

REGIONAL REPORT – UAE – APRIL 2008



Report on Projects & Project Management in the UAE End of March 2008

*By Mounir Ajam, MS, PMP
International Correspondent for PMForum & PM World Today
Dubai, UAE*

PM Profession News

Global Project & Process Management Association (GPPMA)

How to Achieve Energy Efficient Design

Although GPPMA has not been fully registered yesterday, it has conducted its fourth monthly event on 26 March 2008.



Figure 0: GPPMA Volunteers and Speakers (Left to Right: Godwin Manuel, Mounir Ajam, Montaser Zamzam, Sofien Dhoub, Adam Benatovich, and Edward Hsu)

The event's main sponsor was, once again SUKAD FZ-LLC (www.sukad.com). SUKAD has been a leading sponsor with Dubai Knowledge Village to GPPMA and in promoting professional project management in the community.

The speaker was Mr. Montaser Zamzam, Senior Energy Specialist with Abu Dhabi Company for Onshore (ADCO). Mr. Montaser Zamzam has twenty three (23) years diversified experience in various aspects of project management and engineering development involved in major

industrial, petroleum, petrochemical and buildings projects engaged in feasibility

studies, pre engineering and engineering concepts, design and development of mechanical systems, and construction support.

Energy-efficient facilities reduce both resource depletion and the adverse environmental impacts of pollution generated by energy production, it is often considered to be the cornerstone of sustainable design. Optimization of energy during the design stage of a new project is an essential strategy to achieve low-energy facility. Low-energy facility design is not just the result of applying one or more isolated technologies. Rather, it is an integrated process that requires advocacy and action on the part of the design team throughout the entire project development process.



Figure 0: The Speaker Mr. Montaser Zamzam

The event included about 90-100 professionals from various industries and nationalities and it was quite interactive.

Before the main speaker, Mr. Mounir Ajam, CEO of SUKAD FZ-LLC and Chairman of the Global Project and Process Management Association, introduced GPPMA to the audience, most of them were attendees of a GPPMA event for the first time.

The drivers behind this event are GPPMA Mr. Sofien Dhouib (GPPMA VP Programs) and Mr. Adam Benatovich (GPPMA videographer and volunteer). Mr. Dhouib has been outstanding in ensuring these valuable monthly events even though GPPMA is still in the start-up stage. Mr. Benatovich, has been a volunteer from the start and since he is based in Abu Dhabi, the Capital of the UAE, has played an important role in securing the venue at discounted rates and helped in getting a large number of attendees at our first Abu Dhabi event.

SUKAD FZ-LLC (www.sukad.com), a project management consultancy and training provider based in Dubai. SUKAD is the emerging leader for project management solutions in the Middle East and its objective is to Simplify Excellence in project management.

For more information about the association and future event, please check our temporary webpage www.gppma.org and once the official website is launched it would be communicated to all as well.

Credits: pictures above are by Mr. Pramod Mohan of SUKAD FZ-LLC

Future Events

GPPMA Next Event

The Global Project and Process Management Association next event will be in late April in Dubai and it will feature the director of Learning and Development at Nakheel, the master developer of the Palms Projects and the World. The event will be sponsored by Dubai Knowledge Village.

SUKAD Simplifying Excellence

Once again, SUKAD and Dubai Knowledge Village, partner together to bring in an important complimentary event to our professional community in the United Arab Emirates. That event will take place on 17 April 2009 at Dubai Knowledge Village and will host a group of highly recognized local and international speakers. For more information about this event and for registration, contact SUKAD at info@sukad.com or check the SUKAD website www.sukad.com.

Dubai Projects News

Burj Dubai Delay

Earlier this month, EMAAR, the master developer of Burj Dubai, the tallest structure in the world, has announced a 4 months delay in completing the project. The initial plan called for completion by the end of 2008 but this date is obviously at risk at this time due to the announced delays. EMAAR did not provide any details about the reasons behind this delay.

Construction on this project was hit by labor strikes in the past, with the most recent in November 2007.

At the time of the report, the Burj is already more than 600 meters in height

Credits: Reports is extracted from Arabian Business





Mounir Ajam

International Correspondent – UAE



Mounir A. Ajam, MS, PMP, is an International Correspondent for **PMForum** in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE). He is also chief executive officer of SUKAD FZ-LLC (www.sukad.com), an Innovation Centre based in Dubai Knowledge Village and with services provided across the Middle East. Mr. Ajam is a PM expert with 21 years of experience in the engineering, construction, oil, gas, and petrochemical industries, and on both large and small projects in various locations in the Middle East, Southeast Asia, UK and USA. Mr. Ajam has an MS in Engineering & Construction Management from the University of California at Berkeley (USA) and a BS (honors) in Civil Engineering from the University of Houston (USA). He received his PMP® certification from the Project Management Institute (PMI®) in 1998 and graduated from PMI's Leadership Institute Masters Class in 2007. In addition to his professional expertise, Mr. Ajam is a volunteer leader and his volunteer role includes: currently he is the founding Chairman of the Board for the Global Project and Process Management Association (www.gppma.org) and is on PMI® 2008 EMEA Global Congress Project Action Team. He is a past director for the PMI-Arabian Gulf Chapter and a past member of PMI® Registered Education Provider program Advisory Group. Additional information about Mr. Ajam can be found at <http://www.pmforum.org/pm%20forum%20team/index.htm#5>. Mounir lives in Dubai and can be contacted at mounir.ajam@sukad.com.