



Lime Concepts to distribute Aston Martin audio range

DUBAI — Lime Concepts has tied up with Norwegian luxury audio manufacturer Audiomoda, official licensee partner to Aston Martin, to exclusively bring Aston Martin speakers to the GCC countries.

Aston Martin Zygoté is a luxurious stand-alone compact audio system for the home, enclosed within a beautifully sculptured case. Aston Martin Zygoté challenges existing perceptions of audio design, being engineered to perfection through innovative design and state of the art technology. Design director Marek Reichman said: "Traditionally, the concepts of music and design have been viewed as distinctly creative disciplines. Here, in the Zygoté's shape, music and design are blended as forms of art: they share a common language."

The Zygoté showcases spectacular capabilities in sound reproduction — an elegant shape

combined with progressive technology seamlessly integrated into one stylish, innovative and original system. Zygoté delivers the qualities, which lies at the heart of the Audiomoda sound experience and soul of the music played.

Dushyant Nagpal, managing partner at Lime Concepts, said: "We are delighted to have signed the distribution agreement with Audiomoda as their product range fits very well into our existing distribution portfolio. This partnership reflects our continued focus on enhancing customer value by providing our channel partners with great quality products."

"Our sales team is excited to represent such a renowned brand and we are committed to providing our retailers with quality products from well-known brands," added Bhavna Tahilramani, managing partner at Lime Concepts.



Yusuffali MA said his investment in India's Uttar Pradesh state will create employment for 3,000 people.

Lulu to invest Rs10b in UP

AGRA: Yusuffali MA, chairman of Lulu Group announced recently that his company will invest Rs10 billion in Uttar Pradesh's state capital Lucknow, where he plans to build a convention center, shopping mall and a five star hotel.

With a net worth of \$3.4 billion, the Gulf-based retailer was ranked 24th on Forbes' list of India's richest 100, in 2015. Yusuffali also hit the headlines for the \$170 million purchase of the iconic Scotland Yard building in London, in July last year.

Yusuffali's announcement, which drew loud cheers from the crowds, and an appreciative clap from chief minister Akhilesh Yadav, also drew on his own connection with UP. Yusuffali said: "I have a very close association with Uttar Pradesh. Nearly 2,000 persons from UP are working in our food processing companies. I was offered a doctorate by different universities of the world, but the only

one I accepted was from Aligarh Muslim University in UP. After receiving the doctorate there I mentioned the need for sports and for students to have sports complex to promote health. I donated Rs50 million to construct a sports complex for boys. Now another Rs50 million for girls."

He said that the investment in UP will create employment for 3,000 people. Yusuffali added: "I don't believe in declarations, we believe in work. If everything is ready, we promise to begin our construction."

The chief minister said the Pravasi Diwas was a positive start to the state government's efforts to reach out to its non-residents and for the state machinery to facilitate their connection with roots. "The government will make every effort to ensure that land and any other assistance is provided to him so that he can begin work."

Baldinini gears up for DSF

DUBAI — Baldinini, the world renowned Italian luxury footwear and accessories brand, announced an exciting DSF sale which offers discounts of up to 60 per cent on its range of shoes and accessories at its stores across the UAE.

To celebrate more than two decades of Dubai Shopping Festival, Baldinini offers shoppers with 25 per cent to 60 per cent off on selected items ranging from luxury bags, men's and women's shoes to accessories.

Hicham Laaloui, operations manager of Mario Bologna Group, said: "Bags and shoes lovers have more reasons to shop during this year's DSF because of



Exclusive collections are available at The Dubai Mall, Outlet Mall, Wafi Mall and Burjuman Centre.

the huge discount that we are offering exclusively on our Baldinini collection."

Promising market expansions after multiple success stories

DUBAI — The executive leaders of Caribou Coffee from around the world attended a conference in Dubai to discuss the reinforcement of the leading position of the brand across promising markets following the multiple success stories achieved by the brand.

Michael Tattersfield, president and CEO of Caribou Coffee Company, during his speech acknowledged the progress of the brand over the years in the region and set the strategic pillars for the development of Caribou Coffee for the following years.

Hamad Al Sayer, managing director of Al Sayer Franchising, the exclusive franchisee of Caribou

Coffee in the Middle East and North Africa, as well as the leading team of Caribou Coffee International stated that the conference highlighted multiple success stories achieved by brand around the world, in addition to announcing the company's future plans following its mission to enhance and further establish its presence and position as a market leader in new and existing promising markets catering to different tastes.

During the conference the participants had the opportunity to discuss the developments in the coffee, beverage and food industry around the globe as well as keeping up with the pace of meeting the

arising needs and tastes of Caribou Coffee's guests and visitors through diversifying their menu selection to create harmony between great taste and unique flavours.

Al Sayer has emphasised the success of the brand in the Middle East and North Africa and its wide expansion across with stores located in key malls and dining complexes, and vibrant shopping centers.

He reaffirmed that the company consider the employees as their most valuable asset and as real contributors to the success of the brand. They are continuously making sure they provide the signature flavours the customers love, supported by distinguished service.

DUBAI — A recent research project conducted by professors from the UAE and US has revealed that universities could help stimulate entrepreneurship in the Middle East by providing students with training and support in the field.

The project aimed to determine if having an entrepreneurial attitude fuelled the intentions of undergraduate students to become entrepreneurs, and whether universities and role models have a part to play in nurturing an entrepreneurial spirit.

The research was conducted by Assistant Professor, Ms Jeanette Teh, from the School of Business Administration, Canadian University Dubai; Dr Hassan Al Dhafri, Assistant Professor in the College of Business Administration, American University in the Emirates; and Dr Adrienne A. Isakovic, Lead Faculty in the School of Management, Walden University, USA.

Based on a survey of 135 students, the research found: "Entrepreneurial attitude is positively and significantly related to entrepreneurial intentions. Further, having a university playing a greater role in



A research based on a survey of 135 students found that entrepreneurial attitude is positively and significantly related to entrepreneurial intentions.

providing entrepreneurship training and assistance would also increase students' intentions to become entrepreneurs."

However, the research also concluded that, contrary to expectations, having a family member as an

entrepreneur did not increase the respondents' intentions to be an entrepreneur themselves. These findings, says Ms Teh, hold some important messages for educators and policymakers in the region. Ms Teh commented: "Role models

did not have a significant impact on entrepreneurial intentions was surprising, but perhaps helpful for policy makers interested in increasing the rate of entrepreneurship, since we have very little ability to change family or personal circumstances."

Dubai poised for growth in new business entities

DUBAI — Dubai is seeing a steady increase in the registration of new business entities.

Even though there is a slow down in global economy the increase in business entities registration proves that Dubai has overcome the sluggishness in the market said Saeed Khalifa Mohammed Al Fuqael, a UAE national who has established himself in the UAE business sector as a valued service provider.

Ever since 2001, Saeed has been providing management consultancy services to aspiring businessmen through his company Shuraa Management & Consultancy. According to him, it is very important to capitalise on the market demand if one has to grow in one's chosen area of operation. Lots of individuals want to do business but they are not sure on the legal formalities that needs to be undertaken in order to get their business up and running. At Shuraa we facilitate this process. "For us 2015 has been a year of strategic expansion. We



Saeed Khalifa Mohammed Al Fuqael.

expanded our range of operations and enhanced our service in a strategic manner without compromising on our core values. This is in tandem with our long term objectives and I am happy to state that our projects in 2015 have moved in that direction," he stated.

"Ever since my young age, I was inclined towards business. I found that many talented youngsters were getting stuck due to their lack of

knowledge when it comes to setting up their business entities. I saw a strong opportunity in the market for a professional who is well-equipped to provide this kind of services and that's how I set up my consultancy services. Over the years we have seen a steady increase in the demand of our services and this emphasises the fact that demand is growing for the setting up of new establishments. We have set in place a system which not only eases the transition of international enterprises but also creates job opportunities leading to growth in the economy," he added.

Shuraa offers a wide range of services and complete business set-up packages right from setting up to post formation activities. Services include business licensing and registration all over the UAE, sourcing office space, PRO services, and all types of visa services as well as opening of corporate bank accounts. Shuraa has played a vital role in the establishment of over 20,000 companies in the UAE.

Drydocks World gets 5-star grading from BSC

DUBAI — Drydocks World, the international service provider to the shipping, offshore, oil, gas and energy sectors is pleased to announce it has received a five-star rating from the British Safety Council for the Occupational Health and Safety.

The company underwent a detailed, quantified and objective audit conducted by the British Safety Council on occupational health, safety management systems and a number of key safety indicators.

Drydocks World's management continually focuses on principles that enhance operational excellence, sustainable development and creating a culture to increase the safety of employees.

The British Safety Council's Five-Star Occupational Health and Safety Audit provide organisations with a worldwide benchmark of their safety management systems against current best practices to enable continual improvement. The Audit specification includes performance measurements on Leadership and Continuous Improvement as management indicators.

Lulu moves ahead with Bahrain expansion

MANAMA — Middle East retail major Lulu Group, which is on a vast expansion mode, opened its fifth hypermarket in the Kingdom of Bahrain at Juffair.

The 120th Lulu Hypermarket of the group was inaugurated by Shaikh Khaled bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, Deputy Prime Minister of Bahrain, in the presence of Zayed Al Zayani, Minister of Industry and Commerce, Jameel Humaidan, Labour Minister, Shaikh Khalifa bin Dajj Al Khalifa, President of Crown Prince Court, Shaikh Ahmed Khalifa Al Khalifa, Crown Prince Court, and other senior government officials and various ambassadors at Juffair Mall.

Prominent dignitaries present during the inauguration included Alok Kumar Sinha, Indian Ambassador, William Roebuck, US Ambassador, Simon Martin CMG, UK ambassador and other prominent industry and business leaders.



Shaikh Khaled bin Abdulla Al Khalifa inaugurating the outlet.

Speaking to media after the inauguration, Yusuffali MA, chairman of Lulu Group, said: "The success of Lulu Hypermarket in Bahrain, since it opened its doors here in 2007 has been due to the leaders and the people of the country. I take this opportunity to thank His Majesty King

Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, Prince Khalifa bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister, and Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, the Crown Prince and First Deputy Premier, for their transformative leadership and the Government for its transparency, accessibility and effectiveness."

Empower re-certified for quality, health and safety

DUBAI — Emirates Central Cooling Systems Corporation (Empower) has been re-certified for integrated management systems by Bureau Veritas. The re-certification was completed after being audited by Bureau Veritas.

Empower was audited for three management systems ISO 9001:2008, OHSAS 18001:2007 and Environmental Management Systems ISO 14001:2004.

The certifications recognise set of standards for quality, occupational health and safety, and environmental management systems.

"Empower works in accordance with the directives of His Highness Shaikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice-President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, to achieve the highest standards of excellence and innovation in all fields of our operations," said Ahmad bin Shafar, CEO of Empower.

"This re-certification reflects Empower's efforts to improve the quality of service and further enhance performance of occupational health, safety and environmental systems. This new achievement will be added to Empower's track record of corporate excellence and international recognition of its high performance levels," added Bin Shafar.



Caribou Coffee executives at a conference in Dubai.