

King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Science Park (KASP)

Dhahran Techno-Valley
King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals

Science parks have become a crucial technology growth propellant over the past 40 years, creating operative alliances between universities and industrial clusters. King Abdullah Bin Abdulaziz Science Park (KASP) was graciously founded (October 2002) and inaugurated (November 2004) by King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz. The vision of the park is to make significant contribution to the wealth & welfare of the Kingdom through development of knowledge-based companies.

KASP is planned to spread over an area of more than 350,000 m², providing property for knowledge and technology based businesses, whether they are, a business start up, a small to medium sized enterprise or an international company.

KASP takes pride in being innovative and in delivering the facilities and business services to high standards of quality and professionalism from the University's high class faculty, researchers and excellent laboratory, computing facilities, library, etc.

Objectives of KASP

KASP will house firms involved in the petroleum upstream and downstream industries, water resources and information technology (IT) sector.

The primary goals of KASP are:

- ❖ To forge a strong collaboration between the university and industry in the areas of research and development.
- ❖ To promote small technology-specific businesses and start-up enterprises through an incubator program.
- ❖ To direct significant technology-driven foreign investment and presence in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia.

Role of KASP

KASP's main role is to provide commerce and research driven exchange platform between academia and industry. As part of its strategic plan, KFUPM views the commercialization of its developed technologies as crucial in today's economic climate. It is one of the most robust commercialization strategies of our university and is proactive in licensing. One of the examples is the joint KFUPM, Saudi Aramco, and Nippon endeavor in developing a refining technology that is licensable and targeted for commercialization.

Schlumberger Oil & Gas Research Center is already built in King Abdullah Science Park and inaugurated recently by HE Mr. Ali Al-Naimi, Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. Location of Schlumberger Center in KASP and closeness to the Saudi Aramco and its oil fields will have a significant contribution to the deployment of the developed or to be developed state-of-the-art technologies. Yokogawa Electric Corporation, Japan will soon construct its own facility in KASP.

The national companies: Al-Abdulkareem Group, Arabian Fuel Technology and MSSAK communication, network & integration, are in process of signing agreements for office space in KASP, in addition to Al-Malaz Group that already exists in KASP.

Very strong existing collaborative relationship with the giant national companies such as Saudi Aramco, SABIC, SWCC, and SEC; as well as international companies such as Nippon, Intel, Ciba and JCCP is expected to soon translate into being tenants in the valley. The inauguration of Schlumberger and Intel centers are now landmarks for KASP.

The University is to be soon surrounded by national and international research centers interacting with KFUPM community and achieving their business objectives.

Other advantages are : the staff members of the various companies at KASP can interact with each other in an informal setting and the opportunity to recruit students as interns or part time employees at KASP prior to graduation.

“KASP is going to be an impressive center for a collection of national and international research centers at one location and provides conducive environment, an ecosystem for R&D, venture creation, and businesses”

For additional information to participate and contribute in the development of KASP please contact:

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