

## e-finance Investment Group Partners with Ministry of Petroleum

27 June 2022 – (Cairo) e-finance for Digital and Financial Investments S.A.E. ("e-finance", "EFIG" or the "Group", EFIH.CA on the Egyptian Exchange), Egypt's first fintech platform and one of its leading developers of digital payments infrastructures, announced today that it has partnered with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources to develop infrastructure for the digitization of gas stations across the country. Through its subsidiaries, e-finance for Digital Operations and eKhales, the Group is working to transform Egypt's gas stations into integrated centers for the provision of digital financial services accessible to citizens from all walks of life, with solutions including withdrawal, deposit, transfers, bill settlement, and electronic payments. e-finance has launched three service categories covering more than 400 gas stations across Egypt. The Group has introduced a system for the smart management of fuel transport fleets, replacing the paper coupon system previously used by companies. Additionally, the Group has introduced cash withdrawal and electronic payment solutions for gas stations, services which will be rolled out across the entirety of Egypt's station network by the end of July 2022.

Speaking at his inauguration of Cargas-Co-Op's integrated station in Cairo's Dokki district, His Excellency the Minister of Petroleum Tarek El-Molla noted that e-finance's smart management solution for transport fleets has helped guarantee more efficient transportation and circulation of petroleum products while preserving the rights of contracting parties and vehicle owners. He added that the provision of cash withdrawal services at gas stations conforms with the Egyptian government's efforts to create an integrated package of digital solutions designed to enhance the accessibility and speed of state service provision through digital transformation, efforts helped by e-finance's successful cooperation with the Ministry of Petroleum and associated agencies, from the Egyptian General Petroleum Corporation (EGPC) to fuel distributors. Citizens are now able to withdraw cash from gas station facilities using cards from any company licensed in Egypt, including Visa, MasterCard, and Meeza. Minister El-Molla was accompanied at the inauguration by Major General Ahmed Rashid, Governor of Giza, and Mr. Ibrahim Sarhan, Managing Director and Chairman of the Board of Directors at e-finance Investment Group.

Speaking at the event, Mr. Sarhan said: "We place great importance on e-finance's cooperation with the Ministry of Petroleum and Mineral Resources. The digital transformation of Egypt's petroleum sector began with our introduction of a smart monitoring system for petrol products covering the entire distribution chain from depots to stations, and the subsequent linking of this system with databases at the EGPC as part of the Corporation's digitization plans and automation of Co-Op and Misr Petroleum gas stations. Gas stations have become part and parcel of Egypt's efforts to achieve financial inclusion to the benefit of all citizens, an objective set out in 2020 under the auspices of the Central Bank of Egypt and in cooperation with major financial institutions such as the National Bank of Egypt (NBE) and Banque Misr. e-finance has obtained licensing to offer electronic payment and collection services at fueling stations through its subsidiary eKhales."

"Notably," **continued Sarhan**, "Co-Op and Misr Petroleum fuel stations have now been equipped with more than 8,000 POS systems functioning as ATM machines for withdrawal and deposits, including for pensions offered under the state's Takaful and Karama social program, leveraging the significant cash liquidity at gas stations, an advantage which has also been leveraged to offer withdrawal services to customers of NBE and Banque Misr. These solutions have also served to prevent the trapping of liquidity at stations and to turn such liquidity into a benefit for stations."



"POS systems have emerged as a primary electronic gateway for the digitization of transactions among fuel distributors, replacing the coupon system with an infrastructure enabled for real-time monitoring and digital assignment of quantities and prices for each transaction. The solution has further enabled enhanced control over transport and the unloading of vehicles through an integrated fleet management interface provided by e-finance to all companies operating in the petroleum and fuel sectors. Meanwhile, POS systems at gas stations will also enable the provision of bill payment solutions for government and private sector services, leveraging the extensive list of payment and collection services offered by eKhales to execute most transactions through such machines. As this infrastructure continues to gain ground, the need for cash will be reduced, while the range of services will continue to be expanded with an eye to achieving financial inclusion," **concluded Sarhan**.

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## **About e-finance for Digital and Financial Investments**

e-finance Investment Group is a homegrown developer of digital payments infrastructures that was established in 2005 to develop the Egyptian Government's financial network. Over the course of nearly two decades, the Group has penetrated all corners of Egypt's digital market and transformed itself into a fully-fledged consolidated entity with a comprehensive portfolio of subsidiaries, covering the full spectrum of digital payment services. With a dynamic business model and a flexible organizational structure, e-finance is able to strategically focus on multiple target markets through its subsidiaries and maximize its ability to unlock value in the digital payments space. The Group operates a unique one-stop-shop model covering the entire e-payments value chain through several specialized subsidiaries, allowing the Group to diversify its operations and cover further links in the digital value chain. Learn more at efinanceinvestment.com



