

TAKING TANWEER to newer heights

Engineer Saleh bin Nasser Al Rumhi, Chief Executive Officer, Rural Area Electricity Company SAOC (rebranded as Tanweer from June 2018), says Tanweer embraces the Grand Vision of His Majesty Sultan Qaboos in transforming Oman into a sustainably prosperous, knowledge based economy with foundations firmly laid on economic diversification. This requires uninterrupted supply of power and a clear approach to creating more clean energy in order to meet growing demand in future.

With a well-established energy industry and a growing non-oil sector, Oman presents an exciting opportunity for Tanweer, a wholly owned subsidiary of the Nama Group, to support diversification and drive economic development, he adds. A prosperous economy depends fundamentally upon access to an uninterrupted supply of clean energy and appropriately skilled and qualified workforce. And this is what Tanweer has been seeking to achieve.

DYNAMIC CEO

When Eng. Saleh Bin Nasser Al Rumhi



Eng. Saleh bin Nasser Al Rumhi, CEO, Tanweer

took over the top job of CEO at Tanweer in February 2017, he immediately set about taking the organisation to newer heights through proactive and futuristic planning, which means looking ahead and outlining future courses of action to be followed. Since he has a deep knowledge and understanding of the power business and industry and his skills and experience extend across the energy supply chain, including power development, generation, distribution and retail businesses, Eng. Saleh has been very successful from the day one.

Eng. Saleh Al Rumhi is an outstanding man with exemplary leadership qualities. He has held several senior management positions in his career over the past 21 years. Prior to becoming the Chief Executive Officer at Tanweer, he served as Deputy Chairman of Oman Power & Water Procurement Co. SAOC, and Electricity Holding Company (Namaa Group).

His previous executive positions include General Manager of Policies and Strategies at Public Authority of Electricity and Water (PAEW). Prior to joining PAEW in 2009, Eng. Saleh worked for nearly 11 years at Petroleum Development Oman where he was involved in several departments, including control and automation engineering, construction engineering, oil and gas facilities design, projects management, contracts engineering, process safety and business improvement.

At all these organisations he demonstrated excellence in managing and taking forward the organisational business. In much the same manner, with a hands-on approach to leadership, and being a man of action, he is now nurturing the growth of Tanweer, taking it to higher levels of growth.

Eng. Saleh earned an MBA from the University of Hull, UK, in 2004 and a BNG Electrical & Electronic Engineering from



Sultan Qaboos University, in 1997. An enthusiastic and dedicated professional, Eng. Saleh possesses extensive experience both at private sector and public sector organisations across various business areas. Throughout the learning curve, he attained solid skills in strategic management, decision making, communication, interaction with others, achievement of results, projects management, change management, and analysis and use of information. Having exceptional leadership skills to lead multicultural/multinational teams and to develop and motivate team members to achieve common targets and improve the value added to the shareholders, he is a proactive executive with a logical approach to convert challenges into opportunities.

Known for his visionary thinking, and innovative approaches to problem solving, Eng. Saleh has infused a new spirit in the company. What staff and stakeholders admire most about him is his incredible ability to articulate a vision and be always accessible to his people.

Encouraging open communication helps you build trusting relationships with your employees and stakeholders, which strengthens your company, he explains. He affirms that as a CEO, his top priority is to run the organisation smoothly by overcoming all challenges and that is why he follows an open door policy which means encouraging frank communication, sharing of ideas, and transparency with the staff and stakeholders.

OVERVIEW

Rural Areas Electricity Company SAOC (now Tanweer) is a closed Omani Joint Stock Company incorporated under the Commercial Companies Law No. 4/74 of Oman. The company commenced its operations on 1st May 2005. Tanweer is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Nama Holding Company SAOC which holds 100% of the shares.

The primary activities of Tanweer encompass electricity generation, transmission, distribution and supply in remote areas of Oman, covering 75 per cent of the land area of Oman. Tanweer also undertakes water desalination activities in its authorized areas, in accordance with the license granted to it. Its mission is "To provide sustainable electricity and water in a safe, reliable and efficient manner" and its vision is "To provide cost effective and reliable

electricity services using optimized networks and renewable technology". Under the leadership of Eng. Saleh, Tanweer has launched a whole host of new and bold initiatives.

5-year Tanweer plan: In August 2018, Tanweer has unveiled a new Five-Year Business Plan that seeks to put the accent on, among other things, small-scale renewable energy schemes as well as enhanced coverage in areas falling within its jurisdiction. The new Business Plan (2019-2023) has been developed keeping in view the strong growth witnessed by the state-owned utility over the past year (2017 Annual Report). Electricity supplied to customers rose by 7.7 per cent to 913 gigawatt-hours (GWh) last year, up from 848 GWh a year earlier, while water desalination output increased by nearly 6 per cent to 3.6 million cubic metres, up from 3.4 million cubic metres in 2016.

Tanweer's five-year business plan includes a major initiative for inter-linking some areas in Dhofar Governorate. In addition, a plan for implementing renewable energy projects has been prepared and studies are under way to consider the best options for implementation of around 42MWp of photovoltaic capacity at Tanweer existing power plants.

WIND POWER PROJECT: In September 2017, Tanweer signed two



agreements linked to the development of a planned 50 megawatt-capacity Dhofar wind power project, which will generate electricity needed for 16,000 homes. A total of 13 wind turbines will be installed, offering a total generation capacity of 160 gigawatt-hours/year of clean energy. This would save an estimated 110,000 tons of greenhouse gases per year if the same amount of electricity were generated using conventional fuel. Acknowledged as a pioneer in clean energy generation, Tanweer launched a solar project at Al Mazyona in Dhofar Governorate in 2015. The 307 kW capacity plant has so far contributed to savings of 155,000 litres of diesel and 433 tons of greenhouse gases.

The \$105 million Dhofar Wind Power project is a significant step in clean energy ventures in the region. It is the first project of its kind in the Gulf region,

which will be built in a total area of 1,900 hectares. It will enhance skills of Omani nationals by training them to work in such vital projects. The project, located in Harweel, Dhofar Governorate, is being co-developed by Abdu Dhabi Future Energy (Masdar) and Tanweer under a joint development agreement signed for this purpose. The project is expected to be operated in the third quarter of 2019.

Tanweer has reserved a large area for doubling the power generation capacity of the wind project. The government's efforts to increase the share of clean power will take a big leap forward with the proposed setting up of 11 new renewable energy projects in various parts of the Sultanate. Tanweer is conducting feasibility studies at 11 locations across the country for renewable energy projects, according to Eng. Saleh Bin Nasser Al Rumhi.