

Saudi Arabia & UAE

February 1–6, 2026

Registration Deadline | December 5, 2025

Saudi Arabia

Saudi Arabia is the largest country in the Gulf region with a population of 36 million, and the largest economy in the Arab world with a GDP of \$83B. Saudi Arabia's Vision 2030 and the National Transformation Program (NTP) suggest a paradigm shift from a public sector-driven economy to one where job creation and economic growth are driven by the private sector. The NTP outlines \$4 billion in ICT initiatives over the next five years and \$1.5 billion in transportation initiatives over the next four years. In addition, Saudi Arabia was recently awarded the right to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup, one of the world's largest sporting events.

The top opportunities for Virginia exporters to Saudi Arabia include:

- Agriculture
- Defense & Security
- Healthcare
- Information and Communications Technology (ICT)
- Oil, Gas, and Petrochemicals
- Power
- Waste Management
- Water

United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the top U.S. export market in the Middle East North Africa region and is a critical, regional hub for U.S. companies doing business throughout the the Middle East, Africa, Europe, and Asia. Known for its advanced transportation infrastructure, the UAE is a recognized trade hub with 75% of the world being reachable within an eight-hour



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Overall, the trade mission to Saudi Arabia was excellent and valuable. Our main goal was to expand our horizons and get experience into this market. The nature of our business is that it takes time (even in USA), so we hoped to gain knowledge and a strategy, and the mission was a success for that reason.

Saudi Arabia & UAE Trade Mission Participant

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flight. As the leading commercial hub serving the Middle East, Africa, and South Asia, the UAE continues to play a central role as a regional trade, logistics, and tourism hub.

The impact of the pandemic drove the UAE to recommit itself to self-sufficiency and reliability, resulting in shifting its focus toward renewable energy, sustainable agriculture, its indigenous manufacturing base, and investments in education and healthcare. The UAE is embracing the Fourth Industrial Revolution and is driving digitalization from the government level down to enhance its economic security.

The top opportunities for Virginia exporters to the United Arab Emirates include:

- Aerospace and Aviation
- Clean Tech and Environmental Technologies
- Defense
- Design and Construction
- Healthcare and Life Science
- Oil and Gas
- Renewable Energy and Clean Energy
- Smart and Sustainable Mobility

Registration

Register and pay the Trade Mission fee online by visiting saudi-arabia-uae-trade-mission-2026.eventbrite.com.

Contacts

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The event was key to our expansion in the region. It was beneficial to do this through the mission where multiple meetings can be had in a single visit. Well done.

Saudi Arabia & UAE Trade Mission Participant