

## Thumbay Group wins four honours at annual 'Business Excellence Awards'

DUBAI — Dubai-based diversified global conglomerate Thumbay Group created history at the prestigious 'Business Excellence Awards' of the Department of Economic Development (DED), Dubai, by winning four honours in a single assessment cycle.

At the 24th Business Excellence Awards held at Dubai Opera under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, the awards were presented by Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, to Dr Thumbay Moideen, founder president of Thumbay Group.

The following awards were won by Thumbay Group and its business entities: Thumbay Group — Dubai Human Development Appreciation Award; Gulf Medical University (GMU), Ajman — Dubai Quality Appreciation Award; Thumbay Pharmacy — Dubai Quality Appreciation Award; and Body & Soul Health Club & Spa — Dubai Quality Appreciation Award.

Dr Thumbay Moideen said that this was a proud day for Thumbay Group as a global business conglomerate, winning four prominent awards at such a prestigious forum.

"We are glad to be honoured at this esteemed platform, for excel-



Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum presenting the award to Dr Thumbay Moideen.

lence across our different businesses. As Thumbay Group celebrates our 20th anniversary, we are proud of the high-standards of quality and service we have achieved across all our 20 sectors of business, which have been recognised at various national and international platforms. Our relentless pursuit of quality, excellence and sustainability, coupled with the spirit of innovation we have successfully imbibed across all our companies and departments helps us adopt the best business practices and set challenging objectives for ourselves," he said.

This is the third year that Thumbay Group is being felicitated at the annual Business Excellence Awards. Thumbay Hospital — Ajman, one of the leading academic hospitals under Thumbay Group's healthcare division had won the DQAA for the year 2015, and the hospital had won DHDA for the 2016 assessment cycle. Earlier this year, Thumbay Group had won four awards at the Sheikh Khalifa Excellence Awards (SKEA), becoming the first business group in the history of the awards to achieve this feat in a single assessment year.

## Tabasco unveils 150th anniversary pepper sauce

DUBAI — Tabasco sauce is commemorating its 150th anniversary with a limited edition small-batch pepper sauce. In the UAE, it will be available next month.

McIlhenny, the company made famous for its fiery red condiment, hopes its Tabasco Diamond Reserve Sauce, with its flashy, champagne-style bottle, will catch the eye.

At \$35, the six-ounce bottle of Tabasco Diamond Reserve Sauce is a must for hot sauce fans and collectors as it is made from select tabasco peppers on Avery Island that are mashed with salt and aged for up to 15 years then blended with sparkling white wine vinegar, says Harold Osborn, executive vice president of McIlhenny Co.

In Dubai on a short visit, Osborn, a fifth generation McIlhenny family member, said Tabasco has been available in Middle East since 1940's and brand footprints have been increasing in the region since then. Brand is available through distributors in all major Middle East markets including Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Bahrain, Oman, Kuwait, Lebanon, Jordan, Algeria, Tunisia, Egypt, Morocco and Libya.

Osborn said every bottle of Tabasco is still made on Avery Island, Louisiana, where Edmund McIlhenny created first batch. Today around 700,000 bottles of the sauce are produced daily, more than its creator Edmund McIlhenny, made in his life time.

## MAN Truck & Bus displays all-new MAN Lion's Coach



All-new MAN Lion's Coach displayed at UITP Mena Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018 in Dubai.

DUBAI — Marking its strong presence at the UITP Mena Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018, MAN Truck & Bus Middle East, together with its partner in the UAE, United Motors & Heavy Equipment Co, is showcasing all-new MAN Lion's Coach at the most attended public transport event in the Middle East and North Africa region, which took place in Dubai from April 23 to 25.

The company announced that the latest addition to the impressive line-up of luxury, long-distance coaches, the MAN Lion's Coach, which premiered at Busworld 2017 in Belgium, has already begun sales across the Middle East.

With its distinct safety, comfort and performance-driven

features, the highly efficient, safe, economic and innovative coach has already gained the attraction of visitors to MAN Truck & Bus Middle East's stand at the exhibition, which brings together industry leaders, policymakers, legislators, developers, consultants, operators and manufacturers under one roof to discuss future solutions of public transport means.

"We are pleased to participate in the UITP MENA Transport Congress & Exhibition 2018 and honoured to showcase our all-new MAN Lion's Coach on a platform that explores future solutions of public transportation," said Franz von Redwitz, managing director, MAN Truck & Bus Middle East.

## Aster Pharmacy, Aster Hospital bag awards

DUBAI — Under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, Department of Economic Development (DED) organised the 24th annual Dubai Business Excellence Awards, to recognise outstanding pursuit of excellence in business practices in 2017.

While Aster DM Healthcare's retail arm, Aster Pharmacy won the Dubai Human Development Award, Aster Hospital located at Mankhool in Dubai, UAE, was presented the Dubai Quality Appreciation Award for the Healthcare sector. Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Deputy Ruler of Dubai, and Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Chairman of Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation, felicitated the winners at a prestigious award ceremony held at Dubai Opera.

Commenting on the occasion, Dr Azad Moopen, founder chairman and managing director of Aster DM Healthcare, said: "Our pursuit of excellence is ingrained in our DNA and as an organisation our teams are continuously striving to push boundaries and scale greater heights of excellence in healthcare. The recognition of Dubai Department of Economic Development further strengthens our resolve to make quality healthcare accessible to our patients at affordable cost."

The Dubai Human Development



Sheikh Maktoum bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum in the presence of Sheikh Ahmed bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum presenting the award for Healthcare sector to Dr Azad Moopen along with Dr Sherbaz Bichu, CEO of Aster Hospital.

Award is a recognition of Aster Pharmacy's efforts to develop a valuable framework that not only encourages the growth and development of employees but also introduces best practices to enhance their potential that can support the organisation's growth. This is the third time in last one year that Aster Pharmacy has been recognised at the Dubai Business Excellence Awards. This is also the sixth award to be won by the team between 2017-18. The state-of-the-art multispecialty Aster Hospital in Mankhool has been constantly exceeding benchmark performance parameters to provide a holistic

framework that supports organisational excellence in healthcare service delivery. The Dubai Quality Appreciation Award recognises the hospitals efforts to introduce collaborative models that delivers innovative solutions to patients and improves the quality of care being provided to patients.

Since its inception, the Dubai Business Excellence Award has been considered as one of the highest recognitions in the region for attaining business excellence. It recognises winners under three categories: Dubai Quality Award, Dubai Human Development Award and the Dubai Business Excellence Scheme.

## A.A. Al Moosa Enterprises launches 3 hotel projects

DUBAI — A.A. Al Moosa Enterprises, a Dubai-based service oriented conglomerate that offers a wide spectrum of business interests, unveiled three iconic hotel projects — Hilton The Palm, Taj Exotica Resort & Spa and Marriott The Palm — with a target opening date of first quarter of 2019.

The luxurious properties located on the Palm Jumeirah will add 1,500 rooms and suites to the current inventory of hotel rooms in Dubai which is projected to reach 132,000 by end of 2019 as the UAE's most populous city gears up for the Dubai World Expo with the government's Tourism Vision forecasting 20 million visitors a year by the time of the event in 2020.

The three hotels will feature 25 dining outlets making the properties a culinary destination offering diverse cuisines created to impress even the most sophisticated traveler with a rich taste and flair for food and beverages.

A.A. Al Moosa Enterprises made the announcement at Arabian Travel Market where the Group is participating for the first time to showcase its portfolio of hotels that are currently being managed by reputable international hospitality brands.



The luxurious properties located on the Palm Jumeirah will add 1,500 rooms and suites to the current inventory of hotel rooms in Dubai.

Faisal Al Moosa, representing A.A. Al Moosa Enterprises, commented: "With the opening of the three hotels on the Palm, we are not only expanding our footprint in the UAE but also contributing to strengthening the tourism sector of Dubai. These three iconic hotel projects will bring additional 1,500 hotel rooms that will support our government's Tourism Vision for 2020. The hotels will cater to varied market segments across diver-

sified source markets and will further strengthen the city's reputation as the region's leading tourist destination and the most visited city in the Middle East."

Other hotel properties that the Group currently owned are Hilton Jumeirah Beach, Hilton Salalah, Hilton Creek, Four Points by Sheraton Sheikh Zayed Road, Four Points by Sheraton Downtown Dubai, Ramada Plaza JBR, Ramada Hotel & Suites Sharjah and Crowne Plaza Muscat.

## 'WOW Drive — Wellness On Wheels'

DUBAI — Usually, there are marathons and walkathons promoting healthcare and better health practice awareness; there is also a pink drive on horsebacks.

Probably for the first time we have a car race, and a unique one, which will be held within the city and without closing any roads.

The first official Regularity Race (apparently some private ones have been held before) comes to Dubai as the brainchild of Santosh Kumar, an airline professional with a passion for films, events and media.

"My aim is to bring back the charm of motor sports that can be enjoyed by the larger population, not limited to bikers and 4X4 owners. Anyone above 18 years of age with a driving licence can bring his/her car and participate in this fun race," he said while speaking about how and when he ideated the WOW Drive — Wellness On Wheels.

Standing with him in his maiden venture is another Good Sa-

maritan Dr Nahida Abdulkadir, founder of The Emirates Walk For Autism (EWA), which is in its 10th anniversary.

"The Emirates Walk for Autism helps families become more aware of autism. Educating the public about autism is important as one in 10 families in the UAE is affected by autism. The society needs to be more supportive and understanding of the difficulty autistic children face during their daily life," said Dr Nahida.

Together they have organised a fun day at Riverland for people of all nationalities, ages, genders, and the ability to come and enjoy and spread the message of mental health awareness, autism awareness, and better health practices.

Today (Saturday, April 28), the race will commence at 9am from Glitz, Dubai Studio City, and will end at Riverland, where the carnival will go on from 11am to 8pm. It's a day filled with all kinds of fun activities, games, entertainment, and loads of prizes.



Santosh Kumar



Dr Nahida Abdulkadir

## Warm reception for Milano water heater at Canton Fair



Anis Sajan at Milano's exclusive stand at Canton Fair in China.

DUBAI — Milano, a brand embracing the top quality international standards and providing premium design products, was the only water heater brand from the UAE to participate in the oldest and largest trade exhibition known as the Canton Fair in China this April.

With an Italian elegance and global presence, it's one of the first water heater to receive both EQM & GC MARK certificates offering a state-of-the-art product whose technology not only includes an enamel coated inner tank (glass lined), but also offers an enamel coated SS316L heating element (thermostat) and come with 7 years of unconditional warranty.

Commenting on the participation Anis Sajan, managing director of Danube Group, said: "We have been part of the Canton Fair for years now, and it has been an extremely good experience for us. The Canton Fair is one of the

common platforms for the traders across the globe to come together and source products. The reason we participate is not only for selling our products but to make our brand global. At the fair, we had an exclusive stand dedicated to our water heaters by Milano."

He added: "Our mission is to provide best quality products which are both pocket-friendly and user-friendly. We are the pioneer in providing complete home solution under one roof and as a company; our only success mantra is hard work with no shortcuts and customer satisfaction."

Canton Fair is the largest bi-annual trade fairs in China and is organised into three phases in Guangzhou. Exhibitors and buyers come from around the world to do deals on more than 150,000 different types of products, including consumer goods, textiles, decorations, medicine, electronics, machinery etc.

## SBC now welcomes Emirati companies' participation

DUBAI — The Spanish Business Council (SBC) announced that it welcomes the participation of local Emirati companies in the Council in line with its in-country value programme, at a recent special executive committee meeting.

Up until now the SBC, comprising heads of Spanish companies and industries based in the UAE, targeted principally Spanish establishments for membership in its board. But with the board's new vision and redefined priorities, the non-profit organisation has decided to bridge the gap between the Spanish and Emirati business houses.

Local SMEs are invited to become members of the SBC and interact with their Spanish counterparts with the aim of establishing a platform to provide a definite link to enhance business prospects and benefit from each

other's expertise and experience, for the first time in the UAE.

This is especially important considering that the SBC in the UAE is soon set to become a member of Chamber of Commerce. This was announced during the recent visit of José Luis Kaiser, Director General of International Trade and Investment of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, Spain, during a Gala Dinner held recently in Dubai by the Council.

The objective for this move is to provide the local private sector a direct link not only with international Spanish companies based in the UAE but also with those in Spain who do not have a presence in the country. This aim is to provide high level visibility to companies in the international market by means of prospective collaborations and investment.



Country Manager Guillermo Cobelo speaking at the recent special executive committee meeting.