



**Dr Abdallah E. Dabbagh**

Dr. Abdallah Dabbagh has a Ph.D. in Geology from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and has been the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Saudi Arabian Mining Company, Ma'aden, since its inception in 1997. Ma'aden was created to facilitate the development of the Kingdom's non oil mineral resources and under Dr Dabbagh's leadership has expanded its precious and base metals mining operations in the Kingdom and is currently developing some of the Kingdom's largest industrial diversification projects.

Dr. Dabbagh has been a leader in the fields of management, education, research and technological progress in the Kingdom for over 20 years. His career prior to joining Ma'aden included work in the establishment of the Research Institute at King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals and by significant achievements in the transfer, application and adoption of modern technology. He has been the recipient of numerous national achievement awards including the King Faisal Medal.

Dr. Dabbagh has served on the Boards of Directors of a number of companies including Saudi Aramco and is widely regarded as one of the most accomplished and charismatic leaders in the Saudi Arabian business community.

**Bauxite, Alumina and Aluminium**

Ma'aden are engaged in a US\$7 billion joint venture with Alcan to develop the world's largest vertically integrated operation of its type. Economic conditions in Saudi Arabia will allow the operation to be in the lowest quartile in terms of cash cost production. The project will comprise a mine with a capacity of 4 million tonnes per year, a refinery with capacity of 1.6 million tonnes per year and a smelter with capacity of 720,000 tonnes per year. The project will have its own 1,400-megawatt power station.

**Industrial Minerals**

Ma'aden Industrial Minerals business principally comprises magnesite, kaolin and low-grade bauxite.

A deposit of 2.7 million tonnes of proven reserves in high-grade magnesite is located at Zarghat. This facility is scheduled to become operational in 2008. Kaolin and low-grade bauxite are located in central zone of Az Zabirah where it is estimated that 250,000 tonnes per annum of cement grade bauxite feedstock and 50,000 tonnes per annum kaolin can be extracted. Operations commence late 2007.

**American Express**

The RGBB was delighted with the evening's razzmatazz shown by our transatlantic cousins. None of our previous Special Briefings have enjoyed such entertaining sponsorship. The American Express prize draw winner, of course, continues to be entertained to this day by the 32 inch Samsung LCD TV and DVD/VCR that they won on that evening. Last but not least, as and when one of our RGBB members wins the American Express space flight to the edge of the atmosphere, he or she is duty bound to give the RGBB Membership an out-of-the world Special Briefing on the event.

Thank you, American Express, for making this event possible and so enjoyable.

