Dukhan Bank AGM approves issuance of additional Tier 1 capital sukuk up to QR4.9bn

By Faththa Al-Obaid

Dukhan Bank’s general assembly approved the issuance of Additional Tier 1 capital sukuk of up to QR4.9 billion, which is equivalent to 18.4 billion riyal. The bank stated that it will be issued within three years, and will be used to improve the bank’s capital adequacy ratios and support the bank’s balance sheet.

During the AGM, all the items on the agenda were discussed and approved. The bank also announced plans to expand its business operations to new markets in the Middle East and Africa, with the expansion of its branches and the establishment of new subsidiaries. The bank also announced its intention to increase its dividends for the current year.

The bank’s CEO, M. Nabil Al-Masoud, said: “We are committed to delivering strong financial performance and providing a high level of service to our customers. Our focus on continuous improvement and innovation is driving our success.”

The bank’s chairman, Mr. Ali Al-Mahmoud, added: “We are pleased to see the strong support and confidence of our shareholders in our strategy and vision. We will continue to work hard to deliver value to our shareholders and customers.”

Qatar commercial banks see uptick in both loans and deposits in February: QNBFS

By Fatima Al-Obaid

Qatar’s commercial banks saw an uptick in both loans and deposits in February, according to a report released by QNBFS. The report showed that the total value of loans increased by 6% to reach QR212bn in February, compared to QR200bn in January. Similarly, the total value of deposits increased by 5% to reach QR197bn in February, compared to QR188bn in January.

The report attributed the increase in loans to the growth of corporate and industrial activities, as well as the strengthening of the real estate and construction sectors. It also noted the increase in lending to the private sector, particularly to small and medium-sized enterprises.

On the other hand, the report showed a decrease in the value of deposits to savers, as more people chose to invest in other financial instruments.

The report concluded that the commercial banks’ performance in February was strong, with both loan and deposit values registering growth.

Qatar and Russia keen on long-term partnership with Qatar ICT players

Qatar is keen on developing long-term cooperation with ICT players in the country, as the government looks to drive digital transformation in the Gulf country. Qatar has embarked on a program aimed at revitalizing its ICT sector, with the goal of transforming it into a hub for digital technology innovation.

The government has announced plans to invest heavily in the ICT sector, with a focus on attracting foreign investment and creating a favorable environment for businesses. Qatar is also keen on developing a strong network of partnerships with foreign companies, particularly in the field of ICT.

Qatar’s ICT sector is expected to grow significantly over the next decade, with the government committing to allocating a significant portion of the national budget to the sector. The government has also stated its intention to develop a more advanced and integrated ICT infrastructure, with the aim of becoming a regional leader in the field.

Qatar is also working on developing a strong digital identity platform, with the aim of creating a single digital identity for all citizens and residents.

Qatar and Russia are keen on developing a long-term partnership in the ICT sector, with the aim of creating a strong network of bilateral cooperation. The two countries have already signed a number of agreements in this area, with the aim of promoting digital innovation and technology sharing.

The agreements include the establishment of a joint venture to develop a digital platform for the two countries, as well as the creation of a digital innovation lab for the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

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Suez Canal blockage may ripple through energy markets

**Banking**

The Suez Canal is a vital sea lane for global trade, especially for oil and gas shipments. The blockage of the canal could have significant repercussions for the global economy. Energy markets could be impacted as well, as shipping delays could lead to increased costs and potential disruptions in supply.

**Maritime trade to slow down after ship blocks Suez Canal**

**AP Fin**

Suez Canal blockage may ripple through energy markets

A container ship which was hit by strong winds and an approaching storm in the Suez Canal yesterday. The vessel was likely to remain stuck for a couple of days, which could lead to congestion and delays in energy supply. This could impact the flow of goods, potentially affecting the global energy supply chains.

**What happened?**

The Suez Canal Authority and the MV Ever Given (a 400,000 deadweight tonne ship) were involved in the blockage. The ship was hit by heavy winds and the incident happened after the vessel got stuck in the canal.

**Ships stranded**

The ship is now stuck between the two main channels of the Suez Canal. The authorities are working to free the vessel and resume normal operations.

**Impact on energy markets**

Energy markets could be affected by the blockage, as shipping delays could lead to increased costs and potential disruptions in supply.

**Why is this important?**

The Suez Canal is a crucial route for the transportation of goods, including oil and gas. Any disruption in its operations could have a significant impact on global energy markets.

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**Notice to Shareholders of Maseied Petrochemical Holding Company (Q.P.S.C.)**

Maseied Petrochemical Holding Company (Q.P.S.C.) is pleased to announce to its valued shareholders that the 2020 dividends will be distributed through the following Commercial Bank branches:

**Commercial Bank branches**

- **Corporate Branches**
  - Ahl Khaleed
  - Ummi Lekha

- **Retail Branches**
  - Grand Hamad
  - Commercial Bank Plaza
  - Le Boulevard (Al Suad)
  - Al Khier
  - Maseied
  - Airport (K Ring / Al Hish)
  - Hamad Medical Corporation (HMC)
  - Villagge Mall

Kindly note that the Ordinary General Assembly Meeting of the company will be held on March 24th, 2021 at 3:30 PM, electronically via Zoom application platform.

Commercial Bank requests the shareholders of Maseied Petrochemical Holding Company (Q.P.S.C.) who have not received their dividends for previous years (2013 - 2019) to visit any Commercial Bank branch to receive their unclaimed dividends.
Dukhan Bank AGM okays additional Tier 1 capital sukuk up to QR4.9bn

From Paps

The bank's board of directors, in a meeting held on 17 June, agreed to issue up to 1.25bn QR4.9bn Tier 1 capital sukuk in local and international capital markets. The sukuk is expected to be issued by the end of 2021. The sukuk will be used to fund the bank's growth plans and meet regulatory solvency requirements.

Foreign institutions' bullish outlooklifts QSE as benchmark crosses 10,200 level

Interviewed by Fahad Al Perfuri

T he bullish outlook of the foreign institutions yesterday surmounted the QSE Index, which slipped after a brief correction yesterday, to close at 10,230.76 points. The Index increased a total of 93.33 points yesterday, a gain of 0.92%.

SPACs cause headache for UAE bourses amid lacklustre IPO market

SPACs offer alternatives to public markets

Interviewed by Fahad Al Perfuri

SPACs are an upcoming trend in the Middle East, offering an alternative to traditional IPOs for companies looking for funding. SPACs, or special purpose acquisition companies, are listed entities that are formed to acquire another company.

The UAE enjoys a significant number of companies operating in the region. However, it is important to note that the local regulatory framework for SPACs is still under development. The Dubai Financial Market (DFM) has recently introduced new guidelines to facilitate the issuance and listing of SPACs in the UAE.

The rise of SPACs in the UAE is driven by the need for alternative financing options for companies, particularly start-ups and emerging businesses. These companies often face challenges in accessing capital through traditional IPOs or debt financing.

While the UAE government is actively supporting the development of the SPAC market, there are still some regulatory and operational challenges to be addressed. The regulatory framework needs to be streamlined to ensure transparency and protect investors' interests.

SPACs have gained traction globally, with successful examples in the US and UK, particularly in the technology and healthcare sectors. The successful launches of SPACs in these sectors have demonstrated the potential for this model to provide innovative financing solutions for companies in the UAE.

In conclusion, the rise of SPACs in the UAE presents an opportunity for companies seeking alternative funding options. However, it is crucial to ensure that the regulatory environment is conducive to the growth of this innovative financing model. The local regulatory authorities are well-positioned to take a proactive role in fostering the development of the SPAC market in the UAE, thereby promoting economic growth.

Business

Revamping Libya's oil sector is top priority in historic budget

Libya's state-run producers said on Sunday they expect to export 1.2m barrels per day (b/d) of crude oil from July, a key step in the country's plan to reach the target of 1.6m b/d by the end of 2022. The government plans to invest $20bn in the oil sector over the next five years to boost production and exports and to diversify the economy.

The government plans to increase its share of the oil market from 5% to 10% by 2025, and to expand its production capacity to 2m b/d by 2030. The government also plans to develop new fields and enhance existing ones, with a focus on the Sirte and Zawiya fields.

The government plans to achieve these targets through a combination of investments in infrastructure, exploration, and development of new fields. The government has already invested $1bn in a gas-to-liquids facility, which is expected to come online in 2022. The government also plans to invest in the construction of a new refinery to process heavy crude oil.

In addition, the government plans to enhance its production capacity through the development of new fields, including the Wadi Rum and Zawiya fields. The government also plans to invest in the development of the Sirte field, which is expected to come online in 2024.

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China’s Didi leans towards New York for IPO, eyes valuation of $100bn

Bloomberg QuickTake Q&A

Why the hot new shade for green bonds could be blue

By Rebecca Gibson

Few places in the world have greater need for financing to fund water preservation, sustainability and clean energy projects than the Indo-Pacific region, with its vast coastal areas and extensive natural and community assets, according to the Inter-American Development Bank’s president. But without reliable access to finance, the region risks falling behind in a race to adapt to climate change.

Tribes called to QM

September 26, 2021

US$500 billion

China 3rd

US$100bn

Netflix

Bakcell

US$17.5bn

Shenzhen

Remote Working

SHANGHAI/NEW YORK (REUTERS) — China’s Didi Global Inc is leaning towards listing in New York for its initial public offering (IPO), sources say, in a possible challenge to the US$100 billion valuation Netflix, the streaming giant, now commands.

Didi could raise as much as US$50 billion in a New York listing, sources said, versus US$10-15 billion in a Hong Kong listing, as the ride-hailing firm aims to raise US$5 billion for its plan to go public. A US listing would provide a substantial market cap to Didi, which has raised US$5.5 billion in three funding rounds, according to sources.

“Didi’s strongest asset is its market position in China, but the US market is very different and I think they will consider taking advantage of the US capital market,” said John Gao, a partner at China-focused consultancy firm IResearch.

The Chinese ride-hailing giant is mulling a US listing as Chinese authorities crack down on tech companies, sources said. Didi’s Hong Kong listing, which would raise US$5 billion, is expected to be priced on or before Sept 30, sources said.

A Didi spokesperson declined to comment.

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A Didi spokesperson declined to comment.

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A Didi spokesperson declined to comment.
Cash is king for EMs facing spiky yields

Bloomberg

Singapore

C alium is king now more than the usual seven days. With the monster increase in commodity prices, central bankers in emerging-market countries are faced with a dilemma of how to navigate spiky yields, especially in countries where the Fed has raised rates.

"The U.S. dollar is the strongest currency in the world, and it continues to strengthen," said Shengyen Lee, head of global market strategy at DBS Group Research. "This is a very challenging time for emerging-market central banks." The Fed's rate hikes have pushed the dollar higher, making it more expensive for emerging-market countries to borrow in dollars, which can lead to higher interest rates and lower growth.

Although Russia's finance minister doesn't disclose the total cash on hand, the central bank said it sold $30 billion of foreign currency in March, about the same as a year earlier despite the range of geopolitical risks.

In South Africa, yields on 10-year bonds are at an all-time high, with the rand slipping 10% this year. The country has also seen a significant increase in the yield on its 10-year bond, which has risen from 6% to 7% over the past year.

The reduced reserves from Russia and South Africa have been offset by higher yields in the case of Brazil and Russia, while lower reserves in South Africa, said Black Rock.

The Morningrider Exchange's logo is displayed outside its office in Russia. With the rout in Russian stocks, yield-hungry investors are switching to the safer investments as stocks in the emerging-markets rally.

Shelved IPOs emerge in China after watchdog tightens scrutiny

Bloomberg

Hong Kong

China's largest firms have pulled planned initial public offerings this year, reflecting a tightening of regulations to protect investors and prevent speculation.

"The market is undergoing a significant revaluation, and many companies are halting their plans," said Yiwen Sun, an analyst at Erich's Capital. "It's a new era, and we need to be more cautious." The stock market is down about 10% this year, due to the regulatory crackdown on spamming and excessive leverage.

Although the regulator's focus is on tech and financial companies, it's also targeting sectors such as real estate and entertainment, said Sun. "We expect more companies to be listed in the coming months, but the process will be more transparent and less risky." The regulator has also imposed tighter controls on cross-border listings.

"The situation is serious in terms of market stability, and we are taking measures to address it," said Yiwen Sun. "We are working closely with regulators to ensure the smooth operation of the market." The regulator has also imposed stricter controls on cross-border listings, including requiring companies to disclose more information.

China's $2.3tn hidden debt could climb even further

Bloomberg

Hong Kong

China's local governments had $2.3 trillion of hidden debt at the end of last year, according to a report by Moody's. China's local governments may have more debt than officially reported, according to a report by the Institute for New Economic Alternatives. The local governments may have more debt than officially reported, according to a report by the Institute for New Economic Alternatives.

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World’s first wildlife bond to track rhino numbers in Africa

Blackstone invests in mental health app at $1bn value
Oil prices surge on Suez Canal blockage; stocks trade mixed

AFP/London/Paris

O il prices surged Thursday following the blockage of the Suez Canal while stock markets traded in varied performances.

A grounded ship that has temporarily blocked the key transit route for Egypt-bound oil and liquefied natural gas, has pushed up prices for those commodities, despite an apparent fitness to the region of 90%

The "Evergreen" MV Ever Given, a ship that was meeting on Tuesday in Rotterdam, Netherlands, when it rammed a bridge and was heading to the canal on Tuesday. The Suez Canal Authority said the ship had been cleared by the maritime authority, which has been in contact with the ship's masters and the Port Authority, and has given the ship clearance to proceed.

The ship had also been spotted in the Suez Canal on Wednesday, with its cargo reportedly delayed. The canal has been closed to traffic since Wednesday, when the ship ran aground after running aground in the Suez Canal.

In Tokyo, oil prices surged on Thursday, with the Brent crude oil futures rising by 1.3% to $66.80 a barrel. In New York, the benchmark for US oil, rose by 1.4% to $67.10 a barrel.

In London, the FTSE 100 index was up by 1.2%, while in Paris, the CAC 40 was up by 0.9%. In Singapore, the SGX index was up by 0.7%.

In Hong Kong, the Hang Seng index was up by 1.1%, while in Tokyo, the Nikkei 225 was up by 1.0%.

In Australia, the S&P/ASX 200 was up by 0.6%.

In Europe, the Stoxx 600 index was up by 1.1%

In the US, the S&P 500 index was up by 1.2%, while the Dow Jones Industrial Average was up by 1.0%.

In Latin America, the Bovespa index was up by 1.3%. In Asia, the MSCI China index was up by 0.9%.

In South America, the MSCI Brazil index was up by 1.1%.

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Detroit’s empty factories can help win the e-truck war

BLOOMBERG

Bloom Energy Corp., a maker of fuel-cell power systems, has been awarded a $30 million project to supply its fuel cells to the U.S. Department of Defense. The deal is the second major contract win for the company this year, and it comes as the company looks to expands its footprint in the defense industry.

The project will involve the deployment of Bloom’s fuel-cell systems at six military bases across the country. The systems will be used to provide backup power for critical infrastructure, including data centers, communications centers, and other facilities. The deal is expected to generate over $10 million in revenue for Bloom in the first year of operation.

Bloom’s fuel-cell systems use natural gas as a fuel source and produce electricity with much lower emissions than traditional fossil fuel power plants. The company’s technology is also claimed to be more resilient to power outages than conventional power plants, making it ideal for use in military applications.

Bloom’s CEO, Pat Gelsinger, said the defense contract is a significant milestone for the company and a testament to its technology’s reliability and performance. The company has been working with the Department of Defense for several years, and this latest contract win is a sign of the increasing demand for clean, reliable energy solutions in the military sector.

Bloom’s technology is also being used in other sectors, including data centers, healthcare, and commercial buildings. The company’s fuel-cell systems are designed to provide reliable, sustainable power solutions that are cost-effective and environmentally friendly.

Gelsinger said that Bloom is committed to helping its customers meet their energy needs in a sustainable way, and the defense contract is a key part of that strategy. He added that the company is excited to work with the Department of Defense to deploy its technology across the country.

Bloom’s fuel-cell systems are currently being used in over 30 countries and have a growing presence in the U.S. The company has been recognized as a leader in the fuel-cell industry, and its technology has been awarded numerous patents and industry awards.

The company’s growth has been driven by a combination of strong customer demand and partnerships with major players in the energy sector. Bloom’s technology is designed to be scalable and modular, allowing it to be adapted to a wide range of applications and environments.

The company’s technology is also being recognized for its potential to help combat climate change. Bloom’s fuel-cell systems produce very little carbon emissions, and they can be used to generate electricity from renewable sources such as wind and solar.

Bloom’s fuel-cell systems are designed to be highly efficient and reliable, with a long lifespan and minimal maintenance requirements. The company’s technology has been tested and proven in a variety of applications, from data centers to remote military bases.

Bloom’s CEO, Pat Gelsinger, said that the company is proud to be part of the effort to provide clean, reliable energy solutions for the defense sector and the country as a whole. He added that the company is committed to innovation and collaboration, and that it is looking forward to continued growth and success in the years ahead.
Inventel to spend $20bn on new US chip plants

ZF

US chip demand is said to be so strong that ZF has decided to invest $20bn in new chip plants in San Jose, California. The investment is one of the largest in the US semiconductor industry, and it will create thousands of new jobs in the region.

Weather slams US weather equipment spending; supply disruptions weigh

Core capital goods order drop in July helps US recovery: Core capital goods order decline, 1.5% in July US

Core capital goods order decline was due to weather equipment spending; order drop was 1.5% in July.

Washington

New orders for US-made capital goods excluding defense fell unexpectedly in July as severe weather disrupted equipment sales and trade in the US. The report came as the US economy struggled to recover from the pandemic, with many companies facing supply chain disruptions and labor shortages.

According to the Commerce Department, new orders for non-defense capital goods excluding defense fell 1.5% in July, after a 3.5% rise in June. The decline was driven by a 2.4% drop in new orders for primary metals, along with a 1.1% decrease in new orders for machinery.

The report also showed that new orders for non-defense capital goods excluding defense were up 9.9% in the first seven months of 2021, compared with the same period in 2020. The data suggests that capital goods orders are likely to remain strong in the coming months, as companies continue to invest in new equipment and technology.

Employee salary reserves at the Evercore Equris manufacturing facility in San Diego, California. Orders for non-defense capital goods excluding defense, a closely watched proxy for business investment plans, dropped 0.8% in July, the US Commerce Department said.

German cabinet agrees record levels of new debt for 2021

Berlin

The German government announced plans to tap record levels of new debt for 2021, with the country facing a third wave of COVID-19 and the economy contracting. The new debt package will be used to fund a range of measures, including the extension of the Corona-Warn-App and the extension of the country's business support schemes.

The government proposed a budget deficit of €150bn for 2021, which is €55bn higher than the previous year. The government is ramping up spending on health care, education, and social security, as the country continues to grapple with the pandemic.

British meat industry warns of permanent loss of trade with EU

Sleaford

The British meat industry is warning that the permanent loss of trade with the EU could cost the industry billions of pounds each year. The industry has faced a number of challenges since the Brexit agreement was signed in December 2020, including new regulations, increased costs, and reduced access to the EU market.

The British Meat Industry Council (BMC) said that the permanent loss of trade with the EU could result in a significant decline in exports, with many businesses struggling to maintain their operations. The council said that the industry needs urgent action from the government to ensure that the sector can continue to thrive.

The BMC is calling on the government to provide immediate support to the industry, including funding for research and development, and to work with industry stakeholders to develop a long-term plan for the sector.

The chair of the BMC, Mike Betts, said: "The permanent loss of trade with the EU could result in a significant decline in exports, with many businesses struggling to maintain their operations. The council said that the industry needs urgent action from the government to ensure that the sector can continue to thrive."
QIB awarded ‘Best Mobile Initiative’ and ‘Best Bank for Cash Management’ accolades from The Digital Banker magazine

Qatar Islamic Bank (QIB) has been awarded two prestigious titles at The Digital Banker Magazine’s Middle East & Africa Innovation Awards 2022. The bank was awarded the Best Mobile Initiative for its Digital Mobile Banking App and the Best Digital Bank for its Digital Mobile Banking App.

The Best Mobile Banking recognition recognizes the innovation in introducing a mobile or digital cash management solutions for digital and large corporations, such as the Digital Mobile Banking (DIB) mobile banking solutions, the Remote Deposit Capture (RDC) and the QIB Mobile Deposit app.

“The new mobile app is designed to simplify and enhance the user experience of our digital customers. It is a testament to our commitment towards providing digital banking products and services that meet the needs of our customers,” said QIB Managing Director & CEO, Mr. Faisal Ben Abdulla. “We are excited to share this prestigious award with our valued customers and look forward to further enhancing our digital banking solutions.”

The Digital Banker magazine noted that QIB’s mobile banking solutions offer a comprehensive range of banking services, including account opening, bill payment, and mobile deposit services. The bank also praised QIB’s efforts in providing digital banking services that are accessible to all customers, regardless of their location.

QIB’s Mobile Banking App has been designed to provide a seamless and secure banking experience for its customers. The app allows users to access their accounts, make payments, and transfer funds, all from the comfort of their mobile devices.

QIB has also introduced a number of other digital initiatives, including its mobile deposit service, which allows customers to deposit cheques remotely using their mobile devices. This has significantly reduced the time and effort required for customers to deposit cheques in the bank, improving the overall customer experience.

The Best Digital Bank for Cash Management recognition recognizes QIB’s commitment to providing cash management solutions for its corporate customers. The bank’s cash management solutions include corporate banking services, such as cash management, corporate card services, and transaction banking.

In addition to its mobile banking solutions, QIB has also introduced a corporate mobile app that allows corporate customers to manage their accounts and access real-time financial information. This has significantly improved the bank’s ability to provide personalized and efficient cash management solutions to its corporate customers.

The recognition received is a testament to QIB’s commitment towards providing innovative digital banking solutions that meet the needs of its customers.

Tunisia minister stresses Qatar-Tunisia interest in enhancing trade and economic co-operation

Tunisia’s Minister of Economy, Trade, Industry, and Investment Support, Mr. Ali Al-Kadi, shared the commitment of his country, the State of Qatar and Tunisia in enhancing trade and investment opportunities to reactivate the regions' commercial exchanges. He also stressed the priority of Tunisia's economic reform and its desire to achieve sustainable economic growth.

The meeting took place in the context of the African Development Bank’s visit to Tunisia, which is scheduled to take place from March 27 to April 6. The Tunisian minister highlighted the importance of strengthening trade and investment relations with Qatar, emphasizing the need to diversify the economic base and reduce dependence on traditional sectors.

Al-Sulaiti Law Firm, McNair Chambers host arbitration in Qatar webinar

A webinar conducted by TUNISIA’s former Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and the Director of the World Bank Group Staff, Mr. Nabil Al-Kadi, highlighted the importance of strengthening trade and investment relations with Qatar. The webinar aimed to provide an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the economic cooperation between Tunisia and Qatar.

The webinar was co-hosted by Al-Sulaiti Law Firm and McNair Chambers, two leading law firms in the region. The webinar provided an opportunity for stakeholders to discuss the economic cooperation between Tunisia and Qatar.

The webinar was attended by a number of stakeholders, including government officials, business leaders, and academic experts. The participants discussed the key challenges facing the region and the strategies needed to enhance economic cooperation.

Qatar Credit Bureau launches new service providing reports and scores

Qatar Credit Bureau announced the launch of a new service that provides credit reports and scores to individuals and businesses. The service is designed to help individuals and businesses make informed decisions about loans, credit cards, and other financial products.

The service is part of the larger Qatar Credit Bureau business systems, which includes a range of other services that will not only provide paper processing and credit card services, but also include a range of other services such as credit assessments and credit risk analysis.

The service is expected to be a crucial component of the growth of the Qatar Credit Bureau business systems, as it allows the company to offer a comprehensive suite of services to its clients. The service is expected to be particularly beneficial for businesses that rely on credit information to make informed decisions about loans and other financial products.

The launch of the new service is expected to help Qatar Credit Bureau to increase its market share and to compete more effectively with other credit bureaus in the region. The service is expected to be particularly beneficial for businesses that rely on credit information to make informed decisions about loans and other financial products.
Long road ahead for long-haul air travel sector's recovery?

By Freddie John

There has been a palpable sense of excitement among the global travel community as governments ease travel restrictions and borders begin to open again. However, the pandemic continues to cast a shadow, with a new wave of COVID-19 cases emerging in several parts of the world, particularly among the more vulnerable populations.

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) has predicted that global air travel demand is expected to recover to pre-pandemic levels by 2023, but a full recovery is not expected until 2027. This means that airlines will continue to face significant challenges as they try to navigate the complex landscape of post-COVID travel.

Beyond the Tarmac

To support the industry, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) has launched a new platform to enhance digital collaboration in the air cargo industry. The platform, called IATA Digital, aims to digitalize the entire air cargo supply chain, from booking and billing to tracking and tracing.

IATA's Chief Executive Officer, Willie Walsh, said: "Digitalization is not just about making our business more efficient. It's about being able to compete. By streamlining processes, we can create new opportunities for growth and innovation."

However, the pandemic has also highlighted the need for greater resilience in the supply chain. Airlines and cargo companies are working to improve their response times in the event of a crisis, with a focus on increased visibility and transparency.

New Nordic airline begins $150m placing in bet on rebound

By Freddie John

The Nordic airline industry has been hit hard by the pandemic, with many airlines struggling to stay afloat. However, there are signs of recovery, with some airlines reporting modest improvements in recent months.

While the full recovery of the industry remains uncertain, there are reasons for optimism. The Nordic airlines have been able to adapt to the changing conditions, with many focusing on cost-cutting measures and diversifying their revenue streams.

It is important to note, however, that the rebound is not uniform across the region. Some airlines have been more successful in navigating the challenges of the pandemic, while others have struggled more.

The Nordics have also been among the first to embrace digital technologies, with many using AI and data analytics to improve their operations and enhance the passenger experience.

Mobile connectivity is another key focus, with many airlines investing in 5G networks to enable faster and more reliable connectivity on board.

The Nordics have also been among the first to embrace digital technologies, with many using AI and data analytics to improve their operations and enhance the passenger experience.

With the reopening of travel, the Nordic airlines are looking forward to a brighter future, with hopes of recovering to pre-pandemic levels in the coming years.