

German/local alliance benefits from JLT boom

CONSTRUCTION | UAE

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The local/German **Al-Rostamani Pegel (ARP)** has been awarded two contracts for high-rise buildings on the Jumeirah Lake Towers (JLT) development in Dubai. The awards coincided with local real estate developer **Al-Fajer Properties** unveiling plans for two more towers and US-based **Stellar Group** being awarded the contract for JLT's district cooling system. JLT, which is being promoted by the local **Nakheel**, will have more than 70 high-rise towers, nearly all of which will be built by private developers.

ARP has been awarded the estimated AED 145 million (\$40 million) contract to build the Indigo Icon tower. The 18-20-month contract calls for the construction of a 34-storey office tower with an A-shaped frame and indigo-coloured glass. The UK's **Atkins** is the lead consultant. Local real estate developer **Emirates Properties Investment (EPI)** is the client. ARP is also building EPI's 35-storey Indigo Tower residential project (MEED 8:10:05).

ARP has also started work on the main construction package for the estimated AED 294 million (\$80 million) Concorde Tower project. The project calls for the construction of a 45-storey residential tower with associated leisure facilities. The local **NSCC** has completed the piling, shoring and excavation and dewatering. The lead consultant is the local **Arif & Bintoak**. The UK's **Hyder Consulting** is the structural engineering consultant. New York-based **32Group** is the client (MEED 25:2:05).

Al-Fajer announced on 6 December its Jumeirah Business Centre project, which will see construction of two commercial buildings of 39 and 44 storeys each. Total estimated costs are AED 470 million (\$128 million), with the towers having a built-up area of about 87,000 square metres. Construction is due to be completed by the first quarter of 2008. The local **Al-Ahmadiyah Contracting & Trading Company** is the main contractor. The local **National Engineering Bureau (NEB)** is the consultant.

Further building awards are approaching at JLT. Eight groups have been invited to submit bids by 10 December for the three towers on the cluster X development. The project involves the construction of two 39-storey residential towers and one 45-storey office tower. The consultant is NEB and the project manager is the US' **Morganti**. **First Gulf Bank** is the client (MEED 28:10:05).

For the first phase of the JLT district cooling scheme, Stellarwill build three cooling plants under an estimated AED 340 million (\$93 million) contract. The plants will have a capacity of 28,000-42,000 tonnes of cooling. Later phases will bring the total capacity of the system up to 140,000 tonnes. The local/UK **Dutco Balfour Beatty** has been selected for the civil works package on the scheme. The local **Palm District Cooling** is the client.

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