

Dredging company gets international recognition

Middle East Dredging Company (Medco) has announced it has been awarded OHSAS 18001 and ISO 140001 and 9001 certificates by UK-based Lloyds Register Quality Assurance.

“Medco, in addition to its core business of dredging and reclamation, was lauded for the quality of their projects that span design, development, marine engineering, environmental study, embankments, soil improvements and ports development,” explained a spokesperson.

The company was also praised for its work in port basins, approach channels, airport developments, oil and gas site preparations, quarrying activities and various other related fields.

The certificates concern health and safety standards, as well as those related to engineering and environmental issues, and make Medco one of a few companies in the region possessing these approvals. Medco’s projects, currently underway in Qatar, UAE and other Gulf countries, were also commended for being environmentally friendly as well as technologically advanced. “This shows Medco’s seamless integration of management functions and their passion in meeting their environmental and economic goals,” added the spokesperson.

Medco is a joint venture between UDC, Dredging Environmental and Marine Engineering which was incorporated in 2004. The company began its work on the Pearl-Qatar where it completed its dredging and land reclamation project in 2007. Since then it has worked on the New Doha International Airport, and recently completed the first two phases of the Qatar-Bahrain causeway.

A company representative noted that the company has recently invested 100mn euros in ‘Al Jarraf,’ a new cutter suction dredger, and has also recently purchased two brand new floating pontoons to assist with rock installation of breakwaters and embankments.

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UK official slams Libya attacks on civilians

The regional UK Foreign Office spokesman Martin Day has said his country condemns the excessive use of force against civilian protesters in Libya and the killing of media persons in conflict zones.

Day, who was talking to reporters at the British embassy, said the regime in Tripoli should listen to the legitimate demands of the people and hold dialogue with them.

The official said that the Libyan regime lost its legitimacy and it was time for Muammar Gaddafi to leave in order to open the door for a constructive dialogue for a better future. The British official said his country was against external intervention saying that London and Paris were working along with other parties on a draft law in the UN's Security Council to impose a no-fly zone in Libya. He said the revolutions in Tunisia and Egypt were golden opportunities to make the Middle East more stable and flourishing. Our country is backing basic human rights in every place in the world, he said. On the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the British official said that his government lost hope of achieving peace as the window of peace was shut down.

"There is no alternative to negotiations between the two parties to establish a Palestinian state living side by side with Israel. Jerusalem, we believe



Martin Day

should be the capital city of both states," he said. The Israeli settlements in the West Bank were illegal and a barrier on the road to peace, he added.

On the Iranian nuclear dossier, the British official said Tehran had the right to establish a programme for peaceful purposes but said that Iran had failed to co-operate with the demand of the international community. Day said that Iran was negatively intervening in the Arab world's affairs and "we are ready to discuss the regional role of Iran but not at the expense of the region's countries."

Day said his country was looking forward to double the volume of trade with Qatar, currently estimated at \$2bn. He also mentioned that there are 1,500 Qatari students in the UK.

Day also hailed the Qatari-British relations as "excellent in all fields." Page 12



Cael employees at the beach.

Employees in beach clean-up campaign

More than 100 employees of Chiyoda Almana Engineering LLC (CAEL), a joint venture between Chiyoda Corporation, Japan and Almana Group took part in a beach clean-up or-

ganised as part of the company's third anniversary.

The volunteers, led by general manager Kazumi Ikeda cleaned the A-1 Dhalouf beach in Shamal. The drive was done in

close co-ordination with the Beaches & Islands Monitoring Unit at the Ministry of Municipal Affairs & Urban Planning. CAEL employees gathered more than 400 bags of assorted garbage from the

site. The event was held in the spirit of Chiyoda's and CAEL's Corporate Social Responsibility slogan "Harmony between Energy and Environment," a company spokesman said.

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