

HH Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan inaugurates Hafilat Industries' new factory

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Abu Dhabi: May 27 2008, - His Highness Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chief of the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court and Chairman of the Higher Corporation of Specialised Economy Zones (ZonesCorp), today inaugurated **Hafilat Industries'** new factory located in **Industrial City of Abu Dhabi (ICAD1)**, Mussafah, Abu Dhabi, UAE. The ceremony was attended by the Australian Ambassador His Excellency Jeremy Bruer. HH was greeted by **Hafilat's** Chairman and Board members. The event was attended by some of the country's prominent businessmen and public figures.

While touring the factory, HH Sheikh Hamed praised the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, President of the UAE and Ruler of Abu Dhabi, for focusing on the UAE's growing industrial sector, seeing as that it is one of the main driving forces in diversifying the nation's GDP.

HH Sheikh Hamed also mentioned that **Hafilat Industries** is the region's only manufacturer of quality aluminium buses and the GCC's first European-quality bus builder. The company will raise the bar in terms of holistic quality offerings, production specification and competitiveness. All this is being made possible under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, which has focused on the strategic development of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi.

HH Sheikh Hamed praised **Hafilat's** efforts for developing the local industrial sector and making it competitive in the local and international markets. He added that the company's direction towards attracting the highest standards of administrative and technical staff proves **Hafilat's** contribution to the industry, which plays an important role in the growing industrial development being witnessed in Abu Dhabi. HH Sheikh Hamed also emphasised the wise leadership of the nation which is making Abu Dhabi one of the world's industrial hubs.

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ABU DHABI -- The UAE has started assembling buses which will not only meet the growing local needs but will be exported also.

At an opening ceremony, Shaikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Chief of the Abu Dhabi Crown Prince's Court and Chairman of the Higher Corporation of Specialised Economic Zones (ZonesCorp), inaugurated Hafilat Industries' new factory located in Industrial City of Abu Dhabi (ICAD-1).

The ceremony was attended by the Australian Ambassador Jeremy Bruer, government officials and businessmen.

In his remarks, Shaikh Hamed praised the leadership of The President His Highness Shaikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan for focusing on the UAE's growing industrial profile, while diversifying the economy.

Hafilat Industries, the manufacturer of quality aluminium buses licensed by Australia's Volgren, has won an export order worth Dh30million from Australia. Production will commence this month and it will take four months to complete the export shipments.

The company will build Volgren's 'New Generation City Bus' on a Euro IV Mercedes Benz chassis originating from Spain, all of which will feature multiplexed electrics, sophisticated video surveillance, electronic signage, and a full aluminum body.

UAE is the first country in the GCC to be building European-quality buses. Hafilat uses Swiss technology which is further enhanced by its Australian partner Volgren. The buses are not only lighter -- which is good for the environment -- but are stronger and safer for the passengers and the driver. Additionally, they do not rust, which makes them cheaper to operate and maintain.

Apart from city buses, Hafilat has a full range of public transport buses, including articulated city, double deck, compressed natural gas (CNG), hybrid (electric) and trolley buses.

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