

Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Crown Prince and the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain

GDA INTERNATIONAL DOWNSTREAM CONFERENCE AND EXHIBITION

13-15 February 2023 | Exhibition World Bahrain



International
Downstream Conference
& Exhibition

Theme:

Downstream Turning Points - Capitalising on Transformation

CALL FOR ABSTRACTS OPEN

FINAL DEADLINE: 31 OCTOBER 2022

9,000+

SQM. OF EXHIBITION SPACE

5,000+

ATTENDEES

500+

COMPANIES

150+

SPEAKERS

SUBMIT NOW:

gdaconference.org/call-for-abstracts

ABOUT THE GULF DOWNSTREAM ASSOCIATION

The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) was established by its founding companies Saudi Aramco, Kuwait Petroleum International (KPI), Bahrain Petroleum Company (BAPCO), Kuwait National Petroleum Company (KNPC) and Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC). GDA is a pioneering, non-profit association and "point of reference" for all downstream players including industry professionals, corporate executives and legislators seeking to foster excellence and drive advancement through mutually beneficial engagement and industry collaboration.

The association was established to aggregate the scattered wealth of knowledge that lies across the global downstream industry in order to accelerate development and serve as a catalyst for strong and sustainable industry growth in the Gulf region and worldwide. GDA takes a leading role in supporting the local, regional and international industry through sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices.



in f @gda_bh www.gda.org.bh

GDA BOARD MEMBERS



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Vice President -
Global Manufacturing,
Saudi Aramco



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Chief Executive Officer
Kuwait National Petroleum,
Company (KNPC)



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Board Member - GDA
Shafi Taleb Al-Ajmi
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(KPI)

GDA FOUNDING COMPANIES





MESSAGE FROM GDA CONFERENCE 2023 CHAIRMAN

Suleman A. Al-Bargan
Chairman, GDA
Vice President - Global
Manufacturing, Saudi Aramco

Dear Friends,

I am honored to chair the 2nd edition of the GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition. We had to postpone it from its original date in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic that caused global disruption to businesses and lives beyond anyone's imagination. We promised to return only when it was safe for everyone to come together.

We are now back with renewed energy and enthusiasm. We are also moving to a brand-new venue "Exhibition World Bahrain" which is opening soon in the Kingdom of Bahrain as the Middle East's largest venue of its sort. As I look into the future, I see a significant growth potential for our industry, despite the challenges posed by geopolitics, environmental concerns, post-pandemic dynamics, and economic uncertainties.

Accordingly, we have designed a conference program that will touch on all these challenges and explore creative ways of not only sustaining, but also growing the downstream industry while positively contributing to the peace and prosperity of humanity.

I welcome you all to join hands with us in this noble mission at this event. I invite you to showcase your best and take away the cumulative best of others from this event. You have a unique opportunity to expand your professional and business network, while bonding with peers on common interests. We are committed to making this event a great success and a memorable experience for all of us. I look forward to learning about your new ideas and exhibiting your best products and service to our delegates.

Dear Friends,

From 13-15 February 2023, over 5,000 industry executives, leaders and personnel will gather for the second edition of the Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) International Downstream Conference and Exhibition under the theme Downstream Turning Points - "Capitalising on Transformation".

As the industry becomes more competitive, we are navigating through a critical period of transformation where margin improvement, sustainability and capitalising on resources are topics of major significance. This event will offer you a chance to interact with leading decision-makers, and build strategic partnerships across the down stream value chain.

Over three days, the GDA conference and exhibition will bring together key players in the GCC including international stakeholders from operators and technology providers to policy makers and academia to the leading event in the region for downstream industries.

Following the resounding success of the inaugural GDA conference and exhibition in 2018, we're back with our in-person event in February 2023 and look forward to making this edition even more successful with your support and participation in all aspects of the event. See you at GDA International Downstream Conference and Exhibition at the Middle East's newest Exhibition and Convention Centre, Exhibition World Bahrain.

MESSAGE FROM GDA SECRETARY GENERAL

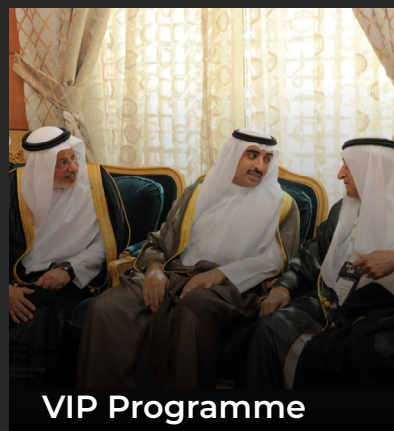


Mohammad Al-Shahrani
Secretary General, GDA
Head of Affiliates Manufacturing
Excellence, Global Manufacturing,
Saudi Aramco

THE LEADING MIDDLE EAST STRATEGIC FORUM FOR **DOWNSTREAM PROFESSIONALS**

The GDA Conference is the leading Middle East strategic forum for international downstream professionals to address global business challenges, share best practices and unlock potential opportunities through collaboration and partnerships. The event welcomes refiners, petrochemical companies, related government entities, oil and gas consultants, technology and system providers, research and development entities, and equipment and material manufacturers from around the globe.

WHAT TO EXPECT AT **GDA CONFERENCE 2023**



TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN



Saad H. Binmatlig
Downstream Strategy and Capital
Planning Manager,
Saudi Aramco

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR



Aqeel Almuharraqi
Superintendent FCCU and
Utilities, Technical Services,
BAPCO

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

Ali Mohamed A. Karim Alansari
Manager - Oil Processing Department,
BAPCO

Abdullatif Salih Alhameli
Western Region Joint Venture Portfolio
Manager,
Saudi Aramco

Dr. Anissa Sedjerari
R&D Portfolio Manager,
KAUST Catalysis Center

Dr. Basim Abussaud
Assistant Professor,
King Fahd University of Petroleum and
Minerals (KFUPM)

Dhanasekar Periyasamy
Principal Solution Consultant,
Aspen Technology

Dr. Dawoud Bahzad
Division Director -
Science and Technology (S&T),
Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (KISR)

Emad A. Muhaisen
Division Head, Jazan Economic City
Development Department,
Saudi Aramco

Fadi Mhaini
Managing Director, Lummus
Technology MENA and Director,
Technology Licensing,
Lummus Technology

Ghaleyah Rashed Naser Alazmi
Eng, Sr. Process,
Kuwait National Petroleum Company
(KNPC)

Gurminder Singh
Director, Technology Licensing - MENA,
Shell Catalysts and Technologies

Dr. Hayat Abdulla Yusuf
Assistant Professor and PCAP
Program Coordinator,
University of Bahrain

Jad Abou Charbine
Technical Services Manager,
Axens

Jad Dib
Partner,
McKinsey and Company

Mohamed Naser Alnoaimi
Business Strategy Leader -
Corporate Strategy Department,
BAPCO

Mohammed Benchekchou
Vice President,
Shell Catalysts & AMG Recycling

Mohammed Farsi
Division Head of Operations,
Saudi Aramco

Nihar Gulwadi
Regional Head - MENA,
Ingenero Inc

Omar Al Hamed
Manager- Refining Operations,
ADNOC Refining

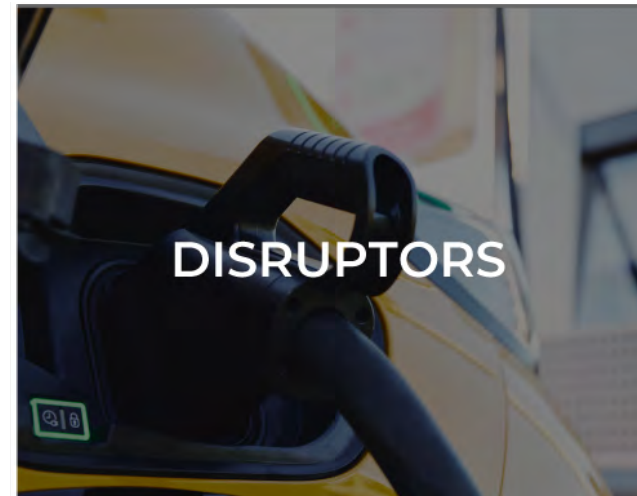
Dr. Ranjit Kulkarni
Director - Middle East Sales,
Honeywell UOP

Raj Jhajharia
Technical Manager and
Marketing Manager,
Gulf Downstream Association (GDA)

Ravivenkatesh Narayanaswamy
Vice President,
IHS Markit

Dr. Samir Elkareish
Director - Technical Affairs Department,
OAPEC - Organisation of Arab Petroleum
Exporting Countries

TECHNICAL TOPICS



Efforts of downstream industry to meet customers' needs without compromising the wellbeing of future generations.

1. Environment

2. Carbon

- Carbon capture, utilisation and storage
- Carbon pricing
- Carbon circularity and re-use applications

3. Fuels

- Advanced alternative fuels
- Sustainable aviation fuels
- Hydrogen: from grey to blue
- Blue ammonia

4. ESG

- Efforts, technologies and best practices to lower environmental impact
- Efforts to reduce the ripple effects on the broader community
- Internal system of controls, practices, and procedures to keep an organisation ahead of violations

5. Decarbonisation and sustainability communications

- Solutions to lower emissions in downstream
- New designs with lower emissions
- Solutions to improve product transparency
- Success stories in lowering scope 1 & 2 in downstream assets

6. Technologies and best practices that aim to cover the following topics

- Energy efficiency and conservation
- Flare management
- Water management
- Waste management

2

RESILIENCE

In today's challenging market conditions for downstream, success of a business lies in its ability to not only respond to market fluctuations but also turn the challenges into opportunities to capture greater value.

1. Business transformation

Transformations in different aspects of downstream business including but not limited to the following:

- New business models adapted in the downstream business
- Business integration
- Partnerships and JVs

2. Technology driven transformation

Adapting new technologies and digitalisation to enhance downstream performance.

3. Agility and flexibility to respond to market dynamics

Practices, designs, and technologies adopted to enhance the business ability to quickly respond to market dynamics and stay competitive.

4. Asset reliability and management

Designing, operating, and maintaining assets to perform their intended function effectively and efficiently while safeguarding people, environment, and the property.

5. Best practices from outside oil and gas industry

Share best practices deployed by industries outside oil and gas that have yielded significant results in making business more resilient.

6. Flexibility and competitiveness in design and operations

Key elements that make downstream plants and businesses more flexible and more competitive.

7. Process efficiencies and cost optimisations

Solutions/technologies to enhance process efficiency and margin improvement.

3

DISRUPTORS

Transformative organisations that can pivot quickly as business demands.

1. Market disruptors

The traditional landscape of downstream industry is at the turning point with the latest technology advances. Advancement in technology, IIOT, and increasing role of renewables and recycled feedstock are the new disruptors which will create new opportunities in the downstream industry. This topic will bring examples of existing or upcoming disruptors in the downstream business such as new products and new technologies.

2. Policy and regulatory disruptors

Sustainability and decarbonisation led regulations have major impact on downstream performance. This topic will present the critical global and regional regulations that have shaped the downstream industry and will look at the policies, mandates and incentives needed as future disruptors to advance the sustainability agenda.

3. Energy transition

Fundamental changes in the energy mix and consumption patterns effecting demand. This topic looks at some of these trends including:

- Clean hydrogen (blue and green)
- Electrical vehicles
- Shared mobility
- Autonomous transportation
- Development in battery technologies

4

FUTURE GROWTH

Key factors that influence the future growth of downstream business.

1. Market outlook and industry strategies

Future market outlook for fuels and changes in the demand, and possible strategic shifts in downstream business to sustain future growth.

2. Future of refining

Covers heavy oil upgrading processes, along with advancements in technologies being used to improve refining margins.

3. Capital efficiencies

Practices and methodologies to ensure capital efficiency and deliver projects with quality.

4. Downstream integrations

Future growth in downstream integration and upgrade options in order to maintain competitiveness in the future environment. Pivoting and shifting options can be highlighted and supported with successful examples, especially if applicable to the GCC.

5. Origination and investment (government entities to discuss government support to infrastructure and funding)

To ensure a more effective role for the industry in the country's economy, there is a need for intensifying channeling of resources and investments. This section brings focus on efforts by governments to support future growth of downstream business.

6. Funding downstream investments

From financing prospective, this topic brings an outside view from the financial institutions and highlights challenges and opportunities in funding downstream investments.

5

DIGITALISATION IN THE DOWNSTREAM SECTOR

Discuss how integration of digital technology can improve business processes and develop new capabilities to drive performance.

1. Smart Plants (operation and enterprise analytics)

Technological transformation to smart plants (Digital Twins, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and others).

2. Robotics and Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAVs) enterprise mobility

How robotics and UAVs assist in evolving digital solutions for companies across downstream sector to improve business processes.

3. Blockchain and cloud computing

Developments in how blockchain and cloud computing enable business partners to work with one system of records to advance business performance.

4. 3D manufacturing

How 3D printing technology is developing and influencing manufacturing processes to help businesses perform better.

5. Leveraging data to optimise networks and logistics utilisation

Leveraging mobile and analytics solutions to capture, analyse and communicate critical information to and from workers.

6. Data science technology (AI, IoT, ML)

How data science is adopted in downstream to drive business improvements.

6

HUMAN CAPITAL AND TALENT MANAGEMENT

Discuss current challenges and best practices in acquiring and developing talent in downstream.

1. Talent management

- Strategies to identify and attract human talent to the downstream industry
- Best practices and systems that promote effective human resource management
- Developing and implementing effective competency framework in organisations

2. Digitalisation and training

- Changes in training requirements to meet the new emerging technologies in downstream industry
- Strategies to address attrition and knowledge gap as a result of adapting more technologies in the downstream industry
- Utilising digitalisation in training programmes and people development, and how it influences training cost and effectiveness

3. Post COVID-19: Workforce design and virtual organisations

Covers changes in training requirements to meet the new emerging technologies in our industry.

2023 PROGRAMME

DAY 1 - 13 FEBRUARY

7:00 › 9:00	Registration Opens
9:00 › 10:00	Conference Opening Ceremony including Ministerial Keynotes
10:00 › 10:30	Official Exhibition Opening followed by VIP Tour
10:30 › 11:45	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Resilience, De-carbonisation and Sustainability, Future Growth and Expert Workshops
11:45 › 12:00	Break
12:00 › 13:30	Lunch
13:30 › 14:30	Panel Discussion: Downstream Growth Challenges & Opportunities
14:30 › 14:45	Break
14:45 › 16:00	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Disruptors, Digitalisation in Downstream Sector and Human Capital & Talent Management and Expert Workshops
16:00 › 16:15	Break
16:15 › 17:15	Panel Discussion: Business Transformation
17:15 › 17:30	Break
17:30 › 18:15	Pre-Dinner Keynote & Awards Ceremony
18:15 › 20:30	Gala Dinner

DAY 2 - 14 FEBRUARY

08:00 › 10:00	Registration Opens
10:00 › 11:00	Panel Discussion: De-carbonisation & Sustainability
11:00 › 11:15	Coffee Break and Networking
11:15 › 12:15	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Resilience & De-carbonisation and Sustainability
11:15 › 12:15	Special Session - Market Analysis and Industry trends
11:15 › 12:15	Expert Workshop
12:15 › 13:30	Lunch
13:30 › 14:30	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Future Growth & Disruptors
13:30 › 14:30	Special Session - Technology Transformation
13:30 › 14:30	Expert Workshop
14:30 › 14:45	Coffee Break and Networking
14:45 › 15:45	Panel Discussion: Energy Transition
15:45 › 16:00	Coffee Break and Networking
16:00 › 17:00	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Digitalisation in Downstream Sector & Human Capital and Talent Management
16:00 › 17:00	Special Session - Downstream World-Class Projects Delivery
16:00 › 17:00	Expert Workshop

DAY 3 - 15 FEBRUARY

08:00 › 09:00	Registration Opens
09:00 › 10:00	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Resilience, De-carbonisation & Sustainability and Future Growth
09:00 › 10:00	Expert Workshop
10:00 › 11:00	Panel Discussion: Digital Transformation in Downstream
11:00 › 11:15	Coffee Break and Networking
11:15 › 12:15	Technical Sessions Parallel Sessions Disruptors, Digitalisation in Downstream Sector & Human Capital and Talent Management
11:15 › 12:15	Expert Workshop
12:15 › 13:30	Lunch
13:30 › 14:30	Panel Discussion: Human Capital and Diversity
14:30 › 14:45	Coffee Break and Networking
14:45 › 15:30	GDA Conference Outcome and Closing Remarks by Conference Chairman

Updated 03 October 2022

WHY SUBMIT

Key benefits:

- Shape the energy industry and forge the pathway to a low-carbon future
- Showcase your organisation's commercial and technical insights on a global stage
- Expand your energy network. Gain recognition from over 5,000 attendees from across the globe
- Contribute to downstream excellence at one of the Middle East's most important technical conferences
- Benefit from complimentary access to the world's premier energy event

WHO SUBMITS

- Industry professionals
- Thought leaders
- Subject-matter experts
- Academics
- Researchers
- Project managers
- Training experts
- Regulators
- Policy Makers
- Government representative stakeholders

ABSTRACT REVIEW PROCESS

The abstract review group consisting of technical committee members will undertake a review of all abstracts and provisionally allocate acceptable ones into a draft programme for the technical committee chairman's consideration.

Technical committee members will review abstracts submitted for their session based on the abstract review criteria and will submit the abstract score on the system no later than 15 November 2022.

IMPORTANT DATES

31

OCTOBER 2022

Close of
abstract
submissions

10

NOVEMBER 2022

Response
to authors

15

NOVEMBER 2022

Technical
programme
published

13-15

FEBRUARY 2023

Conference
dates

ABSTRACT REVIEW PROCESS

Each abstract will be reviewed by 3-5 committee members and GDA SMEs and final acceptance will be given by the technical committee co-chairs.

Criteria	Individual Requirements
Quality of Content	Introduction/Rationale
	Objectives
	Methods/Approaches
	Results/Practice implications
	Conclusions
	Mode of Delivery
Educational Value	Interest and appeal to process engineering audience
	Important contribution to research/practice/theory or knowledge
	Novel or innovative contribution, relevant to the conference theme
	Self-contained
Quality of Written Abstract	Coherent and readable

INDIVIDUAL CRITERION OUTLINED

Each abstract will be reviewed by 3-5 committee members and GDA SMEs and final acceptance will be given by the Technical Committee Co-Chairs.

Quality of Content

Introduction/Rationale

Introduction or rationale must provide a clear background to the rest of the abstract and should be reinforced in the conclusion.

Objectives

Objectives must outline the content or expectations of either the project (generally appropriate for research, practical case studies and education topics) or the presentation (may be more appropriate for experience-based presentations, workshops or other presentation formats).

Methods/approaches

Methods or approaches must provide a clear description of the methodology used, and it must be appropriate to the objectives and rationale of the project or presentation.

Results/practice implications

Results or practice implications must indicate clearly the findings of the project/presentation, and they must be consistent with the methodology and objectives.

Conclusions

Conclusions must be consistent with the introduction or rationale and objectives so that the information is complete.

Mode of Delivery

A combination of powerpoint – video – survey and any other innovative approach.

EDUCATIONAL VALUE

Interest and appeal to process engineering audience

What would be of interest to them? Is the content relevant? Does it bring a perspective that is relevant to current practice?

Important contribution to research/practice/theory or knowledge

Does the abstract indicate the possibility of changing current practice? Does it add significantly to the current body of work in this area?

Novel or innovative contribution, relevant to the conference theme

Is the information novel/unique/innovative in some way? Is the approach or methodology new or different from known approaches? Do the results provide support for a new approach or for changing an accepted approach? Are the ideas presented provocative? Does the abstract reflect the theme of the conference and does it clearly convey takeaways from the presentation/talk.

Self-contained

Is the abstract self-contained? It is important to consider grammar and writing style in this section only, and not let poor grammar influence all ratings; some readers rate this section first and rate on first impressions. Try to be objective. Look for judicious use of acronyms, abbreviations, references.

Quality of Written Abstract

Coherent and Readable

The abstract should be clear on first reading; repeated readings for clarity indicates lower readability. The content should be in a logical sequence.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ABSTRACT SUBMISSIONS

Please login with your username and password. In case you do not have a username yet, you will be requested to subscribe first. With your profile, you will have access to your abstract submission and handling.

- Abstracts should only be submitted in English via the website
- The abstract title is limited to 24 words
- The abstract must be concise and contain less than 500 words, including spaces
- The abstract should include the first author's and all co-authors' names and organisations
- The abstract should be approved by management/ legal department
- The use of standard abbreviations is acceptable. A special or unusual abbreviation must be placed (in round brackets) after the first appearance of the word(s) for which it stands
- Authors can include only one figure, table or black and white illustration (maximum width 7 cm). Color illustrations will be printed in black and white in the abstract book. The preferred font is Verdana 7

**For questions regarding the online submission process, please e-mail: raunaq@e3-worldwide.com.
For urgent queries, please contact Raunaq Jamal at +971 4 4270739.**

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