

Award-winning year



● Mr Jawahery, centre, receives the Shield of Excellence in the chemical sector's health and safety fields, from RoSPA officials



● Princess Sabeeka presents the women's empowerment award to GPIC

This has been an award-winning year for the Gulf Petrochemical Industries Company (GPIC), with a string of honours for safety, environmental protection and human development – in particular the empowerment of women.

It follows on from a record 2008, in which the company made a \$301 million (BD113m) net profit.

The announcement was made by GPIC chairman Shaikh Isa bin Ali Al Khalifa earlier this year, during the 30th general meeting of the GPIC shareholders.

The record profits, said Shaikh Isa, were the result of the sincere efforts made by all the employees in rationalising expenditure and reduction of costs and streamlining the production costs, as well as marketing its products worldwide.

"The production of the ammonia, methanol and urea plants continue at the highest levels of quality and efficiency, while maintaining the highest levels of safety, health and environment," he told shareholders.

GPIC continued its focus on ensuring the highest levels of health, safety and security and this resulted in registering a record man-hours without lost time accidents totalling 12,698,639 hours, including its own workers and contractors' staff.

The company has been able to maintain its clean record of working without fatal accidents since May 2002.

GPIC also won for the second successive time the Saudi Arabian Award for Environmental Management, which is considered as the highest Arab award of its kind.

The company also started to implement a project to extract and recycle CO₂, which is a unique project in the region and will also help protect the environment.

GPIC has also been able to apply the Corporate Governance Policy and approved the Enterprise Risk Management Scheme.

As part of GPIC's contributions to the local community, the environmental awareness programme for students continued for the seventh successive year. Also launched was the fourth round of the Education-GPIC Environmental Research Programme, the GPIC Environment Award, in continuation of the tremendous success of this programme.

In the meantime, the company has sought the assistance of a consultancy firm, which conducted a detailed study into the plant's strategic

plan until 2020. This is hoped to be implemented in the next few years.

These achievements have given a strong boost to the morale of the employees and have contributed to increasing their productivity at the highest possible quality.

Last year, GPIC's products of ammonia, methanol and urea totalled 1,545,488 tonnes, of which 1,129,028 tonnes was exported on board 72 carriers.

Another 373,058 tonnes of ammonia was used for the production of urea. The production quantity from the company's plants is considered as the highest level of output in its history.

This year GPIC again received the Shield of Excellence in the chemical sector's health and safety fields, from Britain's Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA).

General manager Abdulrahman Jawahery said winning the prestigious award five times was an unprecedented achievement.

"The company's performance has continued to rise this year, which enabled GPIC to obtain the award of a shield, which no company has ever won before," says Mr Jawahery.

"Maintaining the highest levels of performance in health, safety and accident prevention is one of the administrative pillars in the company."

The company's first participation in the awards programmes was in 1991, when it was awarded a bronze certificate for outstanding achievements in safety, while in 1992 it won the silver certificate and was able to obtain the gold medal four times from 1993 to 1996.

The award of World Excellence won by the company in 2001 was the first such award granted within the industrial sector.

All this has led to GPIC's global recognition in this field, in which more than 7,000 companies from different continents and various economic sectors have taken part.

The selection of GPIC by the arbitration committee for this year Chemicals Sector Award came as a result of the safety system

Accolades galore for



● The award-winning GPIC plant

adopted by the company, in addition to its contribution within Bahrain and the Middle East to raise the level of awareness regarding safety and occupational health.

This is the first time that the award has been won by the same establishment five times.

Mr Jawahery attributed this to a number of elements, which included;

- Distinguished leadership in the areas of health and safety.
- Efforts exerted to select and integrate the best systems according to the international standards in health and safety to build a solid system that controls risks.
- Effective involvement of all employees in decision-making regarding health and safety.
- Focus on safety outside the work site and the involvement of staff, families and community in various initiatives to raise awareness in the

areas of health, safety and environment in order to make it a way of life and a community culture.

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents is a British organisation established more than 93 years ago.

Also this year and for the second consecutive year, GPIC won the Global Safety Certificate from the British Safety Council.

Another award achieved this year was the Hariri Arab Operation and Maintenance Prize in the category of Best Maintenance Engineer.

The prize, initiated by the late Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri, was received by electric maintenance department supervisor Abdul Amir Al Mulla, at the 5th International Conference on Operation and Maintenance in Arab Countries, in Beirut.