

June 2023

Employee Profile Dian Nasarudin Senior Corrosion

TRAVEL NEWS

HEALTH - LONG COVID AND ITS Impact on US

MASSIVE METHANE EMISSIONS

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Amazon

Ben Zeglam - Section / Nofleen, Abosetta (Shuhda Alshatt St. Next the Light Signal) P.O. Box 81292 Tripoli Libya | License No. 5409882 Commercial Registration No. 9882 Chamber of Commerce No. 1448 Tel./Fax: 00218 21 340 9185 | M: +218 92 804 9559 or +218 91 321 8249 E: aghali@ao-s.com or amazonoilservices@ao-s.com | www.ao-s.com



Message from the General Manager

2023; A year in review

I would like irstly, to acknowledge that the Covid pandemic is no longer a significant constraint on our operations. Thanks to your efforts and adherence to safety protocols, we have successfully navigated through these challenging times. Our commitment to providing a dependable travel service to our employees, while ensuring meticulous attention to detail in establishing suitable connections with limited transit times, has been commendable.

In mid-March, we organized a trip to Leptis Magna for several of our employees, aiming to enhance their Libyan experience. I am delighted to report that this venture was a resounding success, and it brought joy and enrichment to those who participated.

Furthermore, in late April, following the EID celebrations, we arranged for our Management Team to convene in Tripoli. I am pleased to inform you that our ISO Accreditation was successfully updated during this visit. This accomplishment reflects our commitment to maintaining high standards of quality and efficiency in our operations.

As we expand and grow, we continue to welcome new employees into the AOS family. Each new addition brings fresh perspectives and skills that contribute to our ongoing success. Simultaneously, it is with a heavy heart that we bid farewell to some of our colleagues who have moved on to new ventures. Their contributions will always be remembered, and we wish them well in their future endeavours.

In closing, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to each one of you. Your continued efforts and contributions have made a significant impact on our organisation, and I am truly grateful for your commitment to our shared goals. I wish you all the best for the remainder of 2023 and look forward to the continued growth and success of our AOS family.

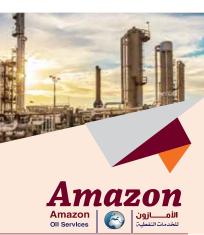
Ahmed - Mohamed El-Ghali

Amazon Oil Services (AOS) is a Libyan incorporated Company, with ISO 9001: 2015 accreditation. The Head Office is in Tripoli and AOS has associates worldwide.

AOS serves the Libyan Oil & Gas Sectors in the provision of an Umbrella Service for Engineering and Technical Support using highly skilled nationals and expatriates from all over the world.

Additional services and expertise offered includes Project Management, Consultancy, Procurement and Training.

Amazon ensures the Client benefits and achieves value for money where quality is of paramount importance.



AMAZON TRAVEL NEWS

global he impact COVID-19 of the pandemic has had farreaching consequences, particularly in the travel industry. The initial outbreak led to strict restrictions, quarantines, and other measures to control the spread of the virus. These measures have had a significant effect on workforce mobility and travel arrangements. The pandemic also affected clients and their annual budgets.

As an ISO accredited company, it was necessary for us to update the Travel Request Form to document the reasons for non-compliance with contractual work and leave periods. This ensured compliance with annual contractual obligations. To manage this effectively, an ongoing tracking program has been implemented.

Whereas additional costs were incurred due to COVID-19 testing requirements, we now face a raft of unprecedented increases in airline fares and hotel rates. Airline fares have seen significant increases, with some instances of a 20 to 30% rise. The high demand for flights, coupled with reduced capacity, has led to these price hikes. For example, air travel fares in the UK increased by 44.1% in the year leading up to December 2022. Consumer rights groups have reported an average increase of 51% in prices during the Easter period compared to the previous year.

Flight prices are subject to the laws of supply and demand, and the pandemic-induced decrease in travel demand was followed by a rapid increase as restrictions eased. However, airlines have struggled to return to pre-pandemic performance due to rising fuel costs, which account for a significant portion of their operating expenses. Staff costs have also increased due to inflation, compounded by job cuts during the pandemic. Airlines currently have around 15% less capacity than in 2019, leading to higher flight tariffs.

Additionally, airlines have implemented increased rates for ticket changes and cancellations, aiming to recover previous losses. Changes in baggage allowances also incur additional costs, with weight affecting an airline's capacity and fuel consumption. Cancelling the return portion of a ticket can cost up to one-third of the ticket price.

The Istanbul new Airport Yotel Airside and Landside initially received a positive response, but their increased occupancy rates and inflexible booking protocols have become prohibitive for many international flights. Airside booking hours are from 20:00 hrs to 09:00 hrs and Landside from 18:00 hrs to 09:00 hrs. In the worst scenario, this could result in two 'night' bookings being required for a matter of hours which is commercially unviable. However, employees can utilise airport lounges during extended transit times, whenever possible.

Changes in visa issuance have made it necessary for individuals to be resident in the country where a Libyan Visa is to be issued. This requirement can be problematic for certain nationalities, but solutions are being sought to overcome these challenges.

Certain nationalities still face travel difficulties due to governmentimposed restrictions, necessitating unique and often costly travel arrangements. Some airlines require an OK to Board (OTB) for certain nationalities, but these airlines may not operate daily. We continue to support these employees and provide them with Travel Support Letters to facilitate their travel experience.

In April, difficulties arose due to Ramadan (Islamic holy month of fasting) affecting daytime flights to Istanbul, resulting in extended transit times.

We continue to encounter unprecedented events and procedural changes, but with the support and understanding of our employees, viable solutions are being determined.

Health – Long Covid and its impact on us

Mild or moderate COVID-19 lasts about two weeks for most people. But others experience lingering health problems even after the fever and cough go away and they are no longer testing positive for the illness.

The World Health Organization has developed a definition for post-COVID-19 condition (the WHO's term for long COVID) as coronavirus symptoms that persist or return three months after a person becomes ill from infection with SARS CoV-2, the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. Those symptoms can include:

- Fatigue
- Shortness of breath
- Cognitive problems (thinking and memory)

The symptoms can come and go, but have an impact on the person's everyday functioning, and cannot be explained by another health problem.

While it's clear that people with certain risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, diabetes, obesity and other conditions) are more likely to have a serious bout of COVID-19, there isn't a clear link between these risk factors and long-term problems. In fact, long COVID can happen in people who have mild symptoms, although patients with more severe initial illness seem to be more likely to have long-term impairments.

Getting vaccinated for COVID-19 lowers the risks of COVID infection. While breakthrough infections are possible, being fully vaccinated and boosted is effective in reducing the risk of hospitalisation and death due to COVID. Research is ongoing about how long COVID affects people who had breakthrough COVID, but it is likely that being vaccinated reduces the risk.

A bad case of COVID-19 can produce scarring and other permanent problems in the lungs, but even mild

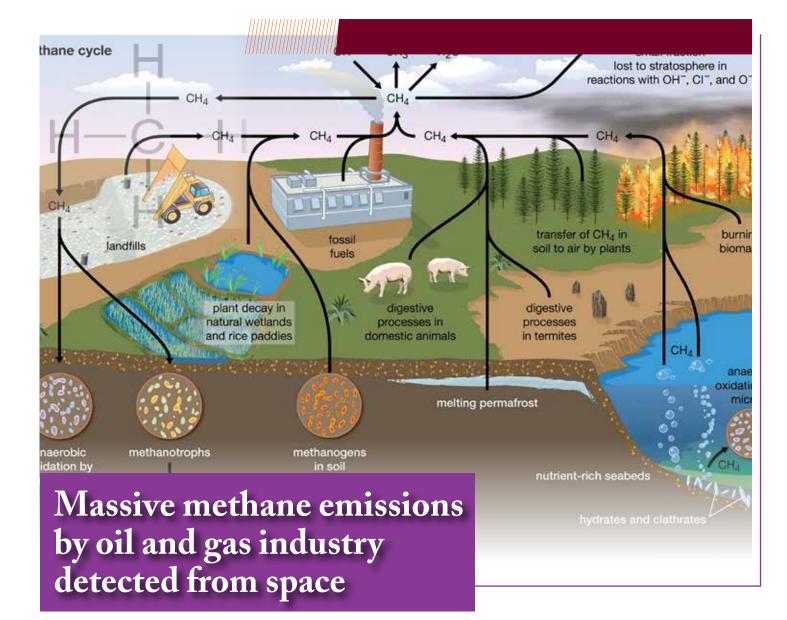
infections can cause persistent shortness of breath getting winded easily after even light exertion. Lung recovery after COVID-19 is possible, but takes time. Experts say it can take months for a person's lung function to return to pre-COVID-19 levels. Breathing exercises and respiratory therapy can help.

SARS-CoV-2 infection can leave some people with heart problems, including inflammation of the heart muscle. In fact, one study showed that 60% of people who recovered from COVID-19 had signs of ongoing heart inflammation, which could lead to the common symptoms of shortness of breath, palpitations and rapid heartbeat. This inflammation appeared even in those who had had a mild case of COVID-19 and who had no medical issues before they got sick.

The senses of smell and taste are related, and because the coronavirus can affect cells in the nose, having COVID-19 can result in lost or distorted senses of smell (anosmia) or taste. Before and after people become ill with COVID-19, they might lose their sense of smell or taste entirely, or find that familiar things smell or taste bad, strange or different.

For about a quarter of people with COVID-19 who have one or both of these symptoms, the problem resolves in a couple of weeks. But for most, these symptoms persist. Though not life-threatening, prolonged distortion of these senses can be devastating and can lead to lack of appetite, anxiety and depression. Some studies suggest that there's a 60% to 80% chance that these people will see improvement in their sense of smell within a year.

SOURCE: https://www.hopkinsmedicine.org/



or the first time ever on a global scale, using satellite imagery, scientists have quantified volumes of massive methane emissions due to fossil-fuel extraction activities and their impact on the climate. Their findings partly explain why official inventories generally underestimate the volume of these emissions. Stopping these releases, be they accidental or deliberate, would save those countries responsible billions of dollars.

A major contributor to climate change, methane (CH4) has a global warming potential approximately 30 times higher than that of CO2, over a 100-year period. One quarter of anthropogenic emissions of this greenhouse gas originate in worldwide extraction of coal, oil, and natural gas (of which methane is the main component). While the energy sector, including oil and gas operations, is not the sole contributor to methane emissions, it is a prominent source.

Space-based monitoring systems, such as satellites equipped with advanced sensors, have increasingly been

employed to detect and quantify methane emissions from various sources, including oil and gas facilities. These satellites can provide a broad-scale and comprehensive view, enabling the identification of methane hotspots and the assessment of emission levels on a regional or global scale.

There have been instances where space-based monitoring has revealed large-scale methane leaks associated with oil and gas infrastructure. These leaks can occur throughout the production cycle, including during extraction, storage, transportation, and distribution of fossil fuels. Common sources of methane emissions in the industry include well leaks, pipeline leaks, venting during maintenance activities, and flaring.

The detection of these significant methane emissions has raised concerns due to the environmental implications and their contribution to climate change. Efforts are underway to address this issue, including:



- Regulation and Monitoring: Governments and regulatory bodies are increasingly implementing stricter regulations and monitoring requirements for methane emissions in the oil and gas industry. This includes the monitoring and reporting of emissions, as well as the development of standards and guidelines to reduce methane leaks.
- 2. Technology and Infrastructure Upgrades: Oil and gas companies are investing in technologies and infrastructure upgrades to minimize methane emissions. This includes implementing leak detection and repair (LDAR) programs, using advanced equipment and materials, and adopting best practices to reduce methane leaks.
- 3. Collaboration and Industry Initiatives: Collaborative initiatives between governments, industry stakeholders, and environmental organizations are being established to address methane emissions collectively. These partnerships aim to develop and share best practices, technologies, and data to enhance methane monitoring and reduction efforts.
- 4. Innovation and Research: Ongoing research and development efforts focus on improving methane

detection technologies, such as the development of more advanced sensors and satellite systems. Additionally, research aims to identify and address the root causes of methane leaks and develop innovative solutions for emission reduction.

But would preventing these emissions be so costly to oil and gas operators that they prefer to pursue their current practices? By taking into account the underlying social costs related to climate change and air quality, as well as the monetary value of gas wasted, the study actually shows that limiting them would yield billions of dollars in net savings for the countries in question. It emphasizes the need for a reliable atmospheric monitoring system to thoroughly track emissions and estimate the impact of local measures aimed at abatement.

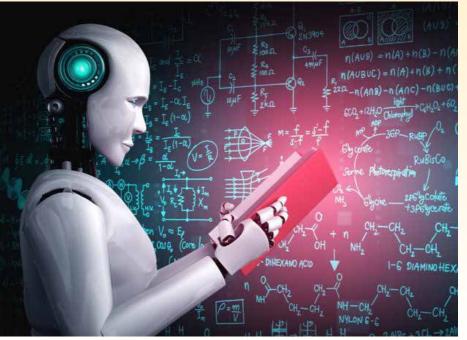
Reducing methane emissions from the oil and gas industry is crucial for mitigating climate change. While space-based detection has played a significant role in highlighting the issue, it is essential to combine these observations with effective regulatory measures, technological advancements, and collaborative actions to achieve substantial emission reductions in the sector.



Are Humans ready to take advantage of benevolent AI?

Present, most of us behave kindly in such situations involving other humans. Will we show that same kindness towards autonomous vehicles? Indeed, the potential benefits of benevolent AI are significant, and humans can certainly leverage them to improve various aspects of our lives. Benevolent AI refers to artificial intelligence systems that are designed with ethical considerations and the well-being of humanity in mind. These AI systems can be harnessed in numerous fields and can contribute to the advancement of society in several ways.

- Healthcare: Benevolent AI can revolutionize healthcare by assisting doctors in diagnosing diseases, analysing medical images, and suggesting personalised treatment plans. AI algorithms can process vast amounts of medical data, identify patterns, and provide insights that aid in accurate diagnoses and effective treatments.
- Education: AI can enhance the learning experience by personalising education based on individual needs and capabilities. Adaptive learning platforms powered by AI algorithms can analyse



student performance and adapt the curriculum accordingly, providing tailored learning paths and additional support where required.

- Environmental Conservation: AI can play a crucial role in monitoring and managing environmental resources. It can analyse large datasets from satellites, sensors, and other sources to track deforestation, predict natural disasters, optimize energy consumption, and propose sustainable solutions to environmental challenges.
- Transportation: Benevolent AI can contribute to safer and more efficient transportation systems.
 Self-driving cars powered by AI algorithms can reduce accidents caused by human error, optimise traffic flow, and enhance fuel efficiency.
 Additionally, AI can aid in developing smart logistics systems for better resource allocation and reduce carbon emissions.
- Scientific Research: AI can accelerate scientific discoveries by analysing complex datasets, simulating experiments, and identifying patterns that may not be apparent to human researchers. It can assist in drug discovery, genetic research, climate modelling, and other scientific endeavours, leading to breakthroughs in various fields.

People are much less ready to reciprocate with AI, and instead exploit its benevolence to their own benefit. Going back to the traffic example, a human driver would give way to another human but not to a self-driving car. This unwillingness to compromise with machines as a new challenge to the future of human-AI interactions.

However, it is important to proceed with caution and establish robust ethical frameworks and regulations to guide the development and deployment of benevolent AI. The potential risks associated with AI, such as job displacement and privacy concerns, should also be carefully addressed to ensure that the benefits are distributed equitably and that AI remains a tool for human well-being and progress.

EMPLOYEE PROFILE



Dian Nasarudin Senior Corrosion Engineer.

Mr. Dian Nasarudin, who has a Masters Management Degree and is a member of the Institution of Engineers [Indonesia], is a Senior Corrosion Engineer responsible for the Engineering and Designing of matters related to corrosion such Coating, as Cathodic Protection, Internal Corrosion and Corrosion Monitoring, Cleaning and Intelligent Pigging Pipeline, NDT MT/PT/UT Inspection, Welding Inspection, Storage Tank Inspection, Risk Based Inspection, Asset Integrity Management and Auditing.

He is a specialist in Occupational Health and Safety in the Oil & Gas sphere of operation with more than 20 years' hands-on experience.

Over the years, Mr. Dian Nasarudin has further enhanced his career with the following practical experience in his field covering:

• Asset Integrity Management for Petronas Muriah Limited and Ketapang II Limited Offshore and Onshore

facilities [Petronas Carigali Indonesia] from January 2018 to February 2023.

• Engineering and designing of assignments related to corrosion as amplified above with Tonsco International (NDT Global Ireland Intelligent Pigging Distributor for Indonesia Area), 3M Scotchkote/ Belzona Paint Distributor, Blasting and Painting Contractor, Cathodic Protection Contractor from February 2009 – December 2017.

• Engineering and Designing comprising Coating, Cathodic Protection, Internal Corrosion and Corrosion Monitoring, Cleaning and Intelligent Pigging Pipeline, Inspection with Moeladi (EPCI Company) from May 2002 – May 2009.

 Inspector retained to address corrosion related activities such as Coating, Cathodic Protection, QA/QC Inspection with Sucofindo (Inspection Company) from July 1998 – May 2001.

Dian has recently joined Amazon in Libya where he is currently assigned to the Zueitina Oil Company as a Senior Corrosion Engineer. He advises that he has encountered a professional sound experience with Amazon Oil Services in supporting his travel and visa requirements, medical issues, his salary being on time and general administrative requirements.

WHAT IS ISO 9001:2015

ISO 9001:2015 is an international standard for quality management systems (QMS). It provides a framework and set of guidelines to help organizations establish, implement, and continually improve their quality management processes. Here are some key points about ISO 9001:2015:

Scope: ISO 9001:2015 applies to any organization, regardless of its size, industry, or sector. It is designed to be flexible and adaptable to various types of organizations.

Process Approach: The standard emphasizes a process-based approach to quality management, focusing on understanding and managing interrelated processes within an organization to achieve desired outcomes.

Risk-based Thinking: ISO 9001:2015 incorporates the concept of risk-based thinking throughout the standard. Organizations are required to identify and address risks and opportunities that could affect their ability to deliver consistent quality products or services. Context of the Organization: Organizations are required to determine the internal and external issues that are relevant to their QMS and the needs and expectations of interested parties, such as customers, employees, suppliers, and regulatory bodies.

Leadership and Commitment: Top management is responsible for demonstrating leadership and commitment to the QMS. This includes establishing a quality policy, ensuring quality objectives are established, and promoting a customer-focused approach.

Process Approach: ISO 9001:2015 encourages organizations to adopt a process approach by identifying, managing, and continually improving the key processes that contribute to the organization's ability to meet customer requirements.

Continual Improvement: The standard emphasizes the importance of continual improvement by setting objectives, monitoring performance, and implementing corrective and

preventive actions.

Documentation: ISO 9001:2015 adopts a less prescriptive approach to documentation requirements compared to its predecessor. It emphasizes the need for organizations to determine the necessary documented information required for their QMS processes and ensure its availability and control.

Certification: Organizations can seek certification against ISO 9001:2015 through accredited certification bodies. Certification provides independent verification that an organization has implemented a robust quality management system in line with the requirements of the standard.

ISO 9001:2015 helps organizations enhance customer satisfaction, improve operational efficiency, and demonstrate a commitment to quality. It provides a framework for consistent and reliable processes and supports organizations in meeting customer expectations and regulatory requirements. Amazon Oil Services





AMAZON OIL SERVICES is constantly looking for professional Expats to meet our clients demands in various Oil and Gas Disciplines.

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- * Senior Electrical Enginerrs
- * Senior Petroleum Engineers
- * Senior Reservoir Engineers
- * Senior Process Engineers
- * Senior Instrumentation & Control Engineers
- * Senior Rotating Engineers
- * Senior Civil Engineers
- * Senior Corrosion Engineers
- * Senior Mechanical Static Engineers

If you would like to add your CV to our database so that we can contact you once we have a suitable opportunity, please send us your CV with a cover letter to:

<u>recruitment@ao-s.com</u>

Taksim Ben Zeglam / Nofleen, Tripoli, LIBYA Mob : +218 92 804 9559 |Tel / Fax: +218 21 340 9185 E: amazonoilservices@ao-s.com | Website: www.ao-s.com





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