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Case study:

Project: Emirates Palace Hotel, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates





Arabian patterns provide a unique flair.



Reminiscent of the monumental buildings of the ancient Orient.



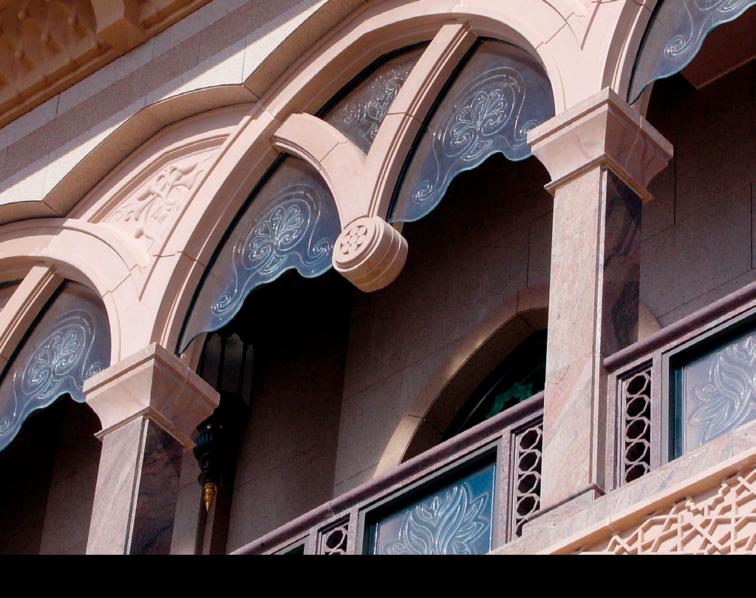


Emirates Palace: A hotel from A Thousand and One Nights.

A fairytale castle with five stars

In a part of the world where impressive buildings are not exactly thin on the ground, a hotel building needs to have quite a few special attributes to make it stand out. The Emirates Palace in Abu Dhabi certainly has an awesome number of those.

The five-star hotel is one of the largest in the world and offers a whole range of superlatives. 250,000 cubic metres of concrete coloured with Bayferrox® pigments were used to build the hotel on an area of 243,000 square metres. 20,000 building workers were involved in the construction of the palace. The giant building has a perimeter of 2.5 kilometres, and the 40-metre high archway at the hotel entrance is taller than Berlin's Brandenburg Gate. The inside of the hotel also matches up to these structural superlatives: 102 elevators take the guests to the 302 rooms and 92 suites. The kilometer-long corridors are provided with several thousand signs to prevent the guests from getting lost.



A hotel sets new standards.

Arabian tradition meets modern construction engineering

Designed like a fairytale castle, a dream from A Thousand and One Nights. In style the Emirates Palace is reminiscent of the large buildings of the ancient Orient. Integrally coloured concrete combined with marble, granite and sandstone give the building a unique appearance. The colour of the façade matches the various shades of sand in the Arabian desert. Traditional oriental patterns have, with the help of modern technology, become an integral part of the façade.

The architectural highlights are the 114 domes decorated with gold leaf. The highest of them has a diameter of 42 metres, a size matched only by St. Peter's Basilica in Rome.





"The contrast between modern technology and traditional forms fascinated me!"

Jeremy Heyes, Senior Vice President

Wimberly Allison Tong & Goo

Jeremy Heyes' career is marked by more than 20 years of experience in planning and architecture, both at home in the U.K. and abroad. He combines top design skills with a flair for project management. One of his showcase projects is the Emirates Palace Hotel in Abu Dhabi, now famed as the most expensive and most exclusive hotel in the world. Jeremy Heyes received his Postgraduate Diploma and Bachelor of Arts in Architecture with honors at the Leeds Polytechnic School of Architecture in England.

Oriental magnificence built with state-of-the-art technology.



Designed in the colours of the desert.

Natural stone and coloured concrete become one.

In the design and implementation of large buildings like the Emirates Palace Hotel with its perimeter of 2.5 kilometres, both aesthetic demands and economic issues play a crucial role. Concrete, integrally coloured with Bayferrox® pigments, and natural stone form a perfect union in the façade of the Emirates Palace: On an area of 120,000 square metres, decorative, sweeping elements made of glass fiberreinforced, integrally coloured concrete, have been blended into the flat surface, while natural stone was used to create special highlights, and has also been used in the reception area. The concrete components coloured with Bayferrox® pigments simulate the natural texture and colourfulness of various granite shades such as Salisbury Pink, Royal Red

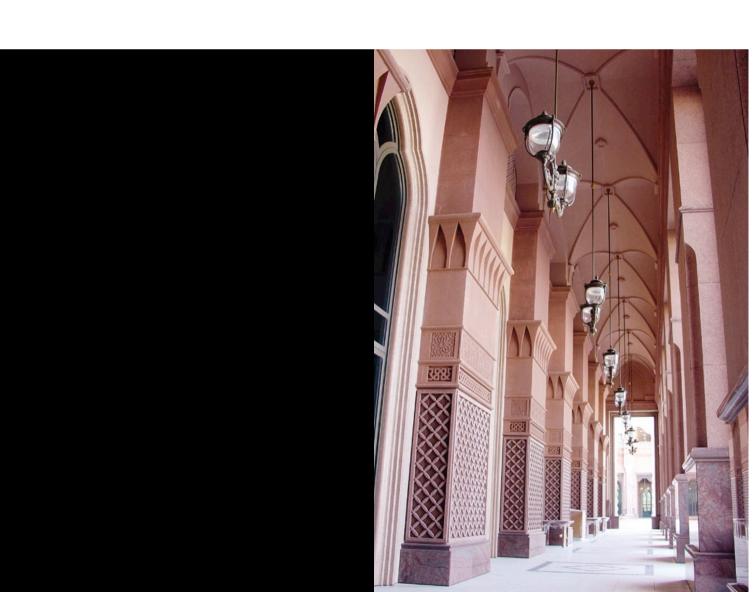
and Juparana, and thus blend harmoniously with the natural stone. "The Emirates Palace Hotel displays concrete in its optimal form. The use of flexible moulds not only allows a high level of versatility in architectural design, it also ensures economic efficiency," said Dr. Bernd Trompeter, Managing Director of Reckli GmbH. A total of 60 tons of Bayferrox® 920, Bayferrox® 960 and Bayferrox® 130 pigments were used. They were added to the cement slurry to create a monolithic, homogeneous colour effect. Fibrex Co. in Abu Dhabi was responsible for producing the highly decorative prefabricated glass fiber reinforced concrete elements.

Concrete in the colours of the desert.





Arabian ornamentation with 'fairytale' highlights.



Project data

A building from A Thousand and One Nights.



Location

Abu Dhabi

Architecture

Wimberly Allison Tong and Goo (WATG)

Client

Private Board of Directors representing the Government of Abu Dhabi.

Partners in the project

Fibrex Co. Reckli GmbH

Construction period

December 2001 to February 2005

Area

243,000 m²

Volume of concrete

250,000 m³

Form of supply

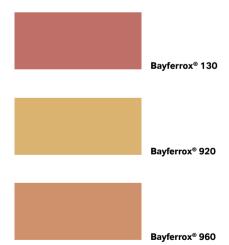
20-25 kg paper sacks

Pigments



Elastic formliners and moulds





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