Aluminium Bahrain

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Recapping on an eventful start to the year

It has been quite a year already for Aluminium Bahrain (Alba), the international aluminium smelter.
“We were able to step up our performance thanks to our plant reliability, integrated marketing approach, and, most importantly, our people who aim to exceed the company set targets”

In April the company revealed that its sales volume for the first quarter of 2017 returned a 4.9 per cent year-over-year increase, at 242,932 tonnes versus 231,538 in Q1 2016.

The company also saw growth in its production, reporting a 5.6 per cent year on year increase, from 235,478t to 248,776t.

Commenting on Alba’s sales and production volume for Q1 2017, Tim Murray, Chief Executive Officer of Alba, said: “We are pleased to finish the first quarter of 2017 with this strong volume momentum in our sales and production.

“We were able to step up our performance thanks to our plant reliability, integrated marketing approach, and, most importantly, our people who aim to exceed the company set targets.”

Alba announced that it will share its full first quarter 2017 financial results with the public on 23 April, as well as upload its investor relation presentation on its website.

During the same month, the company celebrated being recognised with the Gold Award for Occupational Health and Safety 2017 by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA), UK.

“The RoSPA organisation recognises health and safety success and awards companies around the world for their ongoing commitment to raising health and safety standards, said a statement from Alba.

A delighted Murray stated: “Safety is the number one priority at our company. We truly believe that by working together as one team, we will achieve our ultimate objective of ‘Zero Accidents’ at work.

“We are truly pleased to win the award, which is a recognition of all our efforts towards developing and maintaining a safe work culture. I would like to thank all our employees for their commitment and efforts in achieving our safety goals,” he added.

Alba will be presented with the Gold RoSPA Health and Safety Awards 2017 during a ceremony at the ExCel, London, UK, on June 20, it stated.

According to the company website, Alba “consistently ranks as one of the largest and most modern aluminium smelters in the world. Known for its technological strength and innovative policies, Alba enforces strict environmental guidelines, maintains high track record for safety, and is widely regarded as one of the top ten performers on a global scale.

“It supports numerous community oriented programmes and social activities that have underlined its status as one of Bahrain’s leading industrial organisations that remains committed towards upholding its corporate social responsibilities. Alba’s inception marks the beginning of Bahrain’s strategy to diversify its economic base and reduce its dependence on oil. The aim was to establish an industry that would provide valuable export earnings, develop the country’s resources and create training and employment opportunities for a large number of Bahrainis. Alba was therefore incorporated by Charter in 1968 and officially commenced operations in 1971 as a 120,000 tonnes per annum smelter.

“Alba today produces more than 971,000 metric tonnes per annum of the highest grade aluminium, with products including standard and T-ingots, extrusion billets, rolling slab, properti ingots, and molten aluminium. Around 50 per cent of output is supplied to Bahrain’s downstream aluminium industry, with the rest exported to regional and international customers in the Middle East, Europe, Far East, South East Asia, Africa, and North America.”

In March 2017 Alba published its first Sustainability Report, attesting the company’s ongoing commitment to Sustainable Development, Transparency and Accountability.
"The annual reporting on sustainability will allow for greater transparency of our sustainable programmes as well as create value for our stakeholders and the communities. We remain committed to create a positive impact on the community we serve and ensure that by engaging with our partners, Alba will be a statement for progressive growth and positive change."

An important milestone for Alba, the Sustainability Report for 2016 was developed to share Alba’s journey using the internationally recognised sustainability reporting framework from the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

Commenting on this occasion, Murray said: “Alba is pleased to launch its first Sustainability Report, which validates our corporate social responsibility efforts and commitment towards high environmental and social standards. The annual reporting on sustainability will allow for greater transparency of our sustainable programmes as well as create value for our stakeholders and the communities. We remain committed to create a positive impact on the community we serve and ensure that by engaging with our partners, Alba will be a statement for progressive growth and positive change.”

Also in March, the company reiterated its commitment to support the Kingdom’s initiatives in the field of motor sports by signing a three-year partnership renewal with Bahrain International Circuit (BIC).

“We are pleased to renew our partnership with BIC, which has established itself as a leading motor racing destination in the Middle East,” said Murray after signing the deal with BIC chief executive Shaikh Salman bin Isa Al Khalifa.

“This partnership also gives us the opportunity to welcome our customers and clients to experience the hospitality of the kingdom and validate its reputation as an international tourist destination,” Murray added.

At the time of writing, 2017 is barely more than a quarter of the way through. Judged on recent events, it promises to be an eventful remainder of the year.
NASS IN FEW WORDS

The roots of Nass Corporation and Nass Group are anchored as far back as 1963, when Abdulla Ahmed Nass Contracting Co was formed. In 2005, The Group consolidated its eleven-core construction related businesses into Nass Corporation B.S.C. Upon listing, the Corporation became the first family company in the Kingdom of Bahrain to be listed on the Bahrain Bourse.

Headquartered in Bahrain, NASS now has operations throughout the Middle East with branch offices in Qatar (Abdulla Nass Group Co. Ltd. & Qatar Al-Attiyah International Group), Saudi Arabia (Abdulla Nass & Partners Co. Ltd. & Abrasive Technologies Industries), U.A.E. (Nass Contracting and Nass Scafform, AUH), Oman (Nass Group LLC) and Kuwait (Al Ghanim & Nass General Trading & Contracting).

Today, NASS is one of the largest and most diverse businesses in Bahrain and has operations in five key business segments: Construction, Manufacturing, Services, Marine and Trading.

Construction
Transformational projects that contribute towards Bahrain’s growth and development, including: heavy civil and building, mechanical contracting (EPC); electrical contracting; automation and instrumentation; interior; landscapes; marine engineering; and offshore activities.

Manufacturing
NASS owns one of the most diversified mechanical EPC contractors in the region offering turnkey engineering solutions. Also a manufacturer of a prefabricated piping system in J.V. with CB&I; general fabrication capability; vessel and barge; and ready-mixed & precast concrete products.

Services
Heavy lifting solutions; transport and logistics; scaffolding; waste management; non-destructive testing (NDT); equipment rental; and other services catering to all sectors.

Marine
Manufacturing vessels and marine transport service

Trading and Marketing
Dealership for a wide range of construction chemicals and equipment as well as representatives of major international brands such as BASF, CASE and SCHWING.

Nass Corporation comprises of six divisions and five subsidiaries, (three wholly owned and two partly owned), Nass Corporation offers a range of services that synergistically create a one-stop-shop that caters to the full spectrum needs of the construction and industrial sector. From concept to completion and beyond, Nass Corporation provides clients with a convenient and trusted source for a myriad of construction disciplines.

MAKING HISTORY

One of the reasons part of the company has gone public is that we want to create a platform or an example for other families to look towards IPO conversion of family businesses. We believe that in family businesses third generations are reducing their involvement and ultimately these businesses will disappear. The only way to sustain them is to go IPO and let the professionals run it. This is one of the things we are looking at for a bigger vision.

NASS has made many major contributions to the development of Bahrain’s commercial, residential and industrial infrastructure. The Company has successfully undertaken projects in virtually every sector of the country’s economy; for instance, we built a lot of infrastructures, water network systems, electrical cables network, roads, telephone systems, drainage systems back in the 60s. And in the 70s NASS have successfully completed many projects of the first-of-its-kind, the first housing schemes of the Ministry of Housing; the Bahrain International Airport - first Apron project, first five-star hotel and established the first ready-mix concrete supply and precast company in the Kingdom of Bahrain.
NASS and ALBA enjoyed a long perpetual business relation since the 1990's when Nass - Christiani & Nielsen JV designed and constructed the Alba Jetty. Nass Contracting executed the procurement and construction of Alba Line 5 – Pot line Buildings – Civil package, and Nass Industrial Services acquired the Mechanical installation of 336 No's. of Busbars, Pot-Shells & Pot Superstructures.

**Providing Diversity**

Diversification has been key to the Company's sustainable success, and since the business started, it had steadily expanded and diversified into a range of areas, with every division created in order to meet a real industry demand. Today, NASS is an empire of best-in-class companies that employ a dedicated staff of thousands who, together with its steadfast management team, support the group as it adapts and innovates to meet the diverse and changing needs of the region’s construction and industrial sectors. With local know-how and international expertise, NASS has emerged as a foremost player in the region and a preferred partner of choice to a growing network of suppliers, international EPC contractors, and clients.

The founder of NASS The Group and NASS Corporation, the late Abdullah Ahmed Nass, firmly believed that if a company does not change, it cannot survive and therefore the leadership philosophy of NASS has always been one of flexibility and adaptation. We remain fluid in the way we structure our organisation, and in the way, we approach our business, which ensures that we have the ability to respond to changing customer and market needs fast.

**Customer Satisfaction, Guaranteed**

The company has a proven track record of successful projects across a wide range of sectors, including oil and gas, infrastructure and general construction, and boasts a project portfolio that consists of landmark projects throughout the Gulf region.

Recently, ALBA awarded NASS several packages for Line 6 Expansion project. These works include – Civil and Mobilisation Preparation works for the Power Station 5, Civil works for the Potline Facilities, Site Preparation works, VDC excavation, pit concrete construction and PSI Power Distribution System; 220kV and 33kV substations and associated works construction.

**Creating Industry Benchmark**

NASS has created a benchmark for safety and quality standards. Divisions and subsidiaries of NASS Corporation are accredited with ISO 9001, ISO 14001 & OHSAS 18001 and are renowned for consistently delivering the highest standards of quality services to its regional and international clientele.

**Employees and Training**

NASS employs 3,000 people across GCC and an additional approximately 7,000 workers, although this number depends on workflow.

We attract and retain the region's best talent by investing heavily in training and development and by nurturing a corporate culture that supports our employees to reach their full potential. We empower our employees with the skills, tools, equipment and technology they need to carry out their roles in a professional and productive manner and recognise and reward their commitment to quality, safety and service excellence. Our experienced team of professionals hold the U.K. recognised qualifications adapted internationally by the oil, gas, petrochemical, and construction industries.

Divisions of Nass Corporation, such as Nass Contracting has been recognised as the 2nd approved centre to deliver the ECITB International Health and Safety Passport courses in the Kingdom of Bahrain after ASRY.

The ECITB International Health and Safety passport scheme ensures that all site personnel have reached a recognised level of Health and Safety knowledge and awareness and to enable them to work on site more safely with reduced risk to themselves and others. Successful candidates are issued with an international ID card that can be transferable worldwide.

**Market Leaders**

**Nass Contracting**

An Industry leader for infrastructural development in Bahrain, currently working on several leading iconic and industrial projects; The Avenues Bahrain, Alba-Nuwaadrat interchange, Alba/ Bechtel Projects, Water Transmission development, Marassi Residence, and other Infrastructure and off-shore projects in the pipeline.

**Nass Scafform**

Engaged with scaffolding and formwork projects in Abu Dhabi, Qatar and Saudi Arabia. Mainly focused on oil and gas sector.

**Nass Industrial Services**

Mechanical contractor and steel fabricator serving the region. This division is engaged in fabrication, erection, and maintenance of industrial units and maintenance contracts in Bahrain and Saudi Arabia.

**Delmon Ready-mix and Delmon Precast**

Industry leaders for their product and quality of service.

**Facing Challenges**

Against all challenges, NASS remained resilient. Bahrain's construction industry, in particular, started to boom with activities up by 15% from 2015, and forecast to continue on this positive growth trajectory in the coming years.

The continued activation of large infrastructure projects and more in the pipeline is a key factor to NASS growth. Today, NASS has a number of large-scale infrastructure projects set to get underway and throughout the year, we continued to invest in state-of-the-art equipment and technology, and upgrade facilities.

We are successfully delivering on projects that require a broad spectrum of capabilities and further solidifying our reputation as a reliable and competent organisation that delivers the highest standards of quality on time.

**Nass Future Goals**

We work to promote the myriad of investment and business opportunities in the region. And, towards our vision of becoming a major regional player in the construction and industrial sector. Our investments are in the form of facility expansion to undertake more projects, training and development of our people, and execution of projects on-time / ahead of schedule.
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