

PROJECT PROFILE

Application/Building Type: Hospital

Project Name: Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi

Location: Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

General Contractor: Sixco-Samsung (joint venture)

Architects: HDR, Inc.

Featured Products: USG Sheetrock® Brand Mold Tough® gypsum panels
USG Sheetrock® Brand Plus 3® lightweight all purpose joint compound,
USG Durock® Brand cement board Next Gen
USG Sheetrock® brand Cavity Shaft Wall



GLOBAL BUILD: JUST WHAT THE DOCTOR ORDERED FOR CLEVELAND CLINIC ABU DHABI

Scheduled for completion in December of 2012, the Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi medical center promises to be a striking landmark that soars above the shores of Sowwah Island, the heart of Abu Dhabi's new central business district. Designed by Omaha, Nebraska-based firm HDR, the hospital's modern exterior gives voice to its purpose as a center for advanced medical care, while a layout based on a village concept builds a sense of warmth, healing and community.

Given the size and complexity of this 2.7-million-square-foot project, it is understandable that developers have had challenges during construction. One of the most significant occurred in June of 2011, when product delivered to the jobsite arrived without the necessary quality certificates. With an impossibly tight time line and 20,000 workers scheduled to be on-site, the developers turned to USG.

"We have a great relationship with many of the developers in the region, so it's natural that we were one of the resources they reached out to for a solution." said Elie Mattar, Sales Manager Dubai Office, USG Middle East.

And working under a tight deadline, USG was not only able to provide the necessary proof-of-performance documents, but was also able to supply the product itself.

"The teams are used to big jobs such as this, and they know how to handle it—even under stress," noted Derek Sanderson, International Sales and Market Support Manager. To answer the call from the developers, USG North America and USG Middle East worked around the clock in two dramatically different time zones to ensure product arrived in Abu Dhabi within 10 days of the initial call. Due to an accelerated construction schedule, the first shipments of Sheetrock® Brand Mold Tough® gypsum panels were sent by plane.

However, having product in place was just the first step in a challenging delivery process. In total, the project called for roughly 11 million square feet of gypsum panels. To meet this demand, as many as 30 containers of wallboard were shipped to Abu Dhabi each week. Careful logistical consideration had to be given to prevent congestion at the distributor's warehouses, and to ensure there would be no

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disruption of work due to too much, or too little, product at the jobsite itself. Detailed planning and a valuable partnership with one of the largest building material distributors in the United Arab Emirates ensured the build process would not be disrupted.

In addition to gypsum panels, USG also supplied Sheetrock® Brand Plus 3® lightweight all purpose joint compound, Durock® cement board Next Gen, as well as the components of the USG Sheetrock® brand Cavity Shaft Wall System, a fire-rated assembly consisting of gypsum board, steel and insulation that encloses elevator and mechanical shafts. "USG was the only party that was able to offer solutions that met the technical, acoustical and fire rating requirements of such a big project," said John Funes, Export Sales Specialist, USG International.

And the USG teams in place delivered much more than just product and logistical support. USG Chicago and Middle East also offered technical assistance related to the different systems used on the job. "Much of the support we offered was in the evaluation of the partition and wall designs regarding sound and fire resistance," explains John. "We also provided support and documentation for mold and moisture resistance, as well as assistance in the design and implementation of the shaft wall system."

In addition to the Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi, USG has been involved with numerous other projects in the Middle East, including the Burj Khalifa and the Dubai Airport in the United Arab Emirates. "We're there on the ground with the project while the teams in the USA provide support and services that are essential to most of the jobs that we are awarded," says Elie. "We truly are one team. It's that ability to work together that allows us to deliver high levels of service."

For more information on the USG products being used to help build the Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi or to learn how USG can help with your next international project, contact your local Architectural Sales Representative.

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