



Stepping up seawater and process water treatment in Abu Dhabi **UF modules from German inge watertechnologies AG** **set to treat 80,000 m³ of water a day**

Ever since January 2009, modules supplied by the German ultrafiltration specialists inge watertechnologies AG have been steadily proving their worth purifying seawater from the Arabian Gulf – generally considered a hugely challenging task – and treating process water for a steel works. Emirates Steel Industries has now decided to increase their plant's capacity. From 2011, their water requirements are set to climb to 80,000 m³ a day.

Greifenberg, 31. May 2010 – Water from the Arabian Gulf is generally seen as a challenging prospect, with problems of high turbidity and organic and bacteriological contents coming to the fore in summer and creating major challenges for water treatment facilities. The algae bloom known as the red tide is a further phenomenon that has been causing a headache on the coasts of Dubai and Abu Dhabi. All in all, any ultrafiltration systems used in these regions are dependent upon a high-performance, extremely resilient membrane with excellent anti-fouling properties that is capable of properly dealing with the water's organic content. The modules supplied by inge watertechnologies AG have proved more than capable of meeting these requirements ever since they came online in January 2009, and the German-made dizzer® modules have now been chosen for the project designed to expand the water treatment plant's capacity.

Membrane resilience is a key criteria

Making sure that the membrane you choose is highly resilient is a crucial factor – especially when it comes to a major project involving the treatment of 80,000 m³ of water a day. That is why the Italian plant construction firm Bernardinello Engineering S.p.A. chose to use the patented Multibore membrane from the acclaimed technology leader inge watertechnologies AG when they built the water treatment facility for a steel works run by Emirates Steel Industries in Mussafah, the industrial quarter of Abu Dhabi. The project to expand the plant will now see a total of 574 dizzer® 5000 plus modules – each featuring a 50m² membrane surface area – coming online from 2011 onwards in a layout of seven racks. The job of these modules is to pretreat the seawater to prepare it for reverse osmosis. The treated water is required for the steel production process. The UF facility is also used to treat the 'blowdown water' from the steel works' cooling towers.

inge
watertechnologies AG

Flurstr. 27
86926 Greifenberg
Germany

Phone
+49 8192 997 -700

Fax
+49 8192 997-999

E-mail
info@inge.ag

Internet
www.inge.ag

Managing Board
Dr. Ing. Peter Berg
Bruno Steis

Chairman of the
Supervisory Board
Oliver Gosemann

Ralf Krüger, the sales manager responsible for this project at inge watertechnologies AG, sums up what is required: “The mixture of seawater and process water in the treatment facility makes this project particularly challenging. Approximately 10 percent of the feedwater comes from the production process. The specific requirements stipulated for this facility included achieving SDI values below two – even though the raw water often has an SDI value in excess of 15. Fortunately the technology we supply is capable of reliably ensuring that kind of performance over the long term.”

As the CEO of inge watertechnologies Bruno Steis notes, the fact that inge watertechnologies offers a five-year warranty against membrane fiber breakage shows that the company's quality claims are not just an empty promise. He adds: “More than 500 plants around the globe are equipped with our patented, German-made technology. Our ultrafiltration systems have been working perfectly for more than seven years, and we have never had a single case of fiber breakage.”



Photo: The ultrafiltration system in Abu Dhabi supplied by inge watertechnologies AG will treat 80,000 m³ of water a day.

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About inge watertechnologies AG

The company inge watertechnologies AG, based in the town of Greifenberg near Munich in Bavaria, Germany, employs more than 80 staff and is the world's leading provider of ultrafiltration technology, a membrane process used to treat drinking water, process water, wastewater and sea water.

With a global reach enhanced by its network of partners, the company has completed numerous reference products around the globe featuring its cutting-edge technology. Its range of products include highly-efficient ultrafiltration modules and cost-effective, space-saving rack designs as the core components of water treatment plants, rounded off by the superb technical support it provides to its customers.



All the company's products are based on the in-house development of its patented Multibore® membrane technology, providing the top-quality standards for which German-made goods are famous. The extremely small-pore filters of the Multibore® membrane reliably intercept not only particles, but also microorganisms such as bacteria and viruses, thereby providing a dependable source of clean water. Deployment of the inge technology also offers significant advantages over conventional water treatment methods, such as rapid and easy module installation and stable, highly resilient membranes. This makes planning a water treatment facility much simpler, enabling customers to achieve low-cost installation and operation. And all this comes with a guarantee of long-lasting reliability.

Press Contact:

Petra Erner
Press Officer
Phone: +49-176-24126502
Email: perner@inge.ag

Headquarters

inge watertechnologies AG

Flurstraße 27
D-86926 Greifenberg
Deutschland / Germany

Phone: +49 8192 / 997-700
Fax: +49 8192 / 997-999
E-Mail: info@inge.ag
Internet: www.inge.ag

inge Asia

**inge watertechnologies AG
Beijing Representative Office**

Unit 0708, Landmark Tower 2
8 North Dongsanhuan Road
Chaoyang District
100004 Beijing
VR China

Phone: +86 10 / 6590-7839
Fax: +86 10 / 6590-7836
E-Mail: hu.jianhui@inge.cn
Internet: www.inge.cn

inge
watertechnologies AG

Flurstr. 27
86926 Greifenberg
Germany

Phone
+49 8192 997 -700

Fax
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