



# FLASH

UNLEASHING THE POWER OF COLLABORATION

**NEW BOARD  
MEMBER FROM KPI**

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**NEW UPCOMING COURSES**

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ON KNOWLEDGE HUB**

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**MANAGING INTERESTS**

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**AND MORE ...**





الاتحاد الخليجي للتكرير يهنئكم بحلول شهر رمضان المبارك

Gulf Downstream Association  
wishes a blessed Ramadan

Ramadan  
Kareem

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# LETTER FROM **THE EDITOR**

Dear Friends,  
Ramadan Kareem!

While the life is fast returning to a new normal globally, the cloud of pandemic uncertainty still hovers over some countries. We cannot lower our guards yet. Wearing masks, maintaining hygiene and social distancing remain our **best PPE**.

In this quarter, we congratulate our Board Member from KPI **Sheikh Nawaf S. Al-Sabah** who left GDA to assume greater responsibility at KPC by becoming its Deputy Chairman and CEO. We also bid farewell to our Acting Secretary General **Eng. Khalid Hadi** who retired after giving his career's last and best year for the growth of GDA in the most challenging times. We welcome **Azzam Al-Mutawa**, EVP-Marketing, KPI joining GDA Board and **Mohammad S. Al-Shahrani**, AME Manager, Downstream Global Manufacturing, Saudi Aramco taking up the role of GDA's Acting Secretary General. With these changes in the GDA leadership, we are sure to take GDA to even greater heights.

Having embarked on an ambitious offering of selected **world-class courses** in collaboration with leading technology and knowledge providers at the beginning of 2022, we are happy to have already served a large number of delegates from our member companies in this quarter. We are constantly upscaling this offering with new additions as you would see under our Upcoming Courses. Positive testimonies received after each course demonstrate the great value being derived by our members at special fees, not available elsewhere.

Our unique interactive **Knowledge Hub** is constantly getting enriched with the valuable contributions from the ten Technical Committees and more than 100 Subject Matter Experts volunteered by our member companies. You will be able to sample some of these gems under Webinars and What's New on Knowledge Hub. We have added a new episode in our popular series of **GDA Conversations**, this time with Dr. Oleg Konovalov who is known as the **"Da Vinci of Visionary Leadership"**.

We continue collaborating with **global events** bringing key lessons and knowledge takeaways for our members, while expanding GDA brand image beyond GCC. We hope you like the article on **"Managing Interests"** contributed by our founding member **Saudi Aramco** giving a timely advice to advance in the future by carefully managing our personal and business interests. We take this opportunity to wish you a Happy Eid in advance. May we succeed in uniting all hearts and minds.

**Please send your views through this qr code:**



Your Friend,

**Raj Jhajharia**  
Technical Manager  
and Acting Marketing &  
Communications Manager,  
Gulf Downstream Association



# Congratulations



مؤسسة البترول الكويتية  
Kuwait Petroleum Corporation

GDA wishes its former Board Member  
Shaikh Nawaf S. Al Sabah  
all the best on assuming the new role of  
“Deputy Chairman and CEO of KPC”



## WELCOME TO GDA BOARD



### Azzam Al-Mutawa

Executive Vice President - Marketing  
Kuwait Petroleum International

[Click here to see his Biography](#)



### **Khalid Hadi**

Ex-Deputy General Manager  
Engineering Division, BAPCO



## **FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM KHALID HADI**

The role as Acting Secretary General of the GDA from January 2021 to April 2022 has been an honor for me. I would like to express my gratitude and appreciation to you all for giving me and GDA so much support during this time.

Please continue giving your support to GDA as GDA is a great success and it shall continue to serve you in all aspects of knowledge-sharing. Through a well-structured Knowledge Hub with many interactive knowledge portals, GDA has grown to be one of the most well-known associations with great features and initiatives for sharing knowledge, experiences, lessons learned, and best practices. Wishing you and your organization success and a bright future and beyond.



### **Mohammed S. Al Shahrani**

Affiliates Manufacturing  
Excellence Manager Downstream  
Global Manufacturing,  
Saudi Aramco



## **GREETINGS FROM MOHAMMED S. AL SHAHRANI**

It is an honor to step into the role of Acting Secretary General for the Gulf Downstream Association (GDA). I would like to thank my predecessor, Mr. Khalid Hadi, who has been a key player in GDA success story during critical times. He has continued the way for the healthy growth of this unique association. Looking into GDA's past, I have always admired the ways in which the association serves the downstream industry in the field of knowledge-sharing, networking and connecting the service providers with the Refiners.

Now, I get the opportunity to be part of the wonderful GDA team and become part of their noble vision. With the current and future challenges in the energy markets, the role of GDA has become more fundamental to synergize the knowledge and experience in the industry. My belief is that the true intrinsic value of the Gulf downstream industry is yet to be unleashed. With the support of the GDA Board, members and the talented staff, we will expand through new horizons. Also, I would like to take the opportunity of the holy month of Ramadhan to wish you and your beloved ones, safe, healthy and prosper times.

# COMPLETED VIRTUAL COURSES

## Polybed Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Training by HONEYWELL-UOP



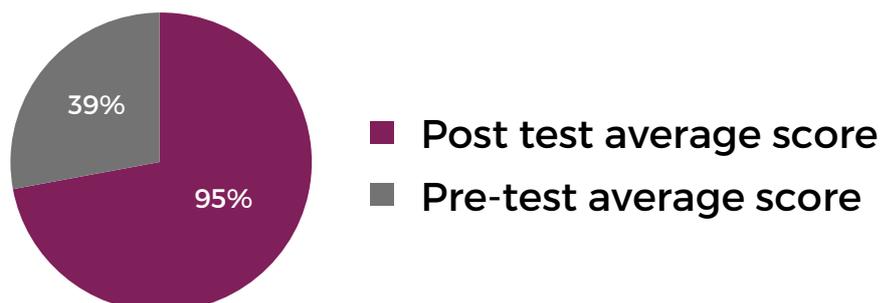
The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) organized the **“Polybed Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA)”** virtual course for GDA Members on **24th - 25th January 2022**, via MS Teams. The course was hosted and delivered by Mr. Timucin Saykan from **Honeywell-UOP**.

This course was attended by a total of **17 delegates** from **BAPCO, Aramco and KIPIC**.

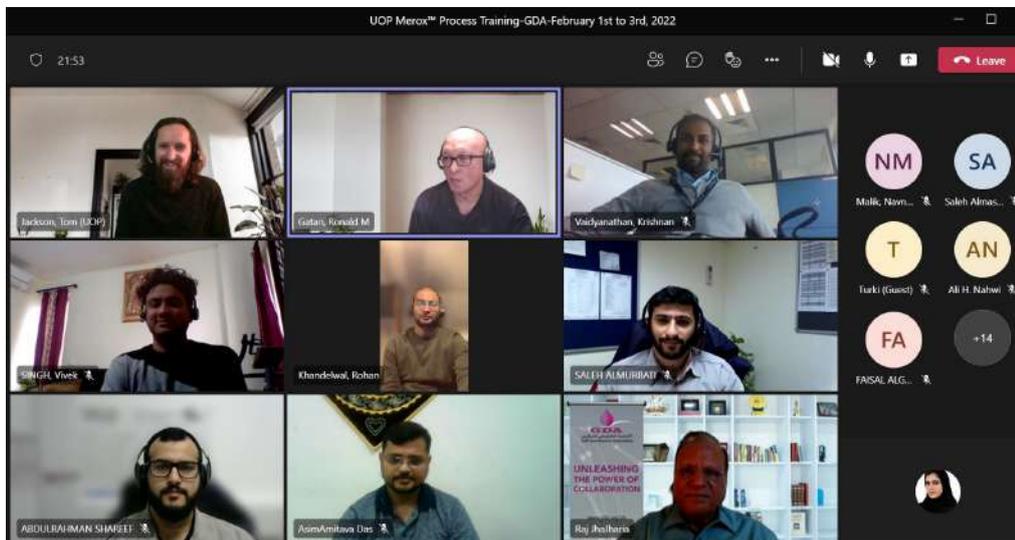
The course was designed for Process or Operation Engineers, Unit Operators and Shift Supervisors, Instrumentation & Process Controls Specialists, and for personnel who deal directly with the UOP PSA unit and want to know how to optimize its performance and on-stream reliability.

The course objective was to give operators a thorough understanding of the PSA process through step-by-step sequencing of all aspects of unit operations. This was a discussion-based course to encourage interaction and sharing of information among participants. The delegates learned about the various aspects of the PSA process and the principles of adsorption. The participants also got a certificate of Completion from Honeywell-UOP.

The participants' knowledge transfer was verified by a Pre-test & Post-test covering the course material demonstrating significant improvement, as shown in the graph.



## Merox™ Process – Extraction and Sweetening Course by HONEYWELL UOP



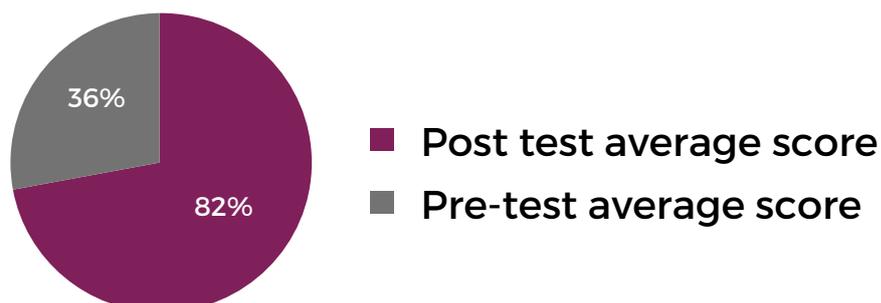
The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) organized the **“Merox™ Process-Extraction and Sweetening”** virtual course for GDA Members on **1st – 3rd February 2022**, via MS Teams. The course was hosted and delivered by Mr. Ron Gatan from **Honeywell UOP**.

The course was attended by a total of **22 delegates** from **BAPCO, Aramco, KIPIC** and **SATORP**.

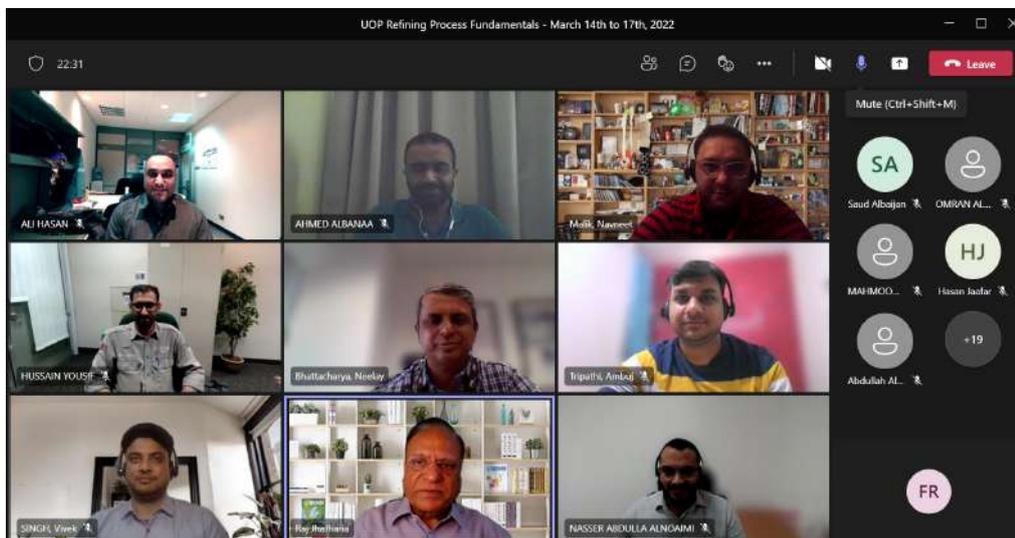
The course was designed for Process engineers and Operations and Maintenance personnel who work with an extraction or sweetening unit or supervise those who do.

This course provided theoretical and practical knowledge needed to efficiently and safely operate UOP Merox units. Led by experienced UOP process specialists, the course covered process flow and equipment, unit operation, analytical procedures, maintenance procedures, and safety. To ensure the practical application of knowledge, the discussion included normal operations, start-up, shutdown, and troubleshooting. Classroom lectures were combined with hands-on field exercises and question-and-answer time to allow participants to share operating problems they've encountered and discuss solutions. The participants also got a certificate of Completion from Honeywell-UOP.

The participants' knowledge transfer was verified by a Pre-test & Post-test covering the course material demonstrating significant improvement, as shown in the graph.



## Refining Process Fundamentals Course by HONEYWELL UOP



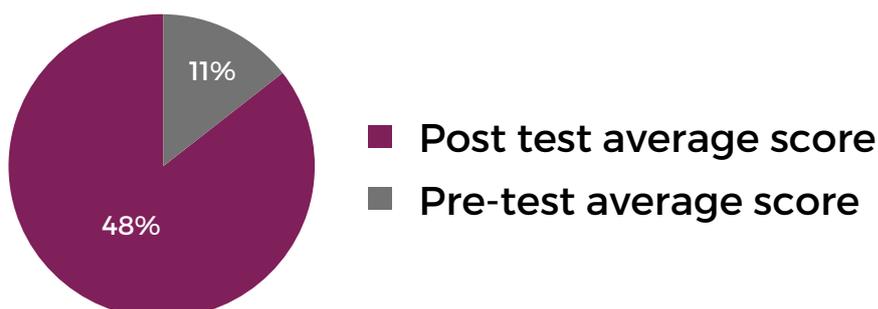
The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) has successfully organized the “**Refining Process Fundamentals**” virtual course for GDA Members on **14th – 17th March 2022**, via MS Teams. The course was hosted and delivered by Mr. Krishnan Vaidyanathan, Mr. Neelay Bhattacharya, Mr. Vivek Ghosh, and Ms. Kim Diercks from **Honeywell UOP**.

The course was attended by a total of **22 delegates** from **BAPCO, Aramco, KIPIC, KNPC** and **SATORP**.

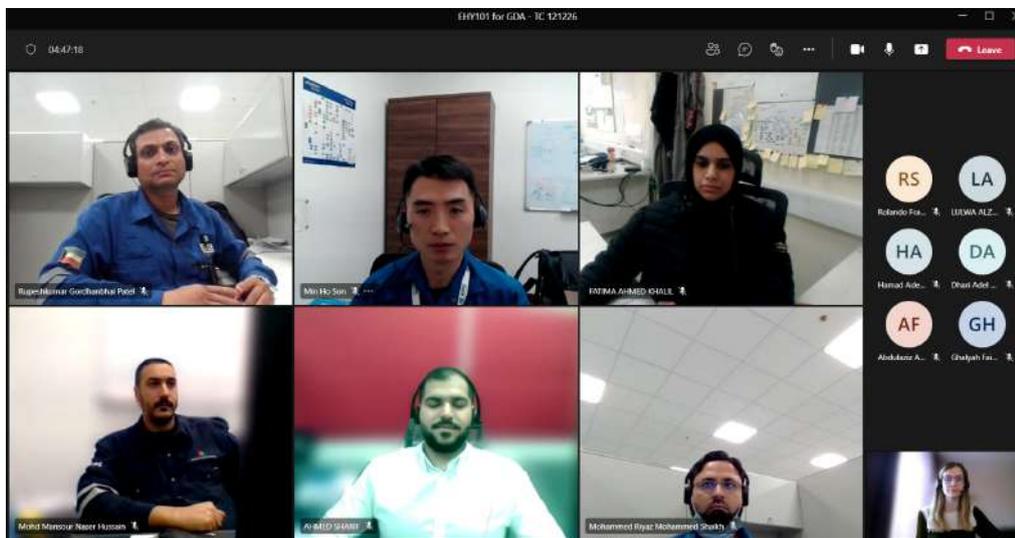
The course was designed for entry-level chemical engineers, engineers from other disciplines moving into a refining environment, non-technical personnel seeking a review of the fundamentals of refinery operations, and a refresher for seasoned chemical / process engineers.

This course provided a broad overview of the fundamentals of refinery operation and production. Using the refinery schematic, key processes are examined both as individual units and in the context of the refinery as a whole. The course material illustrates how each process works to turn crude into commercially viable products. The participants also got a certificate of Completion from Honeywell-UOP.

The participants’ knowledge transfer was verified by a Pre-test & Post-test covering the course material demonstrating significant improvement, as shown in the graph.



## HYSYS Process Modeling (EHY101) Course by ASPENTECH



The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) has successfully organized the “**HYSYS Process Modeling (EHY101)**” virtual course for GDA Members on **21st –23rd February 2022**, via MS Teams. The course was hosted and delivered by Mrs. Polina Zaborskaya from **AspenTech**.

The course was attended by a total of **12 delegates** from **BAPCO, KIPIC** and **KNPC**.

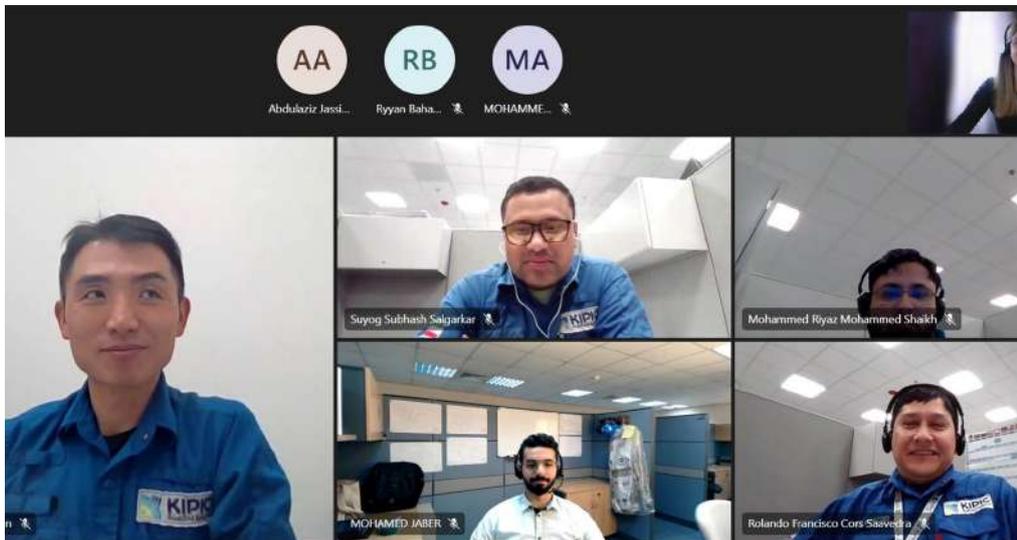
This course was designed for new engineering graduates/technologists who will be using Aspen HYSYS in their daily work, process engineers doing process design and optimization projects and studies, Plant engineers checking plant performance under different operating conditions, R&D engineers and researchers using Aspen HYSYS for process synthesis, and Engineers preparing for the Aspen HYSYS User Certification exam.

This course was designed to:

- Build, navigate and optimize steady state simulation models using Aspen HYSYS.
- Utilize a wide variety of unit operation models and calculation tools to model process equipment.
- Use templates and sub-flowsheets to streamline and organize simulation models.
- Explore different means of reporting simulation results, including the use of the Aspen Simulation Workbook.

All participants got an achievement certificate from AspenTech.

## HYSYS Advanced Process Modeling Topics (EHY202) Course by ASPENTECH



The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) has successfully organized the “**HYSYS Advanced Process Modeling Topics (EHY202)**” virtual course for GDA Members on **28th – 29th March 2022**, via MS Teams. The course was hosted and delivered by Mrs. Polina Zaborskaya from **AspenTech**.

The course was attended by a total of **9 delegates** from **BAPCO, Saudi Aramco** and **KIPIC**.

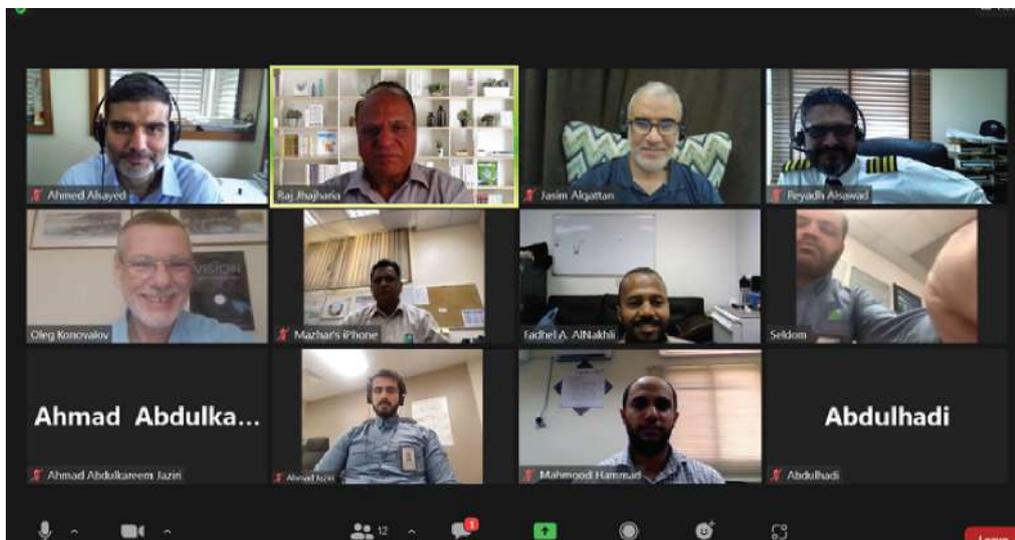
This course was designed for Process engineers who need advanced skills for more complex modelling tasks and current HYSYS users looking to build upon their knowledge of basic steady-state procedures in Aspen HYSYS.

This course was designed to learn how to use and apply advanced modelling techniques to enhance new and existing Aspen HYSYS flowsheets.

All participants got an achievement certificate from AspenTech.

”  
Key to success is proper action,  
which results in proper success  
- Anonymous  
”

## Visionary Leadership Coach Workshop By DR. OLEG KONOVALOV



The Gulf Downstream Association (GDA) has successfully organized the “**Visionary Leadership**” virtual for GDA Members on **21st – 24th March 2022**, via Zoom. The course was delivered by Dr. Oleg Konovalov from **VALUEKOD**, who is known as the “**Da Vinci of Visionary Leadership**” and author of the best-seller book “**The Vision Code**”. This program has recently been chosen by global peers and ranked as the #2 Best Program in the world for Leadership 2022 (<https://globalgurus.org/best-leadership-development-program/>).

The course was attended by a total of **10 delegates** from **BAPCO, Saudi Aramco** and **GDA**.

The workshop is built around CAVIAR model – **C**reation- **A**bility – **V**iability – **I**nfluence – **A**cting – **R**evitalizing. Dr. Oleg Konovalov conducted complimentary session scheduled on 3rd April 2022, where interested delegates got another opportunity to interact with him further clarifying their doubts and queries.

Visionary leadership is the Meta Competence of the 21st century. This Leadership Coaching certification course was designed for all business leaders responsible for determining an organization’s vision or its strategic direction.

The workshop participants gained:

- Full understanding of how to create, construct, and execute a strong and compelling vision, and how to become a visionary leader and help others to become visionaries.
- A complete set of leadership tools and skills to become a high impact visionary leader and coach to their teams.
- Measurable growth as a visionary leader.

All participants received “Visionary Leadership Coach” Completion and Mastery Certificate from VALUEKOD

# COURSES TO DATE

# 640+ Delegates

# 35+ Courses

## UPCOMING COURSES WITH ASPENTECH

Course Title	Date	Time	Aspentech Price list	GDA Member Price *	GDA Non-member price*	Deadline
<u><a href="#">Aspen HYSYS Dynamics: Introduction to Dynamic Modelling (EHY223)</a></u>	23rd to 25th May 2022	To be updated	<del>\$ 2,100</del>	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	12th May 2022
<u><a href="#">Aspen Plus: Process Modelling (EAP101)</a></u>	13th to 15th Jun 2022	To be updated	<del>\$ 2,100</del>	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,800	2nd June 2022
<u><a href="#">Aspen PIMS: Introduction to Refinery Planning (RPA101)</a></u>	28th to 31st August 2022 & 1st September 2022	To be updated	<del>\$ 3,500</del>	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	18th August 2022
<u><a href="#">Aspen PIMS: Solving Refinery Planning Problems (RPA201)</a></u>	30th to 31st October 2022 & 1st to 3rd November 2022	To be updated	<del>\$ 3,500</del>	\$ 2,500	\$ 3,000	20th October 2022

\*10% VAT will apply.

# UPCOMING COURSES WITH HONEYWELL UOP

Course Title	Date	Time	UOP Price list	GDA member Price*	GDA Non member price *	Deadline
<u>Refinery Business Economics</u>	20th to 23rd Jun 2022	8:00am to 11:00am Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 3,400</del>	\$ 2,100	\$ 2,600	5th June 2022
<u>Fluid Catalytic Cracking Process (FCC)</u>	19th to 21st Jul 2022	8:00 am to 3:00 pm Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,000</del>	\$ 2,600	\$ 3,100	5th July 2022
<u>Fired Heaters</u>	16th to 18th Aug 2022	8:00am to 3:00pm Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,000</del>	\$ 2,600	\$ 3,100	2nd August 2022
<u>Corrosion and Fouling Management</u>	12th to 15th Sep 2022	11:00am to 3:30pm Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,000</del>	\$ 2,600	\$ 3,100	28th August 2022
<u>Inspection Training</u>	16th to 20th October 2022	12:00am to 4:00 Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,500</del>	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,500	2nd October 2022
<u>CCR Platforming™ Process - Standard for Atmospheric or CycleMax™ CCR Regenerator</u>	21st to 24th Nov 2022	8:00am to 3:00pm Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,500</del>	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,500	6th November 2022
<u>Penex™ Process</u>	12th to 14th Dec 2022	8:00am to 3:00pm Bahrain Time	<del>\$ 4,000</del>	\$ 2,600	\$ 3,100	27th November 2022

\*10% VAT will apply.

# UPCOMING COURSES WITH ADVISORS



Course Title	Date	Time	Virtual Option		In-person Option		Deadline
			Member price**	Non Member price**	Member price**	Non Member price**	
<u>Strategy Implementation Professional - SIP®</u>	28th - 29th June 2022	To be updated	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,300	\$ 2,800	\$ 3,100	11th Jun 2022
<u>How Not to Fail Using Managing Benefits™ - Foundation</u>	23rd - 25th August 2022	To be updated	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,300	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,200	9th August 2022
<u>SFIA™ Skills and Capabilities for the Digital Age</u>	19th - 20th September 2022	To be updated	\$ 1,200	\$ 1,400	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,200	5th September 2022
<u>Enterprise Big Data Professional - EBDP®</u>	10th - 11th October 2022	To be updated	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,800	\$ 2,400	\$ 2,600	26th September 2022

\*10% VAT will apply.

# VISIONARY LEADERSHIP IN-PERSON COURSE

7th to 8th September 2022

8:00 AM to 4:00 PM Bahrain Time  
Wyndham Grand Hotel, Manama, Bahrain

with Dr. Oleg Konovalov

## CAVIAR MODEL

Creation • Ability • Viability • Influence  
Actually • Revitalizing

Executing a compelling  
vision for your business

**USD 4,500 + 10% VAT**  
For GDA Members

**USD 4,900** (Regular rate)

[Click here to see the full program](#)

For queries on all courses, please contact: [amal.alaamer@gda.org.bh](mailto:amal.alaamer@gda.org.bh)



# TECHNICAL COMMITTEES VIRTUAL MEETINGS



Commissioning & StartUp Technical Committees Meeting held on 2 Feb 2022



Energy Management Technical Committee Meeting held on 16 Mar 2022



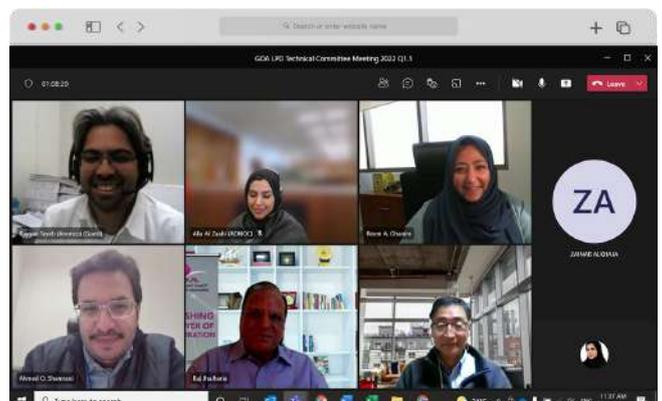
Health, Safety and Environment Technical Committee Meeting held on 10 Mar 2022



Industry trends Technical Committee Meeting held on 12 Jan 2022



Industry trends Technical Committee Meeting held on 16 Feb 2022

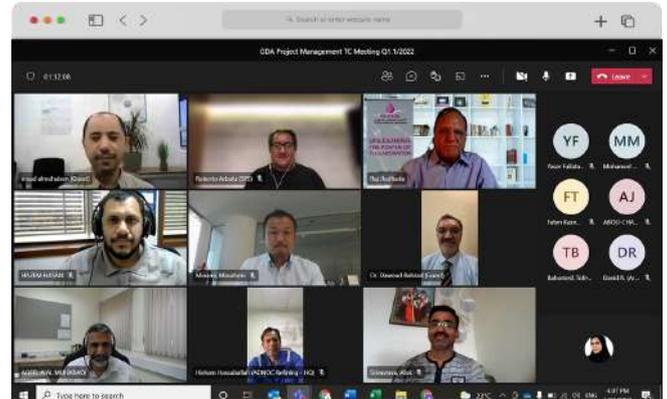


Leadership and People Development Technical Committee Meeting held on 26 Jan 2022

# TECHNICAL COMMITTEES VIRTUAL MEETINGS



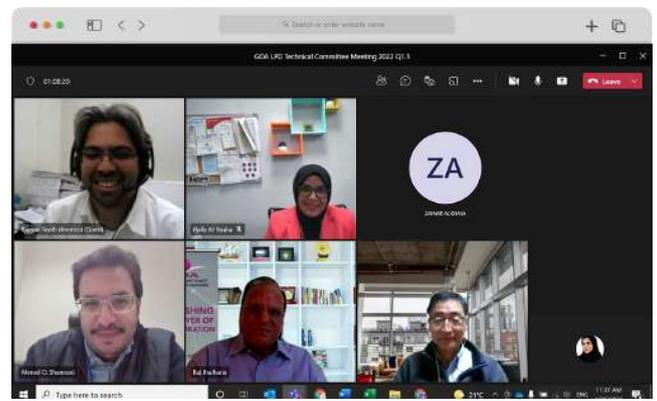
Operational Excellence Technical Committee Meeting held on 16 March 2022



Project Management and Technologies Technical Committees Meeting held on 26 Jan 2022



Project Management Technical Committee Meeting held on 26 Jan 2022



Leadership and People Development Technical Committee Meeting held on 24 Feb 2022

“Of all the things you wear, your expression is the most important - Anon”

# COMMITTEE WEBINARS

## HR is the HERO – Lessons from Pandemic for HR Professionals



**Reem Al-Ghanim**, HR Manager – **SATORP** moderates an interesting interactive session where HR Professionals from GDA member companies share their own thoughts and learning from the pandemic on the following topics:

- Work from Home
- Remote learning
- Need for Upskill / Re-skill
- Team Building with positive environment
- Digital Transformation

By Leadership and People Development Technical Committee



[Click the play button to watch](#)

## Effect of Design Ambient Temperature on Air Cooled Heat Exchangers



**Toufek Bahomed**, Engineering Manager, Downstream Business Line - **Jacobs Zate** presented and led a rich discussion on efficient design of Air-Cooled Heat Exchangers in the Process Plants. The advantages and dis-advantages of using Induced versus Forced Draft designs (especially for the Gulf region) were discussed in detail with real case studies.

This webinar was organized by the GDA Project Management Technical Committee and Technologies Technical Committee members joined this webinar for mutual exchange of knowledge



[Click the play button to watch](#)

# COMMITTEE WEBINARS

## Future of refining



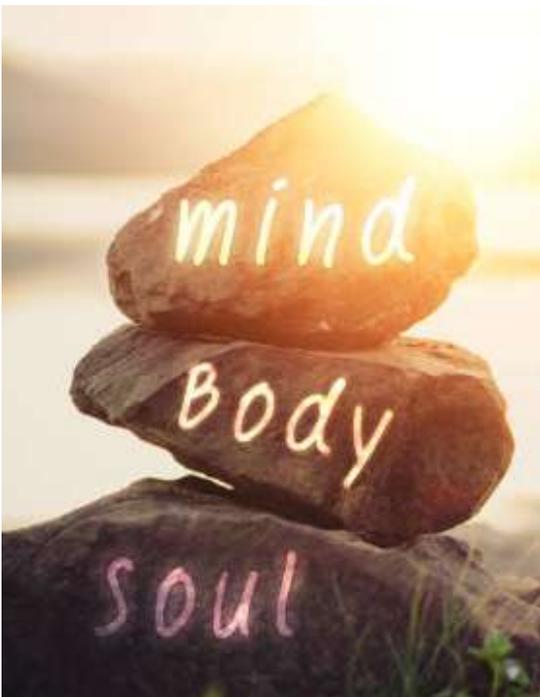
Associate Director **Mohanraj Subramanian** from **IHS-Markit (now part of S&P Global)** presents likely future trends in the demand and supply of middle distillates from refineries alongside the decarbonisation targets. This webinar also discusses what types of refineries would survive and sustain in the future, and what would be the key components of a future refinery.

By Industry Trends Technical Committee



[Click the play button to watch](#)

## GDA Team Webinar - Technique of Right Action



Action is the insignia of life. **GDA** Technical Manager **Raj Jhajharia** shares his insights on how to make our actions efficient, meaningful and satisfying. Success is not sought, but Secured. To watch:



[Click the play button to watch](#)

**You miss 100% of the shots you don't take**  
- Wayne Gretzky

# WHAT'S NEW ON KNOWLEDGE HUB

## BITE SIZED VIDEOS

- Future of Refining
- Effect Of Design Ambient Temperature on Air Cooled Heat Exchangers
- HR Is the HERO - Lessons from Pandemic for HR Professionals

## BEST PRACTICES

- Fired Heater Monitoring Templates

## PRESENTATIONS

- The Future of Refining
- East of Suez Outlook for Refining
  - K companies
- The energy transition: Moving beyond slow- motion  
What does it mean for the future of oil and energy?
- Effect of Design Ambient Temperature on Air Cooled Heat Exchangers
- Al Zour Refinery Overview (KIPIC)

## LESSON LEARNED

- FACTFULNESS - Key Takeaways from Reading the Book

**Occasional failure is the price of improvement**  
- Anonymous

# GDA CONVERSATIONS

in collaboration



Valuekod Ltd.

## Episode 20:

Transitioning to Visionary Leadership - How to?  
with Dr. Oleg Konovalov

08 March 2022 | 1:00 Bahrain & KSA



### **SPEAKER**

**Dr. Oleg Konovalov**  
Director  
Valuekod



### **MODERATOR**

**Raj Jhalaria**  
Technical Manager  
and acting marketing  
Communications Manager  
GDA

Dr. Oleg Konovalov has been named as “**the da Vinci of Visionary Leadership**” by many leading authorities of our time, Oleg Konovalov is helping companies to create and execute their vision, diagnose, and treat organizational diseases, maintain a strong productive corporate culture, and achieve superior business performance.

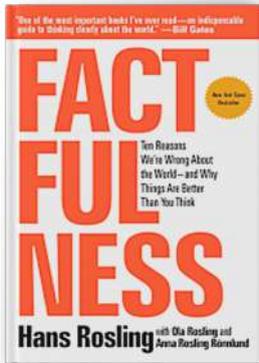
In this episode of GDA Conversation, Dr. Oleg has addressed the following key questions:

- Why visionary leadership is so critical?
- What is CAVIAR model?
- How to think differently? You can download a copy of 15 Traits of Visionary Leader self-test form

**DOWNLOAD THE  
SELF-TEST FORM**

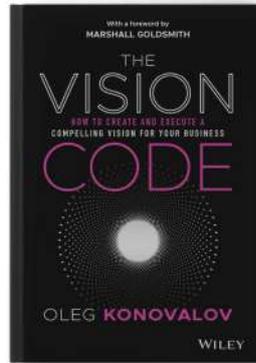
**WATCH THE  
WEBINAR**

# RECOMMENDED READING



**Factfulness:  
Ten Reasons  
We're Wrong  
About the  
World—and Why  
Things Are  
Better Than You  
Think**

**ISBN: 1250107814  
| 978-1250107817**



**The Vision Code:  
How to Create  
and Execute a  
Compelling  
Vision for your  
Business**

**ISBN: 1119775914  
| 978-1119775911**

“One of the most important books I’ve ever read—an indispensable guide to thinking clearly about the world.” – Bill Gates “

Hans Rosling tells the story of ‘the secret silent miracle of human progress’ as only he can. But Factfulness does much more than that. It also explains why progress is so often secret and silent and teaches readers how to see it clearly.” - Melinda Gates

The Vision Code explores the concept of "vision" and leadership. The book reveals the secrets of building and executing a strong vision within any organization. Oleg Konovalov - an acclaimed global thought leader - draws together in one volume in-depth interviews with nineteen extraordinary global visionaries that represent a variety of industries and organizations. These leaders explain why a vision is needed, how to implement it, how to communicate a vision effectively, and how to live by it with integrity.

## Predict asset failures weeks, even months, in advance.

Learn how Prescriptive Maintenance technology — powered by AI and machine learning — saves companies upwards of \$80M annually by eliminating unplanned downtime. Get the full story.



Download the white paper!

**Prescriptive Maintenance:  
Transforming Asset  
Performance Management**



# MANAGING INTERESTS

Human progress is dependent on how well we manage our interests. As the humanity has advanced, the skill in managing interests has also developed by adjusting with the surrounding environment and circumstances which are constantly changing. This evolution has eventually played a major role in forming the identity of people as we see it today.

For instance, people started migrating into new lands collectively when their interests in their lands diminished. This led to formation of new nations. Over time, people who share the same interests started encrypting their speech to secure communication. This, in turn, led to the formation of new dialogues and sometimes new languages.

In business context, a more sophisticated development can be seen in the evolution of the employment concept where people have at first had no governing rules that set the relationship between employees and employers and the power of setting the rules was in favor of employers. However, due to the subsequent industrial revolution and increased competition between different employers along with the growth of employees' representation, the benefits and welfare of employees have also increased.



Another example is the development of world trades where traders have developed sophisticated tactics using mathematical theories such as the “Game Theory” to reach the best possible outcomes that take into consideration market participants’ interests. This advancement has paved the road for a new era of the “Managing interests” concept where a mathematical approach has been introduced into the game to supplement the “gut feeling” approach.

Going through the examples of how people adapted to their surrounding environment and circumstances over time, each organization and individual regardless of their size, business position or how satisfied they are with their performance must develop the way they manage their interests by learning from past and building on their success.

History is filled with examples of organizations and individuals that were at the peak of success once, but lost their thunder by not adapting to new circumstances.

## **Fahad Behabeeb,**

**AME MOTIVA\* Coordinator**

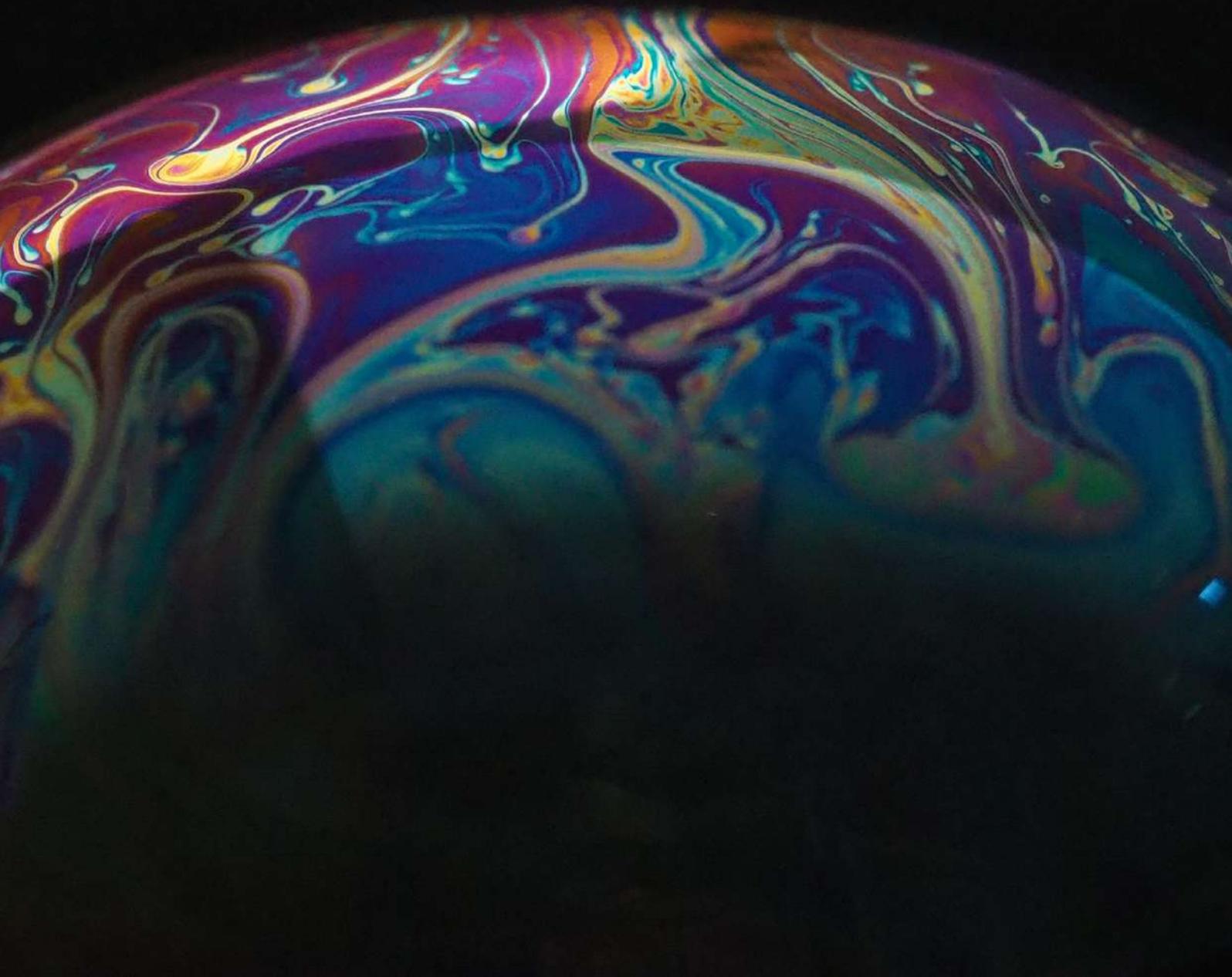
**Affiliates Manufacturing Excellence Department (AME)**

**Under Saudi Aramco Downstream Global Manufacturing**

**\*MOTIVA – wholly owned Saudi Aramco Affiliate**

**What health is to the body,  
so is honesty to the soul  
- Dandemis**

# INDUSTRY PARTICIPATIONS





# 1ST KIPIC PROCESS TECHNOLOGY SYMPOSIUM

Kuwait Integrated Petroleum Industries Company (KIPIC) organized its first Process Technology Symposium, virtually on March 10, 2022 on the theme “**Towards Excellence in Commissioning**” and under the auspices of KIPIC’s **AL-Zour refinery Deputy CEO Mr. Khaled Al-Awadhi**. The symposium had participations from notable regional and global refining and process technology licensing companies, including Aramco, BAPCO, Shell, CLG and Haldor Topsoe. The event comprised of presentations and electronic posters from participants sharing their experiences in commissioning, lessons learnt and best practices along with a panel discussion session with leaders in the industry on the topic of commissioning excellence.

KIPIC’s AL-Zour refinery Manager Technical Services Mr. Ali Al-Ajmi emphasized in his welcoming speech the criticality of the commissioning excellence as a critical factor in avoiding possible delays and unnecessary costs, optimizing operational risks and adapting to advanced commissioning strategies and creative Commissioning and start-up methodologies, especially with the growing greenfield and brownfield projects worldwide.

The event started out with a panel discussion session moderated by Mr. Suleyman Ozmen, a downstream consultant with a vast experience, along with Mr. Mohammed Al Hashmi, head of commissioning and start-up at DUQM refinery greenfield project, Mr. Mohammad Al-Otaibi, manager operations of KIPICs LNG Import facilities project and Mr. Abdullah Al-Ajmi, manager technical services of Mina Ahmadi refinery, KNPC as panelists

The panel session discussions talked about different considerations to be put in mind and factors affecting projects commissioning, including the human resources aspect such as workforce hiring, training and necessary preparations.

Also, there was a talk about the increasing complexity of projects influenced by the number of parties involved and the challenges involved in commissioning progress..

Presenters have shared their experiences and lessons learnt on commissioning various units and projects. Topics presented included, for instance, commissioning of Crude Distillation/Vacuum Distillation units and utilities units, start-up of Atmospheric Residue Desulphurization units and also excellence in design. Some presentations demonstrated the added challenges due to Covid-19 pandemic and the extra efforts required due to the limited manpower and even non-availability of units' licensors onsite at the time of commissioning. Other presentation suggested that Around 55% of problems occurring during commissioning phase arise from design flaws during the design stage, which require an early and proactive approach. Along with the presentations, e-posters were also made available on KIPIC webpage as part of the symposium to maximize the benefit for the symposium attendees and enhance knowledge-share.

The symposium organizing committee expressed its appreciation to all of the participants for sharing their valuable experiences and knowledge in such a professional manner and for their contribution in the success of the symposium. It also extended its gratitude to the hundreds of attendees who attended the event to grasp the valuable knowledge and leverage their knowledge in their career to optimize refiners' business and efficiency.





## INTERNATIONAL ENERGY WEEK

Convened by **Energy Institute** sector experts, **International Energy Week 2022** (22-24 February 2022) saw energy professionals from across the globe convene for three days of thought leadership on the defining issues, as leading speakers shared their future strategies for reaching net zero. With dynamic networking opportunities, including in-person conferences on the final day, attending International Energy Week was essential for those leading on corporate strategy, business development, and technological innovation - anyone seeking to retain a competitive edge as the global energy transition accelerates. This event was supported by **GDA**, whose members were offered 20% discount on the normal delegate fees. To explore some of the week's highlights, read the Energy Institute's new digital magazine, *New Energy World*, which is currently open access to members and non-members until June 2022.

- Industry approaches to the global energy transition
- The future of work
- Energy is the golden thread - Rachel Kyte CMG, Dean of the Fletcher School at Tufts University in Boston talks to long-time BBC World TV news anchor and international moderator Keshini Navaratnam

For more information and to keep up to date with all of the events planned for International Energy Week 2023, please visit <https://www.iweek.co.uk/>





# GLOBAL OIL MARKET AND ENERGY TRANSITION – THE WAY FORWARD

GDA supported a webinar hosted by its Founding Member **Kuwait Petroleum International's (Q8)** Market Intelligence / Learning and Development team in collaboration with IHS-Markit (now part of S&P Global) and Wood Mackenzie on 1st and 2nd February 2022.

**The Energy Transition: Moving beyond slow motion What does it mean for the future of oil and energy? By Kurt Barrow, Vice President, and Jim Burkhard, Vice President, IHS Markit.**

## Key Takeaways:

1. Social, political, and financial forces in 2020-21 increased aspirations to decarbonize energy consumption. COVID-19 re-ordered values and priorities—and fed a sense of nature gone wrong.
2. Pressure will endure for companies to adopt and work towards carbon reduction targets, but overall efforts will fall short of 2050 net zero aspirations.
3. Environmental protection is just one of many national interests—it will not be the sole driver of the energy industry in the years ahead.
4. The energy transition will not be a smooth ride. It is impossible to neatly replace fossil fuels with adequate replacements of low or non-carbon energy.
5. There is no single strategy or shared target in the oil industry. Some companies are investing in renewable energy, others carbon capture, while some continue with business as usual.
6. Access to capital, markets, technology and competitive costs will determine fate of oil companies.
7. Oil will still be used in large volumes for decades to come, but demand will plateau in next 10-20 years—and could be cut in half by 2050

**East of Suez Outlook for Refining by Alan Gelder, VP Refining, Chemicals & Oil Markets and Johnny Stewart, Principal Analyst, Wood Mackenzie**

## Key Takeaways:

1. Global oil demand is recovering strongly from the pandemic. 2022 demand of 100.0 million bpd is just higher than 2019 levels.
2. Near term fundamentals suggest lower prices as supply growth outpaces demand growth. Ukrainian crisis is supporting near term oil and gas prices.
3. In our Energy Transition Outlook, oil demand peaks at ~108 million b/d in the early 2030s. At that point, oil in energy use is already declining.
4. Refinery closures and a higher mid-term demand outlook raises our outlook for average refinery utilisation to pre-pandemic levels, so refining margins are to recover and stabilize.
5. 2020 was a difficult year for global refining. Petrochemical integration improved 2020 global NCMs by \$1.10/bbl, materially improving the earnings of “marginal” refining sites
6. Sites with the highest chemical yield benefitted the most.
7. A carbon mitigation strategy is key for long term refining sustainability.
8. Decarbonized integrated refining / petrochemical sites located in coastal industrial clusters are the long-term survivors.



# EGYPS 2022

Held under the patronage of **Egypt's President, H.E. Abdel Fattah El Sisi** and supported by the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources, the fifth edition of the Egypt Petroleum Show took place from 14 - 16 February 2022 at the Egypt International Exhibition Center. **GDA** supported this event through a collaboration with the event organisers - DMG Events.

The region's largest exhibition and conference hosted a record number of 28,533 global attendees, 385 Exhibiting Companies, 1,821 Delegates, 265 high-profile speakers, with an attending audience of over 1,000 distinguished guests including 10 Ministers, 15 global CEOs and 8 Secretary Generals, who began a year of strategic energy dialogue centred in Egypt. EGYPS strategic conference drives high level dialogue promoting international cooperation with energy majors, industry organisations and governments to create a connected, monetised and decarbonised pathway for the regions emerging markets.



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**Mr. Khalid Buhazza**  
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PLEASE VISIT [www.mpgc.cc](http://www.mpgc.cc) for full list of speakers and conference agenda

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