

# Oman hosts 4th Arab Telsat 2007 ICT conference and exhibition

Local, regional leaders in IT and telecoms attend opening



DELEGATES and officials at the major regional conference on ICT. — Pictures by Salim al Moharbi

By Ali Ahmed al Riyami

MUSCAT — Oman's first-time hosting of the prestigious fourth Arab Telsat 2007 Information Communications Technology (ICT) Conference and Exhibition, which has attracted some of the top local and regional leaders in the field, was inaugurated under the auspices of Al Sayyid Abdullah bin Hamad al Busaidy, Chairman of the State Audit Institution, at the Golden Tulip Hotel in Seeb yesterday.

This major regional two-day conference and 3-day exhibition allows ICT industry leaders to showcase the latest developments in what is one of the most highly important fields that is undergoing greater liberalisation and has seen continued growth in local and regional markets.

The conference saw keynote speakers, Ahmed bin Suwaidan al Balushi, Chairman of the Advisory Conference Committee, Arab Telsat 2007, Dr Salim bin Sultan al Ruzaiqi, CEO of Information Technology Authority (ITA),



Naashiah bint Saud al Kharusia, Permanent Member of Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (TRA), Ross Cormack, CEO of Nawras and Ali Mustafa al Lawati, Oman Mobile's Market Development Manager, address some of the opportunities and challenges in ICT and the market realities that are and will shape the future of the industry.

A total of 46 local, regional and international companies are taking part in this event. They include Australia, Bahrain, France, Germany, India, Kazakhstan, New Zealand, Pakistan, Russia, Singapore, UAE, UK and USA. These companies are fea-



turing the most advanced products, technologies, equipment and solutions that further drive cutting-edge developments in the industry.

In conjunction with the Exhibition, the international Conference brings together industry professionals for a thorough discussion of all factors relating to ICT, providing them with a chance to network and better understand what the future holds in this ever-expanding field.

Arab Telsat 2007 is officially endorsed by the Geneva-based International Telecommunications Union. The exhibition organiser is Omanexpo LLC and the conference is being managed by Trifoil Expo LLC. Diamond sponsors are Omantel and Oman Mobile. Gold Sponsors are Nawras and Huawei.

Event supporters are TRA, ITA, Knowledge Oasis Muscat (KOM), Samena Telecommunications Council (STC), eOman, SIAA, Telecom, UK Trade Investment, Wireless World Forum and CVF. The exhibition timings are October 28, 29 from 10 am — 5 pm and October 30 from 10 am - 1 pm. The conference timing for today is 9 am — 1 pm. Admission to the exhibition is open only to trade professionals with no one under 18 allowed to enter.