

With an overall total investment of Two Billion US Dollars

## **Bahrain Investment Wharf completes Infrastructure Works by September 2010**

The Bahrain Investment Wharf (BIW) was able to successfully attract sixty three percent of its total occupancy from industries outside of Bahrain, while thirty four percent is of Bahraini industries and businesses. The overall total investment of the industries and businesses within the BIW Estate is estimated to be around Two Billion US Dollars.

These industries and investments varied to include the manufacturing of glass, furniture, luxury yachts, elevators, escalators, food processing, water filtration, concrete ready mix, industrial hoses and concrete blocks, in addition to an aviation collage, logistics, self-storage, warehousing, industrial gases, processing and a one-of-a-kind labor accommodation facilities.

The infrastructure construction within the BIW Development is nearing 95% completion, with an anticipated conclusion in September 2010. BIW currently covers 12 km of asphalted roadway network, in addition to all of the other basic utilities such as water, telecom, and electricity. BIW have so far constructed three 66kV primary electrical substations to cater for the ultimate demand requirements of electricity within the Development. Two of these 66kV substations are fully energized and functional at a capacity of 96 Megawatts, while the third substation will come on-line by January 2011 with an additional capacity of 48 Megawatts. These substations are connected to a distribution grid of electrical cables in excess of 61 km in length.

The BIW Development currently benefits from a fully functional state-of-the-art telecommunication system that has been implemented by BIW's telecom service provider, a local Bahraini company. BIW was assigned its own telephone numbers and presently enjoys speedy and reliable internet and telephone services. In addition to the above, BIW's infrastructure components include potable water network, foul sewer network, storm drainage network, irrigation lines, and street lighting.

At present, more than 50% of the plots within BIW are either under-development or processing. Some 30 different industries and establishments are currently operating within the BIW, while some 2,500 laborers from a total of 10,000 will be moving into Phase I of the BIW Labor Accommodation Project commencing this July 2010. The BIW Labor Accommodation Project is the first of its kind in Bahrain, constructed on a 60,000m<sup>2</sup> land plot, with an overall capacity of 10,000 laborers. This Project was designed to accommodate single workers and laborers. Phase II of the BIW Labor Accommodation Project is earmarked to commence construction next year to house an additional 10,000 workers for a total capacity of 20,000 laborers.

"The Bahrain Investment Wharf Project had worked to strengthen the settlement of national and regional investments and to attract direct foreign investments and bring major international companies into Bahrain with positive outputs into the local economy", said Mr. Ahmed Al Qattan, BIW Chairman.

Mr. Al Qattan explained that the BIW Project provides job opportunities for Bahrainis and works to develop their expertise pointing out to the importance of the opportunities provided by the diversity of investments made at the executive, senior, administrative and technical levels.

He commended all the efforts made to achieve this prestigious and important national project, and thanked the distinguished efforts of the Government of Bahrain which contributed to the success of the Project and promoted the joint cooperation between the public and private sectors in pursuit of national interest.

Mr. Al Qattan pointed out to the importance of the fruitful and constructive cooperation extended by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, represented by His Excellency the Minister, through the follow-ups and guidance during the course of the Project, which had a positive impact in supporting the progress and advancement of the Bahrain Investment Wharf.

The Bahrain Investment Wharf Project (BIW), which is being developed by Al Khaleej Development Company, Tameer, one of the largest real estate development companies in the Kingdom of Bahrain, is an innovative and unique project to attract local and international industries through the services provided within the BIW. This Project is considered one of the largest industrial development projects in Bahrain and the region.

BIW provides investors with opportunities to lease industrial plots within an area serviced by an integrated infrastructure network capable of meeting the demands of all industrial sectors in addition to all other support services such as business management, offices and retail. The BIW extends over a land area totaling one million seven hundred thousand square meters which provides suitable and ample areas to meet the needs of investors and businessmen alike. BIW has ensured the provision of the latest infrastructure and state-of-the-art technologies to offer investors the best opportunities to reduce costs and shorten the time it takes to establish their businesses.

The Bahrain Investment Wharf is strategically located within the Salman Industrial City. It is characterized by its close proximity to Bahrain International Airport, Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Port, and the highway leading to the King Fahd Causeway linking Bahrain with Saudi Arabia. This unique geographical location makes the BIW that more attractive by easing the operations for export and import of goods and in turn reducing the logistical requirements which leads to a significant reduction in production costs enhancing the success of the investment opportunities.

This success had lead many industrial groups and companies from within Bahrain, the Gulf, Middle East, Europe, USA and the Indian Subcontinent to set up investments at the Bahrain Investment Wharf.