

Aktuelle Hinweise GCC 30. Juni 2026

Kuwait Investment Authority joins USD 10bn AI infrastructure platform project

On the 11th of June, 2026, KKR, the Kuwait Investment Authority, NVIDIA, and Vistra announced the launch of Helix Digital Infrastructure, a new company designed to deliver integrated infrastructure at the speed and scale required for hyperscalers to meet increasing AI demand. Helix is set to invest in and manage assets critical to enabling AI, including hyperscale data centre development and operations, baseload and flexible power generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure, and fibre and connectivity infrastructure. The platform has more than USD 10bn in total long-duration capital commitments to date, with KKR, the Kuwait Investment Authority, NVIDIA, and Vistra as founding investors. It is also open to additional institutional investors going forward. NVIDIA will serve as a strategic partner supporting deployment of its DSX AI factory-aligned infrastructure, while Vistra, an integrated power generation company, will act as Helix's preferred power provider. For international companies, the platform's structure, which is explicitly designed to coordinate data centre construction, power generation, grid connection, and fibre deployment as a single investment vehicle, is expected to create concrete entry points across electrical engineering, power plant construction, grid and transmission technology, and data centre fit-out and cooling systems.

Kuwait signs USD 2.7bn PPP to rebuild national telecommunications network

Kuwait's government has signed a USD 2.7bn agreement with Bahrain's Beyon Group to develop and operate the country's national fixed telecommunications network, following a competitive tender led by the Ministry of Communications and the Kuwait Authority for Partnership Projects. The project is structured as a major public-private partnership and ranks among Kuwait's largest recent digital infrastructure PPPs, with the network designed to support cloud computing, artificial intelligence, smart cities, and advanced government services as part of the New Kuwait 2035 vision. The scale of the re-engineering effort, described by Kuwaiti officials as a comprehensive transformation of the network into an independently managed infrastructure platform, points to sustained downstream demand beyond the initial contractor award. For German companies, the PPP's reach into fibre-optic infrastructure, network equipment, cloud platforms, and digital government services may generate concrete openings across telecoms hardware, systems integration, and enterprise software, relevant for firms in network operations and consulting, infrastructure and automation, communications technology, and digital government and enterprise platforms.

Qatar Airways expands summer 2026 network to over 160 destinations

Qatar Airways has unveiled an extensive expansion of its global network for Summer 2026, restoring and launching services to more than 160 destinations worldwide and adding 26 new routes that expand its network coverage across Africa, Asia, Europe, and the Americas. In Europe, the airline will increase frequencies to key cities including Brussels, Lisbon, Oslo, Prague, Helsinki, and Düsseldorf, reinforcing its presence in the region. Several of these enhancements are timed to meet the surge in travel expected around the FIFA World Cup 2026, with additional capacity designed to accommodate rising passenger demand. All expanded operations are anchored through the carrier's hub at Hamad International Airport in Doha, facilitating connections across the network. The increased Düsseldorf schedule, in particular, strengthens air links between Germany and Qatar, supporting both inbound business travel and time-sensitive freight flows for German exporters into the Gulf. More broadly, the expansion signals sustained growth in aviation services, ground handling, and connectivity technologies across Qatar Airways' ecosystem; areas where German aerospace, IT, and logistics firms already maintain a well-established supplier footprint.

Oman positions cybersecurity as a high-growth investment frontier

A government report published by the Ministry of Transport, Communications and Information Technology titled "Cybersecurity Market and Investment in the Sultanate of Oman 2026" has identified six high-potential investment opportunities, positioning cybersecurity as a strategic growth sector for economic diversification. The flagship projects include a USD 10m AI-powered Security Operations Centre planned for Muscat, expected to serve 200 to 400 organisations; a quantum cybersecurity centre requiring USD 5m to USD 15m in investment; a USD 19.5m Cybersecurity-as-a-Service (CaaS) platform aimed at supporting more than 141,000 SMEs; regional cyber firewall laboratories in Muscat and Suhar serving the Middle East and East Africa; a data recovery and secure device disposal laboratory; and development of a _____

domestic cyber insurance industry. Oman's investment environment includes full foreign ownership for eligible projects, corporate tax exemptions of up to 25 years in free and industrial zones, zero personal income tax and unrestricted repatriation of capital and profits. The domestic cybersecurity market itself is forecast to grow from USD 135.33m in 2025 to USD 214.27m by 2031, a compound annual growth rate of 7.97%, driven by Vision 2040 "security by design" requirements across public sector projects and data residency rules encouraging investment in domestic data centres and sovereign cloud infrastructure.

Saudi Arabia opens foreign real estate ownership applications through new digital portal

The Saudi Real Estate General Authority announced on the 24th of June 2026, the commencement of applications for foreign real estate ownership through the Saudi Properties portal, the official channel for the Foreign Real Estate Ownership Law that entered into force in January. The portal allows users both within and outside the Kingdom to complete all regulatory procedures electronically, including access to approved real estate opportunities, eligibility verification, application submission, and tracking, while non-Saudi companies and entities without an existing presence in the Kingdom must first register with the Ministry of Investment through the "Invest Saudi" platform and obtain a national unified number before completing the ownership process. For foreign companies, this reduces regulatory constraints that have long complicated establishing a long-term operating presence in Saudi Arabia: until now, foreign firms typically had to lease premises or operate through local partners to hold real estate. The new framework allows international manufacturers, logistics operators, and service providers to directly own offices, warehousing, and operational facilities tied to their Saudi operations: a notable regulatory change for any company planning a multi-year presence rather than a short-term project engagement. It also opens a parallel opportunity for international real estate, legal, and advisory firms to support clients navigating the registration and acquisition process, given the new link between property ownership and the Invest Saudi investor registration system. Property ownership is permitted across the Kingdom's major commercial and industrial centres, directly relevant to companies weighing where to establish warehousing facilities, offices, or production facilities as part of their Saudi expansion.

Etiihad Rail launches UAE's first passenger service, with phased network rollout through early 2027

Etiihad Rail, the developer and operator of the UAE's national railway network, will launch its first passenger service between Abu Dhabi and Fujairah on the 30th of June 2026, with the journey taking one hour and 45 minutes. The rollout continues in phases: Dubai Train Station and Al Dhaid Train Station open the 30th of September, Al Dhafra station follows on 30th of December, and the network is completed with Sharjah Train Station opening the 30th of March 2027. The passenger fleet comprises 13 trains, each with a capacity of 400 passengers and a top speed of 200 km/h, and feasibility studies are already underway to evaluate further expansion of the passenger network to additional emirates. This phased, multi-station build-out points to a sustained pipeline of opportunity rather than a single completed project: each new station requires supporting works in signalling and control systems, platform and station technology, ticketing and access infrastructure, and passenger information systems, while the rolling stock itself suggests recurring demand for maintenance, components, and systems integration. For international companies in rail systems engineering, station technology, rolling-stock components, and smart mobility integration, the network's staged opening through 2027 offers multiple, time-separated entry points rather than a single closed tender, relevant for established rail suppliers as well as firms specializing in signalling, platform systems, and passenger technology.