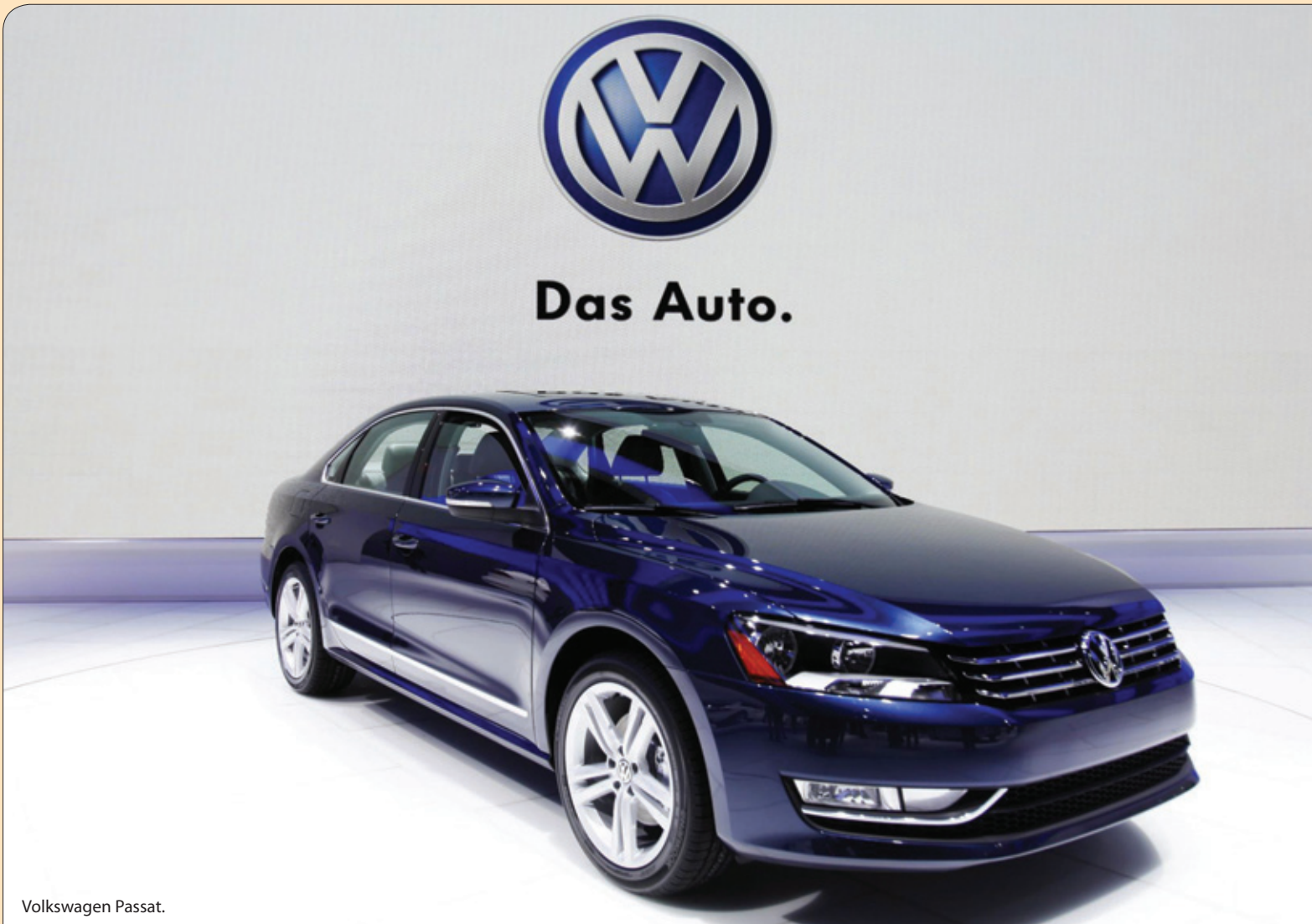


VW SALES HIT RECORD IN ME



Volkswagen Passat.

Jeddah

Volkswagen Middle East recorded its best ever month in July this year, attributing the growth to a jump in sales for its Passat model.

The German car manufacturer reported an increase in overall deliveries of 51 per cent for the month compared to July last year with a huge jump in deliveries for its Passat model of 415pc.

The brand's January to July performance also outperformed the same period in 2012 with growth of 32 per cent in overall deliveries. Volkswagen also attributed its record month to steady orders for its popular Tiguan, Touareg and Jetta models.

Managing director, Volkswagen Middle East, Thomas Milz, said: "The Passat has proved extremely popular with our customers in the Middle East with a 2.5 litre, 170hp five-cylinder engine, six-speed automatic gearbox, and superior range of technical and design offerings, suiting the needs and discerning tastes of this market."

"Despite challenging global market conditions we are experiencing a steady increase in the Middle East and achieving record growth in deliveries for the first half of 2013, as well as for the month of July, is testament to that."

Earlier this year, Volkswagen reported a rise in first quarter sales of 23pc compared to last year, with March alone seeing 27pc growth on 2012. The group's GCC figures showed a rise of 28 per cent with cars delivered across 12 Middle East markets.

The manufacturer's country-specific figures showed a sales jump of 113pc in Kuwait and 43pc in Lebanon.



Kempinski Grand and Ixir Hotel Bahrain City Centre along with Etihad Airways held a Ramadan raffle for diners at Kempinski's Baharat restaurant. The winning names were drawn by Industry and Commerce Ministry representative, Saud Al Subhi. The winners were: Mohamed Shawqi, Alexa Novik, Konstantino Koufaki, Haifaa Al Mansour and Zainab Busabaa. Above: Mr. Al Subhi (left) with Kempinski PR Manager, Sari Mabire and Kempinski General Manager, Puneet Singh.



Bahrain National Gas Company (Banagas) held its annual Safety, Health and Environment Drawing Competition for the employees' children. The event included a Gergaoun celebration and gifts distribution to all children. Banagas Projects Manager, Mohsin Al Mahoozi, presented prizes to the winners in the presence of Trade Union members and employees.

BAC trains polytechnic students



Students with BAC officials.

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Bahrain Airport Company (BAC) hosted a group of management students from Bahrain Polytechnic for three months to support and train the young Bahrainis in meeting the requirements of their graduation projects.

The students benefited knowledge and expertise of the professional team at the Strat-

egy Implementation and Business Improvement department in the company during the internship. BAC is committed to supporting the development of the local workforce. In this respect, the company provides internship programmes tailored to the needs of the students in completion of their studies, which also equip them with new skills and enrich their knowledge as well as experience of the work environment.

Dubai to host THE BIZZ

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Business Excellence will be celebrated this year with THE BIZZ in a gala ceremony to be held in Dubai, UAE. This event will be held at the Atlantis, The Palm Hotel on September 29.

This award is instituted by the World Confederation of Businesses (WORLDCOB), an international organisation headquartered in Houston, Texas (USA). WORLDCOB encourages business growth, promotes corporate social responsibility, and recognises the managerial excellence of its associate members. Over the past nine years, WORLDCOB has honoured over 3,000 companies from over 80 countries. Their recent award ceremony took place this March in Paris. The upcoming event will be WORLDCOB's third in the Middle East. The first one took place in 2009 at the Burj Al Arab in Dubai and the second event was held last year in Doha's Sharq Village Hotel & Spa.