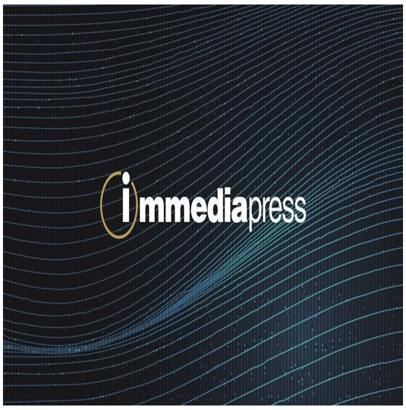

Aramco and Pasqal launch Saudi Arabiaâ??s first Quantum Computer and Middle Eastâ??s first commercial Quantum Computing as a Service platform

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DHAHRAN, Saudi Arabia, May 18, 2026 /PRNewswire/ â?? Aramco, one of the worldâ??s leading energy and chemicals companies, in partnership with Pasqal, a global leader in neutral-atom quantum computing, today officially inaugurated the Kingdom of Saudi Arabiaâ??s first quantum computer.

Aramco and Pasqal also unveiled the first commercial Quantum Computing as a Service (QCaaS) platform in the Middle East, opening a new chapter in building regional expertise and accelerating the development of quantum applications across the energy, materials and industrial sectors.

Marking a major milestone in the regionâ??s technological advancement, QCaaS enables remote cloud access for potential clients around the globe. Located at Aramcoâ??s data center in Dhahran, the computer provides customers with immediate, low-latency access to quantum hardware through a secure cloud platform to address complex industrial challenges.

Ahmad O. Al Khowaiter, Aramco Executive Vice President of Technology & Innovation, said: â??This quantum milestone belongs to our Saudi researchers, engineers and scientists. By investing in joint training and research, we are building worldâ??class quantum expertise right here in the Kingdomâ??an expertise that will power the next generation of energy solutions, accelerate lowerâ??carbon fuel development, and enhance reservoir and supplyâ??chain optimization. Let this achievement be the catalyst for an innovationâ??driven economy, creating highâ??impact, futureâ??ready jobs for our youth and advancing Saudiâ?¯Visionâ?¯2030.â?

Wasiq Bokhari, Pasqal CEO, said: â??Aramco is not just waiting for quantum computing, it is helping to shape it as a global leader. This inauguration is evidence that the most demanding industrial challenges in the world are now being tackled with Pasqalâ??s quantum processors, software and specific solutions. For Pasqal, deploying our system for use in Aramcoâ??s business-critical operations, while also being available to the regionâ??s enterprises and research community, is a part of our core mission: to enable practical and secure quantum computing at scale today.â?•

Pasqal has been designing and building high-performance hardware and cloud-ready software since 2019, to address complex challenges in optimization, simulation, and artificial intelligence. Following its initial deployment in November 2025, the Pasqal Quantum Processing Unit (QPU) is powered by neutral-atom technology and controls 200 programmable qubits. Todayâ??s inauguration formalizes its entry into active operation across a growing portfolio of industrial use cases and enables enterprises to explore and develop quantum-enhanced solutions for real-world industrial challenges.

Under the terms of the partnership, Aramco will progress a roadmap of use cases on a production-ready QPU as a foundational customer, accelerating development of quantum-hybrid solutions for its programs across energy, materials and industrial operations. Other external organizations, including research institutions, universities, and enterprises, can use Pasqalâ??s cloud platform to access one of the few quantum computers in the world.

Aramcoâ??s domestic venture capital arm, Waâ??ed Ventures, initially invested in Pasqal in January 2023, reinforcing efforts to localize advanced quantum technologies and accelerate the development of the regional quantum ecosystem. Since then, Aramco and Pasqal have built a structured quantum program targeting high-value operational challenges across multiple workstreams, where quantum-hybrid approaches unlock capabilities beyond classical computing. These Aramco workstreams include port logistics optimization, COâ?? storage optimization, well placement, rig scheduling, building the Kingdomâ??s quantum workforce, and making quantum computing available throughout the region. @aramco

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About Aramco

As one of the worldâ??s leading integrated energy and chemicals companies, our global team is dedicated to creating impact in all that we do, from providing crucial oil supplies to developing new energy technologies. We focus on making our resources more dependable, more sustainable and more useful, helping to promote growth and productivity around the world. https://www.aramco.com

About Pasqal

Pasqal is a global leader in delivering practical quantum computing at scale utilizing neutral atom technology and dedicated software for industry, science, and governments. Since its founding in 2019, Pasqal has leveraged Nobel Prize winning research to build high-performance quantum systems and cloud-ready software designed to address complex challenges in optimization, simulation, and artificial intelligence.

Headquartered in France, Pasqal employs over 275 people and serves over 25 clients and partners, including Aramco, CMA CGM, OVHcloud, Thales, IBM (Pasqal is part of the IBM Quantum Network), and Sumitomo.

Backed by more than USD 500 million in total funding from leading international investors, Pasqal is pursuing a listing on Nasdaq in partnership with Bleichroeder Acquisition Corp. II (Nasdaq: BBCQ) and is accelerating the adoption of scalable, high-performance quantum computing worldwide.

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