

# **Electric Car Powers Dubai's 'Green Car' Plan**

6 November 2008

DUBAI - Dubai's efforts at going greener received another boost on Tuesday as the first electric car went on its first ride on Dubai roads. Dubai is the first city in the Gulf to license fully electric cars. The electric cars, licensed to Dubai-based business conglomerate S.S. Lootah Group, are the latest addition to the company's private transport fleet as part of its 'Green Car' programme.

"We now have two fully electricity-operated cars made by Reva. Currently, we are testing the efficiency of the car and we'll add more regional specifications once the testing is over," Nasser Lootah, director of the S.S. Lootah Group said. Lootah said the electric cars could be run up to a distance of 160km when the battery is full but the regional conditions will reduce the mileage to 70km (when battery is full).

He also said that no infrastructure has been developed in the UAE so far for recharging the batteries of electric cars. "But no sophisticated infrastructure is required for recharging of the battery. The car's battery can be recharged in a simple electric socket," he said.

The S.S. Lootah Group started its Green Car programme three years ago to address the transportation needs of the company with minimum impact on the environment.

This was part of the Group's drive towards integrating sustainability as a core driver of business strategy, in line with the vision of the country's leadership. Lootah said, "The Green Car programme has seen a great progress since starting the use of Compressed Natural Gas for our fleet, followed by the use of hybrid cars and now, electric cars."

{ Khaleej Times }