

Massive investments witnessed in the construction industry

BY WILLIAM FARIA

DUBAI: New products and technologies continue to be unveiled within the building and construction industry as the Big 5 2012 exhibition opened its third day on Wednesday at Dubai International Exhibition and Convention Centre.

The UAE is one of the largest and fastest growing economies in the Middle East.

The country has witnessed massive investments in the construction industry from both public and private enterprises during the past few years.

The Big 5 has grown to become the largest of its kind for the building and construction industry and a truly international stage for the leading construction, building mate-

rials and shop fitting industry, Danube Group.

The Big 5 is an excellent platform, serving the purpose of networking, managing market perception and exception. We are extremely pleased to be part of this show once again. The event has been an ideal business platform for construction industry professionals providing us an opportunity to carry on serious business with like-minded professionals and also create a stronger market presence in the region," said Amis Sajjan, Managing Director of Danube Group.

pace and the current market situation shows increased signs of the industry gaining pace once again. The construction industry today is more consolidated with real estate growth allowing us to optimize on maximum opportunities. There is a definite trend to this year's event with the Middle East's construction sector being a key focus for the industry leaders," said Rizwan Sajjan, Founder and Chairman, of Danube Group.

manufacturers allowing it to optimize on maximum opportunities.

The Gulf's Dh4.3 billion construction, shoring and materials going to witness a major shift with the introduction of the game-changing RMD Shuttering Panels, launched by Dubai-based JKD Interiors, at the Big 5 2012.

The company, which in September 2011, commissioned a \$300-million composite-polypropylene board manufacturing plant (RMD-Board-Jebel Ali), has unveiled the products at the Big 5 2012.

Paul Well, the leading construction appliance solutions company, has seen a six per cent growth in its 2012 business, anticipating double for the year ahead.

Launching its new technology focused vision

for the coming two years, the company will be displaying a range of its solutions at The Big 5 2012 this week.

This year represents a significant milestone in the company's future, as we move towards a new era in construction solutions, says George Hallal, general manager of Paul Well.

The latest products and innovations from heavy industry and concrete related industries were unveiled at Middle East Concrete and PMW Live, which opened their doors alongside The Big 5 2012 on Monday. Many exhibiting companies have chosen the events as a launch platform to the industry.

"The shows have grown to become a key event for the plant, machinery, vehicle and concrete sectors," says

Nathan Waugh, event manager, Middle East Concrete and PMW Live.

"Together with the alignment alongside The Big 5, we have seen a number of companies choose the events to launch their products and services to the market, taking advantage of the significant regional and international audience participating during these four days."

Exhibitor Austria's Doka, who launched a cost-effective housing solution for the residential construction sector, compared with traditional formwork, Doka's 18 offers a major reduction in the price of panel and slab formwork systems and speeds up construction workflows. Doka facilities in the Middle East are offering an exclusive and cost-effective ready-to-use preassembly service.

In addition, the Boecker Group from Germany, demonstrated its aluminium trailer crane and glass handling equipment, designed and from Mini Cranes from UNIC Europe and the US, and in Japan, with its exclusive partners, UNIC Cranes Europe.

Wilhelmschöck, who has been exhibiting for the past three years, introduced Isokorb, a unique technology that reduces power consumption while being environmentally efficient.

Wast. Demonstrations included concrete cutting, drilling machinery, formwork and lifting equipment.

A report by CPH World Media, the business research and intelligence firm indicated that UAE has the largest number of active projects in the Middle East region, with more than 1,200 on-going projects, worth nearly \$93.1bn in 2012.

The UAE is among the top countries in terms of per-capita expenditure on construction costs.

According to a newly released report by RNCOS, the UAE construction industry is expected to grow at a CAGR of around 7 per cent during 2010-2013. Rapid economic development is the major factor driving construction activities and infrastructure development in the UAE.

OPPORTUNITIES

By participating at the Big 5 Show Danube aims to expand its reach to various countries over the next six months across the MENA region. This will help the company build connections with the local distributors and

ACTIVITIES

The outdoor arena at the event was also a hive of product activity, with live demonstrations taking place throughout the day, and a number of key suppliers such as MAN Truck and Bus, United Motors, Hyundai and Al