



**DEME**

**Dredging, Environmental  
& Marine Engineering**

**D.E.M.E. nv**  
Haven 1025 - Scheldedijk 30  
B-2070 Zwijndrecht, Belgium  
T +32 3 250 52 11  
F +32 3 250 56 50  
info@deme.be  
www.deme.be

RPR Antwerpen  
BE 0400 473 705

## **PRESS RELEASE**

17 October 2010

PB 309

Page 1/2

---

### **Launching of cutter dredger 'Al Jarraf' in Singapore.**

#### **New sea-going heavy-duty cutter dredger gives competitive boost for DEME and MEDCO in Gulf projects**

*SINGAPORE (27 October 2010) – The new heavy-duty cutter suction dredger (CSD) 'Al Jarraf', which means 'The Dredging Vessel' in Arabic language, was launched today at ASL Shipyard in Singapore. The owner, Middle East Dredging Company Q.S.C. (MEDCO), formerly known as Qatar Dredging Company (QDC), will register the vessel in Qatar, where a formal name-giving ceremony is scheduled at the time of commissioning early next year. MEDCO is a partnership between the Qatari company United Development Company (UDC), Qatar Holding, and the Belgian 'Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering' (DEME) group. The new cutter dredger will be a powerful competitive tool for MEDCO and DEME in future infrastructure projects in the Gulf region and beyond.*

Two basic characteristics of the 'Al Jarraf' qualify specifically for assignments in the Gulf region. The new dredger is self-propelled, allowing it to sail on its own power between various working locations within the Gulf, without requiring the assistance of powerful tugboats. At the same time, the new cutter dredger is of the heavy-duty type – featuring no less than 12,860 kW of total installed power. The combination of these two characteristics is a MEDCO trump card for dredging hard rock formations that are typical in Gulf waters.

The 102 x 21 m. dredger has two additional advantages. An integrated barge loading facility provides extra flexibility, as 'Al Jarraf' will be able to discharge both through the traditional floating pipeline and directly into a barge that would moor alongside the dredger. Secondly, the discharge power has significantly increased in comparison with the current MEDCO flag dredger, 'Al Mahar'. This increased discharge power allows for covering significantly larger distances between the dredging area and the reclamation area when pumping ashore.

CSD 'Al Jarraf' is able to dredge at water depths up to a maximum of 30 m. Several high-tech developments on 'Al Jarraf' have been realised through research and development by MEDCO partner and shareholder DEME, one of the leading dredging groups in the world.

Next to the 'Al Jarraf' another identical seagoing cutter dredger is currently under construction at the same ASL Shipyard in Singapore. The new vessel will be named 'Amazoné'. Both

vessels make part of the investment programme 2008 – 2012 of the DEME Group, involving the construction of 15 dredging and marine engineering vessels. Seven vessels have been commissioned to DEME at this moment. The eight vessels under construction include, apart from cutter dredgers 'Al Jarraf' and 'Amazone', the 5000 m<sup>3</sup> capacity gravel trailer 'Victor Horta' that will be launched on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2010, the fall pipe vessel 'Flintstone' having a loading capacity of 19,000 tonnes, the New Generation+ 30,000 m<sup>3</sup> capacity trailing suction hopper dredger 'Congo River', the jack-up vessel 'Neptune, the 11,650 m<sup>3</sup> capacity trailing suction hopper dredger 'Breughel' and the heavy-duty seagoing rock cutter dredger 'Ambiorix' with a total installed capacity of 28,000 kW.

#### About MEDCO

'Middle East Dredging Company Q.S.C.' (MEDCO) was established in Qatar in June 2004. The company is very rapidly growing and operates a proprietary fleet of modern dredging vessels of various types (cutter suction dredgers and trailing suction hopper dredger). MEDCO focuses on capital dredging, port development and land reclamation. In the past years, MEDCO successfully completed the Pearl Qatar project in Qatar, the New Doha Airport Reclamation and Rock Revetment Project in Qatar, the Al Raha Beach project for Aldar Properties in Abu Dhabi; dredging works for the Ruwais Sulphur Terminal extension in Abu Dhabi; the Aldar Yas Island Tunnel trenching and channel deepening in Abu Dhabi; the new Khalifa port dredging, the Ras Ghanada/Al Sadr to Taweelah channels in Abu Dhabi and is presently carrying out the reclamation of the 45 million m<sup>3</sup> platform for the new refinery of Takreer in Ruwais, Abu Dhabi. MEDCO is a partnership between the Qatari company United Development Company (UDC), Qatar Holding, and the Belgian 'Dredging, Environmental and Marine Engineering' (DEME) group – one of the leading dredging companies in the world.

#### About DEME

The Belgian dredging, environmental and marine engineering group DEME was established in 1991 from the merger between Dredging International and Baggerwerken Decloedt. A global market leader, the Group diversified from dredging operations and reclamation to hydraulic engineering projects at sea, services to the oil and gas companies, wreck clearance, installation of offshore wind farms and environmental activities such as soil remediation, sludge recycling and revalidation of brownfields. The Group owns one of the most up-to-date, highly technological and versatile fleets for dredging and hydraulic engineering, with vessels and ships of all sizes and for any operational area. DEME employs more than 4,000 people, The Flemish Group is implementing more than 70 projects simultaneously around the world. DEME's annual turnover amounts to € 1.5 billion., The current investment programme in high-tech equipment for a total amount of € 1.5 billion will allow DEME to face the future with a most efficient and modern fleet. DEME's current order portfolio values in excess of € 2.2 billion. The Group anticipates a turnover of € 1.8 billion in 2010.

#### Note for editors:

*For additional information, please contact:*

*Hubert Fiers*

*phone: +32.3.250.52.20*

*e-mail: fiers.hubert@deme.be*