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## Local-French JV scoops Safina

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A joint venture of the local **NSCC** with France's **Soletanche Bachy** has received a letter of intent for the marine works package on the Safina shipbuilding facility at Dubai Drydocks. The scope of the offshore works includes dredging, a concrete platform with associated pipework and a launching facility. The new facility will enable the shipyard to build 60-metre-wide vessels with a depth of 30 metres. The project is the final part of the estimated \$200 million expansion of the docks. The client, Dubai Ports, Customs & Free Zone Corporation (DPCFZC), is also in the process of awarding associated contracts for the supply of equipment for the onshore elements before clarifying the required foundations and civil works. Onshore, the works cover construction of workshops, a ground assembly area and a 55-metre-high, 300-tonne crane. The Netherlands' **Royal Haskoning** is the consultant. Commissioned in 1983, Dubai Drydocks is one of the Gulf's leading ship repair yards. In July, it was incorporated into the DPCFZ, following the issue of a decree by Dubai ruler Shaikh Maktoum bin Rashid al-Maktoum (MEED 6:5:05).

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