

# Dubai Duty Free welcomes Year of the Wood Snake with million-dollar draws



Chinese Consul General H.E. Ou Boqian and Dubai Duty Free officials draw winning numbers for the Millennium Millionaire promotion during Chinese New Year celebrations at Dubai International Airport

Dubai Duty Free marked the start of the Chinese New Year with a traditional celebration that seamlessly blended cultural festivities with its signature promotional draws. The event, held in Terminal 3's Concourse B at Dubai International Airport, brought together key stakeholders including Chinese diplomatic officials and Dubai Duty Free's senior management.

Managing Director Ramesh Cidambi led the Dubai Duty Free contingent, while H.E. Ou Boqian, Chinese Consul General to Dubai represented the diplomatic corps. The celebration commenced with a traditional Seal Ceremony, followed by ribbon and cake cutting ceremonies that set the stage for the day's promotional draws.

The draws, conducted by Chinese consular officials alongside Dubai Duty Free's executive team, resulted in two new millionaires. Indian national Zaheersultha Asafali claimed the first million-dollar prize in Series 487. The 38-year-old Kerala resident, who operates an optical and retail shop, purchased his winning ticket online on December 20. His win marks the 245th Indian national to secure the million-dollar prize since the promotion's inception in 1999.

The second millionaire of the day was Nicholas Bauersfeld, a 61-year-old German entrepreneur based in Kiel. His winning ticket from Series 488, purchased online on January 6, makes him the 11th German national to win the promotion since its launch.

The Finest Surprise draw added three luxury vehicle winners to the day's proceedings. Emirati

national Ahmed Al Blooshi secured his third vehicle win with Dubai Duty Free, adding a Mercedes Benz S500 to his previous wins of the same model in 2009 and a Jaguar XK 5.0 Coupe in 2011. The Abu Dhabi government employee's 20-year participation in the promotion finally yielded another success.

British engineer Robert Moloney, based in Kazakhstan, won an Aprilia RSV4 1100 motorcycle, while Dubai-based Indian designer Sujith Panakkal secured a BMW F 900 GS motorcycle after 15 years of participation in the promotion.

The event concluded with a traditional Chinese dance performance, demonstrating Dubai Duty Free's commitment to cultural engagement while maintaining its position as a leading travel retail operator.