RAKBUSINESS

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EASY WAY TO
ESTABLISH YOUR
OWN COMPANY

10 REASONS TO
INVEST IN
RAS ALKHAIMAH

VAT
DEFINITION, MECHANISMS
AND CONTROLS

KLUDI RAK
RANKS THE FIRST
IN UAE AND GULF

ALHAMMADI
RAK ADOPT THE BEST
OF SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT

PRIVATE SECURITY
PROTECTS YOUR
INVESTMENTS

SEHTEQ
INSURANCE
PACKAGES AT
COMPETITIVE
PRICES

RAS ALKHAIMAH
DESTINATION BEYOND A JOURNEY
The Government of the UAE has launched the “UAE Centennial 2071”, an ambitious project to build emirates of the future and equip the UAE for future generations. The project is a comprehensive and extensive government program that includes the development of a national strategy to enhance the country’s reputation and soft power, and ensure that there are diverse sources of government revenue away from oil, in addition to the investment in advanced technology-focused education and build a system of Emirati ethical values for future generations, Raising productivity in the national economy and enhancing the community cohesion.

As His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum said: “We have plans until 2021, and with the centennial of the UAE we will have a five-decade vision for generations forming a clear map of long-term government operation, and the future generations will need potentials we lay down from today, foundations we raise from now, and an environment for growth to be thought of from this moment on.

The vision did not leave anything to chance. The eminent nations are not left to chance, but to the diligent and sincere science that is planned with the children’s arms and with the ability to believe that progress must be preceded by knowledge and knowledge has an axis in this centennial. Skeptics may see it as a surrealistic project, but our leadership has always taught us that our dreams are achieved by working with proper planning and mobilizing the resources of the nation to guide them to the service of human happiness and well-being. So that future generations will live a happier life in a better environment with greater opportunities and stronger and more effective communication with the world, as His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces.

In order to prove that ambition is not achieved by dreams but by action, the UAE advances every day in the global competitiveness indicators and the business environment to match business with dreams. With the UAE ranking first in the region and 16th globally, maintaining its top position in the top 20 competitive economies worldwide in the latest edition of the 2017 Global Competitiveness Report, And has received advanced rankings that have been included in the top ten in the world in three of the main axes in the report, and one of the top twenty globally in half of these axes, it also ranked third in the world in terms of efficiency of the commodity market, which is a global indication of the success of the policy of economic diversification in the country and the clarity of visions and strategic plans on the performance and efficiency of the business market, in terms of infrastructure, the UAE ranked first in the road quality index and second in the index of Quality of Airport and Air Transport Infrastructure, it also ranked third in the world in both the Quality of Port Infrastructure Quality Index and other indicators.

There is much to be told about a story of a nation whose main aim of its leadership is human happiness.

Dr. Abdulrahman Alshayeb Al Naqbi
DED Director-general
RAS AL KHAIMAH BEGINS NEW YEAR WITH A WORLD RECORD

Where else could you enjoy five star dining under a sky full of stars?

www.raktda.com
RAKDED HONORS ITS STRATEGIC PARTNERS

RAKDED held its annual strategic partners’ conference for 2017, and all those who contributed to the services and initiatives of the Department were honored and enhanced the strategic objectives RAKDED and the best services provided to the client and the community during the current year. The number of honored partners was 67 partners in different categories including local partners, federations, suppliers, tomorrow’s licenses, committed dealers, the oldest licenses in the emirate and clearing offices. A private partner, media partner and best training center were also honored. In this context, Abdulrahman Al-Naqbi, Director General of the Department expressed his appreciation for their sincere efforts and cooperation, which helped drive development and excellence in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, pointing out that honoring the partners by the end of each year is part of the strategic role of the strategic partners and their contribution to achieving the achievements of the department and its objectives and initiatives. Simple in their rewards and a good response to all their efforts in the success of the initiatives, activities and activities of the Department throughout the year.

MY CITY CENTRE... NOW IN RAK

Majid Al Futtaim recently opened My City Centre Al Dhait to meet the everyday dining, lifestyle and retail needs of Ras Al Khaimah’s fastest-growing communities. Today’s inauguration marks Majid Al Futtaim’s first investment in a community and convenience focused retail and services destination for this emirate’s residents and tourists. My City Centre Al Dhait is Majid Al Futtaim’s third My City Centre mall in the UAE, a neighbourhood shopping and dining destination created specifically for nearby residential and commercial communities.

Easily accessible due to its proximity to Mohammed Bin Zayed Road, My City Centre Al Dhait offers a vast array of household goods, including fresh produce and bakery items from Carrefour Market.

The opening of My City Centre Al Dhait reinforces Majid Al Futtaim’s commitment made in 2016 to increase investments in the UAE by AED 30 billion by 2026, taking its total investments in the UAE to AED 40 billion.

STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Ras Al Khaimah’s (RAK) leading real estate company, Al Hamra Group, has partnered with Troon International, the leader in upscale golf course management, development and marketing, to provide full management services to Al Hamra Golf Club, strengthening the visibility of the destination and providing RAK with an internationally acclaimed golf operator.

The premium golf course, designed by renowned golf course architect, Peter Harradine, has risen to prominence since opening its doors a decade ago and now welcomes over 20,000 visitors from around the world every year and has amassed 120 members.

RAK WELCOMES ITS FIRST-EVER FERTILITY CLINIC

Residents of Ras Al Khaimah will now have access to comprehensive fertility services as Bourn Hall Fertility Centre, Dubai, a company of Bourn Hall International, and RAK Hospital partner to launch the first fertility clinic in the Emirate. The collaboration ensures top-of-the-line IVF consultancy and intervention at the doorstep of RAK residents, who were earlier travelling to other emirates for fertility treatments. The clinic primarily provides IVF consultation, along with the medical management of genetic disorders, such as genetic screening to avoid hereditary diseases.

The fertility clinic, due to its strategic placement within the hospital will also serve as a one-stop-solution for couples looking for treatment of chronic ailments to help increase the chances of fertility.
SEHTEQ... Insurance packages at competitive prices

“The Sehteq commitment demonstrates how the DED continues to work towards the vision of His Highness Sheikh Saif Bin Saqr Al Qasimi, Supreme Council Member and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, to grow and support SMEs,” said Dr Abdul Rahman Al Naqqi, Director-General of the Department of Economic Development in Ras Al Khaimah.

Dr Al Naqqi added, “SMEs are the core of our economic growth. Initiatives like Sehteq will help SMEs to grow and attract the right talent by encouraging a healthier and more productive workforce. Moreover, this initiative will nourish the private health care sector in the emirate and attract local and international investments to meet the additional demand on health services. Sehteq is a proactive step in exceeding minimum standards and achieving our customer happiness goals, well before it becomes compulsory by federal laws. The department will also be launching ‘Innovation Month’, with a number of innovative business ideas and initiatives.”

Dr Saif Al Jaberji, Chairman of Sehteq, commented, “Sehteq provides clients with the options to choose the right health insurance coverage with the use of latest technology. Within minutes, the customer can buy and activate his/her health insurance coverage on the portal. Additionally, it offers the client the option to use of an Emirates ID card instead of an insurance card, adding another layer of convenience to the customers.”

First in the northern Emirates

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Financial burdens

Claude Zoghbi, General Manager of RAK Insurance, said, “It is a remarkable step for Ras Al Khaimah to be the first emirate in the Northern Regions and the third after Abu Dhabi and Dubai to introduce a unique health insurance scheme which will provide protection to SMEs and investors from health care related financial burdens. RAK Insurance, being one of the conceptualisers, is delighted to be part of this initiative in partnership with RAK DED and RAK Incubation. The Sehteq technology-driven digital platform will offer economical health care solutions. As a prominent RAK based insurance provider this is an attractive opportunity for us to serve RAK SMEs and investors. This initiative will trigger more ideas in developing other insurance products for asset protection and business contingencies.”

5 Different Packages

The portal will provide five different plan options, which are built to suit all categories of consumers and needs in Ras Al Khaimah. The options start with the ‘Sehteq Basic Plan’, which provides coverage in Ras Al Khaimah. ‘Sehteq Plus’ covers the Northern Regions, and ‘Sehteq Elite’ operates throughout the UAE. Two additional plans for regional and global coverage are suitable for multinational companies and investors.

Based on the vision of the UAE Government to make the year 2018 the year of Zayed, the economy of Ras Al Khaimah formed a team named “Eyal Zayed,” and launched the first of its work this year by announcing the first initiative was the launch of Zayed Knowledge Corner at its headquarters, Al Naqqi, Director General of the Department, and Sami Al Rababah, the team leader, in addition to the presence of the team members and employees of the department. Al Naqqi stressed that the founder of this country deserves our sincere efforts and devotion to comply with his approach and vision, which made the UAE a great example of the happiness of citizens and residents worldwide. He pointed out that the establishment of Zayed Knowledge Corner comes to exploit the waiting time in the center of reading And to gain knowledge through reading books related to the life of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan and his achievements and his journey locally, regionally and internationally. Sami Al Rababah, the team leader, said it was a good feeling to welcome the new year with positive words and positive behaviors to raise the morale of everyone towards the work environment and give employees positive energy to continue giving.
TOURISTS, RAS AL KHAIMAH TOURISM TARGETS IN 2018

The Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority (RAKTDA) is looking at “Vision 2018” to attract a million tourists to Ras Al Khaimah. “The Emirate is recognized as one of the fastest growing Emirates in the tourism sector thanks to the directives of His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah and we are optimistic that our goal of attracting one million visitors by the end of 2018 will be achieved,” said Haitham Mattar, CEO of Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority. And 2.9 million visitors by the end of the year 2025. In the next phase, we will focus on three major tourism sectors - beyond the traditional sun and sand tourism market - adventure and thrill markets, cultural pioneers, health facilities and luxury resorts.

RAK PROPERTIES INVESTMENTS IN 2018

RAK Properties plans to invest AED 1.5 billion in 2018, with a large part of this investment being directed to Hayat Island Project, which the company recently launched along with other projects.

UAE ECONOMY IS GROWTH

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) predicted that oil price increases would contribute to the growth of the UAE economy to 3.4% in 2018, compared with 1.3% growth for 2017 and 3% in 2016. Jihad Azour, (IMF) Director of Middle East and Central Asia, said during the conference announcing the regional economic outlook report for the Middle East and North Africa report that the UAE economy has succeeded in overcoming the consequences of the sharp decline in world oil prices, noting the reform initiatives adopted by the State during the past years to reduce dependence on oil revenues.

AERIAL PERFORMANCE PROSPECTS

Airlines are poised for record annual profits in 2018, according to the International Air Transport Association (IATA), thanks to improved economies around the world and strong demand for travel, with ticket prices also expected to rise. The association expects total profits to rise 11% to $38.4 billion in 2018, adding that the trends are encouraging. North American and European airlines are expected to generate $27.9 billion in total profits of $38.4 billion. After a six-year slump, passenger earnings, a measure of ticket prices, are expected to rise by 3% next year after falling 1.5% last year.

OVER THE PREVIOUS YEAR

2018

- 1,000,000 fixed prices at outlets in Ras Al Khaimah in 2018

- 1200 fixed prices at outlets in Ras Al Khaimah in 2018

- 3.4% growth for the UAE banking sector.

- 5.0 billion dirhams

- 20% growth in UAE banking sector.

- 4.4% growth in UAE economy.

- 38.4 billions dirhams

- 1.5 billion dirhams

- 27.9 billion in total profits.

- 11% increase in total profits.

- 7% increase in passenger earnings.

- 1% increase in ticket prices.
The public Services Department at Ras Al Khaimah is well positioned to upgrade infrastructure services, civil projects and public services for citizens, which is highlighted by the cultural and architectural renaissance witnessed by the emirate today.

The public services department is establishing a promising future for Ras Al Khaimah in cooperation with local government and federal departments. “I always look forward to the future with optimism and hope, Where I take my view of the vision of His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi, member of the Supreme Council of the Union and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, may God protect him, and His Highness the Crown Prince and Chairman of the Executive Council His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Saud Al Qasimi, may God protect him, which is characterized by unlimited ambition towards achieving a future developmental renaissance in various economic, health, service and social fields, making the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah a prominent city in the prosperity and cultural advancement and deservedly occupies a privileged place at the local, regional and global levels” - Engineer Ahmed Mohammed Al Hammadi, General Manager of Ras Al Khaimah public Services said in an interview with Rak Business magazine.

On future plans and strategy for future work, Al-Hammadi says:

The future is always linked to ambitions and achievements in order to ensure continuity. In the midst of rapid and volatile changes and developments, it is necessary to lay the sound foundations for building and shaping a bright future. In light of this, our future strategy has been formulated based on several axes:
1. Preparing and building future models and adapting them to the vision of His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr - Ruler of the Emirate.
2. Develop specialized human resources to draw strategic and operational plans.
3. Launch studies and scenarios on the outlook for the future in all vital sectors.
4. Enhance innovation and creativity platforms, and smart applications.
5. Designing solutions for future challenges in partnership with specialized scientific institutions.

Infrastructure and advanced public service projects are a fundamental key for the evolution of society and the development of the state. How do you plan your projects and what are your priorities?

Infrastructure is our successful equation to achieve the objectives of economic and social development. Research studies on urban and cultural development, the national agenda, the UAE’s orientations and the strategy of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah are considered the main source of plans for infrastructure development projects and service areas in order to accelerate the economic and social progress as well as to strive to keep up with the civilized and urban developments witnessed by the other emirates, and we seek through our projects to achieve the quality of infrastructure to rise to the level of global competition. The development and modernization of the roads and bridges network, the establishment, development and maintenance of dams, as well as the settlement of residential plots, are our top priorities.
How do your projects contribute to enhancing the business climate and attracting investments to Ras Al Khaimah, and how do you contribute to localization of investments?

The infrastructure projects and the service activities carried out by the Department are an effective factor in attracting direct investments to the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, which requires us to constantly upgrade the nature of work and rely on various modern and advanced technologies and achieve high quality. The development of roads and bridges network, the upgrading of sewage services, the projects of cosmetic agriculture and waste management is an integrative services group that plays a key role in establishing direct investments to the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah, as one of the strategic objectives of the Department through periodic performance indicators to ensure the sustainability of development, supporting green economy policies and conserving natural resources.

To complement the UAE’s move towards a sustainable green economy, there are sustainability standards applied to all our projects from the planning and design stage until the completion of implementation, and in this regard, we note our ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the importance of recognizing that the responsibility to commit to the implementation and execution of sustainability plans and strategies is not limited to institutions but is also a societal responsibility of individuals.

Finally, how do you highlight the beauty of Ras Al Khaimah without compromising its essence and traditional identity and heritage? Heritage is considered an important part of our lives, from which we derive our traditions, our original values and our way of life, which reflects our culture and national identity. Our projects always present a picture of heritage in bright new forms. Where we find many of the streets and squares are full of architectural designs that depend on heritage as a style, as well as our projects in the main tenance and renovation of archeological sites and heritage.

Through our community role, we always seek to launch all community initiatives and activities that promote national identity and heritage; perhaps the best evidence for us in this field is the vision of our leaders and their great efforts to achieve a balance between the urban renaissance and preservation of traditional heritage to ensure a modern life upscale heritage of originality and exclusive identity.

How do you promote sustainability concept in your projects?

Quality is a key factor in our projects in order to ensure that high quality infrastructure is in line with the highest international standards to meet future expectations by setting specific performance indicators to ensure sustainable development, supporting green economy policies and conserving natural resources. To complement the UAE’s move towards a sustainable green economy, there are sustainability standards applied to all our projects from the planning and design stage until the completion of implementation, and in this regard, we note our ongoing efforts to raise awareness of the importance of recognizing that the responsibility to commit to the implementation and execution of sustainability plans and strategies is not limited to institutions but is also a societal responsibility of individuals.

How do you contribute to localization of investments?

What is the importance of work and coordination with partners to enhance the developmental role of infrastructure projects in the Emirate?

The department works to enhance cooperation with the government and private sectors through partnerships that contribute to achieving the department’s strategic objectives, ensure the investment of resources and the distribution of roles and responsibilities in the joint ventures with high efficiency, in addition to working to provide added value to customers and achieve a common government goal through leveraging the diverse capabilities and skills of partners, and we have a methodology for managing the work with partners through which we ensure the effectiveness of the strategic partner in achieving the strategic objective of the department through periodic performance indicators.

Our partnership goes through several stages, starting with the planning and classification of partners and ending with the signing of the partnership contract and the implementation of the terms of the agreement. For example, our partnership with the (Municipality Department - Federal Authority for Electricity and Water - Ministry of Infrastructuure Development - Department of Economic Developement - Environment Protection Authority - Emirates Tele-

**Infrastructure Development - Department of Economic Development**

Long-term strategic investments in infrastructure services planning are a key driver for economic development.

We support green economy policies and conservation of natural resources.

**Infrastructural Development is our succesful equation to achieve the objectives of economic and social development**

**UNDER THE SPOTLIGHT**

**EVENTUALLY,** The achievements we are living today are thanks to the Union which built its basic and laid its foundations of our state, HH the late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, may God bless his soul and his brothers, the members of the Supreme Council of the Union. And continued after him and walked on his path the Khalifa and dignified elders the march of achieving honorable achievements, which have caused transformations that changed the course of history, the goal of our good government is to dialogue with, and achieve a nation that moves with the efforts of its rulers and wise policies above all. Thanks to the directives of His Highness Sheikh Saud bin Saqr Al Qasimi and the Crown Prince, HH Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Saud, may God preserve them and their vision of the future with a developmental perspective that only know the concepts of innovation, well-being and luxury. The Department of Public Services has been able to excel in its work, achieve its goal of sustaining the quality of its projects, and still has a lot to look forward to the future of life that boasts superior services in prosperity and progress.
RAKEZ
A promising and attractive environment for international investors

Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone Authority (RAKEZ) is considered an ideal destination for more than 13,000 companies including all types of investors ranging from entrepreneurs and start-ups to small and medium-sized companies and industrial companies representing more than 50 sectors from more than 100 countries worldwide. Thus forming a major drive for the growth and prosperity of Ras Al Khaimah’s economy, and for the emirate to become the leading investment destination for global investors.

At the northernmost part of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) lies Ras Al Khaimah (RAK), one of the leading business destinations in the country. The combination of RAK’s business-friendly environment and cost competitiveness has helped thousands of investors gain a higher return on investment.

The emirate’s political security and stability are backed by renowned credit rating agencies such as Fitch Ratings and S&P, while its connectivity to fast-growing markets is well supported by major logistical hubs including: RAK International Airport; multilane superhighways that link to neighbour emirates; and five seaports led by Saqr Port, the largest bulk port in the Middle East.

Ras Al Khaimah Economic Zone Authority (RAKEZ) is focusing its strategy on diversifying the range of features and special services that enable investors from all over the world to establish their companies, operate their businesses and expand its range with ease in the country and the Middle East. From which the most important of these services are:

- Various business licenses: for local companies and free zone companies for all types of business sectors, including industry, trade, consulting, logistics, academic, media and many others.
- Various facilities: provided by (RAKEZ) for all types of business sectors, in - including: warehousing, shared office units, offices, warehouses for manufacturing, storage and assembly purposes, plots dedicated to industrial development.
- Housing for employees and workers.
- Cost effective business packages and special offers for business establish - ment, which are launched by (RAKEZ) from time to time to benefit business owners.
- Service packages for workers.
- Housing and Sectors.

RAKEZ Business Excellence Awards for 2017

RAKEZ 2017 Awards program for Business Excellence aims at honouring companies with outstanding performance that contribute to the economic development of the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah. This year’s awards program will be full of excitement and rewards. RAKEZ will award the winners cash prizes totalling AED 200,000.

Recycling Center

As part of its efforts to preserve the environment, RAKEZ has launched a recycling centre to ensure waste collection in business areas, separated and disposed of in an efficient and safe manner without leaving any negative impacts on the environment. RAKEZ cooperates with Ras Al Khaimah Waste Management Authority, which recycles and exploits waste in the production of electric power and various raw materials and also sends them to recycling plants in Europe, China and Vietnam.

On the other hand, RAKEZ is developing the internal road network in Al-Hamra industrial area to facilitate and support the logistics movement from and to the region. In addition to the establishment of new housing for workers in the industrial area of Al-Hamra to serve all the industrial sectors.

Unified Services Window

RAKEZ offers its services under the unified window system, which facilitates for the investor to obtain a license, establish a legal entity, and commence his business properly for profitable results. One of the most important services provided by (RAKEZ) under one roof:

- Business Support Services
- Government Services
- Administrative Services
- Procurement Services.
- And many more.

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Housing for employees and workers.

Cost effective business packages and special offers for business establishment, which are launched by (RAKEZ) from time to time to benefit business owners.

RAKEZ provides continuous business support services and meets customer needs and requirements from documents, communications and coordination with other government departments.
RAK SME
Promotes quality and innovative projects for entrepreneurs

Saud Bin Saqr Foundation for Youth Projects Development plays a leading role in supporting and developing the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) sector in Ras Al Khaimah, by encouraging young people to entrepreneurship, diversifying the economy and achieving sustainable development. Through an integrated package of services and facilities. In the past, the Corporation has achieved qualitative leapfrogging in addition to its promotion of small and medium enterprises for entrepreneurs.

The Foundation works to provide a lot of facilities and services to start and upgrade the youth projects, including:

BUSINESS CENTERS:
The Business Centre is one of the main initiatives of the Foundation. It provides a business environment equipped with projects and supported with basic services such as communications, Internet, meeting rooms, training programs, etc. The business centers offer various options from business incubators, including closed and shared offices, which help entrepreneurs to launch their projects.

GOVERNMENT PROCUREMENT:
The Government Procurement Program provides Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) with the opportunity to develop and evolve their business by supplying the needs of the Government of Ras Al Khaimah and its affiliates as well as the supporting entities of the Corporation with goods and services in both contracts and procurement.

BANK GUARANTEES EXEMPTIONS:
The Ministerial Resolution on the exemption of bank guarantees issued by the Ministry of Emiratization and Human Resources was activated as it comes in implementation of the incentives and privileges granted to small and medium enterprises as stipulated by the Federal Law for Small and Medium Enterprises. The number of applications submitted by the entrepreneur members of the Foundation to benefit from the bank guarantee exemptions reached 80 applications.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT:
Believing in the importance of training and qualification to improve the skills of the entrepreneurs and develop their experience in managing their business and overcoming the obstacles in an open competitive market, the Foundation organizes several training programs and forums throughout the year in cooperation with a network of training service providers. In addition to the awareness programs that are implemented in order to develop the knowledge and skills of entrepreneurs and to inform them of all the new research, studies, regulations and laws and all that would help in the development and promotion of their projects.

VARIOUS CONSULTING:
The Foundation provides administrative, technical and financial consultancy and assistance in the preparation of economic feasibility studies for emerging projects and reviews the studies submitted to them to express opinions and provide consultancy. The Foundation’s bodies also conduct periodic visits and periodic follow-up to the projects of the members of the institution in order to provide advice and identify the challenges facing them and find solutions to them and develop the services and products provided by the projects.

INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL LANDS:
Upon instructions from His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, to grant industrial and commercial lands to young citizens wishing to establish their industrial and commercial projects, the Foundation has received and reviewed the applications submitted to provide an opinion and recommendation in accordance with the nature of the submitted projects.

AGREEMENTS AND PARTNERSHIPS:
The organization is constantly signing agreements of support and cooperation with a number of entities to provide the necessary support to its members to start their work and projects.

INTEGRATED SERVICES:
Saud Bin Saqr Foundation provides a complete package of services that provide small and medium-sized citizen entrepreneurs with all they need to enter the business world, including:
• Exemption from commercial license fees.
• Letters of recommendation.
• Free economic and legal consultations.
• Priority in nomination for international and local exhibitions.
• Using the organization logo.
• Discounts on many services.
• Open and closed offices for rent inclusive of all services.
• Meeting room and training.
Studies and statistics confirm that RAK economy is one of the fastest growing economies in the region and the most stable, which has been able to overcome the successive impediments. Some industries in the Emirate have succeeded in gaining international attention and access to world-class centers such as pharmaceutical, ceramics and cement industries, and other industries such as bricks, tiles, stones, marble, asphalt, plastics, boats, doors, aluminium, milk, poultry and dates. The sector is still able to offer more meaningful investment opportunities.

The emirate adopts economic diversification as a strategic option for achieving sustainable economic development. Some industries in the Emirate have succeeded in gaining international attention and access to world-class centers such as pharmaceutical, ceramics and cement industries, and other industries such as bricks, tiles, stones, marble, asphalt, plastics, boats, doors, aluminium, milk, poultry and dates. The sector is still able to offer more meaningful investment opportunities.

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KLUDI RAK
Ranks first in the UAE market sales

*KLUDI RAK* combines two ancient philosophies; a philosophy based on quality and efficiency, and a philosophy based on elegance and luxury. This charming combination comes from Kludi as a high-quality German product on the one hand and Ras Al Khaimah Ceramics, the world’s largest ceramics manufacturer.

By Khoulal Ibrahim

RAK Business Magazine met Mr. Imad Kokash “KLUDI RAK” General Manager, who spoke with great enthusiasm about this pioneering brand, and its beginnings and presence in the local and regional market saying: “The launch came from the principle of the need to provide an integrated product that meets the growing demand for RAK Ceramics products. In addition to the ceramic products, there was a need to have mixers for bathrooms and kitchens. The company aimed to fill this gap by seeking to provide an integrated service to its customers to achieve the quality and integration equation that RAK Ceramics works on. Hence, its strategic partnership with the German company KLUDI pioneer of bathroom and kitchen equipment since 1926.”

Since its opening, KLUDI RAK has been covering all the needs of RAK Ceramics projects and has begun to expand to cover the needs of the local market in general and to export and expand in the Arab world, North Africa and the Indian Subcontinent. German quality combined with UAE’s creative vision to provide the local and regional market the best bathrooms and kitchens facilities of a global quality combines the elegant form and the innovative technology.

“KLUDI RAK” confirms its presence as a sign that upholds the criteria of sustainability and conservation of the environment, especially the rationalization of water consumption, about this commitment “Eco-friendly production methods and the intelligent use of resources is a long-term commitment for us. From the beginning, the KLUDI RAK plant has been equipped with the latest technology” - said Kokash

Most of the machines are imported from Germany, and we offer unique water-conserving products that are environmentally friendly and adhere to sustainability standards, from raw materials used in manufacturing and conforming to European specifications, through manufacturing and production stages until the product reaches the customer in its final form.

Kokash continued, “We at ‘KLUDI RAK’ are professionally and morally committed towards our environment and to future generations, we export ourselves as custodians of water conservation, and as the global water flow rate of the mixers is focused on 9 liters per minute, we have committed ourselves in all of our products in the UAE. In line with Emirates Standardization and Metrology Authority (ESMA) guidelines at a water flow rate of 6 liters per minute,

“We have also committed ourselves to the specific scale of public utility products that have pressure on consumption such as commercial centers, public parks and others with a flow rate of 2 liters per minute. Today we have the highest conservation and rationalization rate of water consumption in the world up to 0.6 liters per minute.

And about the advantages of the products of “KLUDI RAK” said Kokash: “KLUDI RAK” combines technical versatility and high operational capability, and all its products are carefully and meticulously tailored to local high-end taste and follow the latest technology developments and sustainability standards. And compared to traditional water saving products, our products offer many advantages such as superior protection from calcification and ideal water flow rate even in difficult conditions for water flow, as well as anti-clogging and sedimentation filters.

“KLUDI RAK” highly values the loyalty and trust of its customers and has sought to offer a ten-year double manufacturing guarantee and eco-friendly European parts, all supported by after sales services, beside assigning a toll-free number to connect directly with the team 800KLUDI in addition to direct chat service on the site of the company (Live chat), to delight the largest number of customers with distinction, where we noted the amount of happiness already available in the working environment among employees, which is the most important motive for the desire to provide such services.

And the about the position of the “KLUDI RAK” in the kitchen and bathroom mixer market, Kokash confirmed: “Because our interest in quality and innovation lies in all the details of the product, KLUDI RAK has been able to take a prominent position in the local and regional market, thus gaining the confidence of customers to become their best choice thanks to its high quality products.

It also earned the confidence of architects, interior decoration experts and project planners. It has become the most preferred choice of all commercial, industrial and residential sectors, and confirmed its presence with the most prominent projects in the state of large hotels and hospitals, and cooperated with several governmental and private bodies in addition to several large projects in Kingdoms of Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon and many other countries.”

"After this decade-long regional experience, I can confidently announce that we are in the top position in the UAE market and seek to reach this in the neighboring markets" - Kokash added.

‘We aspire to the future and enhance our ambition to work hard to increase production, keep pace with sustainability standards, technological developments and the general taste of customers, we will also increase environment friendly products, as well as focus on diversity and integration, in the year 2020, we are looking forward to conveying our success story in the UAE to the outside world, and we emphasize the ‘Made in Ras Al Khaimah’ brand as a luxury brand across the world.” – Kokash addressing their future plans.

In February 2006, His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qasimi inaugurated the "KLUDI RAK" to enhance the presence of the industry sector in the emirate.
The United Arab Emirates is keen to enhance its role in the development of the private security sector to be more professional in order to meet the future security needs and achieve the government’s aspirations in making the country a modernized civil society governed by justice and security. And in order to highlight the nature of the work of these companies and the role they play in training, qualifying and honing the skills of the guards to be a key partner in driving economic growth and securing a safe and attractive environment for investments and capitals from the vision of “private security protects your investment” RAK business met Mr. Lt. Col. Saeed Obaid Al-Shamsi, Director of the Private Security Business Department at the General Directorate of Security Support at the General Secretariat of the Office of HH the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior, who at the beginning of his speech stressed the keenness of the Ministry of Interior to follow the best practices in regulating the private security sector to assist criminal justice and law enforcement agencies to assist police and security agencies in maintaining security and protecting property and investments.

**Promote an attractive investment environment**

“The UAE is one of the world’s leading countries that has been keen to provide a safe environment for investment, in accordance with the best standards to achieve the safety and security of society” Al-Shamsi said. He stressed the importance of developing partnerships between the ministry and various private sector activities to promote awareness and educate investment owners and private companies to follow all instructions and directives issued by the Ministry of the Interior to ensure the creation of a stable security environment away from any intrusions which may impede the development of investments and economic and industrial work in the State.

**STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP**

“The Ministry of Interior believes in the importance of developing the strategic partnership between the Ministry and the companies concerned in providing its security services in the areas of general security guarding, funds transfer, cash collection projects and initiatives in coordination with the concerned authorities in the Ministry of Interior, including the implementation of administrative services and operations to support its supervisory role in the private security sector in the country and the work is underway to implement an initiative to prepare criteria for the classification of security companies, which reached 48 companies in the State within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of the Interior.

The first responder at the event site

Private security companies play an important role in maintaining the state of security and stability enjoyed by the state through their presence in various sectors and institutions as the first responder in the event site and taking preliminary measures that limit the aggravation of the event through as well as securing the scene of the crime until the arrival of the competent security services to the location of the event or the crime also contributes to the preventive part of the side to reduce the occurrence of crimes” – Al-Shamsi cleared.

Al-Shamsi explained that, thanks to the cooperation and joint communication with the private security sector, and according to the periodic reports, the sector witnessed excellence and continuous improvement and achieved great satisfaction with the customers during the past five years and the reasons for this excellence are due to the great support of the police leadership of the private security sector, as well as the cooperation of private security companies in the implementation of Ministerial Resolution No. 557 of 2008 in the executive regulations of Federal Law No. 37 of 2008 on private security companies.

**CRIME PREVENTION AND PROMOTION OF COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Al-Shamsi pointed to the keenness of the management of the Private Security Business Department to enhance the sense of reassurance through the presence of security personnel in vital sectors in order to provide a safe environment for the members of the community and institutions as a first responder and supporter of the police forces, dedicated to an integrated doctrine that is compatible with the roles and pillars of security and safety, according to a modern vision that achieves a qualitative leap in outstanding performance, contributes to reducing crime and promoting the safety of society.

Al-Shamsi called on all companies and economic activities to rely on the licensed guards in the investment sector, which contributes in reducing the occurrence of accidents of various kinds such as fires, robberies and other crimes. It provides a safe and healthy environment for business development and investments, based on the ability and expertise of the private security sector to meet the challenges and all possibilities. Due to the efficiency of the knowledge and the types of specialized training received by human cadres in the management of the organization of private security companies, private security agencies and the Institute through the prioritization of risks, its importance and classification.
Economic growth over the past years has maintained its stability and sustained momentum, despite the consequences of global geopolitical developments and continues decline of global oil prices. This is a result of the characteristics of the domestic market and the openness to more than one sector compared with many economies in the region and the state. In general, over the past five years there has been no significant change in the structure of GDP, as the industrial manufacturing sector continued to acquire about 30% of GDP, taking into consideration the industrial sector, in both its terms of transformation and extraction, this ratio rises to about 36% of GDP. While the other sectors that contributed most were the construction and real estate sectors and then the trade sector. The contribution of the industrial manufacturing sector in the emirate is much higher than the average contribution of this sector at the state level, while the contribution of the real estate and construction sectors are much higher. Five zones in the emirate contribute 15 to 16% of GDP.

The economy of Ras Al Khaimah is one of the most diversified in the region, with an estimated 6% in 2015 compared to 56% for the country, according to the 2015 GDP. This diversity has been the main factor in stabilizing the relative growth rates achieved by the emirate compared with a number of economies in the region, the economy benefited from economic diversification as a strategy of essential for achieving and sustaining the economic diversification, the government has continued to develop economic sectors and activities of all kinds in order to promote development opportunities and sustain them away from the high volatility resulting from the concentration of growth in a particular and specific sector as the case for the oil sector in the countries of the region, in this context, the tourism sector is a top concern. Economic diversification contributed to two important issues: achieving higher economic growth rates than the overall level of economic growth of the country, and the relative stability in these rates, as reflected by the decrease in the standard deviation index of these rates of the emirate, which is 1.1 compared to the general level of the state which is about 11 per cent of GDP in 2015.

Within the framework of the stability of the emirate’s economy, inflation rates have maintained stability during the past years, reaching 2.3% during the period 2010 to 2015, and even this rate declined slightly by about 0.4% in 2016. Food and transport services were among the commodity groups that declined significantly in 2016, while prices of educational services, restaurants and hotels rose sharply. The inflation rates referred to above, whether in 2014 or during the period 2010-2015, are within the normal rates. The “natural rates of inflation” can be said according to most measures and economic studies, and they constitute an important incentive for doing business without burdening the consumer.

The Department is also working on continuous communication with the business community and their views on the business environment for continuous improvement. In this regard, the Department has initiated the development of the Business Environment Index, which is issued quarterly. This indicator measures the assessment of business owners and their satisfaction with the business environment in the Emirate. The Department has prepared a special form for the revoked licenses owners to identify the reasons for cancellation of these licenses and the challenges and difficulties encountered in order to better understand the nature and area of improvement in the field of support and development of business in the emirate, namely the results of previous operations improvement, the Department launched a promotional system for tomorrow’s licenses in partnership with the private sector. While at the level of internal operations improvement, the Department will soon launch a promotional system for tomorrow’s licenses in partnership with the private sector. While at the level of internal operations improvement, the Department will launch the second phase of “Bhooki” in the fourth quarter of this year, which will increase the efficiency of internal operations and reduce costs by 80%.

The consumer price index was calculated on the basis of the year 2014. The consumer price index in Ras Al Khaimah was low and economically acceptable, and are a source of satisfaction with the specialists in the economic affairs in the emirate, as shown by the low rates of change in the consumer price index during the period 2010-2017. For the year 2017, the estimates of RAK Center for Statistics & Studies shows that the annual inflation rate will be around 1.8% for the year as a whole based on data for the first three quarters of the year. The expected increase in 2017 as a whole is attributed to the rise in the price indices of a variety of goods and services (including personal care and accessories, auto insurance, gifts, watches, etc.) by 11%, followed by restaurants and hotels by 4.8% and education by 4.4%.

Effects to preserve diversity and economic stability are further enhanced by the use of the emirate’s unique geographical position and important location in the regional and global supply chain. Trade, transport and logistics services are seen as reliable target sectors to make the emirate a distinct commercial and service center in the region. It is hoped that the emirate will become a global platform for domestic and foreign trade, given the network of established and diverse trade relations it possesses or seeks to form in the future.

In this context, the Department of Economic Development (DED) in Ras Al Khaimah, as the main authority in the field of sustainable economic development, looks forward to continuing to improve the business environment by rationalizing the cost of starting a business and reducing the procedures required to issue and renew commercial licenses, it is currently in the process of implementing the new licensing system to facilitate the establishment of businesses and reduce the period of establishment to 15 minutes depending on the directions of the Government of the UAE and the collection of fees for all government agencies associated with the services of the Department, as well as the launch of renewal services via text messaging by the end of the first half of 2018, the department is also launching two initiatives to facilitate business-licensing and outsourcing in the first quarter of 2018. In addition, the Department is working to launch optional health insurance services for businesses, which will be an insurance umbrella for private sector workers and their families, thus supporting economic development. The department will soon launch a promotional system for tomorrow’s licenses in partnership with the private sector. While at the level of internal operations improvement, the Department will launch the second phase of “Bhooki” in the fourth quarter of this year, which will increase the efficiency of internal operations and reduce costs by 80%.

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It is noteworthy that the country’s consumer price index increased by 1.6% in 2014 compared to 2015, while the index in Ras Al Khaimah, along with the same period decreased by 0.4%. This indicates that inflation rates in the UAE in general and Ras Al Khaimah in particular are low and support the development process. As shown in Figure 2, despite the high rate of inflation in 2015 by about 4% and 3% at the level of the State and Emirate, respectively, it has recorded a decline of about 1.6% at the level of the state and about -0.4% in the Emirate of Ras Al Khaimah in 2016. The rise in the general index of prices in the emirate during the year 2015 is mainly due to the increase in the indices of the prices of alcoholic beverages and tobacco, education, housing, water, electricity and gas, which have a combined relative weight of about 30%.
Since established in 1976 under the wise leadership of His Highness Sheikh Saud Bin Saqr Al Qassimi, Member of the Supreme Council and Ruler of Ras Al Khaimah, and under the directions of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Saud Bin Saqr Al Qassimi, Crown Prince of Ras Al Khaimah and Chairman of the Executive Council, to develop the civil aviation sector in Ras Al Khaimah and keep up with the tremendous development witnessed by this sector locally and internationally, and follow up all the projects and investments in the industry. As the emirate of Ras Al Khaimah continues to assert itself as a leading tourist destination, The Department of Civil Aviation in Ras Al Khaimah seeks to raise the air transport sector in the Northern Emirates to new horizons of excellence, in conjunction with supporting the ambitious development plans of the Emirate.

The Department of Civil Aviation in Ras Al Khaimah seeks to maintain the promotion of open skies policy, which aims to promote the growth of domestic and international aviation in the Emirate and safety of air space, air traffic and air navigation, and to comply with the highest quality standards under the guidance of the General Civil Aviation Authority in the State with the aim of providing the best aviation services while adhering to the security and safety of the country’s territory and supporting the aviation and aerospace industry.

The Department of Civil Aviation in the Emirate administers the administrative and technical aspects of Ras Al Khaimah International Airport and issues the initial approvals for companies wishing to conduct civil aviation activities for companies wishing to operate through the airport. It also supervises all employees in the airport in the field of safety and security, and to ensure the safety of the measures that keep the security of the airport area and the functioning of the airport not affected, and that it properly address the safety of air navigation and the functioning of its devices. It handles negotiations with airlines, follows up the affairs of travel and air freight agencies, provides the necessary facilities and acts as a link between them and the Government in a manner that does not conflict with the laws applied in the State.

The Department systematically coor-
In this context, we will attempt to explain some of the implementation considering the various procedural, legal and economic ties related to the business, detailing the VAT in operations and control.

WHAT IS VAT?
Value Added Tax (VAT) is an indirect tax. Referred to as a type of consumption tax and it’s one of the most common types found worldwide. Where applied in more than 150 countries, including all EU member states, and imposed on most of the supplies of goods and services that are purchased and sold, and on every stage of the ‘supply chain’.

Generally, the ultimate consumer bears the VAT cost while Businesses collect and calculate the tax, in a way acting as a tax collector on behalf of the government, while in some cases it may also receive a refund from the government on tax that it has paid to its suppliers, consequently, The net result is that tax receipts to government reflect the ‘value add’ throughout the stages of the supply chain.

Should I be registered for VAT?
If your turnover is less than AED 375,000, you can register for VAT. If your turnover is greater than or equal to AED 375,000, you can register for VAT voluntarily.

How does VAT work?
Once you have registered for VAT, you will have to charge VAT (output tax) on the supplies that you make to your customers on tax invoices, and you will have to register for VAT and account for the VAT you charge to your customers on tax returns, and you will have to provide the FTA with your registration number, correction of any errors or adjustments.

When will I have to pay any tax due?
You will have to pay any tax due by the 28th day of the month following the end of the tax period. If you choose to pay this tax on a quarterly basis, you will have to pay any tax due by the 28th day of the month following the end of the tax period. The normal due dates are indicated on the Form VAT 180.

SALES TAX RATES
VAT rates are divided into three main sections:
A. The overall ratio
Which is 5% and is imposed on most goods and services
B. Zero rate
It is imposed on some types of goods and services whose producers are entitled to register and claim VAT refunds paid by them on input and production requirements.
Zero percentage will be imposed on the following major categories of supplies:
- Exports of goods and services to outside the GCC
- International transport and related supplies
- Supply of some means of maritime, air and land transport (e.g. aircrafts and ships).
- Certain investments in precious metals (e.g. gold and silver with a purity percentage of 99%)
- Newly constructed residential properties which are supplied for the first time within 3 years of establishment.
- Basic / specific services in the education sector and associated goods and services.
- Basic / specific services in the health sector and related goods and services.

C. Full exemption
These are some types of goods and services for which no tax is imposed, and the producers are not entitled to claim tax refunds.
The exempted categories include:
- Supply of some financial services (to be explained in tax legislation).
Companies are subject to tax if their taxable supplies (revenues) and imports from abroad exceed the mandatory registration limit of AED 375,000.

4. Any company may register optionally if its expenses exceed the optional registration limit. This opportunity has been put in place to allow companies that do not meet the mandatory registration threshold to opt in to the VAT system.

5. All companies in the United Arab Emirates must maintain their financial transactions to ensure that their financial records are accurate and regularly updated.

6. Companies whose business transactions exceed the minimum income (which is documented through their financial records) must register in the VAT system. Companies that do not have to register for the VAT system should keep their financial records on a regular basis, allowing them to check whether they must register for tax purposes.

7. Companies are required to maintain a set of trade records that allow the Government to verify the authenticity of their transactions.

8. If the amount of VAT collected by the company from its customers exceeds the amount paid to its suppliers, the company shall pay the difference to the Government within 28 days from the end of the tax period in accordance with the procedures specified in the tax legislation. Electronically using the electronic services system.

9. Companies shall keep records that allow the Federal Tax Authority to obtain details of its activities and business transactions.

10. The taxable person must keep the tax invoices issued and received for at least 5 years.

11. The location of supply shall be determined on the basis of whether the supply has occurred within the United Arab Emirates (in which case the provisions of the Value Added Tax Law apply) or whether it was outside the State for purposes of value added tax.

12. With regard to the supply of goods, the supply location is where the goods are located at the time of supply, with special rules for certain supplies (e.g., water, energy, and cross-border supplies).

13. With regard to the supply of services, the place of supply is the supplier’s place of residence with special rules for certain supplies (e.g., cross-border procurement).

14. VAT is worth the addition of customs duties paid by imported goods and cannot be deducted. The tax shall be calculated on the total value of the goods, including customs fees.

15. VAT application for properties will depend on whether either commercial or residential. Commercial properties (such as hotel or office space) will be subject to the basic rate of VAT (5%).

16. Residential properties are exempted from VAT in general, and this ensures that VAT does not constitute a non-refundable cost to people who purchase their own properties.

17. The tax shall be calculated on the total value of the goods, including customs fees.

18. VAT application for properties will depend on whether commercial or residential. Commercial properties such as offices or hotel rooms are subject to the basic rate of VAT (5%).

19. Residential properties are exempted from VAT in general, and this ensures that VAT does not constitute a non-refundable cost to people who purchase their own properties.

20. Companies registered in VAT may reduce their liabilities with respect to the output tax with the value of the VAT amount relating to the dead debts that have been written off by the companies registered for VAT.

21. In order to avoid double taxation in the case of the purchase of goods used by a registered person from another person not registered for the purpose of resale, the registered person for the VAT may be charged the value added tax on sales of secondhand goods with reference to the difference between the purchase price and the selling price (This is the profit margin). The value added tax to be calculated by the registered person shall be included in the profit margin.

22. If the amount of VAT collected by the company from its customers exceeds the amount paid to its suppliers, the company shall pay the difference to the Government within 28 days from the end of the tax period in accordance with the procedures specified in the tax legislation. Electronically using the electronic services system.

23. In some cases, some of the registered person’s expenses may be associated with taxable supplies and non-taxable supplies (such as financial services sector activities). In this case, the registered person must divide the input tax between taxable and non-taxable supplies.

24. Companies are expected to use the input tax (re- recoverable to total ratio) as the basis for the distribution of the input tax, although there will be the possibility of using other fair methods if agreed with the Commission.

25. Fines and penalties for non-compliance will be imposed to ensure compliance with tax laws. Which include:

• The person does not register the tax when he is obliged to do so.
• The taxpayer does not submit the tax declaration or payment within the specified period.
• The person does not keep the required records in the issued tax legislation.
• Tax evasion offenses where the person intentionally acts in violation of the provisions of the issued tax legislation.

26. VAT can be deducted from the expenses incurred by companies in the following cases:

• Companies are subject to tax (the final consumer cannot request a refund of input tax).

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• Goods or services obtained will be used or intended to be used for taxable supplies.

• Refund of input tax may be requested only on goods or services obtained will be used or intended to be used for taxable supplies.

• The tax is properly charged (unjustified / incorrect VAT cannot be refunded).

• The person does not keep the required records in the issued tax legislation.

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• The final consumer is the person who bears the tax.

• The consumer buys new clothes

• The customer collects the tax from the retailer for the benefit of the government and the factory.

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A simplified example to illustrate the VAT

1. The farmer cultivates the cotton plant, which is harvested and sold to a factory.

2. The factory processes cotton and manufactures clothes to sell it to the retailer.

3. The retailer sells the clothes to the consumer.

4. The final consumer is the one who bears the tax.

5. VAT is recovered by the real estate developer on the construction of residential properties, the first supply of residential properties within 3 years will be subject to zero.

6. VAT is worth the addition of customs duties paid by imported goods and cannot be deducted. The tax shall be calculated on the total value of the goods, including customs fees.

7. VAT application for properties will depend on whether either commercial or residential. Commercial properties such as hotel or office space are subject to the basic rate of VAT (5%).

8. Residential properties are exempted from VAT in general, and this ensures that VAT does not constitute a non-refundable cost to people who purchase their own properties.

9. The tax shall be calculated on the total value of the goods, including customs fees.

10. It is essential that companies seek to align their business with Government reporting and compliance requirements.

11. VAT Declarations are to be submitted by the taxable to the Federal Tax Authority on a regular basis (every three months or shorter period if the Commission decides) within 28 days from the end of the tax period in accordance with the procedures specified in the tax legislation. Electronically using the electronic services system.

12. Companies shall keep records that allow the Federal Tax Authority to obtain details of its activities and business transactions.

13. The taxable person must keep the tax invoices issued and received for at least 5 years.

14. The location of supply shall be determined on the basis of whether the supply has occurred within the United Arab Emirates (in which case the provisions of the Value Added Tax Law apply) or whether it was outside the State for purposes of value added tax.

15. With regard to the supply of goods, the supply location is where the goods are located at the time of supply, with special rules for certain supplies (e.g., water, energy, and cross-border supplies).

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ONE-MAN COMPANY

AN EASY WAY TO ESTABLISH YOUR OWN COMPANY

The law introduced a new form of companies in its articles no. (55, 154) that is the only man company. It developed a mechanism to establish the same. The new law allowed a single person (citizen) to establish a company totally owned by him without the need of any other partner, while the previous law did not regulate or permit such form of companies.

Whereas, the law no. 2 of 2015 on commercial companies was adopted and enforced by the end of June 2015, giving the opportunity for various companies to adjust their status in accordance with its provisions before the end of July 2016. It was implemented after extensive studies and deep consultations.

The one-man company is a form of ownership of economic projects guaranteed by the new commercial company’s law in order to exercise an economic activity aimed at making a project. The owner of the company shall not be liable for its obligations except by the amount of the capital provided in its memorandum of Association. The provisions of the legal form set forth in this law shall apply to it provided that it does not contradict with their nature.

In terms of liquidation of termination of this form of companies, the new law mentioned several cases, such as the owner decided to make such liquidation or decided to suspend its activity, if its term is expired, or the purpose contained in the memorandum of association is achieved. The company shall also dissolve upon the death of its founder if the owner is a natural person unless otherwise, the heirs desire to continue with the adjustment of its status in accordance with the provisions of this law. They shall choose the person who will manage the company on their behalf.

The company shall dissolve upon the expiry of its term or prior to achieving the purpose stated in its memorandum of association, he shall be liable to pay his obligations from his own funds.

Differences between one-man company and sole proprietorship:

There is a set of differences between each of one-man company and a Sole Proprietorship, some of which can be listed, as follows:

1. A one-man company is a corporation with a legal personality independent of the personality of its owner or founder – although it is an establish by only one partner/shareholder – it is subject to the companies act, and may be either a closed joint stock or limited liability company.

Unlike a Sole proprietorship, it does not have an independent legal personality. It is followed by a personality of its owner only and is not subject to the companies act.

2. The one-man company has an independent appropriation estate, and the partner in this company is subject only is partnership proportion in the company. That is to say, it is a limited liability to the amount of the company's capital, although he is the sole partner.

Contrary to the Sole proprietorship, it does not have an independent appropriation estate than the personality of its owner. He is liable for all the rights and obligations of the Enterprise and the guarantor of all the creditors’ rights of the enterprise.

3. Fields of activity of each are different; the one-man company’s fields are the same areas of joint stock companies and limited liability in terms of volume of activity and capital.

As opposed to being a sole proprietorship whose area of activity is not specifically defined, as in a one-man company.

With respect to the characteristics of a one-man company, the most important characteristic is the limited liability of the owner. Such the limited liability means that the owner is liable only with the amount of his share in the capital of the company. In other words, the liability of the owner is limited before the third parties by the amount of capital resisted in the Memorandum of association and with the concerned authorities; the company with all its assets is liable for any obligations or third parties. This form of companies projects the rest of the owner's money and makes it safe in case the company suffered any losses.

One of the advantages of this form of companies is the ease of making decisions within the company, since the owner in the one-man company has all the powers and authorities as the sole partner, and is not bound to the take of consent of any person. For example, the owner has the ease to the transfer or merge with third parties without much time and effort to convince other partners, thus acceleration economic growth.

In a word, this form of companies is an excellent opportunity brought by the legislator to enable all national entrepreneurs to establish and own a company easily, in order to adopt their invest innovations and business concept.
IS YOUR SOCIAL MEDIA PERSONA IMMORTAL?

With more than one billion Facebook users globally, and more than 500 million daily users on Instagram, it is logical that each day thousands leave their social media accounts unattended after they have passed away. Some social media channels, such as Facebook, offer a ‘legacy’ option that allows users to pick who would look after their account in the event of their death, but not everyone is comfortable being memorialised.

In a recent poll, the DIFC Wills & Probate Registry (the Registry) asked how UAE residents want to protect their digital footprint and social media legacy. More than half of respondents (53%) have thought about what happens to their digital footprint once they pass away, while an overwhelming majority (89%) would wish their social media account to be deactivated. The Registry’s findings challenge a 2016 research report by the University of Massachusetts** which produced the startling statistic that, based on current Facebook trends, profiles of late users would outnumber living users by 2098.

The inevitable boost in technology and digital marketing within the GCC has seen innovation, creativity and inspiration adapt to global advancements including Apple Pay and regional materialisation of digital super-hubs like NEOM in Saudi Arabia.

Needless to say, digital disruption is screaming from the rooftops saying it’s here to stay. Acclimating to significant changes in social media, businesses in the region are steadily, but surely, embracing the idea of digital transformations and are welcoming on board an understanding of what a digital transformation truly entails. Understanding what tech advancements made their mark this year, Alexander Rauser, CEO and Founder of digital solutions agency Prototype Interactive, picks the top three trends that businesses can anticipate in 2018:

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

Equipped with the ability to improve, intuitive and easily accessible, the future of AI looks bright.

From chatbots to robots that can sense emotion in tone of voice and through facial expression recognition, developments in AI will soon begin to define how we function in unison with technology, how we derive data and apply it to our daily processes. It will completely revolutionise the way big engines interact with data on a large scale.

With our devices gaining the ability to correctly identify and narrow down target audience, instant communication, reach and engagement, will all drive ad investment towards promoted posts and boosts.

SOCIAL MEDIA AD SPEND SOARS

With over a billion social media users around the world, Facebook and Instagram ads will see businesses push traditional marketing tactics aside as they immerse themselves in analytics of cost-per-clicks.

Ability to correctly identify and narrow down target audience, instant communication, reach and engagement, will all drive ad investment towards promoted posts and boosts.

The above trends are and will be subject to change with the ever-developing landscape of the digiworld. But, one thing is for certain – the tech world and its advancements will never cease to amaze.
And the same manager turns to a robot so that he can accurately judge the robot that will be approved to work in your company?! ... You will inevitably save yourself countless expenses and drinks, and will inevitably have a new approach to the adoption of the company’s budget and vacation system and wages, these are questions and concerns justified by the increasing tendency to automate most functions and business.

It’s the age of robots that are bursting into our lives so that we cannot ignore them or escape the winds of change, the escape here is either suicide or jumping into recession. So what is the future of human labor with robots breaking into the labor market? Overtime, will it turn from the time it will take to say goodbye to a large number of workers and replace them with robots.

Because robots do not make mistakes, do not complain and do not demand an increase in wages, nor do they commit suicide due to the pressures of work on workers in such giants companies. Today, robots exist in many sectors that require a lot of precision, sensitivity or gravity, and humans cannot do it optimally, stoned the military field, the medical field and Electronic industry, entertainment, automobile industry, service delivery and many more.

**IS IT AN INTEGRATIVE OR COMPETITIVE RELATIONSHIP?**

A report by the McKinsey Global Institute showed in July 2016 Where jobs at risk of automation and robotics were observed by analyzing more than 800 jobs in the US labor market, to come first the professions within the sectors of industry(53%), food services (73%), retail (53%), and accommodation and hotel sectors (73%).

Where these sectors witnessed a steady development at the technical and technological level, which puts them at great risk of automation.

Experts in this field say that we are in a new world where we will soon find robots walking, interacting and learning from us. Which will generate a new generation more intelligent and effective. To what extent can the challenges and fears of robotic control of the labor market and human exclusion be legitimate?

And will these concerns and fears reduce the use of industrial automation and intelligence in the labor market? And how decision-makers and officials can absorb these concerns and direct them in a positive manner, i.e. towards the continuous training of staff and raising their efficiency to confront the winds of change steadily, and to move towards the future at a confident pace that will not deprive people of their right to work and produce.

As the trend towards the introduction of robots in the labor market is no longer an option as much as an imperative necessity imposed by the life process in the deliberate approach to possess the skills and capabilities necessary to apply in all economic sectors and prepare human cadres to deal with these variables and raise its efficiency continuously.

And to address the enactment of laws and legislation that regulate this transformation and protect it from the hands of the abusers.

It is noteworthy that these concerns took place in a large amount of expert discussions during the «Knowledge Summit 2017» held in Dubai last year.

And they stressed that the relationship between "robot" and artificial intelligence will be complementary and not competitive with human cadres during the coming period.

They mentioned during a session on Artificial Intelligence and (Robot), where “robot” and artificial intelligence, its existence and how they can be changed. With penetrating intelligence and an ability to distill vast amounts of information into engrossing narratives, Duhigg brings to life a whole new understanding of human nature and its potential for transformation.
**EFFECTIVE DATA**

**AN IMPERATIVE FOR THE SUCCESS OF ANY COMPANY**

The founder of Crystal Lagoons, the multinational water innovation company and developer of the “world’s top amenity,” Fernando Fischmann, has outlined the technology trends he expects to have the greatest impact on ME business in 2018.

In terms of innovation and technology, Smart Cities have taken centre stage in recent years, particularly in Dubai. Typically, a Smart City is defined as an urban area using various types of electronic data collection sensors to supply information used to manage assets and resources efficiently. In so many ways that clearly puts Dubai into that smart bracket, having launched various initiatives by integrating technologies such as Information Communications Technologies (ICT) and the Internet of Things (IoT) in both hard and soft infrastructures.

Fischmann explained: “Dubai is committed to becoming the smartest city in the world and is well on course to achieving this with 100 smart initiatives and 1,000 smart services to be completed before the end of this year (2017). This is catalyzing push to improve how Dubai can efficiently and sustainably manage its assets and resources.”

Another development in recent years is that of Big Data. Big Data describes data sets so large and complex they are impractical to manage with traditional software tools. But it can also be a vital tool for analysis. New technologies make it possible to realise value from Big Data. For example, retailers can track user web clicks to identify behavioral trends that improve campaigns, pricing and stock issues, and utilities can capture household energy usage levels to predict outages and to incent more efficient energy consumption.

“Blockchain is an undeniably ingenious invention. Information held on a blockchain exists as a shared—and continually reconciled—database. The database isn’t stored in any single location, meaning the records it keeps are truly public and easily verifiable. No centralised version of this information exists for a hacker to corrupt, which is a huge factor in the current climate of increased Internet hacking activity. But at the same time, it is hosted by billions of computers simultaneously and its data is accessible to anyone on the Internet,” said Fischmann. However, Bitcoin itself has come under scrutiny and while its data is accessible to anyone on the Internet, it is something we’re fully aware of at Crystal Lagoons,” added Fischmann.

Crystal Lagoons has always looked toward innovation and technology for advanced solutions to design, installation and sustainable maintenance. The company focuses on enhancing people’s lives by resolving some of the world’s biggest issues, such as water scarcity, energy, pollution and lack of public open spaces.

including, Jamie Dimon, the CEO of JP Morgan, Andrew Bailey, the head of Britain’s financial government’s Financial Conduct Authority, and the infamous Wolf of Wall Street, Jordan Belfort. Like the internet of the late 1980s and early 1990s, these are early days for Blockchain, but there is enough hype around for Goldman Sachs to say the technology “has the potential to redefine transactions” and can change “everything.” Bitcoin aside the technology behind the development is not in doubt.

Another disruptive technology is not only confined to municipal operations, before designs can even get off the drawing board, financial investment is required. This year Blockchain, the technology behind the digital currency Bitcoin, has commanded numerous headlines and piqued the interest of investors.

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Almost 1,100 kg of fireworks created a 1-km-long canopy of colour, making Ras Al Khaimah’s Al Marjan Island one of the brightest spots on earth on New Year’s Eve (NYE). Over 390 “comet stars” splashed the night in the UAE’s national colours as the extravaganza propelled RAK into the record books.

The record trumps the 2014 title set by the Kounosu fireworks festival in Sitama, Japan, on October 11, 2014. Compared to the 464.826 kg firecrackers launched then, RAK deployed over twice the amount.

The shell in RAK reached a whopping 1,100 metres from the ground to the top-end of the display; 650 metres from the ground to the centre, and measured 1 km in diameter when it was launched.

The certificate was presented to Abdullah Al Abdooli, managing director of Al Marjan Island, and Phil Grucci, CEO and creative director of fireworks by Grucci.

Al Abdooli said: “The fireworks was a spectacular success that welcomed visitors from around the world and cemented the reputation of the emirate as a must-visit destination for NYE galas. Adding to the pride of RAK and our nation, the event is a true testament to the joint efforts of various government entities, which ensured a safe and seamless celebration.”

Begins New Year with a world record
RAS ALKHAIMAH...
A DESTINATION GOING BEYOND

Ras Al Khaimah, the northern-most emirate of the United Arab Emirates (its name translates as ‘Top of the Tent’), has a fascinating history and culture dating back more than 7,000 years. Much of the history and culture can be experienced with guided tours taking in the ancient sites of this emirate, which was once known as Julfar and where traditions of desert, sea and mountain life are still in evidence today.

The emirate’s diverse natural landscapes and abundance of water means Ras Al Khaimah has been continuously inhabited from the Ubaid period of 5000-3800 BC, right through to the 20th century with countless artefacts and historic sites to explore including well-reserved forts, a national museum and even a ‘ghost’ town.

CULTURE & HERITAGE

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Museum Memories:
In the Ras Al Khaimah National Museum, a former fort and palace of the Al Qasimi ruling family until 1964, which has been structurally renovated, visitors can view the emirate’s history through artefacts, some dating back to the 1600s and the days of Portuguese and Dutch occupation.

Shimal & The Queen of Sheba Palace:
Shimal, the region’s largest and most important bronze age site dating back to 4th millennium B.C. Here visitors will find an extensive contemporaneous cemetery and a medieval fortress locally known as the ‘Palace of the Queen of Sheba.’ The area has been settled for at least 4,500 years and its former inhabitants benefited from its proximity to the sea, pastures and cultivable lands. The vast Shimal cemetery has some 250 tombs of different architectural types. Entering the main Shimal archaeological park visitors immediately face a very large oval over ground tomb (Sh 99) 16m long and almost 11m wide.

Of Prayer & Palace:
In the ‘old’ city visitors are also welcome at the preserved residence of the emirate’s former ruler, Sheikh Saqr bin Mohammed Al Qassimi and the intriguing Mohammed bin Salem Mosque – the only one left in the emirate which is without a minaret. The mosque has a surviving ‘prayer call platform’ from which the “imam” would call the faithful of the nearby village to prayer. Tours of the mosque can be arranged by most tour operators and hotels.

The Mystery of the Red Island:
Mystique still surrounds the Al Jazirat Al Hamra (Red Island) which retains vestiges of architecture from an early 20th century pearling port. Myth and legend abound as to why the villagers of the Al Zaab, one of Ras Al Khaimah’s largest ancestral tribes, up and left this once thriving seaside community. The site that was home to Emiratis before the oil is to be restored in conjunction with the federal government. Al Jazirat Al Hamra takes its name from its coral and adobe buildings which included a mosque, wind towers, courtyards and houses with star-studded windows and wooden doors.

Hilltop Guardian:
To the north of Ras Al Khaimah visitors can tour the 19th century Dhaya Fort – the UAE’s only surviving hilltop fort, and its adjacent oasis. Visitors can take in the fort’s fascinating backstory at their own pace through self-guided tours and climb up to the top. Originally built as a 19th century fortification to defend against invading forces, it offers a glimpse into Ras Al Khaimah’s stirring past, covering 4000 years of archaeology and provides a modern symbol of the emirate’s enduring heritage. Its elevated position offers breath-taking 9000 feet views of acacia forest, traditional palm gardens, natural reserve of khor Hulayla.

Visitors also have a wide choice of accommodation – from ultra-luxurious beach resorts managed by some of the most notable names in the business, to family-friendly city and beach resorts, city centre properties and resorts for the more laid-back adventure seekers.

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Luxury & Wellness

Wellbeing has been a signature characteristic of Ras Al Khaimah for generations. The emirate boasts fresh sea breezes, cooler mountain air, and pure waters which trible-and-in-winter-sometimes-cascade down the rocky Hajjar mountain range, giving life to foothill natural springs, has seen people arrive in the emirate for generations to refresh and reinvigorate.

Today, the traditional sense of wellbeing continues but is now complemented with luxurious spas, highly-skilled therapists, acclaimed products and an increasing range of wellbeing activities. Some of the emirate’s spas are now award-winning including the Al Wadi Desert, Ras Al Khaimah – a Ritz-Carlton partner hotel. Here, in a dreamy desert setting, local-ly sourced herbs and spices, expert therapists and restorative hydrotherapy facilities come together to create a chance to truly unplug and reach mindfulness and calmness.

Designed with an undersea theme, the Waldorf Astoria Spa’s carefully chosen interiors of calming blue silk walls, floor to ceiling one-way windows and artful light pieces induce a sense of calm, taking guests to a serene place of peace beneath the sea. There are six treatment rooms, as well as one couples’ room, a floating bed for women, a hydro bath, male and female steam rooms and Waldorf Astoria’s signature herbal sauna.

Over at the five-star Rixos Bab Al Bahr, the Jwara Spa combines Turkish culture and tradition with a modern concept of wellbeing. Two ultra-luxurious Ottoman retreats are the largest spas in the emirate. Each spa has a secluded private swimming pool for sunbathing or a cool dip, as well as traditional Turkish hammams, where you can embark on the time-honoured ritual of a deep cleansing scrub performed beneath the decorative architecture of an ornate central dome.

The Hilton Spa features separate male and female changing rooms, two Moroccan hammams, nine treatment rooms and two relaxation lounges. Guests have complimentary use of the amazing whirlpool tub, sauna or steam room.

At the Cove Rotana Resort massages in cabanas on the beach are a draw and complimentary to the resort’s Bodylines Fitness & Wellness Club, which counts a Jazaci, steam room, sauna, seven massage rooms, fully-equipped gymnasium, fitness classes, cardiovascular and weight training. You can then relax in one of two outdoor infinity pools set in the 600-metre pristine private beach.

Getting Active

Whether it’s yoga on the beach, a stroll along the coast, horseback riding, water sports, a round of golf or all-grass courses or an invigorating mountain hike, a stay in the emirate leaves visitors relaxed and refreshed.

Play a Round: Ras Al Khaimah is quickly becoming a leading regional golf destination. Extensive facilities at Al Hamra Golf Club, which now hosts the annual Ras Al Khaimah Golf Challenge, a European Challenge Golf Tour event, include an 18-hole, sea front course (across 7,325 yards) with a broad range of facilities both on and off the course. A floodlight course allows play after sunset. As an alternative, Tower Links also offers an 18-hole course set against the magnificent backdrop of the Hajjar Mountains.

Ride a Wave: With over 60 kilometres of calm, crystal clear coastline and ideal, year-round water temperatures, Ras Al Khaimah is a hotspot for water sports. Take your pick from scuba diving, sailing, jet skiing, wakeboarding, parasailing, flyboarding and more. Or, set your lares and reel in a catch with a deep sea fishing trip. Fishing excursions are available at all Ras Al Khaimah resorts and provide the perfect offshore adventure for beginners and skilled anglers alike. Expect to catch a vast array of species (some subject to sustainable catch-and-release policies), including King Fish, Barracuda, Cobia, Trevallies, Snappers, Queen Fish and Sherry.

Saddle Up: Al Wadi Equestrian and Adventure Centre is nestled on the edges of the Wadi Khadeja with access to 500 hectares of nature reserve ready to be explored with guides through or- ganised horse treks. The reserve features a stunning natural desert landscape and free roaming wild life including sand gazelles, Arabian gazelles, camels and Arabian oryx. You can occasionally spot desert foxes and wildcats at sunsets and during the cooler season. The Wadi hosts a unique mix of birds such as the wheatears, babblers, falcons and ravens.

Stroll, Hike or Jog: The fresh early morning and sunset air are great for ‘open air’ activities such as stroll, hiking and jogging. You can head off to Al Qasimia Corniche or Marjan Island with its 2,000 metre Corniche or the Lagoon Walk running track at Mina Al Arab. For off-road cy-cling, make a beeline for Wadi Shouka, Ras Al Khaimah’s only outdoor cycling centre. Nestled in the heart of Shouka, 50 kilometres of tracks are open to cyclists of all experience levels and offers bike rental, plus servicing and repairs from highly-experienced moun-tain bikers.

Tour the Mangroves: It’s a gentle kayaking tour of the lush man-groves – so essential to the sustainability of the emirates marine and wildlife. As you meander through the channels, where the scenery is punctuated only by the shrill calls of birdlife and the splash of jumping fish, take in the atmosphere which ensures the safety of a variety of wildlife.

Adventure & Sports Tourism

Lonely Planet may have summed it up: “Outdoor enthusiasts love it!” it says of Ras Al Khaimah. And with a carefully-planned strategy of probing the adventure and sports tourism segments leveraging its sur-pert array of natural assets, including the Hajjar mountain range and the UAE’s highest peak, Ras Al Khaimah is the Gulf’s key destination for adrenaline-seekers.

For some time, the emirate has been popular with investee tourists tempted by rocky pathways slitting ancient villages in the Hajjar mountain range which borders Oman. Trekking and hiking the craggy range has also been a hit with the trail-hearted and increasingly the activities are being organis-ed into group tours. The range has also attracted mountain bikers wanting to drive the recently-opened road which snakes 1,934 metres above sea level towards the summit of Jebel Jais.

But Ras Al Khaimah Tourism Development Authority (RAKTDA) recently upped the adrenalin stakes with the launch of the region’s only commercial Via Ferrata set around Jebel Jais, the Via Ferrata (Iron Path) sees enthusiasts climb, trek and zipline almost 400 feet above sea level. The adventure tourism product has seen more than 1,500 adventure seekers complete the challenge since opening in November 2016. Ras Al Khaimah’s ‘Destination 2015’ strategy includes a roadmap for innovative hospital-ity concepts that take advantage of the destination’s unique natural assets for lux-ury mountain resorts and wellness retreats. With the zipline, cycling tours and unique accommodation options planned, the poten-tial for activity, nature and adventure-based tourism market is huge.

A TASTE OF TRADITION:

You’ll be able to taste local food thorough-out the emirate – from the luxury of hotel restaurants, to the abundance of local caf-é s and food stalls. For a more ‘traditional’ dining experience head to Al Fanar restaur-ant, where the ambience emulates that of an Emirati family home in the 1930s and the menu is pure UAE with all of its east-ern influences. Round off the meal with a stop at Ras Al Khaimah’s oldest ice-cream shop Ashkal, whose fans have now created a following on Trip Advisor for its signature creamy desert packed with fruit.

You’ll find seafood restaurants in abun-dance with the catch having been harvest-ed just hours before from Ras Al Khaimah shores – though meat dishes, predomin-antly goat and mutton, also make appear-ances in the traditional family restaurants throughout the destination. Bil Alfa!