



**UAE triumphs at 2012 Hospital Build & Infrastructure Awards in Dubai**

*Decision makers from the Middle East's healthcare construction and management industry gather at Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East Exhibition & Congress*

The winners for the 2012 Hospital Build & Infrastructure Awards were announced this morning at the Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East Exhibition & Congress, which got underway today at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre. The UAE scooped five of the eight Awards categories including the most coveted titles such as Best Hospital Design (Built), Best Sustainable Hospital Project and Best Physical Environment.

The 4th Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East Exhibition & Congress was officially inaugurated this morning by His Excellency Abdul Rahman Mohammed Al Owais, Minister of Culture, Youth and Community Development and Acting Minister of Health, who was accompanied by senior government officials and organisers, Informa Life Sciences Exhibitions.

Also at the official opening ceremony, His Excellency Qadhi Saeed Al Murooshid, Director General of the Dubai Health Authority said, "The Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East conference is of significant importance as it discusses all aspects of hospital infrastructure and brings together experts in the field to discuss the latest advances and innovations in hospital design. Holding such conferences facilitates knowledge exchange, which is essential to keep pace with the ever changing developments in the field."

Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East is where top-level decision makers from the Middle East's healthcare construction and management industry can network with 130 key exhibitors in the field. With an estimated 4,500 visitors over the three-day exhibition and congress, Hospital Build & Infrastructure Middle East continues to attract players in hospital planning, design, construction, operations, management, supply and refurbishment.

The winners for the eight Awards categories are as follows: Best Hospital Design (Built) – Burjeel Hospital, UAE; Best Hospital Design (Future) – Cannon Design for the King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre, KSA; Best Physical Environment – Dubai Health Authority's Dubai Diabetic Centre, UAE; Best Sustainable Hospital Project – Sheikh Khalifa Medical City by HAAD & ITS, UAE; Best Technology Initiative – Surgical Technology Innovative Facility by Hamad Medical Corporation, Qatar; Best Healing Environment – International Medical Centre, KSA; Best Initiative to Improve Health Care Facilities – HAAD Health Facility Guidelines, UAE; The M+Health Award for the Best Health Care Initiative by a Telecom Provider – Du, UAE.

As the healthcare industry thrives and grows there is a need to recognise and reward industry leaders and innovators. The judging panel, which included Ted Jacobs, president and founder of Ted Jacobs Engineering Group from the USA, Malek El Hussein, business development director, GE Healthcare Middle East, and Karen Reno, lead consultant, Joint Commission Resources Inc., examined almost 200 nominations submitted by healthcare facilities from around the Middle East region.

For the Best Sustainable Hospital Project category, the judges looked at projects that were developed and funded by organisations in the Middle East, which advance sustainable development through design.

"We are delighted that the new Sheikh Khalifa Medical City has been recognised as the Best Sustainable Hospital Project at Hospital Build this year," says Paul Whitson, Director of Health & Science at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP, commenting on their win for Sheikh Khalifa Medical City. "Through the use of next generation photovoltaic technology and integrated phytoremediation systems, this project promises to be one of the most technologically-advanced, environmentally-sensitive medical complexes in the region. On behalf of ITS – our joint venture with ICME and Tilke – we accept this award with honor."

According to judge Ted Jacobs, "This project exemplifies the best sustainable design initiative that has qualified the project to receive the Estidama 2-Pearl rating."

Commenting on the DHA's win for Best Physical Environment for the new Dubai Diabetic Centre, Al Murooshid says: "The new Dubai Diabetic Centre represents a unique example of a friendly physical environment for adult and pediatric patients who shall visit the clinic. At the DHA, ensuring that our environment is comfortable and welcoming is of pivotal importance. This design ensures a child-friendly environment and is appealing for adults as well. At the end of the day, for us, it is important to make sure that the patients are happy both with our services and the environment of our hospital and health centres."

Running alongside the exhibition is a three-day CME accredited conference programme with 600 delegates covering topics such as Surgery Management, mHealth, Architecture, Hospital Design & Infrastructure, Quality Management & Accreditation, Healthcare Management and Imaging & Diagnostics.

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