AccessAbilities Expo in Brief

Access is the liberty and ability to enter, approach, or pass to and from a place or to approach or communicate with a person. Abilities is all about the employability and quality of life. It also means strength, intelligence, capability and competency.

AccessAbilities Expo was born out of the desire to make life easy for People with Disabilities and support their families in facilitating their independence, self-determination and integration into society and in all aspects of typical community life – to be able to explore and experience like any other person. Imagine a world where people of all abilities live, learn, work and play together. Diverse abilities help us build a better world – and greater inclusion of people with disabilities will help make the world better for today and tomorrow.

AccessAbilities Expo, to be held for the third time from November 5 to 7 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre (DICEC), is a platform that reflects the aspirations and expectations of over 50 million people with disabilities who reside in the Middle East. Built on the success of the previous two editions, this year’s Expo will provide even greater opportunities to explore the best and latest innovations and technologies from around the world that will enhance the lives of people with disabilities.

AccessAbilities Expo is in line with the vision and aspirations of His Highness Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai and Chairman of Dubai Executive Council, to make Dubai a friendly city for People of Determination by 2020. It is the largest event of its kind in the MENASA region for exhibitors’ and visitors’ participation.

Organised by Nadd AlShiba PR and Event Management and Reed Exhibitions Middle East, it is held under the patronage of His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, President of Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman of Dubai Airports and Chairman and Chief Executive of Emirates Airlines and Group.

The Expo’s inaugural edition had the participation of more than 6,000 people, along with 150 exhibitors from 41 countries who brought the world’s latest robotic and assistive technologies which assist individuals with disabilities live life more independently. The Expo grew in size and stature with the 2017 edition taking place over an area of 8,000 square metres and the participation of over 40 disability centres and support organisations from around the world.

The Expo is strongly supported by UAE government bodies including the Ministry of Community Development, Dubai Health Authority (DHA), Dubai Municipality, Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), Dubai Electricity and
Water Authority (DEWA), Dubai Police, General Directorate of Residency and Foreigners Affairs (GDRFA-Dubai), Community Development Authority (CDA) Dubai, Dubai Customs, Dubai Centre for Ambulance Services (DCAS), Zayed Higher Organisation and Sharjah City for Humanitarian Services.

We all have abilities. We just need the right approach to Access those Abilities. Come to explore, experience and celebrate how we remain on course to make the world a more accessible and inclusive place for all of us.