Kryton in the **Middle East**

The Middle East is home to some of the world's fastest growing economies. Driven by oil and natural gas revenues, and backed by decades of saved petroleum revenues, many countries in the Middle East are fueled for growth. This is creating a building and investment boom with large scale infrastructure projects throughout the region.

Dubai, UAE, in particular, has gained notoriety over the past decade for the scale and ingenuity of its construction projects. Projects such as the Palm Jumeirah, the Burj Dubai tower, Ski Dubai and the Dubai Marina have transformed Dubai into an international destination. However, the current global economic crisis is causing some Dubai-based developers to refocus their sights in places such as Qatar, Saudi Arabia and Abu Dhabi, where expansionary government budgets and promises of sustained growth are raising hopes for riding out the economic downturn.

Kryton is already ahead of the game. The company began its involvement in the Middle East in 2001 and established local business operations in Dubai in 2004. Since then, it has been a part of numerous large scale development projects. Today, with an impressive list of accomplishments in Dubai, Kryton is actively expanding its reach. The company has distributors in Oman, Bahrain, United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon and Qatar. It is an active player in the rapid industrial development taking place in Saudi Arabia and the rebuilding work of the Beirut suburbs development project.

In February, Kryton co-hosted a series of seminars with BMC, the company's distributor in Saudi Arabia, showcasing the superiority of its Krystol® Internal Membrane™ (KIM®) admixture over waterproofing membranes. The seminars were extremely successful, attracting 150 of the top consultants and contractors in each city. BMC is the largest waterproofing company in Saudi Arabia and Kryton is looking forward to its new partnership with the company.

Kryton has built a solid reputation as a trusted source for concrete waterproofing solutions. This reputation is backed by the certification standards and approvals received by its products from Kuwait (2004) and Dubai (2007) for use with potable water, resistance to water under hydrostatic pressure, durability and compressive strength. In addition to its growing list of distributors, Kryton has opened a sales office in the UAE to better serve its customers in the region.

Here is an overview of **5 current or recent Kryton projects in the Middle East**:

Chirag Residential & Commercial Building, Dubai, United Arab Emirates

Chirag Residential & Commercial Building is located in Al Barsha, a sub-community within Dubai that incorporates residential and commercial buildings. Kryton was involved in waterproofing three basements in the community – some of the deepest in Dubai. Some basements reached 12 metres deep with the water table at 9.5 metres. In the Chirag Building, around 29,000 kgs of KIM-HS was used in the raft slab, retaining walls and water tank, of which more than 20 tonnes was in the raft slab alone. About 1,250 lineal metres of the Krystol Waterstop System was used to waterproof six horizontal joints and the wall to slab joints. The contractor says choosing KIM-HS over a membrane waterproofing system saved over 45 days in construction time. This project is scheduled for completion in 2010.

Al Mashfa Hospital, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

This 10-storey full-service private hospital is located one kilometre from the banks of the Red Sea. After discovering an underground lake while excavating for the two-level underground parking garage, construction was behind schedule and the project team could not afford further costly delays. "KIM-HS was the only solution," says Eng. Hamid Elmas, the project consultant. More than 51,000 kgs of KIM-HS treated concrete was used to cover 6,413 cubic metres of concrete over an area of 4,045 square metres. Using Krystol concrete waterproofing products, the Al Mashfa Group saved 48 days in construction and thousands of dollars in waterproofing and cold joint construction. The project is scheduled to be completed in late 2009.

Islamic Cultural Center, Doha, Qatar

Located in the historic area of Doha, Qatar's capital city, this important building was first waterproofed using waterproofing membranes. However, the membranes failed almost immediately and water seeped in all over the 5,000 square metre building. The construction team selected the Krystol Crack Repair System to repair all leaking cracks and holes in the one metre thick raft slab and basement walls from the **negative** side. In addition, the entire area was coated with Krystol T1 and T2 to provide a permanent and watertight basement. As a result, the building is now dry and open to the public for worship and learning.

The Bahri Gardens, Beirut, Lebanon

Kryton's Krystol waterproofing system was chosen to waterproof the water tank, raft slab and four levels of basement walls at Bahri Gardens. This luxurious 25-storey apartment tower is located on the seafront in Beirut's most prestigious neighbourhood facing the landmark Raouche Rocks. Its proximity to the Mediterranean Sea and the depth of the basement made waterproofing a critical element of the building construction. Using KIM-HS and Krystol Waterstop Treatment for joints provided the concrete supplier with peace of mind. The project is scheduled for completion in 2010.

Bahrain Bay Water Treatment Plant, Manama, Bahrain

Contractors for the Bahrain Bay Sewage Treatment Plant selected the Krystol waterproofing system to accomplish the difficult task of treating pile caps at the facility. Krystol T1 and T2 were applied with a brush as a slurry and damp cured for the recommended 48 hours. As a result, the pile caps are completely protected from water ingress today. The application was completed in 2008.