Nordimpianti System Srl, 66100 Chieti (CH), Italy

## Unprecedented launch of hollow core slab production in Saudi Arabia

El Seif and Nordimpianti System, each leading companies in their own respective markets in Saudi Arabia and Italy, have teamed up again for the construction of one of the largest production facilities for hollow core slabs in Saudi Arabia, reconfirming their continued trusted partnership. The new plant was commissioned in the city of Jizan, about 1,200 kilometres south of Riyadh and is a strategic location for major El Seif projects.

El Seif is a leading construction company in Saudi Arabia based in Riyadh. It is credited with having built Riyadh's Kingdom Tower, at the time the tallest building in the country and an iconic symbol of the capital city. With a workforce of approximately 26,000 employees El Seif is the pre-eminent force in the fields of civil, residential, industrial, commercial and infrastructure construction. The economic construction boom after the turn of the millennium led El Seif to invest heavily in industrial prefabrication by launching, in 2008, its first precast factory in Al-Kharj, south of Riyadh. This factory produces various prestressed products such as beams, columns, wall panels and hollow cores slabs.

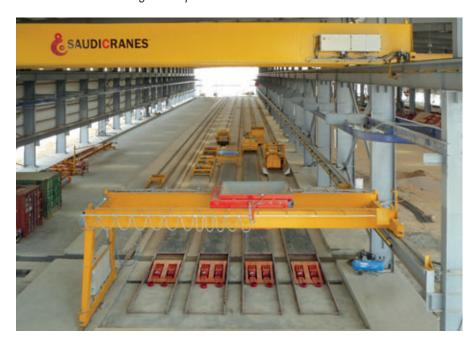
The plant in Al-Kharj was conceived as a joint venture with the Italian company RDB SpA, a leading precast company with over 100 years of experience and with 27 factories located throughout the country. This collaboration eventually led to a merger between the two companies to form a new company RDB-EL SEIF, now wholly owned by El Seif Group and led by its CEO Dr. Renzo Arletti formerly the CEO of RDB SpA in Italy.

The complete plant for the hollow core production line at Al-Kharj was supplied by Nordimpianti, a company with a strong presence across many Gulf States having supplied plant for several installations. Two casting machines work simultaneously to achieve a daily production rate of about 1,500 m² of hollow core slab in an 8 hour shift. The plant supplied to RDB El Seif consists of 8 production beds each 165 m in length and all equipped with an efficient accelerated concrete curing system.

For the casting phase Nordimpianti supplied the Extruder EVO machines with various forming inserts. These inserts made it possible to produce hollow core slabs with heights of 150, 200, 265, 320, and 400 and 500 mm and in the standard width of 1,200 mm. Nordimpianti also developed



Aerial view of the first of six new plants in Jizan for the production of hollow core slabs. The slabs will be cast using Nordimpianti's EVO machine.



View of the first production plant for hollow core slabs at RDB EL- SEIF in Al-Kharj in south of the capital Riyadh.



View of 2 production areas each having 8 x 165 m production beds at the factory in Jizan.





# NON STOP INNOVATION

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Nordimpianti's EVO Extruder during casting of the 150 mm high hollow core slabs.



The first H 150 mm hollow core slabs produced by Nordimpianti's EVO Extruder at the new factory in Jizan.



The Multi-Function Bed Cleaner cleaning the production bed.



The 500 AM Multi Angle Saw cutting hollow core slabs on the production bed.



The Automatic version of the 500 TR Transversal Saw during the cutting of hollow core slabs on the production bed.



Production machines deployed in one of the two production areas of the new plant in Jizan ready for commissioning.

and supplied a special forming insert for the production of narrow elements with widths of 900 mm and 1,100 mm and with a height of 200 mm.

This allowed RDB El Seif to meet the technical specifications required for a large project which called for the supply of elements with widths outside the standard. The development and manufacture of this special machine is a good example of the flexible approach that Nordimpianti takes with its customers, always wanting to listen and meet their demands employing customized solutions, where experience plays a key role. The new manufacturing site at Jizan covers an area of 250,000 m<sup>2</sup>, of which 25,000 m<sup>2</sup> is covered. It is part of RDB-EL SEIF's economic growth following the important recognition from the Ministry of Interior (MOI) who made RDB-EL SEIF the preferred choice for the construction of several thousand housing units including villas, apartments and ancillary buildings.

This project has been aided by the experience in the precast sector of Dr. Renzo Arletti and his staff of Italian engineers which made it possible to construct and commission one of Saudi Arabia's largest and most advanced precast facilities in record time. The target was to achieve a production rate of over 1,200,000 m² of hollow core slabs in just 18 months. This is

why the plant was designed and engineered with 16 production beds each 165 m long.

This time Nordimpianti supplied 4 Extruder EVO machines to work on the casting beds simultaneously in order to achieve the ambitious production target. Nordimpianti also supplied 4 cutting machines with automatic functions, 2 for angular cutting and 2 for transversal cutting, 3 multi function cleaning machines, a controlled heating system for rapid concrete curing as well as other auxiliary equipment needed to complete the plant.

It has been considered a great honour for both Nordimpianti and its Middle Eastern representative Tabone to have been reappointed suppliers to this new and important project at Jizan in 2015. Over the years this close working collaboration has meant that both companies have gained additional experience enabling them to address new challenges, for example, to those related to the production of narrow elements that were, up to then, unavailable. For El Seif the new production at Jizan is a confirmation of the company's ability to meet its commitments to its customers such as the Ministry of Interior (MOI) and to be able to take on new commitments with the same "can do" spirit demonstrated so far.

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

#### nordimpianti

NORDIMPIANTI SYSTEM SRL Via Erasmo Piaggio, 19/A 66100 Chieti (CH) - Italy T +39 0871 540222 F +39 0871 562408 info@nordimpianti.com

www.nordimpianti.com





RDB-ELSIEF Co. Ltd.
El-Seif Engineering & Contracing Co. Head Office
First Floor, South Side Building, Exit-9, Al Hamra Area, Khalid
Bin Al-Waleed St.
P.O.Box 5161, Riyadh-11422, Saudi Arabia
info@rdb-elseif.com
T +966 11 5107150



TABONE
Dubai Office
T +971 4319 7455
F +971 4330 3365
dubai.office@patabone.com
www.concretemiddleeast.com