



EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES

RIYADH • SAUDI ARABIA



Press Release
April 30, 2014

140-Member Saudi Trade Delegation Travels to Texas to Meet with American Companies in Oil & Gas Sector

U.S. Embassy, Riyadh – As a follow-on to U.S. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker’s visit to Saudi Arabia in March, a 140-member Saudi Trade Mission, sponsored by the U.S. Commercial Service at U.S. Embassy in Riyadh, traveled to the United States today for a 4-day visit. The main purpose of the visit is to deepen already strong commercial ties between Saudi Arabia and the United States.

Minister Counselor for Commercial Affairs Amer Kayani is leading the Saudi delegation. The mission is designed to share practical experiences, knowledge, and ideas on the latest oil and gas industry trends in addition to challenges facing the oil and gas sectors in Saudi Arabia and the United States. As part of this visit, Saudi delegates will attend the oil and gas industry’s leading trade show, the Offshore Technology Conference, in Houston, TX. Saudi delegates will have the opportunity to network and exchange views with American experts about the technologies and trends on the forefront of the oil and gas industry’s future.

Minister Counselor Kayani said, "This trade mission demonstrates the United States’ commitment to a sustained economic partnership with Saudi Arabia. U.S. exports to Saudi Arabia grew by 76% from approximately \$11 billion in 2009 to \$19 billion in 2013, and the United States is by far the leading business partner of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia." Mr. Kayani added, "Saudi businesses and consumers are players in the global economy – and I can tell you first-hand that the Americans are excited about doing business in Saudi Arabia."

The U.S. Department of Commerce staff will organize meetings between Saudi participants and their American counterparts as well as networking sessions with U.S. companies during the 4-day visit.

For the remainder of 2014, the U.S. Embassy plans to organize ten additional trade missions in diverse sectors including consumer goods, textiles, water, energy, construction, communications, safety, and medical services. Saudi businessmen and businesswomen interested in joining these missions should contact the Commercial Section at the U.S. Embassy in Riyadh.

#####