

## Palm Islands eclipse all other projects

Georg Fischer helps build the "Eighth Wonder of the World"

Three man-made, palm-shaped islands are becoming the veritable hallmark of the boom emirate Dubai. On the first of these three islands, construction work on the "Eighth Wonder of the World" is already at an advanced stage and should be completed in 2008. "The Palm" is expected to draw some 15 millions tourists a year to the country by 2010. Georg Fischer Piping Systems is involved in a number of projects here and has a prominent presence with almost all its product groups represented.



Dubai – the emirate of the superlatives – is growing at an incredible pace, a dynamism that is reflected in dozens of spectacular construction projects. One of the most breathtaking is the group of three Palm islands. They are being built in the shape of huge palm trees with 17 fronds with a diameter of between 8 and 20 kilometres. Each of the islands has a total coastline ranging in length from 25 to 60 kilometres. 2,000 residential villas, numerous apartment houses, luxury hotels, shopping malls and several marinas are being built on Palm Jumeirah Island, the first of the three islands.

Experts from Georg Fischer have been involved since the planning stage right up to construction and monitoring of the building site. Wolfgang Roenfeldt, the manager of the local GF branch, is enthusiastic: "Products from Georg

Fischer are omnipresent here: in hotels and theme parks, apartment houses and villas, GF products are being used for water treatment, water distribution and district cooling".

During the construction phase, reaching the island is difficult, so floating camps are being built for some 3,000 workers and anchored off the island. As this has to be done quickly, the new connector system iFit has emerged as the best and fastest solution for the installation of the drinking water supply. Engineers from GF were closely involved in the construction work.

The most ambitious project on the island so far is the Atlantis Hotel. Eventually, it will have 1,600 rooms and an aquapark featuring huge aquariums and a water theme park. At the moment, though, the place where tourists will one day be able to exclaim in wonder over sharks and dolphins is still just a bewildering labyrinth of pipes. Here too GF is involved in a number of projects; for instance it is supplying a modern piping system for water distribution.

### Tourist paradise

There are no inclines on the island, which means that no standard sewage system can be installed and so wastewater has to be sucked away using vacuum technology. PVC systems from GF have been chosen for this task. The facilities and buildings on the "trunk" of the palm are to be air conditioned via a district cooling plant. GF engineers ensure that the plant runs smoothly, providing detailed planning of the compressed air lines in the machine room. The foam-insulated district cooling pipes are sheathed in polyethylene and joined together using ELGEF Plus fittings. Georg Fischer has equipped several hundred villas with a hot and cold water supply system. Most of the island's 2,500 pools were installed with GF fittings and mountings, and GF systems are also frequent features of the systems put in place for the irrigation of its green spaces. In brief: Georg Fischer is prominently involved in the construction of the "Eighth Wonder of the World".

## Our viewpoint

# A unique opportunity

“Thanks to our know-how and comprehensive product range, we are very well positioned in Dubai. The unique projects being built in the Gulf region provide us with an opportunity to grow further and to demonstrate our expertise for every application”.

*Wolfgang Roenfeldt, Head of the Dubai branch of GF Piping Systems*

## Potential for success

# Dubai's boom ingredients

### 15 million US dollars invested

The ruling family is going all out to spur on economic growth. Dubai, it is hoped, will become a commercial hub and turn into a major tourist and shopping destination. In recent years, the government has pumped 15 billion US dollars into developing the Emirate.

### Population expected to quadruple

US-Right now, the total value of building projects on the drawing boards or under construction in Dubai is over 100 billion US dollars. All the projects – residential units, leisure facilities, shopping malls – are geared to the some five million inhabitants who are expected to live here by 2020. The current population is 1.2 million.

### Free trade zone

Dubai is a free trade zone, with a sea port, without any duties or taxes. Thanks to the success of diversification, only ten percent of revenues come from oil. Investors are being drawn to Dubai by the attractive conditions.

### The Palm

The tourist paradise that is being built is close to the legendary luxury hotel Burj Al Arab. Among the highlights of these artificial islands are their stunning beaches made of sand dredged from the sand banks off the coast. A breakwater of massive stones protects the artificial beaches against erosion and the waves that can reach four metres in height.

## Piping systems from GF in Dubai

# A smoothly running partnership

### GF has its own branch

Georg Fischer has been supplying fittings and mountings to the Arab countries for 30 years now and has been represented by its own staff in Dubai since 1999.

### Tried and proven joint venture

With its local partner Hepworth PME, GF has had a smoothly running joint venture for 30 years. Both companies are well known as suppliers of high-quality components for pipeline engineering.

### Attractive growth market

The numerous large-scale construction projects make Dubai a growth market par excellence. Georg Fischer Piping Systems is present with its entire product range and has become a key player in this market.

## «Adding Quality to People's Lives»

# Fresh and cool drinking water – even at extreme temperatures

### Meeting demands for comfort

Especially in extremely hot and dry regions, ensuring a constant supply of best-quality drinking water at the right temperature is absolutely crucial for life of every kind. Georg Fischer guarantees this with its product range and ensures that guests' demands for comfort are met on the Palm Islands too.