

Section:	Big 5
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Big 5 Gaia Award winners announced

The results of an award scheme - the first of its kind in the region - for environmentally friendly products and services for the construction sector have been announced ahead of The Big 5, the Middle East's biggest building and construction industry exhibition, taking place later this month.



Simon Mellor, Vice President Construction for organisers dmg world media, said:

'Products and services exhibited at the Big 5 exhibition that reduce the impact on the environment were eligible for the Gaia Awards. The Big 5 is committed to advancing high-performance, energy efficient green building solutions and environmentally friendly technologies.'

The Big 5 Gaia Awards - named after the mythical Greek goddess of the earth - provide a platform for leading green products and services and feature over 30 products and services. The award winners were announced at the ITP Construction Week Building Awards on 5 November 2008.

Nominations were received from the 2,900 exhibiting companies at this year's Big 5 and a distinguished panel of judges representative of the regional community awarded 27 medals of merit and one Gaia gold medal.

The overall winner was SolaSteel manufactured by Coolsheid International distributed by Tiger Profiles. Highly commended and silver medal winners were Fermacell Gypsum Fibre Boards manufactured by Xella Germanu and marketed by Excel Technical Distribution and Liquid Plastic Green Roofing Systems manufactured by Liquid Plastics.

The judging panel was assembled with the support of Ecospecifier International and were: David Baggs, Technical Director and Principal Consultant, Ecospecifier; Dr Ashraf Hegazy, Sustainable Projects Manager, Aldar; Gonzalo Seminario, LEED accredited Senior Architect, Nakheel; Samuel Keehn, Environmental and Sustainability Manager, Energy Management Services International; and Georgina Legoe, CEO, Sustainability Advisory Group.

The judges built a matrix around eight different criteria, companies were allocated points out of 10 for each of these criteria, which gave a total score out of 80, this then allowed the judges to rank the companies entered. The company with the single highest score was awarded the Gold Medal (Most Valued product). There was a threshold for each category of silver (highly

commended products/services), bronze (commended products/services) and Green (finalist). All these finalists will be seen and showcased at The Big 5 as part of the show's green initiatives.

The Big 5 exhibition takes place at Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre from 23-27 November 2008. It is the largest show for the construction sector in the Arabian Gulf and one of the world's largest trade shows for the construction industry and associated suppliers. There are more than 3000 exhibiting companies for the 2008 show and the organisers expect more than 50,000 visitors.

Another green focus is The Big 5 Technical Conference on Monday 24 November at the Monarch Hotel, Dubai, where regional and international experts will present practical project case studies on energy efficient green building solutions and environmentally friendly technologies, United Arab Emirates green building compliance requirements and rating schemes.

The conference and Gaia Awards are in response to the introduction by the Ruler of Dubai His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates, of a green building directive underscoring Dubai's support for efforts to address global environmental challenges.

Alongside The Big 5 exhibition will be The Big 5 PMV - The Middle East's premier construction plant, machinery and vehicles at the same venue.

Notes and Media Contacts

- GOLD AWARD:

Tiger Profiles & Insulation LLC, UAE Solarsteel (Coolshield Intern'l)

- SILVER AWARDS:

Tiger Profiles & Insulation LLC, UAE Solacoat Pavement Coatings (Coolshield Intern'l)
Excel Technical Distribution, UAE Fermacell Gypsum Fibre Boards
Liquid Plastics Ltd, United Kingdom Green Roof Systems
Tiger Profiles & Insulation LLC, UAE Solacoat Heat Reflective Coatings (Coolshield Intern'l)
Superpipe
CME Sanitary Systems Limited, United Kingdom Ecoplay Grey Water Systems
Aircell Insulation, Australia Insulbreak 40F, 65 & 80

- BRONZE AWARDS:

Wuerth Solar GmbH & Co KG, Germany CIS Building Integrated Photovoltaic (BIPV) System
LG Electronics Gulf Fze Dubai, UAE LG Homenet
Bostik Middle East, UAE Chem Caulk Sealants
Croma, France Comeps Wall System
Bostik Middle East, UAE Timber Floor Adhesive
Brakel Aluminium BV, Netherlands Innova Smoke & Heat Ventilators
Gulf International Trading Group, UAE PowerGlaz

- FINALISTS:

Urimat Deutschland AG, Germany: Urimat Waterless Urinal
Concrete Technology LLC, UAE: Plastbau
Applied Chemicals LLC, UAE: Rapelle Invisi Seal
Insulating Coatings Corp./Gulf Crossings LLC, UAE: Astec Ceramic Insulating Coatings
Bioclimatic GmbH, Germany: Airperfect Ionisers
Constromech, UAE: PortaCool
Stiebel Eltron International GmbH, Germany: www 300A Warmwater Heat Pump HWS
Swegon, UAE: Chilled Beam Parasol
Water Convert, Belgium: Greywater Re-use System

About The Big 5 and the exhibition organisers:

The Big 5, which takes place is held annually in Dubai and is globally acknowledged as the biggest and most important exhibition for the Middle East building and construction industry, attracting key regional and international decision makers.

The Big 5 is organised by dmg world media Dubai Ltd, part of the dmg world media group of companies and is an acknowledged leader in the region's exhibitions industry since 1999. dmg's portfolio includes some of the

largest exhibitions in the Middle East.

All seven dedicated product sectors in The Big 5 are substantial events in their own right and cover: Building and Construction; Water Technology and Environment; Air Conditioning and Refrigeration; Cleaning and Maintenance; Glass and Metal; Bathrooms and Ceramics; Marble and Stone. In addition, The Big 5 PMV - the specialist show for plant, heavy machinery and large vehicles will be co-located with The Big 5.

About The Big 5 PMV:

The Big 5 PMV will take place at Dubai International Exhibition Centre from 23-27 November 2008. Organised by Streamline Marketing Group in conjunction with dmg world media, the event runs in conjunction with The Big 5.

The Big 5 PMV has the support of key international organisations including UBIFRANCE (French Foreign Trade Council), Builders' Association of India and the UK's Construction Products Association.

For more information about Big 5 PMV, please contact Project Manager Samantha Kane-Macdonald, Tel: +97 4 332 9029.

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