



AMWAL ALKHALEEJ ANNOUNCES THE ACQUISITION OF UMARK

Riyadh, KSA, 07 September 2014: Amwal AlKhaleej, announced today its acquisition of a majority stake in Umark, one of Saudi Arabia's leading sports retailers and distributors of personal care and home appliance products in the Kingdom. The Umark acquisition further reinforces Amwal AlKhaleej's interest in the Saudi retail market after its earlier investments in Bodymasters, a major gym chain, Zohoor Al Reef, one of the largest personal care retailers in the Kingdom and ATayyar Travel Group, the largest MENA travel group.

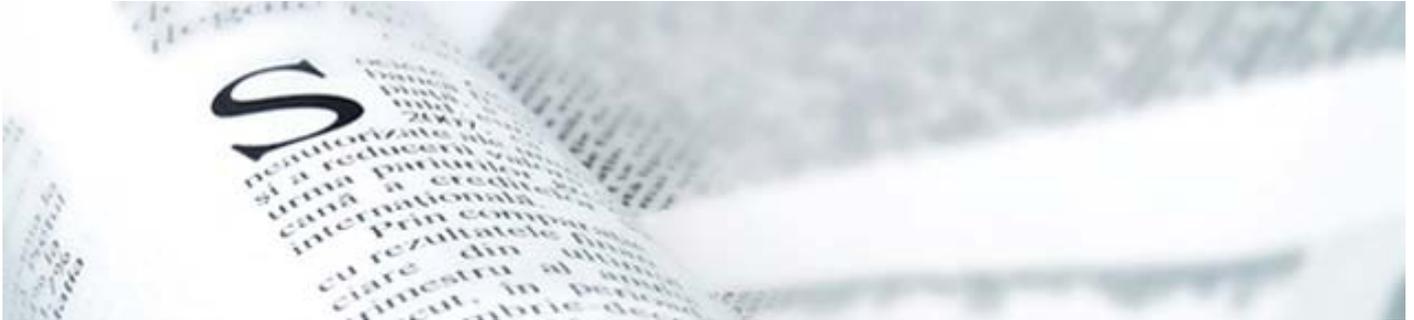
The transaction culminates over two years of strategic and operational collaboration between Amwal and Umark, and brings on board strategic investors in the retail sector, as part of Amwal AlKhaleej's partners. The strategic investors are expected to bring to the table their retail experience and access to new locations for Umark.

Commenting on the transaction, Ammar AlKhudairy, Amwal AlKhaleej's Chairman and Founding Partner said 'We are very excited about the acquisition of Umark, and look forward to financing the growth of the business in partnership with the business' founders. Today's acquisition, structured through a capital increase, is in line with Amwal AlKhaleej's strategy of partnering with established businesses, and taking their growth to the next level. The capital increase aims to finance the company's expansion in both the sports retail and personal care/home appliances markets. Through its acquisition of a majority stake in Umark and relying in its various retail experiences, Amwal AlKhaleej seeks to replicate its success, among others, with retailer Zohoor Al Reef that grew from 50 stores in two countries upon Amwal's entry in 2007 to currently 210 stores in eight countries.

Umark's chairman, Nasser Tayyar, also president of publicly listed ATayyar Travel Group, lauded the acquisition, highlighting the great opportunity that now lies ahead of Umark to consolidate its growth and achieve its strategic objectives. 'Amwal AlKhaleej has a demonstrated ability to take companies to the next level of growth. I look forward to working with Amwal AlKhaleej once again'. It is worth noting that Amwal AlKhaleej invested in Tayyar Group in 2005, and played an important role in taking it public in 2013 in what was Saudi Arabia's most oversubscribed IPO in recent years, generating over 11x multiple on invested capital.

Saeed Al Ghamdi, Founder and CEO of Umark, said: "With Amwal AlKhaleej onboard, Umark will be better positioned to capitalize on its existing position in high growth segments of the Saudi markets, and pursue its ambitious expansion plans. Having collaborated with Amwal AlKhaleej over the past two years, we have already gauged their ability to add strategic and financial value to Umark".

Amwal AlKhaleej's CEO and Founding Partner, Fadi Arbid commented: 'The acquisition of Umark marks the second major investment by Amwal AlKhaleej since the change of ownership of the management company to the team last year. The investment in Umark is a testament to Amwal's ability to identify unique targets within attractive markets'. It is worth noting that Amwal AlKhaleej closed an add-on investment in one of its Amwal II portfolio companies resulting in the doubling its ownership. In addition to ownership of the management company, the Amwal team continues to manage all Amwal funds. Arbid added 'relying on the support of our select group of limited partners, we are currently assessing other opportunities within the KSA market'.



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About Amwal AlKhaleej

Amwal AlKhaleej is a premier private equity firm in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regions with approximately USD 800 million of assets under management. The Firm started its operations in 2005 in Riyadh with offices in Dubai and Cairo and its team includes a powerful blend of indigenous and global expertise focusing on delivering an Absolute Advantage to all stakeholders. . The Firm has investments in several high caliber companies including Gulf Insulation Group, Arab Cotton Ginning, Dubai Contracting Group and Contact Cars.

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