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A selection of news articles that featured in official publications in UAE and Italy related to the business, economy and culture of the two countries.



SAFE AND SOUND IN THE UAE

The UAE and Saudi Arabia are among the largest markets for commercial homeland security in the Middle East Region as they accord top priority for the safety of their citizens.

You can't have a smart city without having smart security solutions in place to protect its residents and businesses; in addition, investments in physical and IT security across the Middle East Region is on the rise. Worldwide security spending will reach \$96 bln in 2018, up to *% with respect to the 2017: spending on information security technology and services in the Middle East and Mena Region in general was estimated to have reached \$1.8 bln in 2017, an increase of 11% over 2016. Experts believe that this increase in spending by organizations is to mitigate new risks that traditional information security practices are not accustomed to. In addition, the intensity of investment is expected to peak during the next two year toward 2020, when spending in physical security will reach \$10.2 bln, comprising 10% of the global market.

Source: Khaleej Times

EXPO2020 TO LEAVE A SUSTAINABLE TRAIL

Be it electricity, water or construction materials, the Expo2020 team has sustainability on top of the agenda. The promoters also plan to set standards that could be later rolled out in the development of sustainable projects.

“Our Expo legacy is the rollout of new sustainability practices across the UAE. In terms of site-wide sustainability targets, we are focused on two main objectives: protect natural resources through design and promote the use of sustainable materials in terms of environment, social and economic impacts. We have sourced sustainable materials for contractors and consultant and, in addition, we are also looking to import materials from nearby locations to reduce carbon emissions” commented Ahmed Al Khatib, VP Real Estate and delivery, Expo2020 Bureau.

Form the visitors point of view, the idea is to design passages, corridors and streets in such a way that they are shell-shaded by buildings: more than 45.000 sqm has been allocated for green areas which will help the environment bring down temperature. Al Khatib noted that authorities include design sustainability guidelines during the tender stage so that all contractors must comply with the standards to win the contract.

Citing more examples, he revealed that the cement and concrete remix used required 7% less water consumption.

Source: Khaleej Times



CLEAN ENERGY COST SET TO PLUNGE

All renewable technologies will be competitive by 2020 compared to fossil energy with the cost of generating power from wind and solar set to plunge in two years.

The trend signals a significant shift to global energy paradigm as the share of renewable energy in the Middle East is poised to surge phenomenally on the back of increasing focus given to renewable sources by the UAE and other GCC countries.

In the Middle East, power generation capacity from renewables is expected to increase to 100 gig watts from 16.7GW, requiring storage solutions. The UAE has launched mega projects to invest in \$163 bln in projects in a bid to generate almost half the country's power needs from renewable resources as it seeks to reduce dependency on fossil fuels to generate power, including building nuclear facilities. While Dubai has launched the Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park, Abu Dhabi has initiated Shams 1 project, one of the world's largest concentrated solar power. It is hoped that by 2050, 44% of the UAE's energy needs will be provided by renewables, with 3.8% from gas, 1.2% from cleaner fossil fuel and 6% from nuclear energy.

Source: Khaleej Times





DUBAI TO TOUCH BASE WITH NATURE

Imagine 362 species of birds chirping about as you jog. And 10 km of lakes reflecting the setting sun as you cycle by on 100km of dedicated tracks in the middle of the desert.

His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum has announced the Country's first unfenced desert conservation reserve that will span a whopping 10% of the Emirate's total area. The Marmoom Reserve project will come on over 40 hectares of scrubland and fertile area and it will be

powered by a 5000 MW solar power complex. The reserve covers 10% of Dubai's total area and will introduce more than 20 environmental, cultural and sports-related initiatives, sponsored by nine Dubai government agencies.

Sheikh Mohammed said: "Preserving and investing in the environment means preserving and investing in one of our most important assets. The Marmoom Reserve is an environmental tourist and sporting addition to life in the UAE".

The project reflects Dubai's development goals to preserve the local environment, including the nature of the desert and to enhance its aestheticism as well as to provide a natural habitat for threatened wildlife through its natural reserves.

Source: *Khaleej Times*

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