

# IN CONVERSATION WITH...

# WAIL BAMHAIR

CEO, Taqnia Energy



## Tell us about yourself and Taqnia Energy

TAQNIA ENERGY (TE) activities span from energy generation with an emphasis on alternative energy, enhancement of energy supply & measurement through smart systems and improving systems' efficiencies, besides adopting innovative and smart technologies linking us to the future. I am pleased to have been able to join TE at such a dynamic phase of its development as a smart technologies and solutions company.

## WHAT ARE THE CURRENT TRENDS IN THE SAUDI POWER MARKET?

**WB:** The current trend taking place right now is an increased focus on the government's deployment of energy efficiency and renewable energy in the Kingdom. The infrastructure sector in Saudi Arabia is on the verge of huge expansions, which is expected to provide a big thrust to power sector.



## WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CHALLENGES FACED IN THE GCC POWER SECTOR?

**WB:** Most GCC Countries are on an average scale in terms of a favourable business climate and entry barriers. The GCC as a whole is expected to witness strong economic and demographic growth in the near future which would lead to increased demand for electricity. The population of GCC nations is expected to grow at an annual rate of 2,5%. The per capita consumption of electricity in GCC is higher than the global average.

## WHAT PROGRESSIVE TRENDS HAVE YOU SEEN THAT SAUDI ARABIA NEEDS TO ADOPT?

**WB:** Modernization of the power infrastructure by governments in the region is the main key driver supporting that will support growth in KSA . There are very large expenses for utilities, so it is usually difficult to cover this load, therefore there needs to be more efficiency in the way we use electricity. We need to think and act smarter

## WHAT PRODUCTS WILL YOU BE HIGHLIGHTING AT THIS YEAR'S EXHIBITION?

**WB:** Taqnia Energy will be showcasing smart city & grid solutions, hybrid solutions, energy efficiency solutions in cooling and sewage water treatment, as well as the 1st PPA project in the Kingdom "LAYLA 10 MW solar power project".



## WHAT CONTRIBUTION DOES MEE SAUDI HAVE ON THE POWER SECTOR?

**WB:** The MEE Saudi exhibition is a great platform to show the latest technologies, solutions, practices and innovations in the Saudi Arabian renewable energy sector. We are able to meet a variety of interested customers all in one place.



## ABOUT MIDDLE EAST ELECTRICITY SAUDI

MEE Saudi provides the perfect platform for international stakeholders, and those with a vested interest in the KSA power market to meet with local Saudi manufacturers and distributors to boost investments in the largest untapped power market in the GCC and support Saudi in becoming a global hub.

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