

Monday, 11 November 2024

### **QSE Intra-Day Movement**



#### **Qatar Commentary**

The QE Index rose 0.5% to close at 10,623.6. Gains were led by the Transportation and Banks & Financial Services indices, gaining 1.2% and 0.6%, respectively. Top gainers were Qatar General Ins. & Reins. Co. and Widam Food Company, rising 2.6% and 2.1%, respectively. Among the top losers, Ezdan Holding Group and Qatar Cinema & Film Distribution were down 2.4% each.

#### **GCC** Commentary

*Saudi Arabia:* The TASI Index fell 0.2% to close at 12,103.2. Losses were led by the Utilities and Pharma, Biotech & Life Science indices, falling 3.6% and 2.1%, respectively. Al-Babtain Power and Telecommunication Co. declined 8.0%, while Al-Jouf Agricultural Development Co. was down 7.7%.

Dubai: The market was closed on November 10, 2024.

Abu Dhabi: The market was closed on November 10, 2024.

*Kuwait:* The Kuwait All Share Index gained 0.6% to close at 7,229.1. The Consumer Discretionary index rose 4.9%, while the Insurance index gained 1.5%. Oula Fuel Marketing Company rose 35.8%, while National International Co. was up 29.0%.

*Oman:* The MSM 30 Index gained 0.2% to close at 4,714.3. The Financial index gained 0.1%, while the other indices ended flat or in red. Dhofar Generating Company rose 3.1%, while Renaissance Services was up 2.1%.

*Bahrain:* The BHB Index fell 0.2% to close at 2,027.0. Esterad Investment Company was down 3.9%.

QSE Top Gainers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar General Ins. & Reins. Co.	1.300	2.6	257.2	(11.6)
Widam Food Company	2.570	2.1	769.1	8.9
Qatar Navigation	11.35	1.2	339.3	17.0
Gulf International Services	3.153	1.2	8,550.4	14.3
Qatar Gas Transport Company Ltd.	4.330	1.2	2,625.5	23.0

QSE Top Volume Trades	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co.	1.290	0.8	25,533.7	(7.9)
Ezdan Holding Group	1.169	(2.4)	16,960.3	36.2
Estithmar Holding	1.815	0.6	11,424.1	(13.4)
Doha Bank	1.792	0.7	11,363.9	(2.1)
Masraf Al Rayan	2.399	0.8	9,193.4	(9.6)

Market Indicators			10 Nov 24	05 No	v 24		%Chg.
Value Traded (QR mn)			391.3	3	30.6		18.3
Exch. Market Cap. (QR mn	)		628,587.3	627,0	78.2		0.2
Volume (mn)			153.9	1	32.3		16.2
Number of Transactions			12,209	12	,656		(3.5)
Companies Traded			52		50		4.0
Market Breadth			27:20	2	0:24		-
Market Indices		Close	1D%	WTD%	YI	D%	TTM P/E
Market Indices Total Return		<b>Close</b> 27.45	1D% 0.5	WTD% 0.5	YI	<b>D%</b> 4.2	<b>TTM P/E</b> 11.5
	24,2				YI		
Total Return	24,2 3,7	27.45	0.5	0.5	YI	4.2	11.5
Total Return All Share Index	24,2 3,7 4,6	27.45 94.94	0.5	0.5	TY	4.2 4.6	11.5 12.1
Total Return All Share Index Banks	24,2 3,7 4,6 4,3	27.45 94.94 93.43	0.5 0.4 0.6	0.5 0.4 0.6		4.2 4.6 2.5	11.5 12.1 10.1

Real Estate	1,676.70	(0.3)	(0.3)	11.7	20.8
Insurance	2,377.95	0.0	0.0	(9.7)	167.0
Telecoms	1,829.42	0.0	0.0	7.3	11.6
Consumer Goods and Services	7,761.68	(0.3)	(0.3)	2.5	17.1
Al Rayan Islamic Index	4,920.85	0.4	0.4	3.3	14.2

GCC Top Gainers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Saudi Investment	Saudi Arabia	13.92	4.7	1,796.8	9.0
Agility Public Warehousing	Kuwait	265.00	3.5	17,177.3	(46.3)
Arabian Drilling	Saudi Arabia	113.80	3.3	798.5	(40.4)
Jarir Marketing Co.	Saudi Arabia	13.66	2.6	3,027.5	(12.3)
Bupa Arabia for Coop. Ins.	Saudi Arabia	193.00	1.8	89.8	(9.6)

GCC Top Losers**	Exchange	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Acwa Power Co.	Saudi Arabia	421.00	(4.6)	359.0	64.1
Saudi Arabian Mining Co.	Saudi Arabia	52.10	(3.3)	2,474.6	7.3
National Co. For Glass	Saudi Arabia	52.00	(2.8)	173.0	30.0
Taiba Investments	Saudi Arabia	41.80	(2.8)	300.2	56.3
Ezdan Holding Group	Qatar	1.17	(2.4)	16,960.3	36.2

Source: Bloomberg (# in Local Currency) (## GCC Top gainers/ losers derived from the S&P GCC Composite Large Mid Cap Index)

QSE Top Losers	Close*	1D%	Vol. '000	YTD%
Ezdan Holding Group	1.169	(2.4)	16,960.3	36.2
Qatar Cinema & Film Distribution	2.600	(2.4)	3.7	(10.3)
Al Faleh Educational Holding Co.	0.768	(1.7)	2,841.4	(7.1)
Mazaya Qatar Real Estate Dev.	0.619	(1.4)	7,473.9	(14.4)
Dlala Brokerage & Inv. Holding Co.	1.184	(1.3)	1,106.1	(10.3)

QSE Top Value Trades	Close*	1D%	Val. '000	YTD%
QNB Group	17.35	0.3	42,837.9	5.0
Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co.	1.290	0.8	32,984.5	(7.9)
Qatar Islamic Bank	21.10	1.1	30,792.0	(1.9)
Gulf International Services	3.153	1.2	26,997.3	14.3
Industries Qatar	13.49	0.4	23,152.2	3.1

Regional Indices	Close	1D%	WTD%	MTD%	YTD%	Exch. Val. Traded (\$ mn)	Exchange Mkt. Cap. (\$ mn)	P/E**	P/B**	Dividend Yield
Qatar*	10,623.63	0.5	0.5	0.9	(1.9)	108.1	172,358.6	11.5	1.3	4.0
Dubai	4,639.83	(0.1)	(0.1)	1.1	14.3	110.5	208,491.6	9.0	1.4	5.2
Abu Dhabi	9,449.25	(0.2)	(0.2)	1.3	(1.3)	274.9	728,351.3	17.2	2.7	2.1
Saudi Arabia	12,103.16	(0.2)	(0.2)	0.7	1.1	1,623.98	2,732,887.1	19.4	2.3	3.7
Kuwait	7,229.10	0.6	0.6	1.0	6.0	309.06	152,974.3	19.1	1.8	4.1
Oman	4,714.33	0.2	0.2	(0.7)	4.4	27.19	31,624.6	12.5	0.9	5.5
Bahrain	2.027.02	(0.2)	(0.2)	0.4	2.8	1.15	20.850.7	8.0	0.7	3.6

Source: Bloomberg, Qatar Stock Exchange, Tadawul, Muscat Securities Market and Dubai Financial Market (\*\* TTM; \* Value traded (\$ mn) do not include special trades if any)



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#### **Qatar Market Commentary**

- The QE Index rose 0.5% to close at 10,623.6. The Transportation and Banks & Financial Services indices led the gains. The index rose on the back of buying support from Qatari shareholders despite selling pressure from non-Qatari shareholders.
- Qatar General Ins. & Reins. Co. and Widam Food Company were the top gainers, rising 2.6% and 2.1%, respectively. Among the top losers, Ezdan Holding Group and Qatar Cinema & Film Distribution were down 2.4% each.
- Volume of shares traded on Sunday rose by 16.2% to 153.9mn from 132.4mn on Tuesday. However, as compared to the 30-day moving average of 168.5mn, volume for the day was 8.7% lower. Qatar Aluminum Manufacturing Co. and Ezdan Holding Group were the most active stocks, contributing 16.6% and 11.0% to the total volume, respectively.

Overall Activity	Buy%*	Sell%*	Net (QR)
Qatari Individuals	31.37%	34.21%	(11,137,566.95)
Qatari Institutions	39.23%	28.76%	40,946,453.11
Qatari	70.59%	62.98%	29,808,886.16
GCC Individuals	0.32%	0.33%	(41,513.02)
GCC Institutions	1.71%	5.32%	(14,157,870.89)
GCC	2.03%	5.66%	(14,199,383.91)
Arab Individuals	11.18%	11.52%	(1,334,391.33)
Arab Institutions	0.00%	0.00%	-
Arab	11.18%	11.52%	(1,334,391.33)
Foreigners Individuals	3.21%	3.33%	(486,488.89)
Foreigners Institutions	12.99%	16.51%	(13,788,622.04)
Foreigners	16.20%	19.85%	(14,275,110.93)

Source: Qatar Stock Exchange (\*as a% of traded value)

#### **Global Economic Data**

Date	Market	Source	Indicator	Period	Actual	Consensus	Previous
05-11	US	Markit	S&P Global US Composite PMI	Oct	54.10	54.30	54.30
05-11	US	Markit	S&P Global US Services PMI	Oct	55.00	55.30	55.30
07-11	US	Department of Labor	Initial Jobless Claims	02-Nov	221k	222k	218k
06-11	EU	Eurostat	PPI MoM	Sep	-0.60%	-0.60%	0.60%
06-11	EU	Eurostat	PPI YoY	Sep	-3.40%	-3.40%	-2.30%
07-11	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Exports YoY	Oct	12.70%	5.00%	2.40%
07-11	China	National Bureau of Statistics	Imports YoY	Oct	-2.30%	-2.00%	0.30%

#### Qatar

- Al Faleh Educational Holding: The AGM endorses items on its agenda Al Faleh Educational Holding announces the results of the AGM. The meeting was held on 10/11/2024 and the following resolution were approved. Al Faleh Educational Holding announces the results of the Ordinary General Assembly. The meeting was held on 10/11/2024 and the following resolutions were approved: 1. The report of the Board of Directors on the Company's activities, financial position for the year ended 31 August 2024 and the future plans for the year 2025. 2. The report of the External Auditor on the Company's Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2024. 3. Approval of the Company's financial position and statement for profit or loss statement for the Company for the year ended 31 August 2024. 4. Approval of the auditors' report on the appropriateness and effectiveness of Internal Control systems implemented in the Company for the year ended 31 August 2024. 5. Approval on the Board of Directors' recommendation to distribute cash dividends to the shareholders equivalent to 0.01875 for each share for the year ended 31 August 2024. 6. Approval to discharge the Board members from any liability for the year ended 31 August 2024, and approval of the remuneration of QR300,000, where QR100,000 will be distributed to each independent director for the year ended 31 August 2024. 7. Approval of the Corporate Governance Report for the financial year 2024. 8. Hearing of the Sharia Advisor report of the activity of the Company for the year ended 31 August 2024. 9. Appointing Russell Bedford as an External Auditor for the Company for the year ended 31 August 2025. 10. Election of Ms. Aisha Al Nasr and Mr. Rajesh Menon as two independent members of the Board of Directors from 5 December 2024 to 15 March 2026 (end of term of the first Board of Directors). (QSE)
  - **Soaring energy demand augments Qatar's real GDP** Qatar is gearing up optimistically for 2025 with reports revealing a robust economy due to surging energy prices, steady domestic demand, and government spending, states Fitch Solutions in its latest report. Analysts predict that soaring hydrocarbon and investment activities continue to drive the GDP growth to more than 2% in the coming year. Qatar's government has been "aggressively" seeking ways to diversify the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) aiming to lower its dependence on hydrocarbons and strengthen the country's services sector aligned with the Qatar National Vision 2030. In its report on trade and investment risk, Market experts' emphasis the current initiatives to improve the legal and tax frameworks to support the

country's economic growth and encourage domestic CapEx and Foreign Direct Investment (FDI). The report indicates that currently risks are tilted laboriously to the downside as a potential for regional conflicts in the Middle East as proxies could derail economic growth and investment. Data signals businesses and investment activities in the country are prone to trade risks and opportunities including trade barriers, free trade agreements, investment incentives, investment restrictions, FDI flows, key import and export markets, government intervention, taxation, and the development of the legal and bureaucratic systems. However, Qatar's expansion of LNG projects, rising FDIs, and optimistic business outlook indicate an openness to economic boost with several opportunities offered in the country. With its local, regional, and global peers, Qatar is positioning itself as a key investment hub, sources told The Peninsula. Recently, QatarEnergy inaugurated four new conventional-size LNG vessels built in the Samsung Heavy Industries Shipyard and the Hanwha Ocean Shipyard in Korea as part of its historic fleet expansion program. The data further evaluates key investment barriers and incentives in the country coupled with its stronger trade flows, main trading partners and products, and trade barriers. Fitch Solution also highlighted key risks arising from the burden of taxation and financial barriers on foreign and local firms. It also stated the development of the financial market, the density of the banking sector, the availability of credit, and the sophistication of the market. (Peninsula Qatar)

Digital commerce market to reach QR26.73bn by 2024 end - The digital commerce sector is poised for a trajectory of upward growth as reports signal a boost in Qatar. According to a report by Statista, the transaction value in the digital commerce market is estimated to amount to \$7.29bn (QR26.73bn) by the end of the year. The report notes that the transaction value is anticipate to show a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 21.70% resulting in a projected total amount of \$19.46bn from 2024 to 2029. The data forecasts that the number of users in the industry is expected to increase by over 1.6mn during the period. Market experts highlighted the country's developments into an active market for ecommerce during the past decade. Sources told The Peninsula that this outlines the acceleration of digital marketing solutions coupled with strategies for strong businesses in addition to revolutionizing the dynamics of online shopping in the region. Industry leaders stressed that the market shift and transformation have been "obvious" in the Qatari economy and the transaction value amount of over QR26bn is a significant example of government initiatives, spending, and



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infrastructural projects to boost the sector. However, analysts note that digital commerce in Qatar is also confronted with certain challenges in the fierce business market including the regulatory environment, adapting to modern technologies, market saturation, and cultural sensitivity. Within the digital market periphery in e-commerce in Qatar, the market outlook also looks promising. Researchers say that with such enhancement of technology, businesses will have much at their disposal, and strategies for marketing instruments will be shaped by artificial intelligence, data analytics, and automation in the years ahead. AI tech experts and officials lauded the country's initiatives during this year's Web Summit Qatar and the Qatar Economic Forum, saying that local entities could take advantage of AI and improve the experience of their customers as well as increase revenue. From a global comparison perspective, the report reveals that the highest transaction value is expected to be generated by China for a whopping \$3,245bn by the end of December. (Peninsula Qatar)

- QFC in pact with Dukhan Bank to provide tailored services to firms The Oatar Financial Centre Authority (OFCA) has entered into a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Dukhan Bank (DKB), one of the largest Shariah-compliant banks, to pursue certain areas of collaboration that benefit both parties. The MoU establishes a framework for positioning the bank as a strategic partner for new and existing QFClicensed firms and their employees on a non-exclusive basis. This collaboration includes co-branding a temporary shared physical space within the QFC premises; allowing Dukhan Bank to effectively serve QFClicensed firms and their staff, as well as promoting DKB offers specifically tailored for QFC firms. Under the MoU, the lender will provide corporate banking accounts and create customized banking solutions for new QFClicensed firms referred by the QFCA once obtaining their corporate registration credentials. Additionally, the bank will offer immediate banking services to all employees of these firms who are new to Qatar. "This MoU with Dukhan Bank represents a significant step towards enhancing the financial services available to QFC-licensed firms. By providing tailored banking solutions and a dedicated space for their needs, we are creating an environment that fosters growth and innovation within the QFC community. Together, we are fostering a more robust financial ecosystem in Oatar," said OFCA chief executive officer Yousuf Mohamed al-Jaida. Ahmed I. Hashem, acting group chief executive officer of Dukhan Bank, said the MoU helped the bank to offer tailored banking services that meet the unique needs of QFC-licensed firms and their employees. "This collaboration underscores our commitment to delivering innovative Shariah-compliant financial solutions that support the growth and success of businesses in Qatar. By combining our expertise with QFC's strong business platform, we aim to enhance the ease of doing business and contribute to building a dynamic and thriving financial ecosystem," he said. (Gulf Times)
- QBA asks Qatar businesses to explore investment prospects in Uzbekistan; potential seen in agriculture, mining and energy - The Qatari Businessmen Association (QBA) on Sunday asked its members to explore the investment climate in Uzbekistan and invest in potential opportunities, especially in the sectors of agriculture, mining and energy. This was conveyed by QBA chairman HE Sheikh Faisal bin Qassim al-Thani at a meeting with Laziz Kudratov, Minister of Investment, Industry and Trade of Uzbekistan. The visiting delegation also included about 20 officials, including the Deputy Minister of Health, the Deputy Minister of Transportation, and a number of governorate deputies and government institutions. Terming the visit of His Highness the Amir Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad al-Thani last year to Uzbekistan as an important step towards establishing a new phase of joint economic and trade co-operation between the two countries. Sheikh Faisal said since then joint work and co-ordination has increased between Doha and Tashkent to encourage the private sector on both sides to launch investment projects, which contribute to increasing the volume of trade exchange and supports bilateral relations. Sheikh Faisal stressed the importance of strengthening co-operation between Qatari and Uzbek companies and establishing trade and investment alliances that contribute to enhancing trade exchange between the two countries, which is still "modest". Highlighting Uzbekistan's keenness to strengthen these ties in various fields, Kudratov said there was a need to intensify the Qatari-Uzbek business forums in Tashkent and Doha, to present investment opportunities and discuss the

different means to increase trade co-operation between the two countries. The minister said many major companies from various countries of the world have begun to come to Uzbekistan and invest in various sectors, with direct investments reaching about \$22.4bn in 2023. Kudratov reviewed his country's vision for the year 2030, which aims to attract about \$250bn in foreign direct investments, as the economy is witnessing a significant 7% growth. Stressing the attractive incentives Tashkent offers to foreign investors, including tax exemption in free zones, in addition to a free market of 300mn people in neighboring countries, the minister called on Qatari companies to invest in Uzbekistan and export products to the Gulf and other markets in Asia since Uzbekistan is located in the heart of Central Asia. (Gulf Times)

- GWC wins Best Water Recycling Initiative award Gulf Warehousing Company (GWC) - one of the fastest-growing logistics businesses in the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) region - has been adjudged the winner of the Best Water Recycling Initiative Award for its Water Recycling System (Sewage Treatment Plant) in GWC Bu Sulba Warehousing Park during Tarsheed Energy Efficiency Forum 2024. Organized by Qatar General Electricity & Water Corporation (Kahramaa) as part of its National Program for Conservation and Energy Efficiency (Tarsheed), the event was held on November 4-5, 2024. Syed Maaz, Chief Business Development Officer, accepted the award. The sewage treatment plant at GWC Bu Sulba Warehousing Park adheres to worldclass standards for water treatment and sustainability best practices, effectively generating TSE Water (Treated Sewage Effluent) to irrigate plants and trees. Using TSE water for irrigation can improve soil fertility, reduce the need for chemical fertilizers, and conserve water resources, which aligns with Qatar's sustainable development goals and promotes sustainable agricultural practices. The plant has produced a total of 268,195 cubic meters or 268.2mn liters of water since the plant's inception in September 2022 and all the recycled water was used for irrigating a total area of 20,766sq m, which consists of various trees, shrubs and grass. On average, the plant generates up to 119,197 cubic meters of water yearly by using this process. This prestigious award underscores GWC's position as a leader in sustainability, propelling the company to rank ninth regionally in the transport and logistics category on Forbes Middle East's 2024 Sustainability Leaders list, which recognizes 105 companies leading impactful sustainability initiatives across the region. (Gulf Times)
- Poland, Qatar determined to strengthen diplomacy, energy and innovation ties - As Poland celebrates its National Independence Day on November 11, commemorating the restoration of its sovereignty in 1918 after 123 years of non-existence on the map of Europe, Polish Head of Mission to Qatar Tomasz Sadzinski reflects on this historic occasion and on Poland's dynamic relationship with Qatar. He also extends his warm wishes to Poles residing in Qatar and acknowledges their role in reinforcing bilateral relations. Resilience and Sovereignty: Sadzinski said the Independence Day is a joyful celebration of Poland's regained freedom, serving as a reminder that independence must be earned, valued, and protected. This lesson resonates globally, highlighting the importance of building resilience and preserving heritage, culture, and language. 35 Years of Diplomatic TIES: Year 2024 marks 35 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between Poland and Qatar, and the relationship has flourished across multiple areas. In July 2024, during an official visit by Qatar's Amir His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani to Poland, both leaders emphasized their commitment to deepening ties. Sadzinski praised the relationship as "vibrant" and highlighted the doubling of bilateral trade between 2020 and 2023 to reach \$1.4bn, adding that Qatar is Poland's third-largest trading partner in the GCC, with this cooperation focusing on sectors such as energy, business, and technology. ENERGY Partnership: One of the core elements of this partnership is the energy sector. Since 2015, Poland has been importing LNG from Qatar, a relationship that has been instrumental in helping Poland reduce its energy dependence on Russian supplies. With annual deliveries exceeding 2mn tonnes of liquefied gas, Sadzinski commended QatarEnergy's reliability and noted the importance of this partnership for Poland's energy security. Looking ahead, Sadzinski envisions expanded collaboration on renewable energy projects, such as wind, solar, and energy storage. Poland is also exploring Small Modular Reactors (SMRs) for future energy needs, a field that Qatar Investment Authority has



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invested in since 2021. Untapped Economic Potential: Despite robust trade ties, Sadzinski believes there is still untapped potential in bilateral business. Poland is the sixth-largest economy in the EU, with exports reaching around \$471bn in 2023, but only a fraction of this trade involves Qatar. He pointed to the recent Qatar-Poland New Tech Forum, held in Warsaw during HH the Amir's visit, as an example of initiatives aimed at spurring further cooperation, particularly in technology, financial innovation, and smart city solutions. Sadzinski expressed gratitude to Qatari officials and business leaders for their active participation in the event, which was co-organized by the embassy. (Qatar Tribune)

Qatar Medicare Exhibition to kick off next month in Doha - Doha will host the first Qatar International Healthcare and Medical Trade Exhibition and Conference (Qatar Medicare) from December 3 to 5, 2024. Under the patronage of the Ministry of Public Health, the event will be organized in collaboration between Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry and IFP Qatar at the Doha Exhibition and Convention Center (DECC). Ali Bu Sharbak Al Mansouri, the Acting General Manager of the Qatar Chamber, said: "We are confident that Qatar's healthcare sector is on an accelerated growth trajectory, poised to attract even greater investments and foster international partnerships, fueled by the remarkable developments across all sectors. At Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry, we are proud to support this event, which will enhance collaboration between local and international businesses, while further solidifying Qatar's position as a leading regional hub for healthcare innovation and excellence." "With both international and local participants, the event will showcase cutting-edge medical equipment and technology, alongside B2B meetings to support business collaborations and expand the scope of future partnerships in the healthcare sector". In his remarks, Sheikh Dr. Mohammed bin Hamad Al Thani, Director of the Department of NCDs Preventive Programs at the Ministry of Public Health, stated: "The Ministry's sponsorship of this event underscores our unwavering commitment to advancing the healthcare sector. This exhibition serves as a platform to establish communication channels among all healthcare professionals, which positively impacts the sector's overall performance, helps identify available opportunities, and strengthening the collaborative efforts between key stakeholders. Moreover, it underscores Qatar's exemplary public health system and the wealth of opportunities available for the private sector to drive progress within this vital field. Enhancing the healthcare ecosystem is a top priority for the ministry, and we are committed to continuously advancing healthcare initiatives in the country." He emphasized the Ministry of Public Health's keenness to strengthen the partnership between the public and private sectors, noting that exhibitions and conferences provide a variety of solutions and innovative ideas for the healthcare sector. In turn, Ashraf Alshoun, CEO of Al-Jazira Healthcare Manufacturing Company, the event's diamond sponsor, stated: "Our company is dedicated to meeting the growing needs of Qatar's healthcare system by providing high-quality medical supplies. Through our participation in this event, we aim to showcase our latest innovations, which are key to advancing the healthcare sector." Dr. Hassan Kassem, Chief Medical Officer of Qatar Red Crescent Society's (QRCS) Medical Affairs Division, the event's gold sponsor, said: "Collaboration and partnerships with specialized institutions are essential for exchanging expertise to serve and develop the community. Qatar Red Crescent is committed to promoting volunteer work, raising awareness, and encouraging social responsibility. We are also dedicated to educating the public about the QRCS's various activities and departments, while showcasing its role in raising health awareness for workers and providing them with essential healthcare services." Sheikh Mansour bin Hamad Al Thani, Chairman of the Board at M.H.M Group, the event's Silver Sponsor, stated: "Qatar has become home to a large number of companies operating in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sectors. These companies are focused on expanding their market share and strengthening their presence in the rapidly growing healthcare landscape of the country. Therefore, Qatar Medicare represents an ideal platform for fostering partnerships and alliances. Notably, digital healthcare technologies, telehealth, and remote patient monitoring are attracting a substantial share of investments, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. As a result, there is an increasing need to stay updated on the latest developments in this field." Dr. Abdulelah Al Adimi, CEO & Medical Director of Al Emadi Hospital Group, stated: "participating in

Qatar Medicare Exhibition is a key opportunity to showcase the latest services, products, and technologies offered by Al Emadi Hospital Group, while also forging partnerships with other key players in the sector. (Qatar Tribune)

- Qatar Boat Show concludes with resounding success The inaugural Qatar Boat Show concluded with a resounding success, making significant waves in the marine industry as the largest debut of its kind ever held globally. The remarkable event brought together 495 participating companies and brands, presenting an impressive showcase of over 100 yachts and watercrafts, 80% of which were the latest 2024 models. The inaugural edition of the Qatar Boat Show 2024 eclipsed the opening editions of leading yacht exhibitions, becoming one of the most prominent events in the region by utilizing an area of over 250,000sqm. The event featured an astounding array of boats and yachts valued at over QR1bn and included participation from seven prominent members of the Super Yacht Builders Association, including Benetti, Feadship, Oceanco, Sanlorenzo, Gulf Craft, Heesen, and Turquoise. Exhibitors at the show reported strong lead generation and sales throughout the four-day event, reinforcing Qatar's position as a leader in marine tourism and world-class event hosting. The event also fostered valuable networking opportunities and laid the groundwork for new partnerships between global brands and local entities. Old Doha Port masterfully organized and hosted this landmark event, uniting marine industry leaders from across the globe for an unparalleled experience that bolstered Qatar's commitment to advancing marine tourism and solidifying its status as a regional maritime powerhouse. The event's success was also underscored by tickets selling out by the third day - a testament to its overwhelming appeal and significance. By honouring Qatar's rich seafaring heritage and promoting innovation, the Qatar Boat Show 2024 reinforced the country's growing prominence as a prime destination for world-class events and a key player in the maritime industry. Throughout the four-day event, a series of high-profile signing ceremonies took place, highlighting strategic alliances that reinforce Qatar's dedication to bolstering its maritime sector. These partnerships play a pivotal role in streamlining logistics and promoting sustainable growth within the marine transportation sector, showcasing the nation's forward-thinking approach and commitment to industry excellence. The event immersed visitors into Qatar's rich marine culture and historical legacy while showcasing its thriving marine industry through a variety of dedicated sections focusing on different aspects of maritime life. From interesting discussion panels and presentations to exceptional superyachts and marine vessels on display to thrilling watersports demonstrations to engaging cultural and marine festivities, the show was a fantastic whirlwind four-day event that left visitors already excited and curious about the next edition. Old Doha Port CEO and Chairman of the Qatar Boat Show 2024 Organizing Committee Mohamed Abdulla Al Mulla said, "We are pleased with the success of the inaugural Qatar Boat Show, which reinforced the historical legacy and promising future of the maritime sector in Qatar. This achievement was made possible through the significant contributions of our partners, and we extend our heartfelt gratitude for their collaboration in making this event a resounding success." "Looking ahead, we have ambitious plans for the 2025 edition. Each new show will build upon this year's achievements by expanding our lineup of marine brands, enhancing entertainment and festivities, and integrating more cutting-edge innovation and technology. We are committed to creating even more engaging and memorable experiences at future Qatar Boat Shows," he added. (Peninsula Qatar)
- Japan's record exports highlight mutually beneficial partnership Japan's longstanding import of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) and crude oil from Qatar has been complemented by record-high exports to Qatar in 2023, the highest in 15 years, highlighting the mutually beneficial economic relationship between the two countries, Japanese ambassador Satoshi Maeda has said. In a recent farewell press conference, the envoy underscored the significant increase in Japanese exports to Qatar, driven largely by automobiles, car parts, and steel pipes – crucial for Qatar's expanding gas fields, accounting for two-thirds of total exports. Maeda said this robust trade relationship is expected to expand further with the ongoing Northfield expansion project, boosting demand for Japanese steel pipes. He also stressed the potential for collaboration in cutting-edge technologies and sustainable development. He cited Japan's commitment



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to supporting Qatar's National Vision 2030, focusing on areas like economic diversification, innovation, and human resource development. "This national vision of Qatar, which promotes social, cultural and environmental development, industrial diversification, and human resource development, presents a great opportunity for us to expand our co-operation in those fields, and we will continue to co-operate with Qatar towards its realization. "There are many companies in Japan with excellent technologies, and we are working to achieve further cooperation with Qatar in the fields of artificial intelligence (AI), semiconductors, robotics, and communication technology," Maeda said. He highlighted the potential for Japanese investment in Qatar's healthcare and education sectors, noting the popularity of Japanese anime and games in the country as a further area of possible collaboration. The envoy said Japan's commitment to clean energy and sustainable development is another key element in its partnership with Qatar, noting its GX (Green Transformation) initiative aimed at balancing economic growth with environmental protection. He underlined Japan's leadership in the Asian Zero Emission Community and the Joint Crediting Mechanism, which facilitates greenhouse gas reduction collaborations with 29 countries. "By expanding these efforts to Qatar, we believe that Japanese technology can contribute to the promotion of clean energy in Qatar," Maeda said, citing the joint CSS project to store carbon dioxide underground as an example of successful collaboration. The envoy noted Qatar's increasing interest in forging stronger ties with Japan and other Asian nations, a trend he sees as a strategic advantage for both sides. He said Japan's strengths - its robust economy, world-leading R&D capabilities, and proactive approach to attracting foreign investment - are key attractions for Qatari partnerships. "With Asia's share of global GDP surpassing 50% and expected to reach 60% by 2030, strengthening economic and political ties with Asia will provide a strategic advantage as the world's balance of power shifts," Maeda said. He suggested that this eastward focus distinguishes Qatar's approach from its traditional ties with Western Europe, offering new opportunities for economic diversification and a deeper understanding of the evolving international landscape. (Gulf Times)

#### International

- US weekly jobless claims rise marginally; unit labor costs stir inflation fears - The number of Americans filing new applications for unemployment benefits rose slightly last week, suggesting no material change in the labor market and reinforcing views that hurricanes and strikes had resulted in job growth almost stalling in October. Though the labor market is easing, wage pressures are not showing a significant cooling, casting a shadow over the inflation and interest rate outlook. Unit labor costs increased at a solid clip in the third quarter, other data from the Labor Department showed on Thursday. Economists said the strong rise in labor costs, which was accompanied by a sharp upward revision to the second-quarter data, was not compatible with inflation returning and staying at the Federal Reserve's 2% target. The U.S. central bank on Thursday cut interest rates by 25 basis points as expected, lowering its policy rate to the 4.50%-4.75% range. "Unit labor costs growth is the single biggest determinant of labor-intensive core services prices," said Paul Ashworth, chief North America economist at Capital Economics. "Unless unit labor costs growth slows again, it will be a lot harder for Fed officials to claim that inflation can be sustained at 2%." Initial claims for state unemployment benefits increased 3,000 to a seasonally adjusted 221,000 for the week ended Nov. 2, the Labor Department said. Economists polled by Reuters had forecast 221,000 claims for the latest week. Unadjusted claims rose 10,827 to 212,274 last week, boosted by a 4,278 jump in filings in California. Applications rose by 3,563 in Michigan and shot up 1,927 in Ohio, more than offsetting notable drops in Florida and Georgia. (Reuters)
  - **Bitcoin rises above \$80,000 for first time -** Bitcoin was trading near record \$80,000 on Sunday after hitting it earlier in the session, following Donald Trump's decisive victory in the U.S. presidential election earlier in the week. Bitcoin, the world's biggest and best-known cryptocurrency, is up 65.4% from the year's low of \$38,505 it hit on Jan. 23. Trump has vowed to make the United States "the crypto capital of the planet". (Reuters)

### Regional

- Sabic opens ULTEM plant in Singapore Sabic, a global diversified chemicals company, today announced the official launch of its new \$170 (S\$220) mn ULTEMresin manufacturing facility in Singapore, marking the company's first advanced specialty chemical manufacturing facility in the region producing the high-performance thermoplastic, ULTEM resin. The new facility is a strategic move to support Sabic's goal of increasing global ULTEM specialty resin production by more than 50%, responding to the growing demand from high-tech and manufacturing industries in the Asia-Pacific region, including Japan and China. The facility opening was officiated by Low Yen Ling, Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY), Khalid Al-Dabbagh, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sabic, Abdulrahman Al-Fageeh, Sabic Chief Executive Officer, and Omar Al-Harthi, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in Singapore. Supported by the Singapore Economic Development Board (EDB), the new Singapore facility reinforces Sabic's commitment to localize a reliable supply of highperformance materials that support complex and demanding supply chain requirements. Low Ling, Senior Minister of State for the Ministry of Trade and Industry (MTI) and Ministry of Culture, Community and Youth (MCCY) said, "The opening of Sabic's new facility underscores Singapore's role as a leading hub in the Energy & Chemicals sector and positions us to meet the rapidly evolving demands of high-tech industries across Asia." Al-Fageeh, said, "We're excited to leverage Sabic's advanced manufacturing capabilities to produce one of the world's most advanced plastics in Singapore. The ULTEM resin facility reflects our long-term commitment to the region's high-tech economies and advanced manufacturing sectors, supporting the growth of advanced applications. Singapore's widely networked trade agreements also provides us with competitive access to markets in the region." Lim Len, Executive Vice President, Singapore Economic Development Board said, "The opening of Sabic's new ULTEM plant reflects its confidence in Singapore as a hub to capture the growing demand for high-performance specialty chemicals in Asia. We look forward to how the new plant's advanced manufacturing capabilities will boost our chemicals sector to meet customers' needs in growth areas such as mobility and electronics. We continue to welcome like-minded partners like Sabic to invest in our talent and capabilities here in Singapore, to create cutting edge material solutions for the world." (Zawya)
- Saudi Red Sea Authority issues first six licenses for tourist yacht agents -The Saudi Red Sea Authority (SRSA) granted the first six licenses for tourist yacht agents in Saudi Arabia as part of the authority's efforts to develop a thriving coastal tourism sector. The initiative underscores the authority's commitment to regulating maritime and tourist activities and creating an inviting environment for tourists, investors, and industry professionals in the Red Sea as a leading global destination, aligning with Saudi Vision 2030. The list of licensed tourist agents includes both national and international companies: Faisal M. Higgi & Associates Co. Ltd., Yusuf bin Ahmed Kanoo, HASCO Group, Hill Robinson, JLS Yachts LLC, and GAC. The issuance of these licenses for coastal and maritime tourism activities is a key part of SRSA's mandate, aiming to promote investments, identify infrastructure needs, and safeguard the marine environment within the Kingdom's borders. By pursuing these objectives, the authority aims to cultivate a dynamic coastal tourism sector that contributes to realizing the goals of Vision 2030. Through this recent development, SRSA seeks to streamline access and departure procedures at tourist marinas and ports, oversee tourist logistics, and facilitate customs processes The licenses signify a major leap in the advancement of coastal tourism in Saudi Arabia. (Zawya)
- Dubai's Hodler Investments, China's GCL Group partner to power Ethiopian data centers - Dubai-based digital assets infrastructure company Hodler Investments and Chinese clean energy company GCL Group (Golden Concord Group) have agreed to jointly invest in an off-grid energy infrastructure project in Ethiopia to power data centers that support high-demand applications, including Artificial Intelligence (AI) and blockchain. The project will leverage GCL's natural gas concessions in Ethiopia, allowing the energy group to monetize gas currently stranded



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due to a lack of export infrastructure, according to Hodler Investments' Managing Director Mohamed El Masri. "We will be formalizing the coinvestment structure not later than the end of the year," El Masri told Zawya Projects on the sidelines of ADIPEC 2024 event in Abu Dhabi on Wednesday. Ethiopia's affordable renewable energy and supportive regulations have made it a hub for data-intensive technologies such as Bitcoin mining, data mining, and data centers, according to the U.S. International Trade Administration (ITA). An industry source told Zawya Projects that the country is currently home to around 500 megawatts (MW) of active Bitcoin mining operations. In April 2024, GCL signed two Petroleum Production Sharing Agreements (PPSA) with the Ethiopian government to develop gas resources in the Ogaden Basin. GCL's blocks are estimated to hold 2P reserves of nearly 200bn cubic meters (BCM) of natural gas and 46mn tonnes of oil. The distributed energy infrastructure project will utilize Hodler's digital energy platform, PermianChain, which seeks to optimize wasted energy resources by connecting computing end users, data center operators, energy suppliers (like GCL) and investors. "We plan to set up a joint venture with GCL to build the infrastructure so data center operators can deploy their equipment on our site," El Masri said without disclosing shareholding or investment details. He added that GCL's gas resources remain untapped because of the need for infrastructure to convert it to LNG for export. By deploying mobile power plants during the early stage, the stranded gas will be repurposed to generate power for data centers. These modular data centers, housed in standard 40-foot containers, will be established alongside the power plants. "This project will scale in 50 MW increments, reaching up to 200 MW, with the capacity to support a hash rate of 14.85 EH/s," El Masri explained. Containers will range between 200 kW for AI applications and 1.2-1.5 MW for Bitcoin mining, requiring hundreds of units for the largescale project. El Masri noted that Ethiopia's power grid infrastructure cannot handle all the load from compute cluster data centers."We offer an off-grid, low-capex solution that can be deployed faster and more affordably. You're online within months versus years, with only site preparation needed to install the mobile equipment," he explained. (Zawya)

Dubai's commercial office market sees big rental surge in Q3 - Dubai's commercial office market is reaching new heights, with unprecedented demand driving occupancy rates and rental growth across prime business districts, according to a report by Savills, a global real estate services provider. Driven by a substantial rise in new business registrations and expansion activities by existing firms, including those in finance and technology sectors, the city's real estate landscape is more competitive than ever, positioning Dubai as a top global business destination, stated Savills in its Q3 2024 Dubai Office Market report. According to the report, over 24,000 new businesses were registered in the first half of 2024, marking a 5% year-on-year growth. This surge underscores the strong economic momentum fueled by the Dubai Economic Agenda (D33) and highlights the emirate's reputation as a hub for international trade and innovation. Key business areas such as DIFC, Downtown, and Business Bay now boast occupancy rates between 95% and 97% reflecting robust demand for high quality office spaces. Average Grade A rental values surged by 25% year-on-year, with specific locations like Business Bay and Downtown experiencing jumps of 44% and 36%, respectively. DIFC's premier properties lead the market, reporting rent increases as high as 25% while new developments such as DIFC Square and Immersive Tower are set to add over 10mn square feet of premium office space by 2028. "Dubai's office market growth underscores its appeal as a global business hub, bolstered by ease of setup, favorable tax conditions, and a strategic location," remarked Toby Hall, the Head of Commercial Agency at Savills Middle East. "Businesses are establishing or expanding their presence here, recognizing the value of high-quality office spaces that support talent attraction and growth. This demand signals further market evolution in the years ahead," he added. Paula Walshe, Director of Transactional Services at Savills Middle East, pointed out that the unprecedented rental increases and high occupancy rates demonstrates Dubai's standing as a premier destination for global business expansion. "We're seeing strong interest from international firms, especially in finance and technology, prioritizing flexible office spaces to meet their ambitious growth targets and align with Dubai's strategic vision," she noted. In addition, the rise of hybrid working models has led to a growing demand for flexible workspaces, with companies opting for open-plan layouts and co-working solutions like those offered by Executive Centre and Cloud Spaces, remarked Walshe. These spaces are particularly attractive for startups and new entrants seeking flexible lease terms and a rapid operational setup, she stated. Demand for office space is concentrated in areas with prime offerings, yet more affordable options are also experiencing significant rental increases, as seen in Dubai Science Park and Dubai Investments Park, which recorded a 37% year-on-year rise. Expo City is emerging as a competitive option, offering high-quality facilities with strong transport links at a lower price point than the central business districts, said the top official. The report projects that this demand will continue through the year as more businesses set up in Dubai to take advantage of its strategic location, supportive business environment, and high-quality infrastructure, she added. (Zawya)

• Oman's natural gas production, imports reach 42.222bn cubic meters -The Sultanate of Oman's total domestic production and import of natural gas reached 42.222bn cubic meters by the end of September 2024, marking a 4% increase from the same period last year, which saw a total of 40.589bn cubic meters. According to figures released by the Omani National Center for Statistics and Information, industrial projects accounted for 61.4% of Oman's natural gas usage up to the end of September, with industrial consumption reaching 25.923bn cubic meters. (Peninsula Qatar)



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### **Rebased Performance**

**Daily Index Performance** 



#### Source: Bloomberg

Source: Bloomberg

Asset/Currency Performance	Close (\$)	1D%	WTD%	YTD%
Gold/Ounce	2,684.77	(0.8)	(1.9)	30.1
Silver/Ounce	31.31	(2.3)	(3.6)	31.6
Crude Oil (Brent)/Barrel (FM Future)	73.87	(2.3)	1.1	(4.1)
Crude Oil (WTI)/Barrel (FM Future)	70.38	(2.7)	1.3	(1.8)
Natural Gas (Henry Hub)/MMBtu	1.22	(18.1)	(14.1)	(52.7)
LPG Propane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	80.50	(0.6)	0.0	15.0
LPG Butane (Arab Gulf)/Ton	115.60	(1.2)	11.2	15.0
Euro	1.07	(0.8)	(1.1)	(2.9)
Yen	152.64	(0.2)	(0.2)	8.2
GBP	1.29	(0.5)	(0.0)	1.5
CHF	1.14	(0.4)	(0.6)	(3.9)
AUD	0.66	(1.4)	0.4	(3.4)
USD Index	105.00	0.5	0.7	3.6
RUB	110.69	0.0	0.0	58.9
BRL	0.19	0.8	0.8	(10.0)

Global Indices Performance	Close	1D%*	WTD%*	YTD%*
MSCI World Index	3,791.23	0.1	3.6	19.6
DJ Industrial	43,988.99	0.6	4.6	16.7
S&P 500	5,995.54	0.4	4.7	25.7
NASDAQ 100	19,286.78	0.1	5.7	28.5
STOXX 600	506.63	(1.5)	(2.0)	2.4
DAX	19,215.48	(1.6)	(1.4)	11.0
FTSE 100	8,072.39	(1.5)	(1.5)	5.5
CAC 40	7,338.67	(2.0)	(2.1)	(5.8)
Nikkei	39,500.37	0.5	4.0	8.9
MSCI EM	1,135.65	(0.4)	1.2	10.9
SHANGHAI SE Composite	3,452.30	(1.1)	4.7	14.7
HANG SENG	20,728.19	(1.1)	1.1	22.1
BSE SENSEX	79,486.32	(0.2)	(0.6)	8.5
Bovespa	127,829.80	(2.4)	1.1	(19.8)
RTS	1,151.93	(0.0)	0.0	6.3

Source: Bloomberg (\*\$ adjusted returns if any)



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