QTerminals gets first advanced electric tractor made in Qatar

QTerminals has received the first advanced electric tractor (ATEM 972 HD) for use at Hamad Port. This new tractor, manufactured by ONEX, is specifically designed for handling heavy containers and comes equipped with an automated guidance system that ensures efficient and precise navigation.

The tractor was delivered to QTerminals' Hamad Port facility in a ceremony attended by various officials from ONEX and QTerminals. The tractor is expected to significantly reduce carbon emissions and improve operational efficiency at the port.

“This is a major milestone for QTerminals and our strategic partnership with ONEX,” said Abdullah Hamad, General Manager of QTerminals. “The introduction of this advanced electric tractor is a testament to our commitment to sustainability and efficient operations. We are confident that this tractor will enhance our productivity and environmental performance.”

The ATEM 972 HD is equipped with advanced technologies such as automated guidance, advanced safety features, and energy-efficient electric motors. It is designed to handle heavy containers and operates at high speed, ensuring fast and efficient port operations.

“This delivery marks an important step towards our sustainability goals at QTerminals,” said Hamad Al-Kaabi, Chairman of ONEX. “We are committed to providing our customers with advanced and efficient solutions that meet the highest standards of sustainability. We believe that this tractor will contribute to the improvement of our operational efficiency and reduce our carbon footprint.”

The introduction of this advanced electric tractor aligns with Qatar’s sustainability goals and ongoing efforts to promote environmentally friendly solutions in the maritime and logistics sector. The implementation of such technologies is expected to enhance the efficiency and sustainability of port operations nationwide.

Al-Kuwaire chairs Qatar delegation at GCC trade ministers meeting

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Qatar has participated in the meeting of the trade ministers of the GCC Co-operation Council, which was held in Doha. The meeting was attended by representatives of the GCC member states, including Qatar, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates. The meeting was aimed at discussing various economic issues and exploring avenues for enhancing cooperation and trade among the member states.

Al-Kuwaire chairs Qatar delegation at GCC trade ministers meeting

The meeting was led by the trade ministers of each member state, who discussed a range of topics, including trade policies, investments, and economic cooperation. The ministers also exchanged views on the challenges faced by the GCC countries in the current global economic environment and explored ways to address these challenges.

Al-Kuwaire chairs Qatar delegation at GCC trade ministers meeting

The meeting was concluded with the signing of a number of agreements and memorandums of understanding (MOUs) to strengthen economic and trade relations among the GCC member states. The agreements covered various sectors, including agriculture, tourism, and infrastructure.

Economy grew during pandemic: Iran

Iran’s economy grew in the last six months to mid-September compared with the same period last year, despite ongoing challenges with the Middle East’s most extensive outbreak of COVID-19, the country’s central bank said.

Abdolnasser Hemmati, head of the Central Bank of Iran, attributed the recovery to boost in manufacturing and agriculture, plus improved oil flow at the country’s banks. Non-oil domestic product grew 1.9% from June through August, according to the Islamic Republic Statistical Center.

Hemmati said the recovery was driven by efforts to boost exports, improve the budget and continue development projects.

Iran’s economy grew slightly during the pandemic, but the trend was not consistent. The oil sector was hit hard, but other sectors, such as agriculture, managed to maintain growth. The central bank also worked to provide liquidity to the economy and support businesses.

Economy grew during pandemic: Iran

Economy grew during pandemic: Iran

Qatar fintech, food security sectors to attract US FDI: USQBC executive

By-Peter Plage

The government of Qatar has identified fintech and food security sectors as key areas to attract foreign investment in the country, according to a recent report by the USQBC Executive. The report highlights Qatar’s efforts to diversify its economy and enhance its competitiveness in the global market.

The government has taken a proactive approach to attract foreign investment by offering various incentives and support programs to foreign investors. The report notes that the government is open to partnerships and collaborations with foreign companies to strengthen Qatar’s position as a regional hub for investment.

The government of Qatar has also been actively promoting its fintech and food security sectors to international investors. The report highlights the potential for growth in these sectors and the opportunities for foreign investment.

The government of Qatar has also been proactive in developing its fintech and food security sectors. The report notes that the government is investing in infrastructure and technology to support these sectors and create a conducive environment for foreign investment.

The government of Qatar has also been proactive in promoting partnerships and collaborations with foreign companies. The report notes that the government is open to partnerships and collaborations with foreign companies to strengthen Qatar’s position as a regional hub for investment.

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Bloomberg

QuickTake Q&A

Why fear of vaccine threatens to delay pandemic end

By Michelle Gage Cowley

The world is not out of the woods yet. The first vaccines against COVID-19 demonstrated efficacy in early trials,给了 the public hope for an end to the pandemic. Getting them with a minimum of side effects and a high rate of protection is critical to achieve a successful pandemic. Several issues have emerged that threaten to delay communication to accept vaccines, including mistrust in vaccine effectiveness and distribution.

1. What is herd immunity?

Herd immunity is a state where a large proportion of a population is immune to a disease, making it difficult for the disease to spread. This is achieved when a certain percentage of the population is vaccinated or has had the disease and recovered. However, it is not yet clear what percentage of the population needs to be vaccinated to achieve herd immunity, and there are concerns about the effectiveness of some vaccines.

2. How does vaccine distribution impact herd immunity?

Vaccine distribution is crucial for achieving herd immunity. If vaccines are not widely available or if people are uncertain about their effectiveness, it will be difficult to achieve the necessary level of immunity. This has led to debates about the speed of vaccine distribution and the criteria for prioritizing people to receive the vaccine.

3. What are the requirements for vaccine effectiveness?

The effectiveness of a vaccine is measured by its ability to prevent disease. A vaccine that is 100% effective would prevent all cases of the disease. However, no vaccine is 100% effective, and some people may still get the disease even after being vaccinated.

4. Why might a vaccine not be the solution to the pandemic?

A vaccine might not be the solution to the pandemic if it is not effective or if people are not willing to get vaccinated. It is also possible that the virus could mutate and become resistant to the vaccine.

5. How can governments encourage people to get vaccinated?

Governments can encourage people to get vaccinated by providing information about the effectiveness and safety of the vaccine, as well as addressing any concerns or misunderstandings about the vaccine. Additionally, governments can provide incentives, such as monetary compensation or reduced travel restrictions, to encourage people to get vaccinated.

6. How can we ensure vaccine distribution is equitable?

Equitable vaccine distribution is crucial to ensure that everyone has access to the vaccine. Governments can work to ensure that vaccines are distributed fairly, taking into account factors such as age, health status, and access to healthcare.

7. How can we address vaccine hesitancy?

Addressing vaccine hesitancy is crucial to ensure that people get vaccinated. This can be done by providing accurate information and addressing any concerns or misunderstandings about the vaccine. Additionally, governments can work to build trust in the vaccine and encourage people to get vaccinated.

8. What role can technology play in vaccine distribution?

Technology can play a role in vaccine distribution by providing tools to track the distribution of the vaccine and to ensure that it is delivered to the population that needs it most. Additionally, technology can be used to distribute the vaccine in remote areas or to people who are unable to access traditional healthcare facilities.

Iran sets out ambitions to double oil output next year

By Shayan Sardar Ali

Iran has set out ambitious plans to increase its oil output by 30% next year. The country is currently the second-largest oil exporter in the world, but its production has been declining due to sanctions imposed by the US. The new plans include investments in new fields and the expansion of existing facilities.

The goal is to increase production to 4.5 million barrels per day by 2025, according to the country’s oil minister. The oil sector is a major contributor to the country’s economy, accounting for about 30% of GDP.

However, the country faces challenges in achieving its goals, including geopolitical tensions and the impact of the US sanctions. The country is likely to face difficulties in attracting foreign investment and in finding new markets for its oil.

Turkey’s Arcelik is in talks to buy Hitachi home appliance arm

By Tom Peyre-Peyre

Turkey’s Arcelik is in talks to buy Hitachi’s home appliance arm, according to reports. The deal, if completed, would be a significant move for Arcelik, which is already the market leader in Turkey. The acquisition would also give Arcelik access to Hitachi’s technology and production capabilities.

The talks between the two companies are reportedly at an advanced stage, and a deal could be announced in the coming weeks. If the deal goes ahead, it would be the largest acquisition in Turkey’s home appliance sector.

Oil rises from the ashes in big virus recovery trade

By Justin Scheck

Oil prices rose sharply on Monday, as investors bet on a quick economic recovery from the coronavirus pandemic. The price of Brent crude was up by 11%, hitting $44 a barrel, while WTI crude was up by 12%, reaching $43 a barrel.

The moves came as hopes grew that the US and other major economies will lift lockdowns and reopen their economies soon, boosting demand for oil. Additionally, OPEC announced it would extend its production cuts for another three months, which is expected to support oil prices.

However, there are concerns that the spike in oil prices may be temporary, as the global economy is still recovering from the pandemic.
A stock trader's guide to the global Covid vaccine rollout

A Covid-19 vaccine shortage is creating a lot of demand for the companies that manufacture and distribute the vaccines. The global vaccine market is estimated to be worth $30 billion by 2025, with vaccine manufacturers such as Pfizer, Moderna, and AstraZeneca leading the way.

**Vaccine Builders**
- **Moderna**
  - Market Cap: $262 billion
  - Major vaccines: mRNA-1273, BNT162b2
- **Pfizer**
  - Market Cap: $281 billion
  - Major vaccines: BNT162b2, Comirnaty
- **AstraZeneca**
  - Market Cap: $76 billion
  - Major vaccines: AZD1222, ChAdOx1

**Vaccine Distributors**
- **Gilead Sciences**
  - Market Cap: $65 billion
  - Major vaccines: Veklury, Remdesivir
- **Bayer**
  - Market Cap: $104 billion
  - Major vaccines: Canglyx, Kaleucta

**Vaccine Storage and Transportation**
- **CRb**
  - Market Cap: $30 billion
  - Major services: Cold chain management, vaccine logistics
- **UPS**
  - Market Cap: $165 billion
  - Major services: Global shipping, vaccine delivery

The demand for vaccines has created a bullish market for vaccine manufacturers, distributors, and storage companies. Investors looking to capitalize on this trend should consider companies with strong financials, proven track records, and diversified product lines. Additionally, companies with a strong focus on emerging markets and innovative technologies are likely to benefit from the growing demand for vaccines.
Relentless China inflows spur call for strongest yuan in nearly 3 decades

Hong Kong retail slump eases, but new virus wave looms

Pakistan's industrial exports hit by China's coronavirus slowdown

Pakistan's domestic industry is facing difficulties due to the slowdown in China's demand for its exports.

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*Updated on 1st & 16th of Every Month*
**Business**

**Ikea says it is struggling to meet demand and apologises to customers**

Ikea has closed dozens of its stores in Britain following a surge in orders for its products, despite stock shortages on its website and reports of� customers not being able to get into stores. However, the chain says it is doing its best to “work through the challenges” and that its online service has been “degraded” to meet demand. 

**Mexico wrapping up 2021 oil hedging programme**

Mexico is wrapping up purchases of oil derivatives in a hedging programme that has been a key element of its strategic response to the uncertain oil market during the Covid-19 pandemic. 

**EU flexes muscle against big tech ‘gatekeepers’**

The EU is beefing up its competition tools against tech giants, as the bloc looks to muscle into the market for the digital economy. 

**Goldman gets court review of it sues on investor suits**

Goldman Sachs is being sued by a US federal court judge who is reviewing a lawsuit filed against the bank by shareholders who claim it misled investors about the real value of its structured products. 

**Italy targets comeback for IPOs after listings cratered in 2020**

Italy is targeting a comeback for initial public offerings (IPOs) after listings cratered in 2020. 

**New York City: Mexico City**

Mexico is wrapping up purchases of oil derivatives in a hedging programme that has been a key element of its strategic response to the uncertain oil market during the Covid-19 pandemic. 

**New York City**

Mexico is wrapping up purchases of oil derivatives in a hedging programme that has been a key element of its strategic response to the uncertain oil market during the Covid-19 pandemic.
US-based organisations host virtual event on Qatar’s investment opportunities

Leading officials from the US and the US-provided coalition partners will share their perspectives and insights about Qatar and the US- provided coalition’s investment opportunities in the region, including the latest economic data and investment trends in the Middle East.

QSE index rises as Arab, foreign and Gulf individuals turn bullish

The QSE index rose 1.5% on Tuesday, with a surge in the offshore equities market, as Arab, foreign and Gulf individuals showed a bullish sentiment. The Saudi Stock Exchange (Tadawul) index rose 0.4% to 8,713 points, with gains across all sectors. The benchmark index reached 8,713 points on Tuesday, up 0.4% from the previous trading day. The Qatar Stock Exchange (QSE) index rose 0.08% to 9,283 points, with gains across all sectors. The market capitalisation of Qatar’s leading companies increased by 0.3% to $143.7 billion, with gains across all sectors. The benchmark index reached 9,283 points on Tuesday, up 0.08% from the previous trading day.

PwC sounds upbeat on Middle Eastern economy

PwC’s latest report on the Middle Eastern economy shows a positive outlook for the region. The report highlights the strong economic growth in the region, driven by increased investor confidence and increased investment in key sectors such as energy, infrastructure and real estate. The report also notes the strong performance of the banking and finance sector, with increased investment in technology and innovation.

Fed may convex optimism on US economy despite stimulus deadlock

The US Federal Reserve Chair, Jerome Powell, has indicated that the central bank will continue to provide support to the economy through low interest rates and quantitative easing. However, the latest employment data shows a slower recovery than expected, leading to concerns about the sustainability of the economic recovery.