



LOGISTICS OPPORTUNITIES IN BAHRAIN

THE OPPORTUNITY

The best regional air connections in the Middle East and the causeway linking Bahrain to Saudi Arabia make for the most efficient access to the potential of key markets across the Middle East. Bahrain is ahead of many of its neighbours in terms of logistics, and maintains a permanent advantage due to its proximity to Saudi Arabia. Strategically located in the heart of the Gulf, Bahrain is the gateway to the region with easy access to the large economies of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and Iran. Bahrain's logistics industry is set to flourish in the coming years as cargo volume in the Gulf increases. TEU traffic volume is predicted to increase from 2 million in 2007 to 5 million by 2015¹.

The logistics industry is growing fast in response to increasing demand from businesses. The government is addressing the demand by investing US\$2.9bn to upgrade its logistics infrastructure, including a new bridge to Qatar, an airport expansion, a state of the art logistics zone and a larger port. Bahrain has the shortest travel time between its seaport, airport and the logistics processing zone of anywhere in the Gulf enabling more efficient and faster processing of trade goods. Bahrain also offers the lowest costs and best value for money when it comes to operating costs.

1: Oxford Business Group, 2008 Report

BAHRAIN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

Bahrain International Airport has a well developed logistics operation - in 2007 the airport handled 380,000 tones of cargo, an increase of 6% on 2006. International cargo carrier DHL has exploited Bahrain's strategic location since 1978 basing its Middle East hub in Manama. The Airport is DHL's regional distribution centre for Eastern Europe, the Middle East and North Africa. Bahrain's world class airport has links to principal global finance and business centres. It is the regional hub for Lufthansa, Cathay Pacific and Air India. The national carrier, Gulf Air, has the biggest network in Middle East connecting to over 40 destinations.

Bahrain International Airport will soon be home to the Cargo Oasis, an expanded cargo handling facility that will treble Bahrain's international air cargo to a capacity of one million tones per annum, a level comparable with London's Heathrow Airport and have capacity for 27 large cargo planes to be handled at any given time.

THE MINA SALMAN AND KHALIFA BIN SALMAN PORT

The Khalifa Bin Salman Port opened in April 2009. The new Port's features include:

- dredged to a depth of 15 metre - deep enough to accommodate any container ship currently in service
- capacity to handle ships travelling directly to Bahrain from Europe, Asia and North America without the need to unload or reload
- an annual capacity of 2.5 million TEUs - two thirds the handling capacity of Felixstowe

The best regional air connections in the Middle East

A causeway linking Bahrain to Saudi Arabia make for the most efficient access to the potential of key markets



- built on a site of approx. 900,00m², the port has been designed to allow for future expansion
- due to its location, the new port is fully capable of serving the large and rapidly developing markets such as Iraq, Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia
- will allow mother ships from Europe, Asia and America to dock directly in Bahrain without having to unload and transfer cargo at other regional ports

The Ports are operated by APM Terminals; the world's second largest terminal operating company headquartered in the Netherlands.

KING FAHD CAUSEWAY & THE BAHRAIN-QATAR FRIENDSHIP BRIDGE

Bahrain benefits from excellent transport links throughout the region with easy access to Gulf markets, especially Saudi Arabia. The 25km causeway, taking 30 minutes to cross, allows around 12m passengers a year to cross between the two countries allowing goods and cargo to transported to one of the GCC's largest and most powerful economies. As of 2013, the Bahrain-Qatar Friendship

Causeway will provide direct access to Qatar. The 45km causeway between Bahrain and Qatar will be the longest man made sea-bridge in the world. The four-lane highway is expected to cut the travel time by car between Qatar and Bahrain from four and half hours to around 30 minutes. When completed, oil and gas related products will be able to be transported from the Bahrain to the world's third largest gas reserves in under an hour.

BAHRAIN LOGISTICS ZONE

Bahrain Logistics Zone (BLZ) is the Middle East's first multi-model logistics hub focusing on re-export and value-adding logistics activities. The BLZ is designed to be one of the region's largest shipping and transport hubs. The Bahrain Logistics Zone is strategically located adjacent to the Mina Salam and the new Khalifa Bin Salman Port, 13km from the Bahrain International Airport and only 40km from Al Khobar in Saudi Arabia.

The \$280m Bahrain Logistics Zone has already gained the attention of international logistics players and in 2008 signed leasing

contracts with major international names in the logistics industry including Danzas and CEVA logistics of the Netherlands, the first tenant taking a 10,00 sq m purpose built warehouse.

CONTACT

Bahrain's excellent transport infrastructure has already attracted DHL, Aramex, GAC Express and TNT, who benefit from Bahrain's strategic location at the heart of the Gulf.

To find out how the Bahrain Economic Development Board can help you set up and support your business long-term, contact:

Hamad Al Mahmeed
Sector Specialist,
Bahrain Economic Development Board
+973 1758 9854
hamad@bahrainedb.com

DESTINATION	AIRTIME FROM BAHRAIN ²
Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	1 hr 10 min
Jeddah, Saudi Arabia	2hr 30 min
Doha, Qatar	50 min
Kuwait City, Kuwait	1hr
Dubai United Arab Emirates	1hr
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates	1 hr 10 min
Mascot, Oman	1 hr 30 min

²: www.gulfair.com