FROM ZAIN KSA FOR A CERTAIN AMOUNT.

* UNDER TERMS OF FINAL OFFERS, ZAIN KSA WILL SELL ITS PASSIVE, PHYSICAL TOWERS INFRASTRUCTURE

* UNDER TERMS OF FINAL OFFERS, ZAIN KSA WILL RETAIN ALL OTHER WIRELESS COMMUNICATION ANTENNAS, SOFTWARE, TECHNOLOGY, AND INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY Source text for Eikon: Further company coverage:

Released: 2022-2-15T14:07:29.000Z

Document LBA0000020220215ei2f02que

**Nokia partners Zain KSA to expand, enhance its digital ==infrastructure==**

CT Bureau
Distributed by Contify.com
410 words
11 February 2022
Communications Today
ATCOMT
English
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Nokia announced that it has signed an agreement with Zain KSA to expand the operator's digital ==infrastructure== and enhance its network capabilities covering all regions of the Kingdom. The agreement was signed during the LEAP global technology event in Riyadh and organized by the Saudi Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT).

The agreement will contribute to enhancing Zain KSA's network coverage while empowering its customers by providing advanced digital services with high-bandwidth and low-latency technologies for the best broadband and communications experience. This agreement is in line with Zain KSA's initiatives to position the Saudi telecom sector on a global scale and transform it into a major enabler to achieve the objectives of the Saudi Vision 2030 such as comprehensive digital transformation, transfer and localization of knowledge and technology and improving the quality of life.

The agreement covers a range of Nokia solutions, including AirScale Radio, Wavence Microwave, NetAct and EdenNet Self-Organizing Networks (SON), to improve coverage and network performance. Nokia is applying carrier aggregation and massive Multiple Input Multiple Output (mMIMO) technology approaches to help Zain KSA enhance network capacity while continuing to support better end user experience.

Eng. Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al-Mufadda, Chief Technology Officer at Zain KSA, said: "Innovation, empowerment and localization are the driving force behind our introduction of next generation technologies. We recognize the importance of strategic partnerships with major global companies such as Nokia. Through this partnership announced at LEAP, we will collaborate with Nokia to further develop technologies, use cases and multiple applications that will further contribute to the enhancement of the services our network provides. This will open up new horizons for the future of technology which will be based on cloud computing services, AI services, Internet of Things (IoT) technologies, smart cities, fintech and others."

Eng. Mohammed Al-Keridy, Head of Zain KSA Customer Team at Nokia, said: "We are proud of our long-term relationship with Zain KSA and pleased to be part of its journey to support the Kingdom's transition to a comprehensive digital transformation for socio-economic development by empowering individuals, businesses and government agencies with Nokia's latest, most reliable innovative technologies and products. We are confident that our solutions will help Zain KSA provide differentiated services and the best possible experience for its customers, strengthening the company's presence in the country."

Document ATCOMT0020220211ei2b0002t

**Zain announces launch of Murooj Al Zain project in Salalah**

Zain Property Development announced the launch of Murooj Al Zain project which will be developed in Salalah. The project, which was announced at a <mark>virtual event</mark> through the company's social media channels, will be a valuable addition to Zain Property Development projects and will support its vision to expand its projects across the Sultanate of Oman. The event also saw the launch of Zain's Mobile App, which is the first of its kind in the Sultanate of Oman. Mish'al bin Mohammed al Raisi (pictured), Executive Manager of Zain Property Development, noted, 'Murooj Al Zain project will be our first project in the Governorate of Dhofar, and we are confident that the project will add value to the real estate sector in the Sultanate of Oman and it will meet the growing demands in Salalah. As we all know that Salalah not only attracts tourists, but also opens large <mark>investment</mark> opportunities.

We look ahead to see the completion of the project successfully.' Murooj Al Zain is located nearby the Millennium Hotel and Salalah Grand Mall, and it is only 15 minutes' drive away from Salalah Airport. It is one of Zain Property Development projects that aims to create a distinctive community environment. The Murooj Al Zain project contains 292 apartment units with a variety of spaces ranging from 78 square metres to 133 square metres at competitive prices starting from RO 27,000 to RO 42,500. Each apartment has a garden or a private external space. Ground floor apartments have a private garden, upper floor apartments with spacious balconies and a terrace on the top floors. All apartments have stunning views, and a car park is allocated for each apartment. The project also features a 2,500-square-metre public park, with playgrounds and a pool for children, as well as a cafe, local fruits shop and sitting areas throughout the park. In addition to other services and facilities on the project, including two gyms and two separate private swimming pools for men and women, and a 24- hour security service is available. With the aim of providing all Zain Property Development updates at the fingertips, the company has developed a mobile application which was announced at the ceremony. The first of its kind App in the Sultanate of Oman is designed to facilitate executing real estate transactions, which translated Zain's vision towards digital transformation. Elaborating on the App, Mish'al al Raisi, commented: 'The mobile App is a very positive step towards digitalising our services. Through the App, the users will be able to search our property listing, book, buy and pay at their convenience. We are introducing a new concept in the real estate sector, where the users may view the full details and facilities of the listed units 24/7.' Expressing its recognition to the customers for being part of Zain's family through the purchase of a property, Zain announced the 'Zain Partners' Rewards Programme. Designed with various benefits and offers, the programme provides rewards and special discounts to the customers.

Document OMDLOB0020220210ei2900021

**Inseego 5G MiFi goes on sale at Zain KSA**

101 words
8 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

Inseego announced the Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 mobile hotspot is now being sold in Saudi Arabia by Zain KSA. The MiFi M2000 puts 5G and Wi-Fi 6 into the hands of Zain KSA business and consumer customers, with a performance capable of delivering gigabit internet speeds and robust security.

Unlike a smartphone's hotspot feature, which is intended only for quick, temporary ==connectivity==, the MiFi M2000 allows an entire family to connect all their Wi-Fi ==devices== simultaneously, and provides mobile and remote business staff with a secure, all-day connection.

Document TELEAST020220208ei28000dx

**Executives Buy Over $6M Of 5 Penny Stocks**

Although gold prices traded slightly lower to below $1,820 an ounce on Tuesday ahead of US inflation data due later in the week, there were a few notable insider trades.

When insiders purchase or sell shares, it indicates their confidence or concern around the company's prospects. Investors and traders interested in penny stocks can consider this a factor in their overall **investment** or trading decision.

Below is a look at a few recent notable insider transactions for penny stocks. For more, check out Benzingas insider transactions platform.

Evolving Systems

* The Trade: Evolving Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ: EVOL) 10% owner Evolving Systems acquired a total of 12,598 shares at an average price of $1.85. To acquire these shares, it cost $23.25 thousand.

* What's Happening: Evolving Systems recently reported a strategic collaboration with Zain Saudi Arabia to deliver a key component of its new Loyalty offering.

* What Evolving Systems Does: Evolving Systems Inc provides real-time digital engagement solutions and services. It offers services to the wireless carrier and consumer financial services markets.

Cyclo Therapeutics

* The Trade: Cyclo Therapeutics, Inc. (NASDAQ: CYTH) CEO N. Scott Fine acquired a total of 10,334 shares at an average price of $3.58. The insider spent around $37 thousand to buy those shares.

* What's Happening: Cyclo Therapeutics recently filed for U.S. patent titled 'Methods For Treating Alzheimer's Disease.'

* What Cyclo Therapeutics Does: Cyclo Therapeutics Inc is a clinical-stage biotechnology firm. The company develops cyclodextrin-based products for the treatment of disease.

Also check this: PayPal And 3 Other Stocks Bought By Insiders

Genworth Financial

* The Trade: Genworth Financial, Inc. (NYSE: GNW) Director Robert Restrepo Jr acquired a total of 50,000 shares at an average price of $3.93. To acquire these shares, it cost $196.65 thousand.

* What's Happening: The company recently posted upbeat quarterly earnings.

* What Genworth Financial Does: Genworth Financial is a diversified insurance holding company that provides various mortgage and life insurance products.

loanDepot

* The Trade: loanDepot, Inc. (NYSE: LDI) CEO Anthony Li Hsieh acquired a total of 1,584,611 shares at an average price of $3.68. The insider spent $5.83 million to buy those shares.

* What's Happening: LoanDepot recently reported worse-than-expected Q4 EPS results.

* What loanDepot Does: loanDepot Inc was incorporated in Delaware on July 10, 2015. The Company provides nonbank consumer lending solutions for individuals in the United States.

Regulus Therapeutics

* The Trade: Regulus Therapeutics Inc. (NASDAQ: RGLS) Chief Scientific Officer Denis Drygin acquired a total of 23,314 shares at an average price of $0.23. The insider spent $5.36 thousand to buy those shares.

* What's Happening: Regulus Therapeutics recently completed a pre-investigational new drug (Pre-IND) meeting with the FDA to obtain input on the Company's RGLS8429 for Autosomal Dominant Polycystic Kidney Disease (ADPKD).

* What Regulus Therapeutics Does: Regulus Therapeutics Inc is a biotechnology company focused on the development of microRNA therapies. MicroRNA therapies target diseases such as cancer, metabolic diseases, fibrosis, and inflammatory diseases.

Document BNZNGA0020220208ei28000s3

**Inseego 5G MiFi(R) M2000 Now Sold at Zain KSA in Saudi Arabia**

819 words
8 February 2022
13:00
Business Wire
BWR
English
(c) 2022 Business Wire. All Rights Reserved.

SAN DIEGO--( BUSINESS WIRE)--February 08, 2022--
Inseego Corp. (Nasdaq: INSG), a leader in 5G and smart device-to-cloud solutions, today announced the Inseego 5G MiFi(R) M2000 mobile hotspot is now being sold in Saudi Arabia by Zain KSA, a member of the Zain Group, one of the largest Group mobile network operators in the Middle East delivering mobile voice and data services to over 48 million customers. Winner of dozens of awards and accolades, including the 2022 CES Innovation Honoree award, the MiFi M2000 puts reliable, lightning-fast 5G and Wi-Fi 6 into the hands of Zain KSA business and consumer customers, with best-in-class performance capable of delivering gigabit internet speeds and robust security.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here:
https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220208005499/en/

Award-winning Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 brings gigabit speeds to Zain KSA customers in Saudi Arabia. (Graphic: Business Wire)

"We're proud to provide our award-winning 5G mobile broadband solution to Zain KSA customers. This is Inseego's first 5G launch in Saudi Arabia, and we look forward to growing our relationship with Zain by providing 5G solutions that are packed with advanced features," said Simon Rayne, Inseego Senior Vice President and Managing Director for UK, EMEA, and Asia-Pacific. "The M2000 is a powerful solution for both personal and business use, from remote work to education to streaming entertainment and gaming -- all with fast, reliable, secure internet access."

The 5G MiFi M2000 is purpose-built for a reliable broadband experience. Unlike a smartphone's hotspot feature, which is intended only for quick, temporary connectivity, the MiFi M2000 allows an entire family to connect all their Wi-Fi devices simultaneously, and provides mobile and remote business staff with a secure, reliable all-day* connection.

The MiFi M2000 provides:

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    -- Faster throughput with Wi-Fi 6 -- With increased capacity, customers can
       experience up to 4x greater throughput per user* and significantly faster
       speeds compared to Wi-Fi 5, providing reliable, simultaneous
       data-intensive internet connectivity. The MiFi M2000 can connect up to 30
       Wi-Fi devices, along with a USB-C port for direct tethering.
    -- Enterprise-grade security -- Designed and developed in the USA, the 5G
       MiFi M2000 series provides multiple layers of security, with no back
       doors. Features include the latest WPA 3 Wi-Fi security protocol,
       advanced encryption, hacker prevention, password protection, Guest Wi-Fi
       network, VPN pass-through, Open VPN, a hardened web interface and more.
    -- All-day connectivity, at home or on the go -- With its sleek, compact
       design, long battery life, fast recharging, and built-in power bank to
       charge a user's phone or tablet, the MiFi M2000 is flexible enough to
       take on the road or short vacation stays to power Wi-Fi connections all
       day. *
    -- Hassle-free connectivity so that users can turn any Wi-Fi enabled device
       into a 5G powerhouse, easily -- With a large 2.4" touchscreen color
       display and simple menus supporting multiple languages, the plug-and-play
       5G MiFi M2000 makes it easy to customize settings, view important
       information and connect up to 30 Wi-Fi enabled devices, including laptops,
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        smartphones and tablets.

   -- Support for multiple languages, including Arabic
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*Actual speeds and coverage may vary. 4x higher Wi-Fi 6 throughput per user when multiple devices are connected. Battery life and charge time may vary depending on the number of connected devices and activity. Inseego 5G MiFi M2000 chipset: Qualcomm(R) Snapdragon(R) X55 5G Modem-RF System.

To learn more about Inseego 5G solutions or schedule an executive interview, please contact press@inseego.com.

About Inseego Corp.

Inseego Corp. (Nasdaq: INSG) is an industry leader in smart device-to-cloud solutions that extend the 5G network edge, enabling broader 5G coverage, multi-gigabit data speeds, low latency and strong security to deliver highly reliable internet access. Inseego's mobile broadband, fixed wireless access (FWA) solutions and software platform incorporate the most advanced technologies (including 5G, 4G LTE, Wi-Fi 6 and others) into a wide range of innovative products that provide robust connectivity indoors, outdoors and in the harshest industrial environments. Designed and developed in the USA, Inseego products and SaaS solutions build on the company's patented technologies to provide the highest quality wireless connectivity for service provider, enterprise, and government entities worldwide. www.inseego.com #Putting5GtoWork

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View source version on businesswire.com: https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220208005499/en/

```
    CONTACT: Inseego Media contact:
```
Anette Gaven

Tel: +1 (619) 993-3058

Anette.Gaven@inseego.com

Investor Relations contact:

Joo-Hun Kim, MKR Group

Tel: +1 (212) 868-6760

investor.relations@inseego.com

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Inseego Corp.
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(END)

Document BWR0000020220208ei280006t

**Zain Ksa Signs Agreement With Huawei To Develop And Expand Its Digital Services <mark>Infrastructure</mark>**

424 words
7 February 2022
Al-Bawaba News
ALBAWA
English

Zain KSA, a leading telecommunications provider in Saudi Arabia, signed an agreement with its global partner Huawei to expand and develop its <mark>cloud</mark> and digital services <mark>infrastructure</mark>. The announcement was made on the sidelines of the global future technologies event LEAP 2022. Zain KSA participated in line with its strategy to support the efforts and initiatives of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), overseeing and organizing the landmark event.

Being a key player in the Saudi telecom market, the cooperation with Huawei comes as part of Zain KSA's efforts to strengthen its leadership as one of the largest 5G providers in the Kingdom and invest in industry digitization.

In this regard, Zain KSA's CTO Eng. Abdulrahman bin Hamad AlMufadda, stated: "Our journey in driving forward digital transformation in the Kingdom has been enabled by pairing investments in innovative technology with pioneering digital products and services. Today, Zain KSA plays a pivotal role in empowering a digital society and in pursuing the transition towards a digital economy, supporting the strategy of MCIT towards accelerating nationwide digital transformation. We will continue to focus on digital infrastructure investments, backed by our partnerships with global tech leaders, including Huawei, to achieve our objectives in promoting economic growth and sustainable development, in line with Saudi Vision 2030."

Zain KSA continues to enhance its wireless network, the foundation of its 5G target network infrastructure and the first phase of its 5G non-standalone network. Following will be the transition to the 5G standalone phase, which will boost the ultra-reliable low latency communications (URLLC) application development and support the massive requirements of Machine Type Communications (mMTC), to enable a new range of vertical services for industry digitalization. Zain KSA already offers a full suite of 5G-based solutions including Zain Drones and Zain Cloud, as well as a range of other services catering to individual and business users.

Zain KSA was recognized as having the best 5G in Riyadh and the fastest in downloading and uploading files by umlaut. Zain KSA also ranks first in 5G coverage and speed in Riyadh according to the Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC) report. Also, Zain KSA earned the "Ookla Speedtest" 'Fastest Fixed Network' Award three consecutive times. Recently, Zain KSA won the "Best 5G User Growth" award at the Telecom Review Leaders' 2021 summit, cementing its position in building 5G networks, deepening innovative experiences, and developing 5G use cases and deploying them across the Kingdom.

Document ALBAWA0020220207ei27000p7

**Zain Iraq extends <mark>partnership</mark> with Exfo to enhance services for customers**

156 words
7 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

Zain Iraq and Exfo have announced the extension of their long-term <mark>partnership</mark> to improve Zain's service to customers. Zain Iraq will benefit from Exfo's service assurance technology to monitor the network and performance, identify and troubleshoot potential degradations, and better understand customer needs to turn its mobile network operations centres (NOC) to service operations centres (SOC).

During its ten-year <mark>partnership</mark> with Zain Iraq, Exfo has undertaken a range of service assurance projects, including customer experience management (CEM), service quality management (SQM) projects and network monitoring.

The Exfo SOC team will be involved in accelerating transformation process and providing actionable insights, in addition to introducing automated reporting to improve time-to-repair, enhance service quality, and increase customer satisfaction. Building on its partnership with Zain for 2G and 3G monitoring, Exfo will deliver a monitoring system for the 4G network and the SOC services.

Document TELEAST020220207ei27000dx

**Huawei to develop, expand Zain's digital services in KSA**

430 words
7 February 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

The agreement being signed Zain KSA, a leading telecommunications provider in Saudi Arabia, has signed an agreement with its global partner Huawei to expand and develop its ==cloud== and digital services ==infrastructure==.

The announcement was made on the sidelines of the global future technologies event Leap 2022. Zain KSA participated in line with its strategy to support the efforts and initiatives of the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT), overseeing and organising the landmark event.

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In this regard, Zain KSA's CTO Eng Abdulrahman bin Hamad AlMufadda, stated: "Our journey in driving forward digital transformation in the kingdom has been enabled by pairing investments in innovative technology with pioneering digital products and services. Today, Zain KSA plays a pivotal role in empowering a digital society and in pursuing the transition towards a digital economy, supporting the strategy of MCIT towards accelerating nationwide digital transformation.

"We will continue to focus on digital infrastructure investments, backed by our partnerships with global tech leaders, including Huawei, to achieve our objectives in promoting economic growth and sustainable development, in line with Saudi Vision 2030."

Zain KSA continues to enhance its wireless network, the foundation of its 5G target network infrastructure and the first phase of its 5G non-standalone network.

The next step will be the transition to the 5G standalone phase, which will boost the ultra-reliable low latency communications (URLLC) application development and support the massive requirements of Machine Type Communications (mMTC), to enable a new range of vertical services for industry digitalisation.

Zain KSA already offers a full suite of 5G-based solutions including Zain Drones and Zain Cloud, as well as a range of other services catering to individual and business users.

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Also, Zain KSA earned the "Ookla Speedtest" 'Fastest Fixed Network' Award three consecutive times. Recently, Zain KSA won the "Best 5G User Growth" award at the Telecom Review Leaders' 2021 summit, cementing its position in building 5G networks, deepening innovative experiences, and developing 5G use cases and deploying them across the kingdom.-- TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020220207ei2700105

**Zain KSA partners Evolving Systems to expand loyalty programme**

140 words
4 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Evolving Systems announced a new contract with Zain Saudi Arabia to deliver a key component of the mobile operator's new loyalty offering. Evolving Systems is delivering a new system to enable the mobile operator to create digital experiences for its customers using its digital-only telecom product vehicle, branded as Yaqoot.

Yaqoot's existing strategy already uses gifting mechanisms, but the service provider wanted to address the challenges of personalisation and customer retention to create more flexibility in the implementation of loyalty use cases. The Evolving Systems ==platform== enables advanced 360-degree customer profiling, real-time triggers to enable more engaging customer journeys, and Next Best Offer (NBO) provision.

The MoU between Zain Saudi Arabia and Evolving Systems was signed during a special ceremony at the Leap Saudi Arabia conference in Riyadh.

Document TELEAST020220204ei2400001

**Saudi Arabia's Al Rajhi Bank to leverage Zain KSA's mobile technologies**

319 words
3 February 2022
14:52
MarketLine News and Comment
DTMNTR
English
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Saudi Arabian lender Al Rajhi Bank has formed an alliance with Zain KSA to further financial inclusion using mobile technology.

The ==partnership== will see Zain KSA use its technological expertise and human capital to upgrade and expand the communication services and ==connectivity== of Al Rajhi Bank's systems.

Zain KSA's 4G and 5G technology and fibre optics networks will be used to provide connectivity services to Al Rajhi Bank's sites across the Kingdom.

The systems to be upgraded include Al Rajhi Bank's branches, ATM network and monitoring systems.

Zain KSA chief business and wholesale officer Saad bin Abdulrahman Al-Sadhan and Al Rajhi Bank acting chief operating officer Abdullah bin Saleh Alomari signed the agreement, which was announced during tech event LEAP.

Commenting on the partnership Alomari said: "Al Rajhi Bank has chosen Zain KSA as its partner due to the company's expertise, capabilities and technical and human capacities that enabled it to lead the Kingdom's information technology sector across several fields, including information technology and corporate connectivity services.

"We believe that this partnership will make it possible for us to raise the efficiency of our banking services and improve operational costs, thus promoting the customer's journey across all our branches."

Al-Sadhan said: "As a leading provider of digital services in the Kingdom, Zain KSA employs its capabilities to serve Saudi Vision 2030 and the digital economy strategy aimed at achieving financial inclusion and digitisation of the financial sector and investment in FinTech and innovative financial products.

"Today we further endorse this approach with a unique partnership with Al Rajhi Bank, which is one of the most prominent banking entities in the Kingdom."

The announcement comes shortly after Saudi Arabian authorities approved Al-Rajhi Bank's acquisition of Ejada Systems Company to strengthen its digital banking presence.

EDA63D11-5BA8-48DB-80E1-2570ACEEF62D

Document DTMNTR0020220204ei230000w

**Evolving Systems and Zain Saudi Expand <mark>Partnership</mark>; MOU to Deliver Loyalty Solution for Zain's Digital Brand, Yaqoot**

Evolving Systems, a leader in real-time digital engagement, has announced a strategic collaboration with Zain Saudi Arabia to deliver a key component of its new Loyalty offering. Evolving Systems is delivering a new solution to enable the operator to create game-changing digital experiences for its customers using its digital-only telecom product vehicle, branded as Yaqoot.Yaqoot was launched by Zain as the first step in its ambitious digital transformation program. Yaqoot's focus is on meeting the customer experience expectations of today's consumers while simultaneously laying the foundation for a digitally connected future.

Yaqoot's existing strategy already uses gifting mechanisms, but the digital service provider wanted to address the challenges of personalisation and customer retention to create more flexibility in the implementation of Loyalty use cases.Evolving Systems will offer its platform's functionality and flexibility as well as its technology superiority where, in addition to Loyalty, the platform enables advanced 360-degree customer profiling, real-time triggers to enable more engaging customer journeys, and Next Best Offer (NBO) provision. Built using the latest technologies, the platform will allow Yaqoot to leverage an intuitive customer experience.The MoU between Zain Saudi Arabia and Evolving Systems was signed during a special ceremony at LEAP Saudi Arabia 2022 on February 2 in Riyadh, a unique event for future technologies that was attended by a global audience.Salah Abdullah AlGhamdi, Adjacent Market Vice President, said:"Our engagement with Evolving Systems represents an example of Yaqoot's focus on customer experience enhancement. Our aim is to ensure that Yaqoot continues acting as the "Most Innovative Product Service" award winner, which Yaqoot has achieved in "Telecom Review" Summit 2021. At Yaqoot, we believe that this move will increase the level of happiness and satisfaction of all Yaqoot customers."Adhish Kulkarni, SVP & GM Digital Engagement and Loyalty Solutions, Evolving Systems, commented:"We are very excited to continue to play an important role with Zain Saudi Arabia; this new and exciting extension of our partnership means delivering real-time, innovative digital customer engagement, cementing both companies as leading innovators for customer loyalty programs."

512349

Document TOTEL00020220203ei230000e

**Executives Buy Over $2.7M Of 4 Penny Stocks**

Lisa Levin
435 words
3 February 2022
13:17
Benzinga.com
BNZNGA
English
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Although producer prices in the Eurozone surged 26.2% year-over-year in December, hitting the highest level on record, there were a few notable insider trades.

When insiders purchase or sell shares, it indicates their confidence or concern around the company's prospects. Investors and traders interested in penny stocks can consider this a factor in their overall ==investment== or trading decision.

Below is a look at a few recent notable insider transactions for penny stocks. For more, check out Benzingas insider transactions platform.

Evolving Systems

* The Trade: Evolving Systems, Inc. (NASDAQ: EVOL) 10% owner Karen Singer acquired a total of 1,164,870 shares at an average price of $2.31. To acquire these shares, it cost $2.69 million.

* What's Happening: Evolving Systems reported a strategic collaboration with Zain Saudi Arabia to deliver a key component of its new Loyalty offering.

* What Evolving Systems Does: Evolving Systems Inc provides real-time digital engagement solutions and services. It offers services to the wireless carrier and consumer financial services markets.

ServiceSource International

* The Trade: ServiceSource International, Inc. (NASDAQ: SREV) 10% owner Jonathan Brolin acquired a total of 48,741 shares at an average price of $1.00. The insider spent $48.74 thousand to buy those shares.

* What's Happening: The company's stock fell around 1% over the previous month.

* What ServiceSource International Does: ServiceSource International Inc is a provider of customer and revenue lifecycle management solutions.

Also check this: Insiders Buying Charter Communications And 3 More Stocks

MannKind

* The Trade: MannKind Corporation (NASDAQ: MNKD) Chief People & Workplace Officer Stuart Tross acquired a total of 4,254 shares at an average price of $3.17. To acquire these shares, it cost $13.49 thousand.

* What's Happening: MannKind extended its collaboration with Thirona Bio, Inc. with the purchase of a second convertible note issued by Thirona.

* What MannKind Does: MannKind Corp is a biopharmaceutical company focused on the development and commercialization of inhaled therapeutic products for patients with diseases such as diabetes and pulmonary arterial hypertension.

BitNile Holdings

* The Trade: BitNile Holdings, Inc. (NYSE: NILE) Executive Chairman Milton C. Ault III acquired a total of 40,000 shares at an average price of $0.94. The insider spent $37.74 thousand to buy those shares.

* What's Happening: BitNile issued an unaudited update on Bitcoin production and miner installation.

* What BitNile Does: BitNile Holdings Inc is engaged in providing Bitcoin mining, data center operations, and decentralized finance (DeFi) initiatives.

Document BNZNGA0020220203ei23000p9

**Zain Saudi Arabia signs <mark>connectivity</mark> deal with Al Rajhi Bank**

Zain KSA has signed an agreement with Al Rajhi Bank to improve financial inclusion, it said at the Leap 2022 technology event in Riyadh. The operator will connect the bank's branches, ATMs and monitoring system to its network. Zain will provide <mark>connectivity</mark> services to Al Rajhi Bank's sites using its 4G, 5G and fibre-optic networks.

Document TELEAST020220203ei230002t

**Press Release: Evolving Systems and Zain Saudi Expand <mark>Partnership</mark>; MoU to Deliver Loyalty Solution for Zain's Digital Brand, Yaqoot**

516 words
3 February 2022
09:00
Dow Jones Institutional News
DJDN
English
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Evolving Systems and Zain Saudi Expand <mark>Partnership</mark>; MoU to Deliver Loyalty Solution for Zain's Digital Brand, Yaqoot

MANCHESTER, United Kingdom, Feb. 03, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Evolving Systems, a leader in real-time digital engagement, has announced a strategic collaboration with Zain Saudi Arabia to deliver a key component of its new Loyalty offering. Evolving Systems is delivering a new solution to enable the operator to create game-changing digital experiences for its customers using its digital-only telecom product vehicle, branded as Yaqoot.

Yaqoot was launched by Zain as the first step in its ambitious digital transformation program. Yaqoot's focus is on meeting the customer experience expectations of today's consumers while simultaneously laying the foundation for a digitally connected future. Yaqoot's existing strategy already uses gifting mechanisms, but the digital service provider wanted to address the challenges of personalisation and customer retention to create more flexibility in the implementation of Loyalty use cases.

Evolving Systems will offer its platform's functionality and flexibility as well as its technology superiority where, in addition to Loyalty, the platform enables advanced 360-degree customer profiling, real-time triggers to enable more engaging customer journeys, and Next Best Offer (NBO) provision. Built using the latest technologies, the platform will allow Yaqoot to leverage an intuitive customer experience.

The MoU between Zain Saudi Arabia and Evolving Systems was signed during a special ceremony at LEAP Saudi Arabia 2022 on February 2 in Riyadh, a unique event for future technologies that was attended by a global audience.

Salah Abdullah AlGhamdi, Adjacent Market Vice President, said: "Our engagement with Evolving Systems represents an example of Yaqoot's focus on customer experience enhancement. Our aim is to ensure that Yaqoot continues acting as the "Most Innovative Product Service" award winner, which Yaqoot has achieved in "Telecom Review" Summit 2021. At Yaqoot, we believe that this move will increase the level of happiness and satisfaction of all Yaqoot customers."

Adhish Kulkarni, SVP & GM Digital Engagement and Loyalty Solutions, Evolving Systems, commented: "We are very excited to continue to play an important role with Zain Saudi Arabia; this new and exciting extension of our partnership means delivering real-time, innovative digital customer engagement, cementing both companies as leading innovators for customer loyalty programs."

About Evolving Systems(R)

Evolving Systems is a provider of real-time digital engagement solutions and services to more than 100 customers in over 65 countries worldwide. The Company's portfolio includes market-leading solutions and services for real-time analytics, customer acquisition, customer value management and loyalty for telecom, retail and financial services companies. Founded in 1985, Evolving systems has offices in Manchester, UK, Montreal, Riverside CA, Bangalore and Kolkata. For more information, please visit www.evolving.com.

Follow us on:

https://www.linkedin.com/company/7567/admin/

https://twitter.com/EvolvingSystems

Media & Analyst Relations: Sancha Brody

Sancha.brody@evolving.com / +44 (0) 7376 366855

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

February 03, 2022 04:00 ET (09:00 GMT)

Document DJDN000020220203ei23000yc

**Evolving Systems and Zain Saudi Expand ==Partnership==; MoU to Deliver Loyalty Solution for Zain's Digital Brand, Yaqoot**

502 words
3 February 2022
09:00
GlobeNewswire
PZON
English
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Evolving Systems and Zain Saudi Expand **==Partnership==**; MoU to Deliver Loyalty Solution for Zain's Digital Brand, Yaqoot

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https://twitter.com/EvolvingSystems

Media & Analyst Relations: Sancha Brody

Sancha.brody@evolving.com / +44 (0) 7376 366855

(END)

**Zain Iraq chooses EXFO service assurance to further enhance customer experience | Press release**

842 words
2 February 2022
M2 Presswire
MTPW
English
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Leading telecom operator partners with EXFO to avail proactive service monitoring and quicker resolution time at its service centers

BAGHDAD — Zain Iraq and EXFO announced the extension of their long-term ==partnership== to transform the network operator's service delivery and customer experience. The agreement will allow Zain Iraq to benefit from EXFO's service assurance technology to proactively monitor network and service performance, identify and troubleshoot potential degradations, and better understand customer needs to transform its mobile network operations centers (NOC) to service operations centers (SOC).

Across the globe, the communications industry is moving towards advanced service assurance technology, and for good reason; 88% of customers stated that quality of service is crucial in selecting their service providers.

Zain Iraq, part of Zain Group, is the leading telecommunications company in Iraq. After successfully launching and rolling out 4G-LTE service across the country-the leading telecom company in Iraq to do so-the operator is increasing its focus on providing customers and partners with the best services through its fastest and largest network coverage and state-of-the-art infrastructure. During its 10-year partnership with Zain Iraq, EXFO has undertaken a range of service assurance projects, including customer experience management (CEM), service quality management (SQM) projects and network monitoring solutions. EXFO SOC services' team will also be involved in accelerating the transformation process and providing actionable insights, in addition to introducing automated reporting to improve the time-to-repair, enhance service quality, and increase customer satisfaction.

Building on its partnership with Zain covering 2G and 3G monitoring technologies for voice and data services, EXFO will deliver a monitoring solution for the 4G-LTE network and the SOC services, which include network performance, service degradation analysis, and customer experience performance and development allowing for better visibility on potential network issues, including customer applications such as Facebook, YouTube, Instagram, and other services.

Ahmed Abdulsalam, CTO of Zain Iraq: "We base our strategy at Zain Iraq on our solid understanding of subscribers, partners' needs and the global market trend.. This transformation is part of our keen efforts to provide the superior and fastest 4G-LTE network in the country that allow us to meet the aspirations of more than 16 million subscribers. Fueled by the strong knowledge and expertise of EXFO, this transformation is set to help us efficiently monitor our service quality and better understand our customer needs and expectations, ultimately enabling Zain Iraq to be a truly digital service provider in the growing digital economy."

Wim te Niet, VP EMEA at EXFO: "We are proud to have worked with Zain Group for over a decade on innovative service assurance solutions. EXFO enables operators around the world to transition to service-focused operations, and we are delighted to work with Zain Iraq, which places such a great emphasis on customer experience. It is critical for all mobile operators to undertake initiatives to proactively identify potential issues and troubleshoot them quickly in order to retain customers and deliver the best possible experience to subscribers. We look forward to engaging with Zain on further adaptive service assurance initiatives in the areas of automation, machine learning and advanced analytics."

About Zain Iraq

Zain Iraq is the leading telecommunications company in Iraq. It is part of Zain Group - the leading mobile telecom innovator in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA).

Zain Iraq's strategy is based on understanding the needs of its consumers and partners. It places them at the core of any service or idea, providing them with the best and most advanced services that can meet more than 16M subscribers' aspirations, utilizing its superior and fastest 4G-LTE network in the country.

Zain Iraq's vision builds on establishing partnerships with the youth, providing them with products and services that will empower and help them connect with the world.

We are an integral part of the local community, which makes our partnership and cooperation, especially with the youth, a very strategic approach that all our employees have adopted.

We have always been determined to ensure that all our economic, social, and cultural projects that fall within our corporate sustainability program leave a positive impact on the lives of our partnering community.

Follow us on: Facebook, Twitter and Instagram

About EXFO

EXFO developers smarter test, monitoring and analytics solutions for the global telecommunications industry. We are trusted advisers to fixed and mobile network operators hyperscalers and leaders in the manufacturing, development and research sector. They count on us to deliver superior visibility and insights into network performance, service reliability and user experience. Building on our 35 years of innovation, EXFO's unique blend of equipment, software and services enable faster, more confident transformations related to 5G, cloud-native and fibre optic networks.

Document MTPW000020220203ei22003s7

# telecompaper:::

**Zain KSA launches 5G standalone network**

171 words
2 February 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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Zain Saudi Arabia announced the roll-out of its 5G standalone (SA) network at the global technology event 'Leap'. By deploying the 5G SA core, Zain KSA says its paving the way for a new era for 5G use cases and applications, opening up new prospects for the growth of digital services.

The deployment supports Zain KSA's network <mark>infrastructure</mark> with additional super low latency, supporting new applications in the Internet of Things, robotics and artificial intelligence, in addition to machine learning, blockchain, drones, and augmented reality.

Zain KSA has already laid the groundwork for this milestone through expansion of its 5G network to 51 cities across the country through more than 5,000 towers. Through 5G SA, users will have access to the network slicing system which will enable them to benefit from multiple networks at the same time. The network slicing feature will include a range of services, such as Zain Cloud, which will improve the flexibility of user experiences, the operator said.

Document TELEAST020220202ei220002t

**Zain Jordan Selects Infovista for End-to-End Autonomous Wireless Network Testing and Benchmarking**

posted by Infovista
563 words
12 January 2022
Total Telecom Plus
TOTEL
English

Zain Jordan Selects Infovista for End-to-End Autonomous Wireless Network Testing and BenchmarkingHybrid all-in-one benchmarking data collection enables static, walk and drive testing from a single device, while data analytics platform will allow better network planning and optimizationParis, France Wednesday, January 12th 2022 -- Infovista, the global leader in Network Lifecycle Automation (NLA), has announced that Zain Jordan, the leading Jordanian mobile network operator and part of the Zain Group, has selected Infovista's TEMS Sense, TEMS Director and Planet products to provide next-generation mobile network testing, benchmarking, planning and optimization solutions contributing to the modernization of Zain Jordan's network.Zain Jordan's strategic goals and expansion plans aim to deliver the best service to its customers.

By collaborating with Infovista, Zain Jordan will be equipped with market leading solutions to examine the service quality from an end-user perspective, and then use that data to inform and optimize both how its networks are managed today, and how they will evolve tomorrow.TEMS Sense provides powerful multi-mode network testing and measurement which Zain can use to undertake active testing statically, on foot, or in-vehicle of all of Jordan's live mobile networks. KPI data gathered will include network quality, efficiency and throughput, all of which will enable Zain to monitor the Quality of Experience being delivered by each operator and assist in its own network optimization. TEMS Director, delivered from Zain Jordan's cloud infrastructure, acts as a 'fleet management' backend, effectively managing the distributed network of active probes, remotely pushing testing scripts to them to gather data such as the success/failure rate on calls during moments of peak traffic. This data among other can be then combined with Planet, Infovista's market-leading RF planning software and optimization solution, to give Zain powerful and accurate tools to plan, design and optimize its 3G and 4G networks.Zain Jordan's cooperation with Infovista stems from Zain's keenness to provide the best service to its customers by ensuring that the network operates at the highest levels of efficiency. Zain has partnered with Infovista to measure performance and examine service quality from an end-user perspective, helping inform decisions on how to manage and improve its networks."We are excited to be providing Zain Jordan with a state-of-the-art autonomous network testing and benchmarking solution which includes data collection and analysis across the Kingdom," said Faiq Khan, president Global Networks Europe, Asia and Africa at Infovista."Measuring end-user experience is a crucial tool not only to verify network performance, but also for informing decision-making around planning future network investments."Infovista's TEMS Network Testing Portfolio enables network optimization of quality and application performance by measuring and benchmarking end user experience. For Network Operators and Regulators, TEMS delivers the ability to walk test, drive test, and dynamically analyze service performance under real-life conditions—indoors, outdoors, and around the clock. For more on the Infovista TEMS network testing portfolio, please visit https://www.infovista.com/temsInfovista's Planet, market-leading RF planning software and optimization solution, gives operators powerful tools to plan, design and optimize 3G, 4G, networks easily and accurately. For more information, please visit https://www.infovista.com/5g-network/planet-rf-planning-software

512129

Document TOTEL00020220114ei1c00002

![telecompaper logo]

**Zain Jordan selects Infovista for mobile network testing and benchmarking**

148 words
12 January 2022
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

Infovista has announced that Zain Jordan has selected its TEMS Sense, TEMS Director and Planet products for mobile network testing, benchmarking, planning and optimisation. Working with Infovista will equip Zain Jordan with products to examine service quality from a user perspective, enabling it to optimise network management.

TEMS Sense provides multi-mode network testing and measurement, which Zain can use for active testing statically, on foot or by vehicle. KPI gathered will include network quality, efficiency and throughput. TEMS Director, provided by Zain Jordan's <mark>cloud infrastructure</mark>, acts as a fleet management backend, managing the distributed network of active probes, remotely pushing testing scripts to them for data such as call success during peak traffic. Such data can be combined with Planet, Infovista's RF planning software and optimisation service, enabling Zain to optimise its 3G and 4G networks.

Document TELEAST020220112ei1c00003

**Zain Jordan Selects Infovista for End-to-End Autonomous Wireless Network Testing and Benchmarking**

728 words
12 January 2022
M2 Presswire
MTPW
English

Hybrid all-in-one benchmarking data collection enables static, walk and drive testing from a single device, while data analytics ==platform== will allow better network planning and optimization

Paris, France — Infovista, the global leader in Network Lifecycle Automation (NLA), has announced that Zain Jordan, the leading Jordanian mobile network operator and part of the Zain Group, has selected Infovista's TEMS Sense, TEMS Director and Planet products to provide next-generation mobile network testing, benchmarking, planning and optimization solutions contributing to the modernization of Zain Jordan's network.

Zain Jordan's strategic goals and expansion plans aim to deliver the best service to its customers. By collaborating with Infovista, Zain Jordan will be equipped with market leading solutions to examine the service quality from an end-user perspective, and then use that data to inform and optimize both how its networks are managed today, and how they will evolve tomorrow.

TEMS Sense provides powerful multi-mode network testing and measurement which Zain can use to undertake active testing statically, on foot, or in-vehicle of all of Jordan's live mobile networks. KPI data gathered will include network quality, efficiency and throughput, all of which will enable Zain to monitor the Quality of Experience being delivered by each operator and assist in its own network optimization. TEMS Director, delivered from Zain Jordan's cloud infrastructure, acts as a 'fleet management' backend, effectively managing the distributed network of active probes, remotely pushing testing scripts to them to gather data such as the success/failure rate on calls during moments of peak traffic. This data among other can be then combined with Planet, Infovista's market-leading RF planning software and optimization solution, to give Zain powerful and accurate tools to plan, design and optimize its 3G and 4G networks.

Zain Jordan's cooperation with Infovista stems from Zain's keenness to provide the best service to its customers by ensuring that the network operates at the highest levels of efficiency. Zain has partnered with Infovista to measure performance and examine service quality from an end-user perspective, helping inform decisions on how to manage and improve its networks.

"We are excited to be providing Zain Jordan with a state-of-the-art autonomous network testing and benchmarking solution which includes data collection and analysis across the Kingdom," said Faiq Khan, president Global Networks Europe, Asia and Africa at Infovista. "Measuring end-user experience is a crucial tool not only to verify network performance, but also for informing decision-making around planning future network investments."

Infovista's TEMS Network Testing Portfolio enables network optimization of quality and application performance by measuring and benchmarking end user experience. For Network Operators and Regulators, TEMS delivers the ability to walk test, drive test, and dynamically analyze service performance under real-life conditions-indoors, outdoors, and around the clock. For more on the Infovista TEMS network testing portfolio, please visit https://www.infovista.com/tems

Infovista's Planet, market-leading RF planning software and optimization solution, gives operators powerful tools to plan, design and optimize 3G, 4G, networks easily and accurately. For more information, please visit https://www.infovista.com/5g-network/planet-rf-planning-software

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About Infovista

Infovista is the global leader in network lifecycle automation (NLA) for the next-gen networks era. With its unique NLA approach, Infovista allows communications service providers (CSPs) and enterprises to improve their network performance and customer experience, optimize their productivity, and reduce their costs, while maximizing return on their investments. Spanning the entire network lifecycle, Infovista's products and

solutions leverage an open, integrated, cloud-native portfolio that automates tasks, flows, analytics, and decisions to the greatest extent possible. More than 1,500 customers, including 400 Mobile Network Operators, around the world rely on Infovista to plan, design, deploy, test, operate, support, optimize, evolve, report on and monetize their networks - www.infovista.com

Contact

Alexandre Le Coq - alexandre.lecoq@infovista.com

Media Contact

Richard Howson

Temono for Infovista

richard.howson@temono.com

+44 (0)7833 693 862

Source: RealWire

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**NewsRx**™

**Tecnotree; Zain Bahrain Selects Tecnotree for Digital Transformation**

2022 JAN 15 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at **Investment** Weekly News -- This is further to the Stock Release published by Tecnotree on 18th October 2021 at 9:45 EET.

Tecnotree, a global provider of Digital Business Support Systems (BSS), has been selected by Zain Bahrain, a telecommunications industry innovator in the Kingdom, for the delivery of digital BSS transformation.

Zain aims to become a leading ICT and digital lifestyle provider in Bahrain and has profound commitment to customers that drives Zain to reinvent, transform and to lead the kingdom in the creation of a prosperous digital future. Tecnotree's partnership with Zain is intended to firm up the company's focus on delivering an exceptional customer experience while improving time-to-market. Through a multi-speed digital architecture, the project will transform Zain's BSS infrastructure into an open ecosystem capable of supporting Zain's vision.

Commenting on the partnership, Ali Al-Yaham, Director, Technology at Zain Bahrain said, "Choosing Tecnotree as a strategic partner for transforming our legacy BSS infrastructure is a significant milestone in our vision of building a digital future. Innovation is in the DNA of Zain, and Tecnotree's Finnish innovation will form the cornerstone of our digital transformation journey. This is going to empower our customers with enhanced digital experiences, and will enable us to become more agile, efficient and customer centric in this rapidly evolving telecom market."

Multi-year engagement between Zain Bahrain and Tecnotree covers the entire journey of deployment and the management of the Digital BSS 5 products, which includes commissioning, integration as well as support. The first phase will involve transforming Enterprise business line while the subsequent phases will cover Retail and Wholesale business.

Tecnotree will deploy its 5G-ready Digital BSS Suite 5 which recently earned Platinum Badge from TM Forum for Open API Conformance and was recognized in Gartner's Market-Guide for Revenue Management & Monetization. With industry-recognized products from the Tecnotree's BSS stack such as Customer Lifecycle Manager, Catalog Manager, Convergent Billing System, as well as Tecnotree Surge Digital Accelerator Platform, Zain will provide its customers with superior omnichannel experience while enabling new business models to drive evolution into a new-age service provider.

"We are excited about our award-winning Digital BSS Suite being selected by Zain to support their digital transformation journey and are confident that this strategic partnership will enable an enhanced value proposition for their customers." shares Tecnotree CEO, Padma Ravichander, "We look forward to using our market-proven framework, products, and experiences to fuel Zain's goal of becoming a trendsetter in the digital revolution and provide a world-class customer experience."

Keywords for this news article include: Tecnotree.

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Document INVWK00020220107ei17002k1

**Tata Communications inks pact with Zain KSA to bring smart city solutions to Saudi Arabia**

India Infoline News Service
499 words
5 January 2022
Indiainfoline News Service
INFOIN
English
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Tata Communications, a global digital <mark>ecosystem</mark> enabler, and Zain KSA, a pioneering mobile telecommunications and digital services provider that is committed to supporting innovation and spearheading the next-generation's technological revolution in the Middle East, has announced they have entered a strategic engagement to fuel digital transformation journeys of enterprises and government organisations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA).

With this collaboration the combined ecosystems will deliver solutions and platforms to remodel cities with smart street lighting, smart waste management, connected workplace, healthcare and connected cars.

The flagship project where Tata Communications and Zain KSA are working together to bring smart street lighting solution for one of the key cities in KSA. Tata Communications IoT ecosystem will serve as one-stop-shop to provide the hardware, platform, application and insights while Zain KSA will expand the footprint with its business-to-business (B2B) offerings through joint projects related to software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN) and global contact centres, as well as the application of smart transport and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions enabling smart waste handling, smart metering and other smart city use cases, to name a few.

"The strength of the reach of Zain KSA and cutting-edge infrastructure combined with our ecosystem of advanced technologies will strengthen the country's shift to becoming a sustainable economy," said Vaneet Mehta, Region Head, Middle East, Central Asia & Africa, Tata Communications.

"This is a demonstration of our both organisations commitment to enable reimagining of cities in the Middle East by operating on smarter and cost-efficient models. This is a milestone project for Tata Communications for transforming the city into an intelligent and energy efficient metropolis, reducing its carbon footprint and charting the path for other cities to replicate."

"Building on our pioneering and internationally renowned 5G network and in line with our vertical expansion strategy to drive 5G applications such as IoT we will work together to contribute to our comprehensive digital solutions offering and transformation services under one roof to enterprises and governments across the kingdom," said Eng. Saad A. Al-Sadhan, Chief Business and Wholesale Officer, Zain KSA.

"The confluence of reliable connectivity, agility and trust will converge to better serve communities, businesses and governments. Together we will strengthen the digital core of the country to reinforce Saudi Vision 2030 and provide businesses the tools to embrace innovation and disruption to succeed in a rapidly evolving environment."

The Tata Communications and Zain KSA strategic engagement will serve Saudi's enterprises and government institutions with advanced technologies such as IoT, 5G, Low Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN specification), Managed Security Services, SDWAN and many others. It will also support environmental sustainability measures and digital transformation of the region.

At around 10:51 AM, Tata Communications was trading at Rs1,412.20 apiece down by Rs8.45 or 0.59% on the BSE.

Click here to see image

Document INFOIN0020220106ei150001l

**Zain Kuwait; Zain Kuwait resolute 5G <mark>investment</mark> delivers business success**

2022 JAN 5 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Telecommunications Weekly -- Zain Kuwait's 5G traffic currently accounts for more than 40% of its total wireless traffic, ranking the operator as number one in GCC countries in terms of 5G offload ratio. Zain Kuwait is one of the leading telecom operators in MENA and has been at the forefront of innovation for years as the first operator to launch commercial 5G services in the Middle East.

From the 5G service development and business achievements of Zain Kuwait, it is clear that the focus on 5G development brings business success to operators. Zain Kuwait started deployment of 5G networks in 2018. After two years of continuous development, 5G services have entered a period of high growth. Users are continuing to develop rapidly, and the proportion of 5G traffic has also been increasing continuously. This has resulted in positive revenue and profit growth for the operator.

Zain Kuwait has achieved the 5G subscriber penetration ratio of 23%, and the average DOU of its 5G subscribers is five times higher than that of its 4G subscribers. Zain Kuwait's mobile network also recorded revenue and profit growth of 4% and 13% year-over-year in Q2 2021. This is an outstanding achievement especially when there is no population dividend and the expatriate population in country has been continuously decreasing. Zain's 5G development leads the Kuwait telecom market, and its business success has been a result of its overall strategic objective to provide first-class 5G services for users in Kuwait.

Zain Kuwait has firmly invested in 5G for the fastest network construction with the widest coverage, building a foundation for user experience

Network coverage is the basis for user experience. Zain started 5G C-band construction in 2018. In Q3 2019, it completed coverage of major urban areas. By early 2020, it achieved 1:1 construction ratio with its LTE network.

Focusing on fast and value-based network construction, Zain Kuwait was able to quickly exploit the benefits of enhanced 5G network coverage. Leading the network construction lays the foundation for creating 5G business advantages. For instance, Zain was the first operator to commercialize 5G networks in Kuwait. In the commercial release phase, Zain provided the most extensive 5G coverage and best services owing to its focus on network construction. Within six months of the commercial launch, Zain reached 100% coverage, forming the first-mover advantage of 5G networks for itself.

User experience is the key In leading 5G experience targets to drive network experience leadership

With the goal of providing a first-class 5G network experience, Zain insists on higher standards of 5G network construction to ensure high-speed and reliable services for all the users. As a result, the investment in network planning and network construction was increased, which enabled Zain Kuwait to win Ookla's Fastest Fixed Wireless Network Provider Award in 2020 and to lead the Open signal Global Experience Test reports as well. A great network experience enhanced Zain's brand and helped it achieve greater commercial competitiveness.

https://rt.prnewswire.com/rt.gif?NewsItemId=EN15432&Transmission_Id=202112220744PR_NEWS_EURO_ND__EN15432&DateId=20211222

Keywords for this news article include: Zain Kuwait.

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Document TELWK00020220105ei15000dm

# Business Standard

**Tata Communications surges nearly 9%; hits record high**

Shares of Tata Communications, a global digital ==ecosystem== enabler, hit a record high of Rs 1,542, and rallied 9 per cent on the BSE in Wednesday's intra-day trade. The stock of the Tata Group firm surpassed its previous high of Rs 1,540 touched on October 19, 2021. It was included in the Futures & Options (F&O) segment from December 31, 2021.

On Tuesday, Tata Communications and Zain KSA announced that they had entered a strategic engagement to fuel digital transformation journeys of enterprises and government organisations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). Zain KSA is a leading telecom provider established in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

With this collaboration, the combined ecosystems will deliver solutions and platforms to remodel cities with smart street lighting, smart waste management, connected workplace, healthcare and connected cars, Tata Communications said in a press release.

This strategic engagement will serve Saudi's enterprises and government institutions with advanced technologies such as IoT, 5G, Low Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN specification), Managed Security Services, SDWAN and many others. It will also support environmental sustainability measures and digital transformation of the region, it said.

For July-September quarter (Q2FY22), the company had delivered a sequential growth after three quarters of decline, which was a positive indicator. The management had said the second quarter of FY22 was marked by recovery with favorable underlying trends as economic activities normalized. The company's performance in the second quarter demonstrated a continued improvement in revenue supported by improvement in profitability and build-up of free cash flow, the management said.

Meanwhile, IIFL Securities has initiated coverage on Tata Communications with a target price of Rs 1,568 (SoTP based) and an ADD rating.

Tata Communications is in the process of moving up the enterprise ICT stack, from being only a provider of connectivity and network services into becoming a digital solutions player offering cloud, hosting, security and IoT services, it said.

"After enduring a difficult period that saw FCF losses and subdued return ratios, Tata Communications has exited a few loss making, capex-heavy businesses. Under the new management, it has seen robust Ebitda margin expansion, healthy FCF generation and significant improvement in return ratios in the past 18 months. Revenue growth has remained elusive, though double-digit order book growth in 1HFY22 has been encouraging", the brokerage firm added in a report dated December 15, 2021.

Document BSTN000020220105ei1500209

**Tata communications, Zain KSA to bring smart city solutions to Saudi Arabia**

466 words
4 January 2022
The Saudi Gazette
SAUDGZE
English

RIYADH - Tata Communications, a global digital ==ecosystem== enabler, and Zain KSA, a pioneering mobile telecommunications and digital services provider that is committed to supporting innovation and spearheading the next-generation's technological revolution in the Middle East, today announced they have entered a strategic engagement to fuel digital transformation journeys of enterprises and government organisations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA). With this collaboration the combined ecosystems will deliver solutions and platforms to remodel cities with smart street lighting, smart waste management, connected workplace, healthcare and connected cars.

The flagship project where Tata Communications and Zain KSA are working together to bring smart street lighting solution for one of the key cities in KSA. Tata Communications IoT ecosystem will serve as one-stop-shop to provide the hardware, platform, application and insights while Zain KSA will expand the footprint with its business-to-business (B2B) offerings through joint projects related to software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN) and global contact centres, as well as the application of smart transport and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions enabling smart waste handling, smart metering and other smart city use cases, to name a few.

"The strength of the reach of Zain KSA and cutting-edge infrastructure combined with our ecosystem of advanced technologies will strengthen the country's shift to becoming a sustainable economy," said Vaneet Mehta, Region Head, Middle East, Central Asia & Africa, Tata Communications.

"This is a demonstration of our both organisations commitment to enable reimagining of cities in the Middle East by operating on smarter and cost-efficient models. This is a milestone project for Tata Communications for transforming the city into an intelligent and energy efficient metropolis, reducing its carbon footprint and charting the path for other cities to replicate."

"Building on our pioneering and internationally renowned 5G network and in line with our vertical expansion strategy to drive 5G applications such as IoT we will work together to contribute to our comprehensive digital solutions offering and transformation services under one roof to enterprises and governments across the kingdom," said Eng. Saad A. Al-Sadhan, Chief Business and Wholesale Officer, Zain KSA. "The confluence of reliable connectivity, agility and trust will converge to better serve communities, businesses and governments. Together we will strengthen the digital core of the country to reinforce Saudi Vision 2030 and provide businesses the tools to embrace innovation and disruption to succeed in a rapidly evolving environment."

The Tata Communications and Zain KSA strategic engagement will serve Saudi's enterprises and government institutions with advanced technologies such as IoT, 5G, Low Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN® specification), Managed Security Services, SDWAN and many others. It will also support environmental sustainability measures and digital transformation of the region.

Document SAUDGZE020220104ei140018h

**Zain, Tata Communications seal Saudi smart city projects deal**

457 words
4 January 2022
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Zain KSA, a pioneering mobile telecommunications and digital services provider in Saudi Arabia, said it has entered into a strategic engagement with India's Tata Communications, a global digital <mark>ecosystem</mark> enabler, to fuel digital transformation journeys of enterprises and government organisations in the kingdom.

With this collaboration the combined ecosystems will deliver solutions and platforms to remodel cities with smart streetlighting, smart waste management, connected workplace, healthcare and connected cars.

A pioneering mobile telecommunications and digital services provider, Zain KSA said it is committed to supporting innovation and spearheading the next-generation's technological revolution in the Middle East.

As per the deal, Tata Communications' IoT ecosystem will serve as one-stop-shop to provide the hardware, platform, application and insights while Zain KSA will expand the footprint with its business-to-business (B2B) offerings through joint projects related to software-defined wide area network (SD-WAN) and global contact centres, as well as the application of smart transport and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions enabling smart waste handling, smart metering and other smart city use cases, to name a few.

On the new project, Vaneet Mehta, Region Head, Middle East, Central Asia & Africa, Tata Communications, said: "The strength of the reach of Zain KSA and cutting-edge infrastructure combined with our ecosystem of advanced technologies will strengthen the country's shift to becoming a sustainable economy."

"This is a demonstration of our both organisations commitment to enable reimagining of cities in the Middle East by operating on smarter and cost-efficient models. This is a milestone project for Tata Communications for transforming the city into an intelligent and energy efficient metropolis, reducing its carbon footprint and charting the path for other cities to replicate," he stated.

The Tata Communications and Zain KSA strategic engagement will serve Saudi's enterprises and government institutions with advanced technologies such as IoT, 5G, Low Range Wide Area Network (LoRaWAN specification), Managed Security Services, SDWAN and many others.

It will also support environmental sustainability measures and digital transformation of the region.

Engineer Saad A. Al-Sadhan, Chief Business and Wholesale Officer, Zain KSA, said: "Building on our pioneering and internationally renowned 5G network and in line with our vertical expansion strategy to drive 5G applications such as IoT we will work together to contribute to our comprehensive digital solutions offering and transformation services under one roof to enterprises and governments across the kingdom."

"The confluence of reliable connectivity, agility and trust will converge to better serve communities, businesses and governments. Together we will strengthen the digital core of the country to reinforce Saudi Vision 2030 and provide businesses the tools to embrace innovation and disruption to succeed in a rapidly evolving environment,." he added.

Document TRADAR0020220104ei14000b5

**telecompaper**

**Tecnotree wins order for 5G-ready Digital BSS Suite 5 from Zain Bahrain**

Finnish company Tecnotree said it has been awarded a Digital Business Support System (BSS) contract by Zain Bahrain. It will deploy its 5G-ready Digital BSS Suite 5, with products including the Customer Lifecycle Manager, Catalogue Manager, Convergent Billing System and the Tecnotree Surge Digital Accelerator Platform.

The multi-year arrangement covers deployment and the management of the Digital BSS 5 products, including commissioning, integration and support. The first phase will involve transforming the enterprise business line and the subsequent phases will cover retail and wholesale business.

The aim is to improve service to customers as well as time to market. Through a multi-speed digital architecture, the project will transform Zain's BSS infrastructure into an open ecosystem, said Tecnotree.

Ali Al-Yaham, director of technology at Zain Bahrain, said choosing Tecnotree as a partner to transform its legacy BSS infrastructure is a "significant milestone" in building a digital future. This will enable Zain to become more agile, efficient and customer-centric in a rapidly evolving telecom market, he added.

Tecnotree CEO Padma Ravichander said the partnership will enable an enhanced value proposition for Zain Bahrain customers.

Document TELEAST020211229ehct00001

**Telecommunication companies evolve services through open banking**

584 words
27 December 2021
Bahrain News Agency
BAHRNA
English

Manama, Dec. 27 (BNA): Bahrain's rollout of forward-thinking financial services regulations has allowed the country to maintain a pioneering position within the sector and pave the way for telecommunication companies to enter into FinTech. Dubbed 'TechFins', these companies are introducing a range of modern financial service solutions, demonstratingthe Central Bank of Bahrain (CBB's) sophisticated approach towards adapting global trends which underpin the continuing transformation of the Kingdom's financial services sector.

Bahrain's major telcos, Batelco, STC, and Zain are creating new financial services platforms for their clients, with Zain most recently announcing a ==partnership== with Tarabut Gateway offering their customers a mobile payment service utilising open banking – the first of its kind in the region.

"This initiative by Zain and Tarabut Gateway will eliminate many obstacles customers face while also reducing transaction costs" said Executive Director of Business Planning and Analytics at Zain Bahrain Mohammed Al-Alawi.

"The project will open the door for us to produce a new and diverse range of financial services, and a more customer centric approach. Additionally, transaction fees will be low compared to cards and payment gateways. In the coming months, we will also introduce the ability to make interbank payments through a mobile application" He added.

"We look forward to the new partnership with Zain and welcome interested parties who wish to work with us. As the largest open banking services platform in the MENA region, we believe that partnerships between telecommunications and FinTech companies will be highly beneficial to the growth of the industry. These collaborations are made possible through Bahrain's supportive regulations, which are on par with global leaders in the TechFin space," Founder and CEO of Tarabut Gateway Abdulla Almoayed said.

Batelco entered the world of fintech by establishing a new financial services company, Batelco Financial Services, following the awarding of licenses by the Central Bank of Bahrain, making it the first telecom company in the GCC to receive licenses for Open Banking.

Commenting on the introduction of BEYON Money, Batelco's Chief Digital Growth Officer Shaikh Mohamed bin Khalifa Al Khalifa said: "We are delighted to reveal our new financial services brand, BEYON Money. The launch comes in line with Batelco's strategy to enter the world of financial services and expand its portfolio beyond its core services and offerings, to keep up with global trends and technological innovation. The new company aims to provide individuals and small-to-medium enterprises with digital solutions, which will further enhance the efficiency and diversity of the Kingdom's Financial Sector."

"BEYON Money is the first digital financial super App in the region, providing direct open banking access to consumers in Bahrain, connecting all the banks across the Kingdom in one App. The app will enable Batelco to deliver a full-fledged, seamless experience that is designed based on customer needs by combining multiple financial services under its platform."

STC Bahrain has also introduced several digital solutions further supporting their customer whilst enhancing their experience in using their remote services effortlessly.

"We have been at the forefront of driving forward Bahrain's digital transformation in line with the Kingdom of Bahrain's economic vision. The company has significantly invested in new infrastructure to pave the way for future connectivity services and cutting-edge technologies, this includes mobile payment solutions (stc pay), Insuretech services, in addition to cybersecurity, cloud computing services, stc Tajer platform, and more," Chief Commercial Officer Karim Tabbouche said.

M.I.

article

Document BAHRNA0020211227ehcr000ba

**PR Newswire**
a CISION company

**Zain Kuwait resolute 5G <mark>investment</mark> delivers business success**

Zain Kuwait; PR Newswire
549 words
22 December 2021
12:44
PR Newswire Europe
TWOTEN
English
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5G offload ratio now surpasses 40%

KUWAIT CITY, Dec. 22, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- Zain Kuwait's 5G traffic currently accounts for more than 40% of its total wireless traffic, ranking the operator as number one in GCC countries in terms of 5G offload ratio. Zain Kuwait is one of the leading telecom operators in MENA and has been at the forefront of innovation for years as the first operator to launch commercial 5G services in the Middle East.

From the 5G service development and business achievements of Zain Kuwait, it is clear that the focus on 5G development brings business success to operators. Zain Kuwait started deployment of 5G networks in 2018. After two years of continuous development, 5G services have entered a period of high growth. Users are continuing to develop rapidly, and the proportion of 5G traffic has also been increasing continuously. This has resulted in positive revenue and profit growth for the operator.

Zain Kuwait has achieved the 5G subscriber penetration ratio of 23%, and the average DOU of its 5G subscribers is five times higher than that of its 4G subscribers. Zain Kuwait's mobile network also recorded revenue and profit growth of 4% and 13% year-over-year in Q2 2021. This is an outstanding achievement especially when there is no population dividend and the expatriate population in country has been continuously decreasing. Zain's 5G development leads the Kuwait telecom market, and its business success has been a result of its overall strategic objective to provide first-class 5G services for users in Kuwait.

Zain Kuwait has firmly invested in 5G for the fastest network construction with the widest coverage, building a foundation for user experience

Network coverage is the basis for user experience. Zain started 5G C-band construction in 2018. In Q3 2019, it completed coverage of major urban areas. By early 2020, it achieved 1:1 construction ratio with its LTE network.

Focusing on fast and value-based network construction, Zain Kuwait was able to quickly exploit the benefits of enhanced 5G network coverage. Leading the network construction lays the foundation for creating 5G business advantages. For instance, Zain was the first operator to commercialize 5G networks in Kuwait. In the commercial release phase, Zain provided the most extensive 5G coverage and best services owing to its focus on network construction. Within six months of the commercial launch, Zain reached 100% coverage, forming the first-mover advantage of 5G networks for itself.

User experience is the key In leading 5G experience targets to drive network experience leadership

With the goal of providing a first-class 5G network experience, Zain insists on higher standards of 5G network construction to ensure high-speed and reliable services for all the users. As a result, the investment in network planning and network construction was increased, which enabled Zain Kuwait to win Ookla's Fastest Fixed Wireless Network Provider Award in 2020 and to lead the Open signal Global Experience Test reports as well. A great network experience enhanced Zain's brand and helped it achieve greater commercial competitiveness.

https://rt.prnewswire.com/rt.gif?NewsItemId=EN15432&Transmission_Id=202112220744PR_NEWS_EURO_ND__EN15432&DateId=20211222

Mohammad Alfarhoud, Mohammad.Alfarhoud@kw.zain.com

Document TWOTEN0020211222ehcm0030d

**Zain Kuwait resolute 5G <mark>investment</mark> delivers business success; 5G offload ratio now surpasses 40%**

KUWAIT CITY, Dec. 22, 2021 /PRNewswire/ -- Zain Kuwait's 5G traffic currently accounts for more than 40% of its total wireless traffic, ranking the operator as number one in GCC countries in terms of 5G offload ratio. Zain Kuwait is one of the leading telecom operators in MENA and has been at the forefront of innovation for years as the first operator to launch commercial 5G services in the Middle East.

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SOURCE Zain Kuwait

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Mohammad Alfarhoud, Mohammad.Alfarhoud@kw.zain.com
Document PRNASI0020211222ehcm002ut

**Zain Kuwait Resolute 5G <mark>Investment</mark> Delivers Business Success**

Zain Kuwait's 5G traffic currently accounts for more than 40% of its total wireless traffic, ranking the operator as number one in GCC countries in terms of 5G offload ratio. Zain Kuwait is one of the leading telecom operators in MENA and has been at the forefront of innovation for years as the first operator to launch commercial 5G services in the Middle East.

From the 5G service development and business achievements of Zain Kuwait, it is clear that the focus on 5G development brings business success to operators. Zain Kuwait started deployment of 5G networks in 2018. After two years of continuous development, 5G services have entered a period of high growth. Users are continuing to develop rapidly, and the proportion of 5G traffic has also been increasing continuously. This has resulted in positive revenue and profit growth for the operator.

Zain Kuwait has achieved the 5G subscriber penetration ratio of 23%, and the average DOU of its 5G subscribers is five times higher than that of its 4G subscribers. Zain Kuwait's mobile network also recorded revenue and profit growth of 4% and 13% year-over-year in Q2 2021. This is an outstanding achievement especially when there is no population dividend and the expatriate population in country has been continuously decreasing. Zain's 5G development leads the Kuwait telecom market, and its business success has been a result of its overall strategic objective to provide first-class 5G services for users in Kuwait.

Zain Kuwait has firmly invested in 5G for the fastest network construction with the widest coverage, building a foundation for user experience

Network coverage is the basis for user experience. Zain started 5G C-band construction in 2018. In Q3 2019, it completed coverage of major urban areas. By early 2020, it achieved 1:1 construction ratio with its LTE network.

Focusing on fast and value-based network construction, Zain Kuwait was able to quickly exploit the benefits of enhanced 5G network coverage. Leading the network construction lays the foundation for creating 5G business advantages. For instance, Zain was the first operator to commercialize 5G networks in Kuwait. In the commercial release phase, Zain provided the most extensive 5G coverage and best services owing to its focus on network construction. Within six months of the commercial launch, Zain reached 100% coverage, forming the first-mover advantage of 5G networks for itself.

User experience is the key In leading 5G experience targets to drive network experience leadership

With the goal of providing a first-class 5G network experience, Zain insists on higher standards of 5G network construction to ensure high-speed and reliable services for all the users. As a result, the investment in network planning and network construction was increased, which enabled Zain Kuwait to win Ookla's Fastest Fixed Wireless Network Provider Award in 2020 and to lead the Open signal Global Experience Test reports as well. A great network experience enhanced Zain's brand and helped it achieve greater commercial competitiveness.

Document ALBAWA0020211222ehcm000dx

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Document TRADAR0020211222ehcm000dz

**Zain Kuwait provides modernisation services to Kuwait Clearing Company**

Zain Kuwait said it will provide Kuwait Clearing Company (KCC) a range of telecommunication, digital modernisation and cybersecurity services. Chief enterprise business officer Hamad Al-Marzouq said Zain is committed to supporting the digital transformation and IT corporate governance needs of the nation's institutions. KCC acting CEO for the operation sector, Esam Al-Qaoud, said the cooperation will lead to similar relations in the future in line with its responsibilities towards clients and traders at Boursa Kuwait.

Document TELEAST020211220ehck00001

Middle East & Africa Telecommunications Insight
**Industry Trend Analysis - Quick View: Zain Jordan Towers Sale To Reinforce 4G/5G, Fibre Effort**

The Latest: Zain Group's Jordan subsidiary has sold 2,607 telecoms towers to TASC Towers for USD88mn. Zain Group holds a 25% stake in TASC, which operates towers in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia.

Implications: Zain Jordan's sale of its entire tower portfolio is in line with our view that telecoms operators are increasingly opting to divest their passive <mark>infrastructure</mark> assets which they see as no longer holding satisfactory returns on <mark>investment</mark>. The global drive to Industry 4.0 requires operators to explore advanced verticals with greater revenue potential at a time when income from the traditional mobile segment is stagnating. As a result, divestment of <mark>infrastructure</mark> has released new business financing paradigms that Zain is keen to exploit.

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4G/5G Presents Organic Growth Opportunities
Jordan Mobile Market Forecasts (000), 2020-2030
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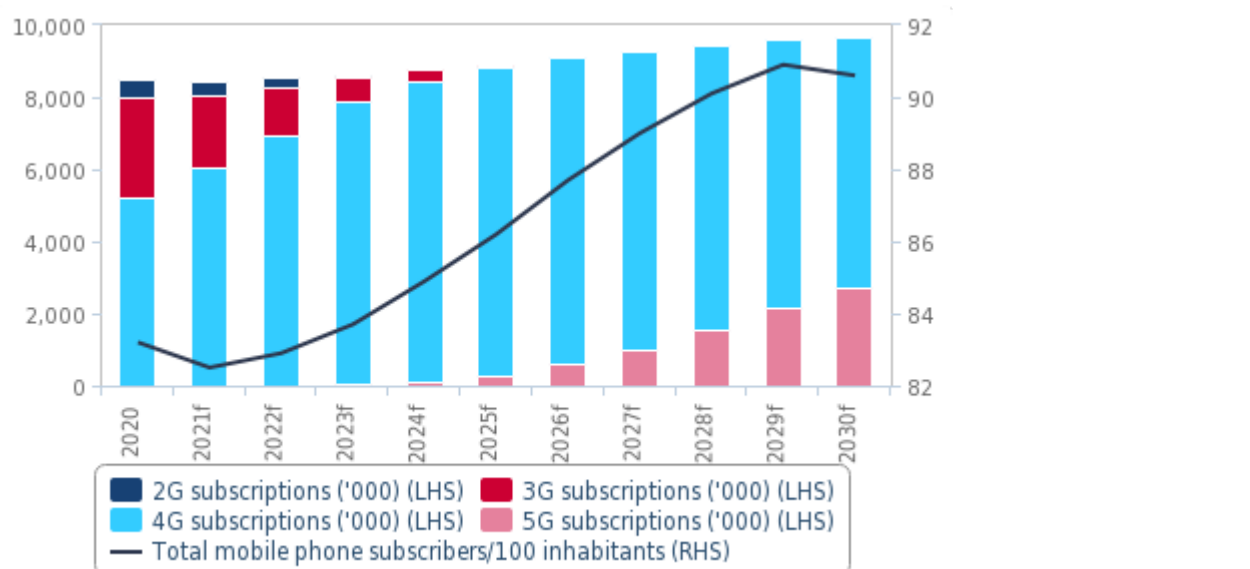


f = Fitch Solutions forecast. Source: Operators, Regulator, Fitch Solutions

The sale of its tower assets presents Zain with greater flexibility to upgrade its existing digital services portfolio and continue to invest in other layers of digital infrastructure which hold superior potential for long-term growth like 5G networks, fibre and data centres. Not only will Zain receive an immediate cash injection from the sale, it will also no longer be responsible for the expensive long-term maintenance costs of towers, giving the operator more agility to explore advanced verticals in line with its digital transformation business strategy '4Sight'.

As a minority shareholder in TASC, Zain Group will continue to benefit from the tower portfolio despite having sold it. TASC will manage the co-location of the towers, allowing other Jordanian operators to lease vertical space, a lucrative service to which Zain will remain exposed.

Included in the transaction is the deal for TASC to manage supporting facilities like power generators and fuel tanks, part of a developing trend where infrastructure owner-operators are offering power-as-a-service (PaaS). PaaS is of particular interest to operators in countries where power supply constraints are prevalent. Jordan has a marked lack of natural resources and is therefore limited to importing energy stock, increasing its vulnerabilities to extended supply chains. Outsourcing these concerns to TASC will be beneficial to Zain, allowing it to allocate greater resources towards augmenting its advanced services portfolio.

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Burgeoning Fibre Network To See More Investment
Jordan Fixed Broadband Connections (000) & FTTx Growth (%) 2018-2021
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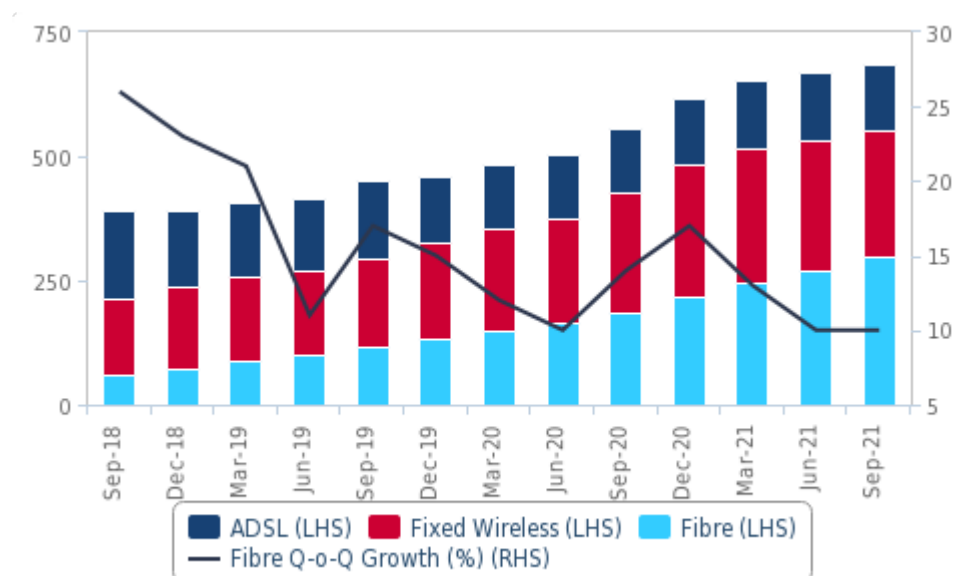


<TD>Source: Regulator, Fitch Solutions

What's Next: We suspect that Zain Jordan will use the capital released from the sale to fund its continued 4G rollout and begin the deployment of 5G, which we expect will drive organic growth over the medium-term. Jordan's young and tech-savvy population also adds upside risk to investments in fibre, the uptake of which has showed impressive growth over 2020. It is likely that Zain will allocate additional capital to funding fibre rollout to continue to capitalise on the surge in demand for data since the onset of the pandemic.

The announcement follows Zain's deals in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait, where the operator plans to divest 8,069 and 1,600 towers, respectively. We anticipate that Zain Group will continue to actively pursue offloading passive infrastructure throughout its geographic portfolio over the medium-term.

Document BMIAA00020220114ehcf0002x

**TASC Towers to Acquire Tower Portfolio from Zain Group (Mobile Telecommunications Company)**

161 words
14 December 2021
MarketLine Financial Deals Tracker
FDTRA
English
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Deal In Brief

TASC Towers, a UAE-based tower operator, has entered into a definite agreement to acquire the passive physical ==infrastructure== of 2,607 tower portfolio in Jordan from Zain Group (Mobile Telecommunications Company K.S.C.P.), a Kuwait-based telecommunications operator providing mobile voice and data services, for USD88 million. The transaction includes an additional 223 sites transferring to TASC Towers on a managed basis. FTI Capital Advisors is acting as financial advisor to Zain Group.

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Deal Value (US$ Million)   88
Deal Type                  Acquisition
Sub-Category               Asset Purchase
Deal Status                Announced: 2021-12-14
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Deal Participants

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Acquirer (Company)   TASC Towers
Vendor (Company)
Mobile Telecommunications Company KSCP
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Deal Rationale

Document FDTRA00020211229ehce000cw

**Zain Jordan to sell and leaseback 2,607 towers**

348 words
14 December 2021
Optical Networks Daily
OBSERV
English

Zain Group in Jordan entered into a 15-year agreement with TASC Towers to sell and leaseback the passive physical ==infrastructure== of its 2,607 tower portfolio in Jordan. The deal is valued at US$88 million. The transaction includes an additional 223 sites transferring to TASC Towers on a managed basis. Zain Group holds a 25% minority stake in TASC Towers.

The deal also includes TASC Towers managing Zain Jordan's supporting facilities such as power generators, fuel tanks and protection kiosks as well as a build-to-suit agreement allowing for a minimum of 525 network sites to be built over the next five years.

Zain Jordan will retain its active infrastructure, including wireless communication antennas, intelligent software, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

TASC Towers, headquartered in Dubai, is an international tower operator focused on sale and leaseback, build-to-suit and growth capital investments in the MENEASA market (Middle East, North & East Africa and South Asia).

Bader Al-Kharafi, Zain Vice-Chairman of Group CEO said: "This transaction is consistent with Zain's '4Sight' strategy to create significant value for shareholders through the unlocking of capital and optimization of infrastructure assets which will flourish under the management of an independent team. As a strategic shareholder, we are committed on supporting TASC Towers' regional expansion in making it a leading operator of telecom infrastructure."

Al Kharafi added, "The deal gives Zain Jordan greater flexibility to invest in network upgrades and cutting-edge ICT technologies to meet the ever-increasing demand for reliable broadband access and data consumption. It will also enhance operational efficiencies and enable a laser focus on the operator's core business and customers to offer them the best mobile and data experience in the Kingdom of Jordan."

This transaction follows similar pioneering deals with respect to 1,620 towers in Zain Kuwait and a recent announcement in Zain Saudi Arabia to sell its 8,100 tower infrastructure.

http://www.tasctowers.com

https://zain.com/en/press-release/zainjordan_tasc

Document OBSERV0020211215ehce00006

**Zain Jordan agrees to sell and leaseback 2,607 towers to TASC Towers for $88m**

440 words
14 December 2021
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

AMMAN/KUWAIT: Zain Group announced that its operation in Jordan has entered into a definite 15-year agreement to sell and leaseback the passive physical **infrastructure** of its 2,607 tower portfolio in Jordan to TASC Towers for $88 million. The transaction includes an additional 223 sites transferring to TASC Towers on a managed basis. Zain Group holds a 25 percent minority stake in TASC Towers.

The deal also includes TASC Towers managing Zain Jordan's supporting facilities such as power generators, fuel tanks and protection kiosks as well as a build-to-suit agreement allowing for a minimum of 525 network sites to be built over the next five years. Zain Jordan will retain its active **infrastructure**, including wireless communication antennas, intelligent software, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

TASC Towers (www.tasctowers.com), headquartered in Dubai, is an international tower operator focused on sale and leaseback, build-to-suit and growth capital investments in the MENEASA market (Middle East, North & East Africa and South Asia). Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO Bader Al-Kharafi said: "This transaction is consistent with Zain's '4Sight' strategy to create significant value for shareholders through the unlocking of capital and optimization of infrastructure assets which will flourish under the management of an independent team. As a strategic shareholder, we are committed on supporting TASC Towers' regional expansion in making it a leading operator of telecom infrastructure."

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This transaction follows similar pioneering deals with respect to 1,620 towers in Zain Kuwait and a recent announcement in Zain Saudi Arabia to sell its 8,100 tower infrastructure. FTI Capital Advisors acted as exclusive financial advisor to Zain Group on this transaction. Zain is a leading telecommunications operator across the Middle East and Africa, providing mobile voice and data services to over 48.4 million active customers as of 30 September 2021. With a commercial presence in 7 countries, Zain operates in: Kuwait, Bahrain, Iraq, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Sudan and South Sudan. In Morocco, Zain has a 15.5 percent stake in 'INWI', through a joint venture. Zain is listed on the Boursa Kuwait (stock ticker: ZAIN).

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Document MEWKUT0020211215ehce00005

**Zain to sell, leaseback 2,607 Jordan towers for $88m**

375 words
14 December 2021
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Zain Group, a leading telecom services operator in Middle East and Africa, has announced that its operation in Jordan has entered into a definite 15-year agreement to sell and leaseback the passive physical infrastructure of its 2,607 tower portfolio in the country to TASC Towers for $88 million.

Headquartered in Dubai, TASC Towers is an international tower operator focused on sale and leaseback, build-to-suit and growth capital investments in the Middle East, North & East Africa and South Asia markets.

The transaction includes an additional 223 sites transferring to TASC Towers on a managed basis, said the statement from Zain Group, which holds a 25% minority stake in the tower company.

The deal also includes TASC Towers managing Zain Jordan's supporting facilities such as power generators, fuel tanks and protection kiosks as well as a build-to-suit agreement allowing for a minimum of 525 network sites to be built over the next five years.

Zain Jordan will be retaining its active infrastructure, including wireless communication antennas, intelligent software, and intellectual property with respect to managing its telecom network.

"This transaction is consistent with Zain's '4Sight' strategy to create significant value for shareholders through the unlocking of capital and optimization of infrastructure assets which will flourish under the management of an independent team. As a strategic shareholder, we are committed on supporting TASC Towers' regional expansion in making it a leading operator of telecom infrastructure," remarked Zain Vice-Chairman and Group CEO Bader Al-Kharafi.

Al Kharafi said: "The deal gives Zain Jordan greater flexibility to invest in network upgrades and cutting-edge ICT technologies to meet the ever-increasing demand for reliable broadband access and data consumption."

"It will also enhance operational efficiencies and enable a laser focus on the operator's core business and customers to offer them the best mobile and data experience in the Kingdom of Jordan," he added.

This transaction follows similar pioneering deals with respect to 1,620 towers in Zain Kuwait and a recent announcement in Zain Saudi Arabia to sell its 8,100 tower infrastructure.

FTI Capital Advisors acted as exclusive financial advisor to Zain Group on this transaction.-TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020211214ehce001md

# telecompaper

**Zain Jordan agrees sale-leaseback for 2,607 towers with TASC for USD 88 mln**

Zain Group said its operation in Jordan has signed a fifteen-year agreement to sell and lease back the passive physical **infrastructure** of its 2,607 tower portfolio to TASC Towers for USD 88 million. The transaction includes another 223 sites transferring to TASC Towers on a managed basis. Zain Group holds a 25 percent minority stake in TASC Towers.

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Document TELEAST020211214ehce0008d

**Zain awarded 'Best Brand' in Mideast Recognition at Telecom Review Excellence Awards 2021**

736 words
12 December 2021
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

Waleed Al-Khashti and Eman Al-Saidi from Zain KSA receive the Best Brand Award.

DUBAI: Zain Group, a leading mobile telecom innovator in seven markets across the Middle East and Africa, announced its Zain brand has been identified as the 'Best Brand' for telecom in the Middle East for 2021 at the Telecom Review Summit Excellence Awards gala ceremony held in Dubai on 8 December 2021. Zain Saudi Arabia was also awarded 'Best 5G User Growth' and 'Most Innovative Service' for its Yaqoot mobile-only platform.

Telecom Review is a leading industry publication, and the award recognizes the outstanding performance of Zain's brand across all its markets, which has come to represent the highest standard of customer service across all of its touch-points. Winners were chosen based on demonstrable capabilities in their specific sector by an independent panel of 15 experienced industry veterans.

Zain has been a recipient of the 'Best Brand' accolade at other regional events in the past, confirming the success of its media campaigns, corporate sustainability, and diversity and inclusion initiatives, as well as its ongoing innovation and investment in network upgrades. These factors combined have resulted in exceptional customer experience since the introduction of the Zain brand in 2007, making it one of the most respected and recognized corporate brands in the Middle East and Africa.

Zain remains passionate about forging strong partnerships and bringing new dynamic services to its customers, evident by the recent launch of Zain Esports and the expansion of Zain's API platform in offering unique and appealing content and gaming services. Zain also recently launched Zain Ventures to reinforce its efforts in the startup ecosystem, as well as launching ZainTech to offer enterprises and governments across the region unique, one-stop shopping across the full stack of ICT services.

The company's marketing campaigns across the region on various media channels have captured the hearts and minds of millions of people. Zain's Ramadan and Eid television commercials this year received a remarkable 20 million views on YouTube, indicative of the brand power of Zain. Today, Zain Group and its local operations boast over 12 million fans on Facebook, more than seven million followers on Twitter, 2.4 million on Instagram and 665,000 on LinkedIn, totaling 22 million fans. Annually, Zain Group and its operations' numerous YouTube channels receive in excess of 100 million views.

Zain was also the first operator to launch commercial 5G networks in both Kuwait (June 2019) and Saudi Arabia (October 2019), followed by Bahrain (June 2020); developments that are positively impacting customer experience and innovation. Sustainability, transparency, and thought leadership lie at the core of Zain's business and this is reflected in every aspect of the company's day-to-day operational activities.

Zain's annual Sustainability Report highlights the company's continued regional leadership in pursuing its sustainability agenda and supporting the communities it serves through outreach activities such as climate change, children's rights, capacity-building, education, socio-economic development, and environmental stewardship. Zain's diversity and inclusion program has also proven extremely successful in further motivating employees given it is one of the most progressive of any entity in the region.

COVID-19 measures to connect with consumers

As a brand that cares deeply about the community it serves, Zain took proactive measures across its footprint to ensure the needs and challenges that our communities faced during the global pandemic were catered to, granting them increased digital access to everyday activities and essential medical and commercial services. March 2020 to September 2021 was a mission-critical period as all Zain operations were focused on providing meaningful connectivity during lockdowns to minimize the impact of the pandemic on everyday life..

The Telecom Review Summit Excellence Awards ceremony saw Zain Saudi Arabia awarded 'Best 5G User Growth' accolade for reaching new heights in the Saudi telecom market, having established itself as the leading provider of 5G services in the Kingdom, having one of the largest 5G networks across the globe. Zain Saudi Arabia's digital-only mobile platform Yaqoot witnessed enormous growth during 2021, counting over

one million installations of the app, and offering customer centric services such as eSIM, Apple Pay, and a chatbot services, as well as coordinating the delivery of SIMs to over 170 cities in the Kingdom.

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Document MEWKUT0020211213ehcc00005

**Tarabut Gateway and Zain Bahrain launch open banking <mark>payments</mark>**

92 words
8 December 2021
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English
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The MENA open banking <mark>platform</mark> Tarabut Gateway has announced a <mark>partnership</mark> with Zain Bahrain to provide the region's first use case of open banking within a telecom firm's app. This will be the first time a regional telecom provider has used open banking to support its <mark>payments</mark>. The benefits for Zain Bahrain include the ability to accept bank-to-bank <mark>payments</mark> where funds are credited instantly; strong customer authentication with no card numbers saved; lower transactional fees and no chargebacks for customer payment.

Document TELEAST020211208ehc800001

**Zain platinum sponsor of POP UP BY COMFEST**

542 words
5 December 2021
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

KUWAIT: Zain, the leading digital service provider in Kuwait, announced its platinum sponsorship of POP UP BY COMFEST 2021, Kuwait's biggest **gaming** and comics event. The event, which Zain supports for the second year running, welcomed huge crowds of **gaming**, comics, and pop culture fans.

The event's opening ceremony witnessed the presence of Zain Group Chief **Investment** and Digital Transformation Officer Malek Hammoud and Zain Kuwait's Chief Corporate Communications and Relations Officer Waleed Al-Khashti, who were eager to take part in the event after it made a comeback after a year-long halt due to the pandemic.

Zain's support to the event came in line with its keenness to support and encourage the various efforts and initiatives that offer a unique entertainment and social experience for the youth, given that they represent society's most vibrant segment. The company is also committed to supporting and empowering young Kuwaiti entrepreneurs who own small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Zain took part in the event via its dedicated booth, through which the company showcased its recently launched Zain Esports brand. The company hosted many exciting competitions and mini championships for visitors who enjoyed competing against each other. Zain also presented valuable prizes to the winners.

Zain Esports is a regional gaming powerhouse launched in December 2020 by Zain, and to date, the brand has hosted numerous multi-national tournaments in the Middle East, such as the 'EA SPORTS FIFA 21 Tournament: Middle East Challenge'. Zain Esports has also organized the 'PUBGM Champions Squad Season 1 & 2', 'Zain Summer Series', and the CSGO 'Final Clash' and most recently partnered with the Kuwait Olympic committee to manage a first-of-its-kind four-weekend esports event.

These and other tournaments have attracted the participation of over 15,000 players from across the region and have been viewed by over 35 million on Zain Esports' YouTube, Twitch and other social media channels. POP UP BY COMFEST 2021 is considered Kuwait's biggest gaming and comics event, having featured many of the entertainment and gaming industry's biggest brands.

The event also hosted many popular international celebrities from the world of gaming and entertainment, where audiences had the chance to meet and greet them. The event witnessed the participation of many Kuwaiti entrepreneurs who own small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) who are comic and pop culture fans and featured their unique products at the event.

Zain is aware of the important role private sector companies play in encouraging such initiatives that support the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) segment, especially that it is one of the leading national companies in the private sector. Zain's participation at this event further reflected its keenness in developing the Kuwaiti entrepreneurial community, which bursts with young talents who have vibrant ideas that offer viable solutions for the market needs.

Zain's support to this event came in line with its core objectives that aim at shouldering the advancement of the community as a whole on all levels, where the company reaffirms the principal of partnership through similar efforts with the aim of contributing to the further progress of national economy.

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Document MEWKUT0020211206ehc500002

📄 **Zain Group**
MarketLine Company Profiles, 18 November 2021, 5773 words, (English)
Zain GroupZain Group (Zain or "the company") is a provider of mobile
telecommunications services. The company offers mobile and data services that
include voice services, wholesale solution and services, enterprise WAN solutions,
cloud ...

**Zain Ventures invests in ZoodPay Buy Now Pay Later Super App**

91 words
15 November 2021
Telecompaper Asia
TELASI
English

Zain Group announced an <mark>investment</mark> in ZoodPay's 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) Super App's series B USD38 million fundraising round. Zain Ventures will work closely with the teams of ZoodPay to accelerate their growth and expansion across the region, stimulating local and cross-border e-commerce transactions, boosting socio-economic activity and creating jobs.

Headquartered in Switzerland, the ZoodPay & ZoodMall app already has more than 8 million users and ten offices across the Middle East and Central Asia.

Document TELASI0020211115ehbf000b7

**Zain Ventures invests in ZoodPay Buy Now Pay Later Super App**

91 words
15 November 2021
Telecompaper Middle East
TELEAST
English

Zain Group announced an <mark>investment</mark> in ZoodPay's 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) Super App's series B USD38 million fundraising round. Zain Ventures will work closely with the teams of ZoodPay to accelerate their growth and expansion across the region, stimulating local and cross-border e-commerce transactions, boosting socio-economic activity and creating jobs.

Headquartered in Switzerland, the ZoodPay & ZoodMall app already has more than 8 million users and ten offices across the Middle East and Central Asia.

Document TELEAST020211115ehbf0008d

**Zain Ventures participates in ZoodPay, the 'Buy Now Pay Later' Super App series B $38m round**

950 words
14 November 2021
Kuwait Times
MEWKUT
English

LAUSANNE, Switzerland: Zain Group, a leading telecom innovator operating in seven markets and serving over 48 million customers across the Middle East and Africa, announced an ==investment== in ZoodPay, 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) Super App's series B $38 million fundraising through its venture capital arm 'Zain Ventures', joining other global and existing investors in the round.

Zain Ventures will work closely with the teams of ZoodPay's fintech solution and its demand generation marketplace ZoodMall to accelerate their growth and expansion across the region, stimulating local and cross-border e-commerce transactions, boosting socio-economic activity and creating jobs.

Headquartered in Switzerland, the ZoodPay & ZoodMall app already has more than 8 million users and ten offices across the Middle East and Central Asia. The business commits to delivering a "Swiss quality" shopping experience and cross-border services to merchants and shoppers across fast-growing fintech and e-commerce emerging markets such as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

ZoodPay's Super App BNPL fintech solution offers ZoodMall online and offline shoppers in core geographies convenient options and instant approval to buy products in their local currency in cash or with the flexibility of paying in four to six monthly instalments, without any interest or fees. ZoodMall is the Middle East and Central Asia's fastest-growing mobile-only marketplace, providing consumers access to 7 million products from over 30,000 local and cross-border merchants.

[Click to view image](#)

A statement from Zain Group noted, "The ZoodPay Super App and its marketplace ZoodMall offers an attractive, convenient, and unique value-proposition to digital-savvy online shoppers and the underbanked population across Zain's markets, supporting the company's '4Sight' strategic Fintech and digital lifestyle aspirations to customers and beyond. Zain is confident this strategic investment will be value-accretive to Zain Ventures on multiple fronts as the team works closely with the successful ZoodPay team on accelerating its growth and expansion across our footprint."

A statement from OrientSwiss, the parent company of ZoodPay and ZoodMall noted, "As local and cross-border e-commerce grows, partnering with dynamic companies such as Zain will be a positive boost for all stakeholders in the ecosystem, whether they be customers, merchants or investors. OrientSwiss would like to thank the Zain Ventures management team and other investors for their trust and confidence, and looks forward to taking the ZoodPay Super App ecosystem to new heights."

ZoodPay: An innovative Ecosystem for Merchants: https://www.zoodpay.com/ecosystem

ZoodPay's Buy Now Pay Later Super App also encompasses the ZoodMall marketplace, and the logistics cross-border corridor, ZoodShip. This ecosystem empowers and incentivizes merchants from the Middle East, Central Asia, China, Europe, Russia, and Turkey to open their storefronts to local, new low-penetrated and fast-growing markets without additional set-up costs or fees. Merchants have a unique one-stop value proposition offer to shoppers, supporting them in gaining new customers (including the underbanked) with higher-order value and building brand loyalty by offering:

1. Secure, flexible, and popular payment methods either by cash or through ZoodPay's BNPL solution

2. Creating demand generation and marketing for products through the ZoodMall B2C marketplace

3. Full-operational logistics support for delivery and customer support to reduce product returns.

More on the BNPL global ecosystem

Millions of shoppers across the globe now use a Buy Now Pay Later (BNPL) platform (also known as point-of-sale loans or lay-by) to finance their online or in certain cases, offline purchases. BNPL provides the option for shoppers to receive their items immediately and pay over a period of instalments, often interest free with just a few clicks when checking out. Shoppers typically have a down payment and then pay the

remaining sum in instalments during a period that can range from two weeks to three months, or longer in certain instances.

The advantage for shoppers is that they can buy a more expensive item than they might normally be able to pay for in one go, say a mobile phone for $500, and spread the cost of their purchase over weekly or monthly instalments. COVID19 accelerated the growth of online shopping, and BNPL platforms which had been popular and growing prior to the pandemic, benefitted exponentially due to the change in consumer spending habits and fast-growing e-commerce adoption.

According to a report from Worldpay, a payment processing firm, global e-commerce transactions totaled $4.6 trillion in 2020, up 19 percent from 2019. Worldpay states that BNPL accounted for 2.1 percent, or about $97 billion of all global e-commerce transactions in 2020 and this figure is expected to double to 4.2 percent by 2024.

More on Zain Ventures

One of the key elements of Zain Group's '4Sight' strategy, Zain Ventures was recently established to complement the existing investment portfolio of Zain Group and open the door to future investment opportunities in the venture capital, FinTech and Tech World, focusing on digital innovations in the fast-growing E-services and entrepreneurial startup ecosystem.

Investing in the world of venture capital provides Zain with a vast range of opportunities to diversify and expand its reach in the surrounding ecosystem. Over the years, Zain has expanded its relationship with regional and international venture capital funds supporting their portfolio companies whenever appropriate. Zain has also continued its active engagement in direct strategic investments in a variety of promising startups from the region and afar, offering them support on multiple fronts including a wide geographical reach and progressive customer base for expansion growth opportunities.

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Document MEWKUT0020211115ehbe00007

**Zain Ventures invests $38m in BNPL app ZoodPay**

513 words
14 November 2021
TradeArabia
TRADAR
English

Zain Group, a leading telecom group, has announced an ==investment== in ZoodPay, 'Buy Now Pay Later' (BNPL) Super App's series B $38 million fundraising through its venture capital arm Zain Ventures.

Zain Ventures will work closely with the teams of ZoodPay's fintech solution and its demand generation marketplace ZoodMall to accelerate their growth and expansion across the region, stimulating local and cross-border e-commerce transactions, boosting socio-economic activity and creating jobs.

Headquartered in Switzerland, the ZoodPay & ZoodMall app already has more than 8 million users and ten offices across the Middle East and Central Asia. The business commits to delivering a "Swiss quality" shopping experience and cross-border services to merchants and shoppers across fast-growing fintech and e-commerce emerging markets such as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Uzbekistan, and Kazakhstan.

ZoodPay's Super App BNPL fintech solution offers ZoodMall online and offline shoppers in core geographies convenient options and instant approval to buy products in their local currency in cash or with the flexibility of paying in four to six monthly instalments, without any interest or fees.

ZoodMall is the Middle East and Central Asia's fastest-growing mobile-only marketplace, providing consumers access to 7 million products from over 30,000 local and cross-border merchants.

"The ZoodPay Super App and its marketplace ZoodMall offers an attractive, convenient, and unique value-proposition to digital-savvy online shoppers and the underbanked population across Zain's markets, supporting the company's '4Sight' strategic Fintech and digital lifestyle aspirations to customers and beyond. Zain is confident this strategic investment will be value-accretive to Zain Ventures on multiple fronts as the team works closely with the successful ZoodPay team on accelerating its growth and expansion across our footprint," a statement from Zain Group noted.

A statement from OrientSwiss, the parent company of ZoodPay and ZoodMall noted: "As local and cross-border e-commerce grows, partnering with dynamic companies such as Zain will be a positive boost for all stakeholders in the ecosystem, whether they be customers, merchants or investors. OrientSwiss would like to thank the Zain Ventures management team and other investors for their trust and confidence, and looks forward to taking the ZoodPay Super App ecosystem to new heights."

ZoodPay's Buy Now Pay Later Super App also encompasses the ZoodMall marketplace, and the logistics cross-border corridor, ZoodShip. This ecosystem empowers and incentivizes merchants from the Middle East, Central Asia, China, Europe, Russia, and Turkey to open their storefronts to local, new low-penetrated and fast-growing markets without additional set-up costs or fees. Merchants have a unique one-stop value proposition offer to shoppers, supporting them in gaining new customers (including the underbanked) with higher-order value and building brand loyalty by offering:

1. Secure, flexible, and popular payment methods either by cash or through ZoodPay's BNPL solution

2. Creating demand generation and marketing for products through the ZoodMall B2C marketplace

3. Full-operational logistics support for delivery and customer support to reduce product returns. – TradeArabia News Service

Document TRADAR0020211114ehbe000ul

**ZoodPay raises $38m through Series B round to fund growth plans**

290 words
12 November 2021
12:14
MarketLine News and Comment
DTMNTR
English
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Buy now pay later (BNPL) app ZoodPay has raised $38m through Series B round to fund its growth plans across the Middle East and Central Asia.

The **funding** round has seen the participation of London-based VC Sturgeon Capital, Zain Group's venture capital arm Zain Ventures, and other existing investors.

The proceeds from the Series B funding will help the firm tap growing local and cross-border e-commerce transactions through its marketplace ZoodMall and BNPL solutions.

Based in Switzerland, ZoodPay and ZoodMall currently have over eight million users and ten offices across the Middle East and Central Asia.

ZoodPay claims to provide 'quality' shopping experience and cross-border services to shoppers and merchants across the fintech and e-commerce emerging markets such as Iraq, Jordan, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, and Lebanon.

It provides two products - ZoodPay BNPL and ZoodPay Credit.

ZoodPay BNPL offers four-instalments plan that charges 0% interest,while ZoodPay Credit is offering up to 12 months plan with interest in some markets.

Its BNPL is available through ZoodMall as well as across thousands of online and offline shops in its primary markets.

OrientSwiss, the parent company of ZoodPay and ZoodMall, CEO Michael Khoi said: "This new funding will be value-accretive to all our stakeholders, as we expand across the Middle East and Central Asia.

"We're improving people's lives by offering to digital savvy shoppers and the underbanked population the most convenient instant online and offline instalment payment solutions for their shopping experience. We would like to thank our investors for their trust and confidence, and we look forward to taking the ZoodPay Super App ecosystem to new heights."

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Document DTMNTR0020211115ehbc00079

**ZoodPay raises $38m through Series B round to fund growth plans**

290 words
12 November 2021
12:15
MarketLine News and Comment
DTMNTR
English
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Buy now pay later (BNPL) app ZoodPay has raised $38m through Series B round to fund its growth plans across the Middle East and Central Asia.

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Document DTMNTR0020211112ehbc0005o

**ZoodPay Raises USD38 Million in Series B Venture <mark>Funding</mark>**

172 words
11 November 2021
MarketLine Financial Deals Tracker
FDTRA
English
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Deal In Brief

ZoodPay SA, a Switzerland buy now pay later payment solution, has raised USD38 million in series B venture <mark>funding</mark> led by Sturgeon Capital, Zain Ventures, Zain Group, Arm Ventures.

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Deal Value (US$ Million)   38
Deal Type                  Venture Finance
Sub-Category               Growth Capital/Expansion
Deal Status                Completed: 2021-11-11
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Deal Participants

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Target (Company)       ZoodPay SA
Acquirer 1 (Company)   Sturgeon Capital Limited
Acquirer 2 (Company)
Mobile Telecommunications Company KSCP
Acquirer 3 (Company)   Arm Ventures
Acquirer 4 (Company)   Zain Ventures
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Deal Rationale

ZoodPay intends to use the funds to accelerate its growth and expansion across the Middle East and Central Asia, stimulating local and cross-border e-commerce transactions through its marketplace (ZoodMall) and 'Buy Now Pay Later' solutions.

Document FDTRA00020211118ehbb000bg

**5G operators in the Middle East set new benchmark in leveraging 5G FWA to grow revenue and subscriber base**

By Gagan Kaur, Total Telecom
839 words
9 November 2021
Total Telecom Plus
TOTEL
English

5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) is emerging as one of the most powerful 5G use cases and is steadily gaining a stronghold in several geographies. The Middle East region has taken the lead in using FWA to provide high-speed 5G connectivity to a greater number of people.The Middle East and Africa (MEA) region boasts of more than 1 million 5G FWA subscribers, while Asia has around 390,000 5G FWA subscribers. On the other hand, Western Europe has 200,000 and Eastern Europe 130,000 5G FWA subscribers.Zain KSA, a prominent service provider in Saudi Arabia, is at the forefront of using 5G networks to provide high-speed FWA connectivity and adding to its revenue streams. This also enables the company to ensure a faster return on investment on setting up its 5G network. Zain was one of the first mobile network operators to set up a 5G network in 2019, and by 2020 it had built one of the largest 5G networks in the Middle East, Africa and Europe region.

It had more than one million FWA subscribers, including 4G and 5G, by 2020.Win-Win situation: Delivering Exceptional Experience and Enhancing Revenue The continued focus on 5G FWA helped Zain KSA to significantly increase its revenue, since the Average Revenue Per User (ARPU) of FWA is nearly three times of mobile phone, and that of 5G FWA is four times that of mobile phone tariff. Zain was able to grow its ARPU to $90 for 5G from just $19 for non-5G.Further, 5G-powered FWA is helping Zain provide a truly differentiated experience. A testament to this was that Zain was able to acquire the Fastest Fixed network Award from Ookla based on its 5G FWA experience. On average, Zain KSA is able to provide high-speed of an average 250Mbps to its 5G FWA subscribers. This has also contributed to increasing ARPU with differentiated quality of service. It is clearly a win-win situation for the service provider, as it is not only able to provide a superior experience but is also able to significantly increase its revenue.Being an early adopter of 5G FWA, Zain decided to further leverage its network to provide new and innovative use cases to its subscribers. Take, for example, the case of Zain combining 5G FWA with Over The Top (OTT) video as a package and 5G FWA with CloudGame. Zain's strong performance in this segment led to it being ranked first in the game mode report issued by the Communications and Information Technology Commission (CITC) for the first quarter of 2021. In addition, Zain recorded the best connectivity performance in four of the most popular video games Fortnite, FIFA 21, APEX Legends, and Dota 2. Zain also developed an FMC package including 5G FWA and mobile phone together to attract subscribers.Zain continues to focus on FWA and is moving from strength to strength regarding this. The service provider is now targeting to move 4G FWA subscribers to 5G and estimate around 600,000 will move to 5G FWA in the coming year. Additionally, the traffic ratio for 5G continues to grow for Zain touching 27% in Q2 2021.Its focus on 5G FWA has helped it to record a significant increase in income and profit. Zain KSA delivered a profit of 60 million rials compared to 42 million rials in the second quarter of the same year, recording an increase of 45%. The company's revenue was SAR 1,984 million, a 4% growth rate in the third quarter of 2021 compared to the second quarter of 2021.Zain KSA is not the only operator to benefit from 5G FWA in the Middle East region. du, another prominent service provider in UAE, provides 5G network coverage in more than 80% of the country and more than 91% in Dubai, is leveraging 5G FWA to provide fibre-like experience with speeds of up to 100Mbit/s in the entire country. Further, the service provider has adopted the strategy of offering 5G FWA service to the high-end 4G users to bring down the churn rate, increase ARPU and add new subscribers.5G FWA has emerged as a significant new revenue opportunity for the service providers and is helping them acquire new subscribers in locations and areas where typically it is difficult or too expensive to set up a fibre network, or where the MNO has no fibre. This is especially true in the COVID-19 era when there is an urgent need to extend the benefit of the high-speed broadband network in remote areas. The 5G FWA allows the service providers to provide fibre-like connectivity without laying down fibre optic cable. Service providers in the Middle East, especially Zain KSA and du, are demonstrating the incredible use of 5G FWA for the rapid monetization of 5G investments.

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