

DMCC Tea Centre

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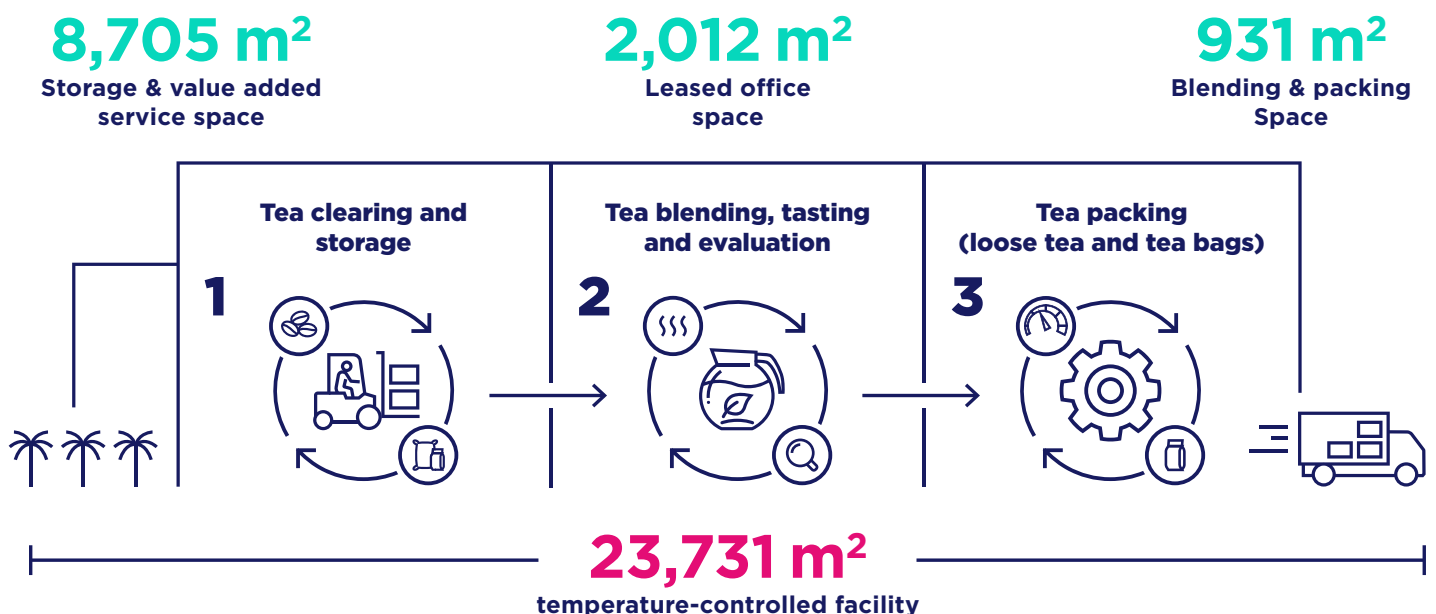
In 2005, DMCC launched the DMCC Tea Centre, a purpose-built facility that provides tea storage, processing, packing, and trading services, alongside networking opportunities between its members. Through the Tea Centre, DMCC has established the UAE as the world's largest re-exporter of tea with a majority share of the market.

The Centre supports companies and individuals in establishing and enhancing their tea businesses. It provides a comprehensive ecosystem for the tea industry with access to a purpose-built facility, world-class services and a growing community of stakeholders. Its core services include warehousing, blending and packaging solutions as well as member benefits such as tea tasting. The DMCC Tea Centre continues to develop and grow the tea trade through Dubai, allowing the emirate to remain the trusted partner for merchants and producers.

In 2023, DMCC hosted the Global Dubai Tea Forum which will bring together hundreds of international delegates to take part in expert analysis on the current state of the global tea industry, as well as debate the challenges set to define its future.

Quick Facts and Stats

- The UAE stands out as a prominent hub for tea re-exportation within the region. Among its cities, Dubai commands a significant portion of the tea market, boasting a substantial market share with an annual valuation of USD 48 million.
- Many tea suppliers from major producing countries such as China, India Africa and Sri Lanka have established a presence in DMCC to enhance their market access, increase the reliability of their supply chain, and increase cost efficiencies.



DMCC Tea Centre

- DMCC Tea Centre is a purpose-built facility that spans 23,731 sqm.
- It provides facilities and services including storage, automated black and flavoured tea blending. This includes temperature-controlled tea bag and loose tea packaging facilities, the first two-tonne drum system in the region for CTC, orthodox or leaf tea blending, office space and trade licenses for companies wanting to set up in the region, an in-house tea-tasting room for members to blend and create their own blends and brands of teas, accredited with ISO / FSSC 22,000 and HACCP certifications together with a corroboration to pack organic teas
- Located within Jebel Ali Free Zone (JAFZA), members of the DMCC Tea Centre have the option of 100% business ownership and 0% personal and corporate tax. There are also no restrictions on capital repatriation.
- Members include tea producers, exporters, regional importers and international merchants.
- The DMCC Tea Centre has over 30 members, including McLeod Russel, KTDA James Finlays, Cup of Joe, Taylors of Harrogate, Lipton and Van Rees.
- It has access to over 3,000 varieties of tea, including specialty blends, originating from India, Sri Lanka, Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Malawi, Mozambique, Burundi, Indonesia, Argentina, Vietnam, and China. Flavour varieties include masala, cardamom, aniseed, lemon ginger, and hibiscus, among many others.
- The DMCC Tea Centre handles on average over 43,000 metric tonnes of tea per year from highs of over 50,000 MT in 2017 and 2018.
- In 2022, the centre moved over 42,000 MT of tea, representing over 3,500 containers of bulk tea. It produced 8,200 tonnes of packaged tea, including 400 million tea bags.
- Machines can produce up to 40 million tea bags per month, three quarters of which are destined for the UAE market.
- The Tea Centre has capacity to store up to 5,000 metric tonnes of bulk teas at any given time. DMCC provides a limited free storage to all its members to all its members and also offers companies the option to lease space within purpose-built premises.
- Due to increasing demand, the Tea Centre has increased the surface area of its facilities by 25% in recent years, accommodating new state-of-the-art machinery and temperature-controlled storage facilities for specialty teas.

DMCC's Tea Industry Leaders



Ahmed Bin Sulayem

Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer | DMCC

Ahmed Bin Sulayem is the Executive Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of DMCC and has driven its growth from a start-up of 28 member companies in 2003 to the world's leading free zone in 2023 with over 24,000 member companies from 180 countries, employing over 65,000 people.



Saeed Al Suwaidi

Director of Agri Commodities | DMCC

Appointed to the role in January 2022, Saeed is responsible for driving the strategic growth and expansion of DMCC's soft commodity portfolio and related ecosystems.

With vast experience in international supply chains, logistics and FMCG digital business models, Saeed leads the operational management and commercial teams at both the DMCC Coffee Centre and DMCC Tea Centre. He is also tasked with engaging DMCC's growing number of local, regional and international members in the agriculture commodities sector.

DMCC. Made for Trade.

For more information, visit www.dmcc.ae.