



International Downstream Conference & Exhibition 2025

INNOVATING ENERGY, CREATING SUSTAINABLE VALUE

Sept 30th – Oct 2nd

Bahrain International Exhibition & Convention Centre

KNOWLEDGE PARTNER

S&P Global
Commodity Insights

ORGANIZED BY





Opening Remarks

Hussain Al Qahtani

Chairman, GDA

Senior Vice President of Fuels, Aramco

The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) stands at a pivotal moment in its journey. Guided by our new strategy, we are committed to transforming GDA into a truly global, industry-shaping platform that delivers greater value to both our members and the downstream sector at large.

This transformation is anchored in three key pillars. First, we aim to position GDA as a hub for thought leadership, innovation, and knowledge exchange, one that influences the future direction of our industry. Second, we are launching new industry forums dedicated to addressing the most critical and emerging topics in the downstream landscape, ensuring timely dialogue and actionable outcomes. Third, we are pursuing strategic collaborations that will expand and strengthen the global influence of the International Downstream Conference & Exhibition (IDCE), making it a cornerstone event for the worldwide downstream community.

Our vision is bold, but our commitment is stronger. By working together, we can create a platform that fosters insight, drives collaboration, and inspires solutions that advance the industry for years to come.

I invite you to join us in this exciting new chapter for GDA. Your engagement and expertise will be the catalyst for innovation, progress, and enduring value for our members and the global downstream sector.

See you at IDCE 2025, where the future of downstream is shaped.



Remarks from the Chairman

Mitib A Al Harbi

Chairman, GDA International Downstream Conference
& Exhibition 2025

Vice President, Fuels Business Management, Aramco

Delivering an event like the International Downstream Conference & Exhibition 2025 is more than an organizational milestone; it is a commitment to shaping the future of our industry.

Under the theme “Innovating Energy, Creating Sustainable Value,” this year’s conference brings together leaders, innovators, and technical experts from across the globe to share strategies, showcase technologies, and forge partnerships that will define the next chapter of the downstream sector.

The program reflects the industry’s most pressing priorities, from decarbonization and digital transformation to capital efficiency and workforce readiness. It is designed to inspire ideas and to translate them into actionable solutions for sustainable growth.

I am proud to welcome you to Bahrain for three days of knowledge exchange, collaboration, and networking. Together, we will explore new opportunities, address shared challenges, and strengthen the bonds that unite our global downstream community.

See you at IDCE 2025, where innovation meets impact.

THE 3 DAY AGENDA

Join global leaders, innovators, and decision-makers for three impactful days of strategic discussions, industry dialogues, and technical deep-dives shaping the future of the downstream sector.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

DAY 1 | Strategic Leadership & Industry

- Opening remarks by industry leaders & ministerial keynote address
- Leadership dialogue & fireside chats
- GDA Leadership award ceremony
- Strategic panels on geopolitics & energy markets
 - Downstream resilience & collaboration
 - Maximizing returns: capital efficiency
 - Energy diplomacy & trade
- Industry dialogue: HSSE in refineries
- Lays groundwork for technical themes of Days 2 & 3

DAY 2 | Transformation through Technology & Innovation

- Strategic panels on:
 - Maximizing barrel Value
 - Global refining realignment
 - Downstream decarbonization
- Industry dialogue: sustainability, efficiency & decarbonization
- Afternoon focus on digital innovation:
 - AI for energy, energy for AI
 - AI in refineries
 - Digital reliability & integrity
- Industry dialogue: Innovating the refinery of the future
- Technical presentations on new processes & emerging tech

DAY 3 | Maximizing Downstream Value

- Strategic panels on:
 - The hydrogen debate
 - EV revolution & fuel retail transformation
 - Future-proofing the workforce (DEI & Digital)
- Industry dialogues:
 - Leadership in the AI era
 - Supply chain excellence
- Strategic sessions:
 - Biofuels & SAF: can they scale?
 - Lubricants & base oils: efficiency in low-carbon future
- Closing remarks by chairman



DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision

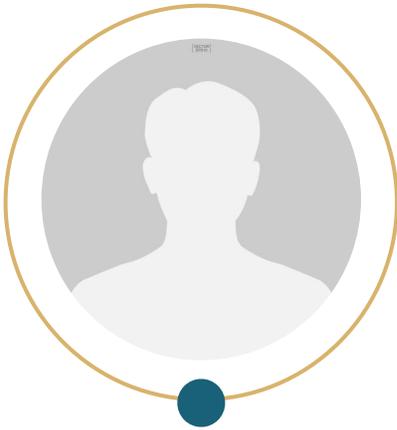


9:00 AM	Welcome, Opening Remarks & Ministerial Keynote Address
9:25 AM	Leadership Dialogue - Fireside Chat
9:50 AM	GDA Leadership Award
10:00 AM	Geopolitics & Energy Markets: What It Means for the industry growth
11:00 AM	Duhur Prayer / Lunch Break
12:00 PM	Strategic Imperatives for Downstream Resilience in a Low-Margin Era
1:00 PM	Maximizing Returns: Capital Efficiency in Changing Landscape
2:00 PM	Pioneering the Future: HSSE with cutting-edge technologies
2:00 PM	From Blueprint to Reality: Project Execution and Commissioning
2:45 PM	Energy Diplomacy & Trade: Shaping the Future of Downstream
3:45 PM	Asar Prayer
4:00 PM	The Global South Pivot: Strategic Shifts for Middle East NOCs



DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision



Ministerial Keynote Address

Ministerial Keynote

Minister of Oil and
Environment in Bahrain

Leadership Dialogue Fireside Chat

Moderated by:



David Ernsberger

Co-President S&P Global
Commodity Insights



Mohammad Y. Al Qahtani

Downstream President
Aramco



Bassam A Al-Bokhari

Secretary General, GDA
CEO, EnergyTech

GDA Leadership Award



DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision



Paul Gruenwald

Global Chief Economist, S&P
Global Ratings

Geopolitics & Energy Markets: What It Means for the industry growth

A high-level discussion on how shifting geopolitics will shape supply chains, investment flows, and policy frameworks.



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Strategic Imperatives for Downstream Resilience in a Low-Margin Era

This session examines strategic approaches for enhancing downstream sector resilience amid tightening margins, focusing on operational efficiency, digital transformation, cost optimization, and sustainable business models for long-term competitiveness.



David Ernsberger

Co-President S&P Global
Commodity Insights



TBC



Wadha Ahmed Al-Khateeb

CEO
KNPC



Abdulrahman Al-Fageeh

CEO
SABIC



TBC



DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision



Anthony John Wood

VP, Global Head of Oil, Midstream and Downstream Consulting, S&P CI

Maximizing Returns: Capital Efficiency in Changing Landscape

Explore strategies for enhancing capital efficiency amidst evolving market dynamics, focusing on innovative approaches to maximize returns while navigating challenges in investment and resource allocation.



TBC



Ralph Wetzels

SVP, Downstream Finance
Aramco



Jeff Currie

Chief Strategy of Energy
Pathways
Carlyle



TBC

From Blueprint to Reality: Mastering Project Execution and Commissioning

Exploring how digital tools and technologies can enhance the efficiency, coordination, and outcomes of large-scale projects from the concept to commissioning.



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Hassan H Al Yami

VP Ras Tanura Refinery
Aramco



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DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision



TBC

Pioneering the Future: Revolutionizing HSSE in Refineries with cutting-edge technologies

Exploring the integration of advanced technologies in refinery operations to enhance safety, security, health measures and risk mitigation involves using best industry practices, digital twins, and real-time monitoring systems to prevent accidents, ensure secure operations, and promote worker health. Additionally, implementing innovative safety protocols and cybersecurity measures ensures a safer, more secure, and healthier refinery environment.



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Energy Diplomacy & Trade: Shaping the Future of Downstream

What strategic partnerships and joint ventures are redefining market access and refining and petrochemical competitiveness.



Kurt Barrow

SVP, Global Head of oil, fuels and chemical solutions S&P CI



TBC



Abdulrahman Jawahery

CEO
BAPCO Refining



TBC



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DAY 1

Strategic Leadership & Industry Vision



Premasish Das

VP & Regional Head of Oil and Downstream Research S&P CI

The Global South Pivot: Strategic Shifts for Middle East NOCs

Exploring the growing influence of emerging economies in Asia and Africa on Middle East NOC investment, trade flows, and strategic priorities



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DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



9:00 AM	Maximizing Barrel Value: The Next Frontier in Refinery and Petrochemical Integration
10:00 AM	Global Refining Realignment: Asia's Ascent and Europe's Transition
11:00 AM	Duhur Prayer / Lunch Break
12:00 PM	Downstream Decarbonization: Demand Sustainability through Carbon Competitiveness
1:00 PM	Downstream Sustainability: Integrating Efficiency and Decarbonization for Success
1:00 PM	Innovating Refinery of The Future: Cutting-Edge Technologies from Concept to Commercialization
2:00 PM	AI for Energy, Energy for AI
3:00 PM	AI in Refineries: Accelerating Digital Transformation
4:00 PM	Asar Prayer
4:15 PM	Intelligent Integration: AI and Digitalization in Downstream
4:15 PM	Digital Reliability & Integrity: Enhancing Integrity with Predictive Analytics



DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



Ravi Narayanaswamy
VP, Global Head of Feedstocks
Research & Analytics S&P CI

Maximizing Barrel Value: The Next Frontier in Refinery and Petrochemical Integration

Discussion on deeper integration between refining and petrochemicals material transition trends, and feedstock flexibility to future-proof assets in a lower-carbon world



Quentin Debuisschert
CEO
Axens



TBC



Ibrahim Rassim Al-Buainain
EVP, Global Manufacturing
Aramco



TBC

Global Refining Realignment: Asia's Ascent and Europe's Transition

How India's refining expansion, China's petchem-driven model, and EU's capacity rationalization are likely to reshape global refining dynamics?



Kurt Barrow
SVP, Global Head of oil, fuels and
chemical solutions S&P CI



TBC



Abdullah S Al-Suwailem
SVP, West Region
Manufacturing
Aramco



TBC



Rachid Majiti
Senior Partner
McKinsey & Co.



DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



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Downstream Decarbonization: Demand Sustainability through Carbon Competitiveness

How can refineries be ready for lower carbon world? What are the latest developments in clean hydrogen, carbon capture, and sustainable biofuels as alternatives to traditional refining?



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Innovating Refinery of The Future: Cutting-Edge Technologies from Concept to Commercialization

Advanced control systems and new process technologies to optimize refinery processes. This track also focuses on autonomous operation systems, Advance Process Control, solutions for process optimization, real-time optimization (RTO), and case studies on autonomous operations



Richard Charlesworth

Executive Director, Global Head of Industry Processes and Cost Analytics
S&P CI



Dr. Ali Abdullah Al Meshari

SVP, Tech Oversight & Coordination
Aramco



TBC



Hari Ravindran

SVP & Global Head Technology Solutions
KBR



Arun Arora

CTO
Chevron Lummus Global



DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



Paul Cannizzo

VP Sustainability and Strategic Insights
Solomon Associates

Downstream Sustainability: Integrating Efficiency and Decarbonization for Success

Discussion on strategies and technologies aimed at reducing carbon emissions while enhancing energy efficiency in the downstream industry. This involves the integration of new process configurations, refinery-petchem integration, advanced control systems, digital technologies, and sustainable practices to optimize refinery processes and reduce energy consumption and improve long-term profitability.



Syed Mahmood Alawi

SVP, Technical Services
BAPCO Refinery



Anthony John Wood

VP, Global Head of Oil, Midstream and Downstream Consulting,
S&P CI



Ujjal Mukherjee

CTO
Lummus Technology



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AI for Energy, Energy for AI

Discussion on how AI is transforming energy production, distribution, and consumption, while highlighting the rising energy demands driven by AI data servers.



Jack Yang

CTO
S&P CI



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DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



Nadim Haddad

Global Head of Oil & Gas & Partner
Oliver Wyman

AI in Refineries: Accelerating Digital Transformation

How AI, predictive analytics, and automation are revolutionizing refinery operations –enhancing efficiency, safety, and profitability while reducing emissions.



Ahmed Al-Ghamdi

CEO
Artificial Intelligence Global Co



Jack Yang

CTO
S&P CI



Ujjal Mukherjee

CTO
Lummus Technology



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Intelligent Integration: AI and Digitalization in Downstream

This session focuses on the integration of AI and digital technologies to achieve autonomous operations, optimize processes, predictive analytics and enable real-time decision-making in the downstream oil and gas industry. Key areas of focus include AI-based decision-making, Process Digital Twin, real-time optimization (RTO), and case studies on the successful implementation of these technologies.



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DAY 2

Technology & Innovation for Transformation



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Digital Reliability & Asset Integrity: Enhancing Integrity with Predictive Analytics

Focus on how digital tools and predictive analytics can enhance reliability and asset integrity in refinery operations. Management of shutdowns/turnarounds more efficiently, risk-based inspection practices along with reliability centered maintenance programs with digital footprint and best practices.



Sami Bu Rushaid

VP, Global Manufacturing
Excellence
Aramco



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DAY 3

Maximizing Downstream Value



9:00 AM	The Hydrogen Debate: Hype, Reality & Commercial Pathways
10:00 AM	Charging Ahead: The EV Revolution and Fuel Retail Transformation
11:00 AM	Future-Proofing the Downstream Workforce: Digital Integration & DEI Initiatives
12:00 PM	Duhur Prayer / Lunch Break
12:00 PM	Navigating Complexity and Uncertainty: Achieving Supply Chain Excellence in the Downstream Industry
12:00 PM	Leadership Evolution: Cultivating Tomorrow's Leaders Today in the AI Paradigm Shift
1:00 PM	Biofuels & SAF: Can They Scale Fast Enough to Transform Mobility?
2:00 PM	Lubricants & Base Oils: Driving Efficiency in a Low-Carbon Future
3:00 PM	Conference Outcome & Closing



DAY 3

Maximizing Downstream Value



Richard Charlesworth

Executive Director, Global Head of Industry Processes and Cost Analytics S&P CI

The Hydrogen Debate: Hype, Reality & Commercial Pathways

The commercial viability and infrastructure challenges of hydrogen as a fuel of the future.



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Charging Ahead: The EV Revolution and Fuel Retail Transformation

Discussion on how rising EV adoption is transforming energy demand, infrastructure needs, OEM partnerships, and impacting petrochemical consumption patterns



Jim Burkhard

VP, Global Head of Oil & Mobility Research & Analytics S&P CI



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TBC



Sami Mohammad Al-Osaimi

EVP, Polymers SBU
SABIC



TBC



DAY 3

Maximizing Downstream Value



Anthony John Wood

VP, Global Head of Oil, Midstream and Downstream Consulting, S&P CI

Future-Proofing the Downstream Workforce: Digital Integration & DEI Initiatives

An in-depth discussion on how AI, automation, AR/VR, reskilling, and DEI initiatives are transforming the downstream workforce—boosting safety, innovation, and inclusive growth.



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Kristy Chadwick

Group CEO
TTRO



Mark Anderson

SVP
KBC Advance Technology

Navigating Complexity and Uncertainty: Achieving Supply Chain Excellence in the Downstream Industry

Strategies to identification of risks, bottlenecks and manage the complexities and uncertainties of downstream supply chains, focusing on optimizing processes, to manage future integration like renewables (biofuels, SAF, e-fuels), EV charging infrastructure into supply chain by leveraging advanced technologies, and enhancing collaboration.



Jad Dib

Partner
McKinsey & Co



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TBC



Hisham Alnugaimish

President
Bahri Oil



TBC



DAY 3

Maximizing Downstream Value



TBC

Leadership Evolution: Cultivating Tomorrow's Leaders Today in the AI Paradigm shift

Discussion on required structured leadership development initiatives that focus on upskilling and reskilling employees to make future ready leaders for new technology (AI/ML, AR/VR, Digitalization) environment.



Nayed S Al-Otaibi

VP, Downstream HR
Aramco



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Ghanim Naser Al-Otaibi

Deputy CEO Projects
KNPC

Biofuels & SAF: Can They Scale Fast Enough to Transform Mobility?

This session examines the potential of biofuels and Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) to scale rapidly, assessing their role in transforming mobility, reducing emissions, and meeting global sustainability goals.



Premasish Das

VP & Regional Head of Oil and
Downstream Research
S&P CI



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DAY 3

Maximizing Downstream Value



Ravi Narayanaswamy

VP, Global Head of Feedstocks
Research & Analytics S&P CI

Lubricants & Base Oils: Driving Efficiency in a Low-Carbon Future

Impact of EVs, bio-based lubricants, and synthetic oils on refining, sustainability, and industrial performance.



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Marco Digioia

President
Atiel



Imad A Al-Hadlaq

EVP, Manufacturing
Kuwait Petroleum
International



GENERAL INFORMATION AND TIMETABLE



Venue
Exhibition World Bahrain
Halls 7 and 8



Organised by
Class Pro.co



Exhibition Name
IDCE 2025 - International
downstream conference
& Exhibition 2025



Exhibition Dates
30th September - 2nd
October 2025

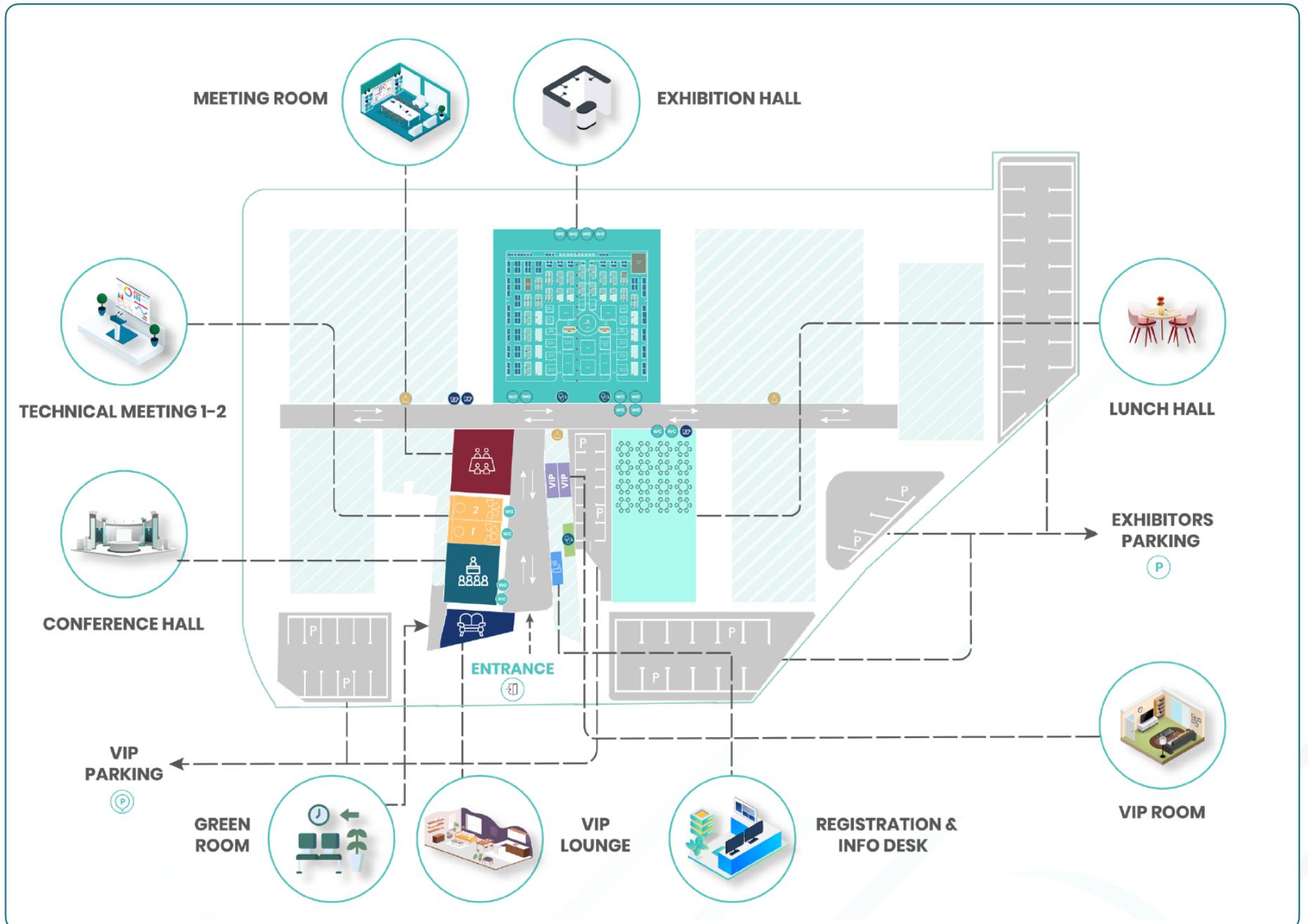


Exhibition Website
www.idce.bh

EXHIBITION OPENING HOURS

Day	Date	Exhibitors Time	Visitors Time
Tuesday	30 September 2025	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Wednesday	1 October 2025	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Thursday	2 October 2025	9:00 AM - 5:00 PM	9:00 AM - 3:10 PM

VENUE FACILITIES



Main Entrance

Drop in/out - Registration Area



Exhibition Hall

- GDA Booth
- Matchmaking Hub
- Technical Pods
- Youth Hub
- Business Center
- Media Center



Meeting Room



Technical Meeting



Conference Hall



Green Room



VIP Lounge



VIP Room



Registration & Info Desk



Lunch Hall



Exhibitors Parking



Medical Rooms



Prayer Rooms



Coffee Stations



Restrooms



VIP Parking



PLAN YOUR VISIT

WELCOME TO THE KINGDOM OF BAHRAIN

The Kingdom of Bahrain is a modern and welcoming destination that ensures a smooth and comfortable experience for both international and regional visitors. The capital city is Manama, the official language is Arabic, and English is widely spoken.

The local currency is the Bahraini Dinar (BHD), and the time zone is GMT+3. Expect warm, dry weather in September and October, with average temperatures ranging from 30–35°C.

ARRIVAL & TRANSPORTATION

Bahrain International Airport is located approximately 30 minutes from the event venue Exhibition World Bahrain (EWB). Transportation options include: Taxis, Uber, Careem, hotel shuttles, and car rental services.

ENTRY & VISA REQUIREMENTS

Many nationalities are eligible for a visa on arrival or can apply for an eVisa. Passports must be valid for at least 6 months from the date of entry. For full details and eligibility, visit: www.evisa.gov.bh

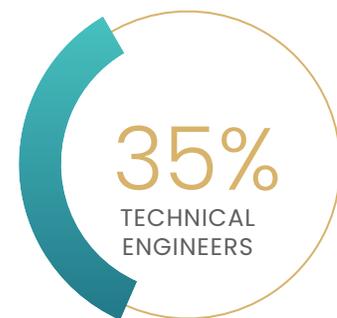
USEFUL INFORMATION

- Electricity: 230V, UK-style plug (Type G)
- Dress code: Modest attire is recommended in public areas
- Alcohol: permitted only in licensed venues
- Emergency Number: 999 (Police, Ambulance, Fire)

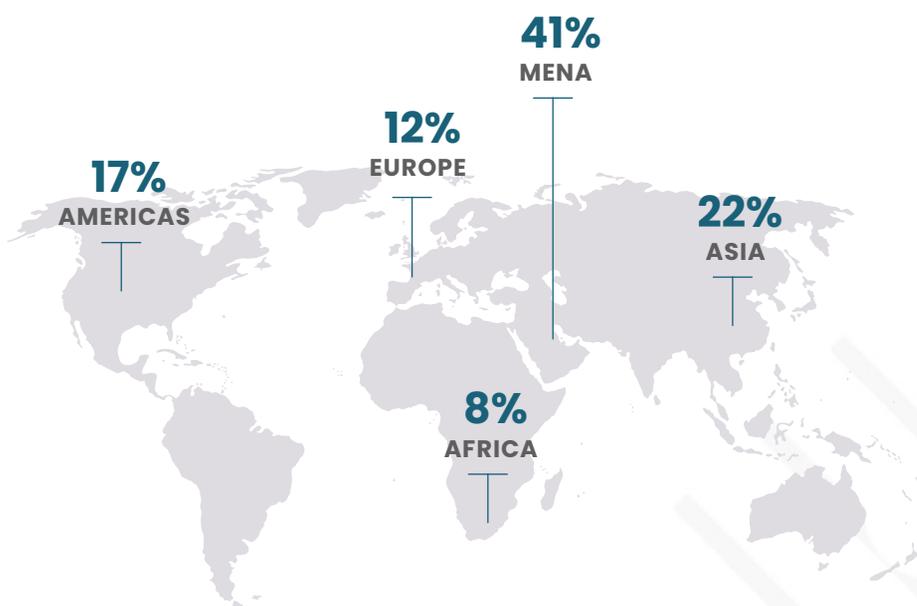
WHY ATTEND THE IDCE CONFERENCE?

- Gain unparalleled insights from world-class technical experts and business leaders.
- Expand your knowledge by participating in one of the industry's largest technical events.
- Connect with engineers from diverse oil and gas sectors and explore their unique operational challenges.
- Access exclusive post-event online resources, including all technical abstracts shared during the conference.

ATTENDEES BY SENIORITY



ATTENDEES BY GEOGRAPHY



ATTENDEES BY SECTOR



S&P GLOBAL COMMODITY INSIGHTS

Official Knowledge Partner – IDCE 2025

We are proud to welcome S&P Global Commodity Insights as the official Knowledge Partner for the International Downstream Conference & Exhibition (IDCE) 2025.

A globally recognized authority in energy and commodities markets, S&P Global Commodity Insights delivers industry-leading data, analytics, and forecasts that power decision-making across the entire energy value chain. Their expertise spans oil, gas, refining, petrochemicals, and the energy transition – offering deep insights into pricing, market trends, regulatory developments, and emerging investment opportunities.



Knowledge Powered by Insight

In partnership with S&P Global Commodity Insights, IDCE 2025 delivers world-class data, forecasts, and market intelligence – shaping the future of the downstream sector with clarity, credibility, and global perspective.

As Knowledge Partner, S&P will play a central role in shaping the conference's thought leadership program – bringing timely, data-driven perspectives that frames critical conversations in the downstream sector. From exclusive keynotes and expert panels to in-depth technical sessions, their contributions will deliver clarity and direction during this pivotal period of industry transformation.

This collaboration ensures that IDCE 2025 remains a content-rich platform where global stakeholders can access credible intelligence, challenge conventional thinking, and explore innovative solutions for a more resilient and sustainable downstream future.

Through this strategic partnership with S&P Global Commodity Insights, IDCE 2025 sets a new standard in knowledge-sharing, insight, and value for delegates, sponsors, and partners alike.

SUMMARY CONCLUSION

The event is structured across two integrated tracks:

The Strategic Conference (*keynotes, panels, leadership dialogues*) and The Technical Conference (*Industry Dialogues, paper presentations, posters*). Each day begins with high-level sessions addressing macro trends and leadership themes, followed by technical deep-dives and innovation showcases. Eight Industry Dialogues bridge strategic vision with technical sub-themes, ensuring alignment across sessions.

The program concludes with invited technical presentations and poster exhibitions, enabling participants to share cutting-edge research and practical solutions. The format is designed to foster cross-functional insight and industry collaboration, bringing together C-suite leaders, technology providers, regulators, and operators. Participants gain access to emerging trends in AI, new fuels and digitalization, while building connections across the downstream value chain for meaningful engagement and sustainable innovation.

International Downstream Conference & Exhibition 2025

INNOVATING ENERGY, CREATING SUSTAINABLE VALUE

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