

## Status of Communications Discusses in a Conference in Baghdad



Under the slogan of "Developed Communications .. Prosperous Country" and the patronage of the minister Mohamed Tawfiq Alawi a conference was held in Lebanese Club in Baghdad to evaluate and study the communications status in Iraq . Minister of communications Mohammad Tawfiq Alawi stated the willingness of Iraq to reach the level of developed countries in communications infrastructure and services . Mr. Al-Hassani gave a presentation about the services which are provided by ITPC for its customers including



house parliament as well as embassies , ministries and organizations which are working in Iraq . Also Mr. Al-Hassani announced that ITPC has applicable plans to make Iraq a smart hub in the region . There were opportunities to answer the questions of concerned people by Mr. Al-Hassani and his deputies and gave brief idea about the benefits of current projects of ITPC.

## Iraqi MOC participates in E-Government Conference

Attended by the Minister Mohammed Tawfiq Alawi and senior officials from Iraqi minister of communications , Iraqi MOC participated in e-government conference in Erbil . The attendees discussed many issues regarding the infrastructure of communications beside the challenges and solutions of e-government project . Minister Mohamed Tawfiq Alawi talked about the importance of e-government in



addition to the information and communications technologies in supporting the Iraq`s economic .Also Minister Mohammed Tawfiq Alawi met the president of Kurdistan region in Erbil Mr. Masoud Al-Barazani and discussed the possible methods of collaborations between the ministry of communication of Kurdistan and Iraqi MOC in order to exchange the experiences and improve the communication sector in Iraq .

## Three new switches in Karbala

Minister Technical staffs of ITPC in Karbala achieved three new switches in the holy Province of Karbala . It's known that the holy province had suffered from insufficient communications services during the past years . Therefore a strong intention with plans succeeded to install three new switches in Karbala. Mr. Al-Hassani declared that many important projects will be achieved this year and the next year and will largely



contributed in providing modern services such as internet and video services . Minister Technical deputy Mr. Ameer Al-Bayati said " our priority in this province is to provide developed satellite and internet services as it considers the centre of religious tourism in Iraq " .

## ITPC

### signs off MOU with TATA Company



Attended by technical deputy of minister of communications Mr. Amir Albayati, the Director General of ITPC Mr. Kassim Al-Hassani, the General Inspector Mr. Abdul Husain Aish and many other officials from MOC and ITPC. ITPC signed memorandum of understanding with TATA Company in order to complete the project of submarine cable. This project will make Iraq serve as transit between the Gulf countries and Europe. It's planned that the project will be activated by the end of 2012.

## Iraq Signs off a Contract with Reliance Company



Minister Technical deputy Mr. Amir Al-Bayati , director general of ITPC Mr. Kassim Al-Hassani , the general inspector of MOC and senior official from MOC attended several meetings in Istanbul and signed off a deal with Reliance company to speed up the achievement project of submarine cables . ITPC and the involved parties agreed on many issues to defeat all obstacles. The executive assistance of ITPC`s DG Ms. Sanaa Kadhem, who attended the meetings, said that the project is considered one of the most important and strategic project in the region as this project will provide more capacities and modern services for Iraq and the region.

# FTTH

The first FTTH Conference 2011  
Ministry of Communications  
WABTEL - Iraq



Under the patronage and attendance of his Excellency Mr. Mohammed Tawfiq Alawi, The Minister of Communications and under the supervision of Mr. Qasim Mohammed Al Hasani, the DG of ITPC, and the attendance of the managerial and technical team of ITPC, and in cooperation with WABTEL, an Iraqi FTTH investing company in Iraq. An FTTH investment

conference to be held in Beirut for the period from 26/6/2011 to 27/6/2011 . The aim of this conference is explaining to the investors the rules and basis of this project and the facilities that will be available for them and discussing any possible obstacles that may arise in order to reach the ultimate goal in providing communication services to all citizens.

# Interview With DG of ITPC Mr. Kassim Al-Hassani

Al-Hassani: GIT Consortium will boost the Strategic Location of Iraq

## THE MAN BEHIND ITPC SUCCESS

After the devastation of the communication infrastructure in 2003 in Iraq which affected the situation of ITPC and went through bad economical situation , Al-Hassani boosted with the strong believes to change the situation and came to renovate the infrastructure of communications in Iraq . Therefore he was dubbed as the man of the strategic contracts .

More details are in the following interview with Mr. Kassim Mohammed Al-Hassani

"Iraq`s Infrastructure surpasses Neighboring Countries"

"Soon will Announce Opportunities of Investing Submarine Cable Capacities"

"Iraq in the Path of Installing Third Submarine Cable"

-What is the achievements of communications regarding the infrastructure after the year 2003 ?

A: The infrastructure of communications exposed to serious damage in 2003 , but with exerted efforts we succeeded to achieve giant leap on communications and infrastructure goes with the same levels of neighboring countries if not surpassing them . Soon we will GBI and Flag submarine fibers in addition to important contracts with international companies such as Turk Telecom company etc .We are also in the path of installing a third marine



cables with Tata company and in the near future we will create opportunities for investing of submarine cable capacities , comparing with a non-existing marine cable before 2003 . Also Our services reached varied organizations in the government including house parliament of Iraq , ministries and embassies . There are over 25 important contracts some of have been signed off and others on its way for signing off which will contribute in backing up the infrastructure of communications in Iraq . Before the year of 2003 non of which I have mentioned was on the ground.



# Al-Hassani: Iraq to be Smart Hub in the Near Future

"ITPC plans to have New partnerships"

"The Revenue of Communications in Iraq will be the Second Source after Oil"

Is ITPC planning to have new - partnerships ?

A: For the time being there is almost ten partnerships with companies of great experience of communications . Still we are seeking new partnerships to develop land lines as well video conference and internet services in all Iraq provinces.

What distinguish Iraq from - other in the field of communications geographically?

Is there any contracts to use the geographical locations of Iraq ?

What distinguish Iraq geographically its location which connect Gulf countries with Europe . There is significant contract will be signed off among KSA - Iraq and Turkey (SAIT) , this contract will make Iraq serve as transit between Gulf countries and Europe . Also another new consortium called GIT which involves Iraq , UAE , Qatar , KSA , Bahrain , Kuwait and Turkey will boost the location of Iraq as smart transit between Middle East and Europe . Thus we are working to make best using for the important location of Iraq.

What is your expectations for - the future of Communications in Iraq ?

A: Iraq is going to be smart hub in the next few years and our plans and strategies aim to put Iraq one of the top player in the region .

What is the role of ITPC In - Achieving the project of e-government in Iraq ?

In spite of difficulties of achieving the e-government in Iraq , but ITPC succeeded in completing the requirements of e-government infrastructure. For the time being there will be many services provided for customers by e-government such as passports , banks services , driving licenses and many other services .

Many countries in the world - depend on the Communications revenues , can Iraq be one of them Soon beside to its Oil Industry ?

A: After completing our projects such as the submarine cable projects and FTTH and many other projects which are in the process of accomplishment , communications revenues will be the second source in Iraq insha allah.



The Interview by Haider Kareem and Mohamed Sami

## Kalimat offers a whole new arena Value Service to its Subscribers in Q3 OF 2011

Kalimat, being a strong presence and a leader in Iraq in the 3 G and 4 G spectrum, is unveiling state-of-the-art and novel services in the Iraqi market, which many more advanced countries are yet to launch.

These services will enable Kalimat's Iraqi subscribers, to do a lot more than just make calls or use the internet with Kalimat. The services include: money transfer (K-money); an online store (K-store); an online Iraqi social networking club (K-Club); and data storage services (K-Cloud).

K-Club is a social networking club inside Kalimat where the members can share thoughts, photos, videos and where they can blog. It will be targeted specifically to local Iraqis, and will be a single stop for all search engines and products of Kalimat.

Kalimat Club will also bring to the forefront news, media and activities in Iraq while letting its subscribers know what is new and what is best in Iraq. It will provide news and entertainment channels for its subscribers with all service support provided within the K-Club site.

K-Store is a virtual mall in Iraq, providing access to many products available worldwide. K-Store is the Mall or Cyber-shopping complex in Iraq. The dealers and suppliers will have a portal on the K-store to showcase their products and Kalimat Subscribers can buy the products using Kalimat Prepaid cards by paying into the portal, and choosing an outlet from the drop-down menu the outlet to be delivered with a small delivery charge. This facility will help Kalimat subscribers shop online without a Credit or Debit card, in a country where there are no credit cards or debit cards available; and will encourage Iraqi's to buy within Iraq and thus lifting the Iraq economy.

K- Money is your virtual money, providing flexibility to transfer, make payments and to make purchases with the utmost security. K-money is redeemable at any bank or Kalimat authorized outlet in Iraq. The list of outlets is provided from the Kalimat helpdesk or by SMS. K-money facilitates money transfer between subscribers and can also be exchanged at approved automatic terminals for cash. This facilitates payment settlement between Kalimat subscribers for a variety of services. For example, if a Kalimat subscriber takes a taxi and if the taxi driver is a Kalimat Subscriber the payment can be made by K-money. The taxi driver can then pay for groceries or fuel the same way, and the fuel station or grocery store can visit the bank or any Kalimat-authorized outlet to exchange the K-money for cash. K-cloud from Kalimat is an ultimate data storage solution for Kalimat subscribers. K-Cloud can be used for a variety of tasks, from simple backing-up of your phone contact list and data, to the huge security data storage and backup requirements for the emerging corporate environment of Iraq. All of this with the speed of an intranet, and with a highly secured data encryption. This service facilitates eluding of data storage systems in the corporate premises, and companies and individuals can now depend on the responsible, secure and safer K-Cloud.

Mr. Wilson Varghese, CEO of Kalimat said "With this array of Value Added Services, Kalimat will be the operator of choice in Iraq, by providing full 3G and 4G services and also recognizing and responding to our Subscriber needs."



## Batelco to manage Zain Saudi after Stake buy: CEO

Bahrain Telecommunications (Batelco) will manage the operations of Zain Saudi after its consortium buys a \$950 million stake in its rival operator, Batelco's chief executive told Reuters.

Batelco and joint bidder Kingdom Holding this week were given permission to start due diligence on their bid to buy Kuwaiti Zain's quarter-stake in its Saudi affiliate, three months after the deal was initially agreed.

The stake sale had hit a snag over management rights, a source told Reuters in May, but Batelco chief executive Peter Kaliaropoulos told Reuters late Wednesday that "all matters have been amicably resolved between all parties."

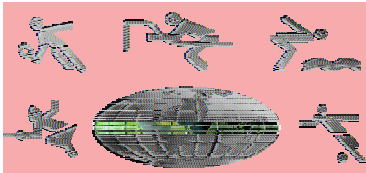


The management contract will "be with Batelco as we will have operating responsibility as per regulatory license requirements," he said.

Management control is a crucial issue because at present Zain receives 2.7 percent of Zain Saudi's revenue in management

and branding fees, according to a note from HSBC, with these worth an estimated 2.4 riyals per share.

Kaliaropoulos declined to comment when asked whether these fees would be transferred to Batelco or scrapped altogether, while the future of Zain Saudi Chief Executive Saad al-Barrak, who formerly held the same position at Zain, is unknown.

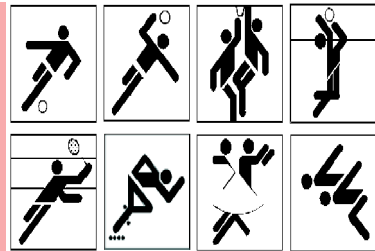


## Communications Club

### gains Great Achievements This Year

# SPORT

## ITPC invites Communications companies to Sponsor its Club



ITPC communication Club of boxing, Chess, and fencing teams scored important achievements this year . The teams of chess , fencing and boxing won advanced places during the local and regional competitions . These achievements proved the intent of decision makers in Iraqi ministry of communications to improve the sport activities beside the communications services as there are a lot of fans in Iraq who support the communication club . The chairman of communication club Mr. Al-Hassani said " we have contracted with professional in Iraq to get best results in sport competitions and we are doing well until now " . Mr. Al-

Hassani added " we still have some problems in the football team and we are working seriously to solve all the problems soon, and build a stadium for the football team " . Mr. Al-Hassani pointed out that communications companies can support and sponsor the communication club in Iraq as long as this club represent all the communication companies working in Iraq and not only the ministry of communications or ITPC . " In spite of our good results for the time being , but we hope to achieve better results in the near future" Mr. Al-Hassani concluded his statement to e@telecom



## Reader`s Contribution

**e@telecom welcomes any feedback and contributions to our electronic Newsletter .**

**If you have something regarding Information and Communications Technologies you like to submit, feel free to send it to : [news@itpc.gov.iq](mailto:news@itpc.gov.iq)**

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