

# Press Release

## Six Construct-Orascom Construction Joint Venture delivers the first LEGOLAND in the Middle East

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*LEGOLAND Dubai, the family theme park, opened its doors to the public on Monday 31 October 2016. It is the first LEGOLAND park in the Middle East and the seventh worldwide.*

*Despite a myriad of technical challenges, partly due to the variety of emblematic buildings in the park, the Six Construct-Orascom Construction joint venture delivered the full-scale theme park in only 28 months, allowing the highly anticipated opening to visitors. The JV was responsible for the construction of more than 53 buildings in the park as well as the finishing touches and amenities.*

Located in Dubai's Jebel Ali district, LEGOLAND is comprised of a wide range of indoor and outdoor attractions. Visitors will discover six thematic areas (LEGO City, Adventure, LEGO Kingdom, Create, LEGO Factory and Miniland) in which they are immersed in dedicated scenery. Furthermore, visitors can experience various lifelike decors such as a medieval castle, an Egyptian temple, a lighthouse, thatched cottages and wooden carrousel.

### **Technical feat: the 'Miniland Dome'**

Beyond the perfectly lifelike finishing of different rides and attractions, the construction of the 'Miniland Dome' posed a specific challenge for the JV team.

Situated inside a fully air-conditioned aluminum framework of 100 m in diameter and 25 m in height, Miniland features a set of iconic buildings and landmarks of the Middle East, all built entirely out of small LEGO bricks.

Constructing the underground trenches for air supply was a challenging task. The Six Construct Design Department in Dubai found an innovative solution for the design of these trenches by building them out of reinforced concrete.

The first stage involved the construction of a temporary metal mast (65 m high) at the center of the future dome. Construction was carried out around the mast in different phases. In each new phase cables were hoisted to the mast. Mounting the frame, the outer cladding in aluminum and the inside insulation were completed in only six months. At the base of the dome, a round curtain wall of 90 m in diameter closes the space between the floor slab and shell of the dome.

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## Breaking bricks records

*“LEGO bricks boosted our childhood as it still does for the children of today. Six Construct is particularly proud of building this first LEGO theme park in Dubai. The fact that we were building a project designed to entertain children created a particularly pleasant working atmosphere. We were inspired and motivated to transform this dream area into a concrete project, despite the engineering challenges. We are also delighted to see that several BESIX achievements such as the Sheikh Zayed Grand Mosque, the Burj Khalifa and the Emirates Towers are represented in Miniland,”* states Pierre Sironval, General Manager, Six Construct.

Ayman El Gayar, Managing Director of Orascom Construction UAE, commented: *“Inspiring and motivating young minds while maintaining UAE heritage and looking ahead to the future has always been a key part of the UAE’s vision. Orascom Construction is a proud partner in the construction of LEGOLAND theme park in Dubai for the enjoyment and advancement of our children. Miniland is a prime example of the efforts and meticulous work involved into bringing this dream park closer to our families.”*

The model of Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest building, breaks records in LEGOLAND Dubai. It is exhibited as the world’s tallest LEGO building structure, standing tall at a height of 17 meters.

With this new project, the Six Construct-Orascom Construction joint venture reinforces its expertise as a key player in the construction of leisure parks. Within three years, the company already delivered beacon projects in the Emirates such as Hub Zero, Our Living Planet, and Ferrari World in Abu Dhabi.

## Key info

<p>Client: <b>Dubai Park and Resorts</b> Contractor: <b>JV Six Construct-Orascom</b> <b>15,000</b> LEGO models <b>&gt; 60 million</b> LEGO bricks <b>950</b> Six Construct and Orascom workers <b>28</b> months of construction 17-m tall Burj Khalifa replica Total area: <b>14</b> ha</p>
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## About Six Construct

Six Construct, a subsidiary of the BESIX Group, is the largest Belgian multi-services company operating in the construction of buildings, infrastructure, environmental projects, marine works, real estate and concessions in the Middle East over the last 50 years. Six Construct’s workforce consists of 13,000 employees in the Middle East. Its regional headquarters is located in Dubai where Six Construct has contributed to a significant number of unique developments in Dubai such as Burj Khalifa, the world’s tallest tower, Dubai Tram, Dubai Canal and the Emirates Towers, among others.

Providing a framework of excellence in its past and current projects to its future ones, Six Construct remains a leader and a first mover in the construction industry, at the service of its clients.

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### **About BESIX Group**

BESIX Group is the largest Belgian Group, operating in construction, concessions and property development sectors. It profiles itself as a multi-services Group. The Group was founded in 1909, since when it has grown steadily and impressively. NV BESIX SA, its biggest subsidiary, is active in practically every field of construction. In addition to the activities of BESIX and its other subsidiaries, Cobelba, Jacques Delens, Socogetra, Vanhout, Wust, Franki Foundation Group Belgium, BESIX Park, Lux TP, West Construct in Benelux-France, the Group is present in Eastern Europe, North and Central Africa and the Middle East, via Six Construct, in Central Asia and Australia. In 2015, the Group achieved revenues of EUR 2.2 billion. BESIX Group has about 15,000 employees active in 22 countries on 5 continents. For more information, please visit [www.besix.com](http://www.besix.com)

### **About Orascom Construction**

Orascom Construction Limited (OC) is a leading global engineering and construction contractor primarily focused on high-end commercial, infrastructure and industrial projects in the Middle East, North Africa, the United States, and the Pacific Rim. OC has consistently ranked among the world's top contractors and is ranked number 34 on ENR's 2016 Top 250 International Contractors list. The Group also develops and invests in infrastructure opportunities, owns 50% of BESIX Group, and holds a construction materials and property management portfolio. With projects and investments in 10 countries, OC has a backlog of USD 7.5 billion and over 60,000 employees. The Group is dual listed on NASDAQ Dubai and the Egyptian Exchange (NASDAQ Dubai: OC; EGX: ORAS). For more information, please visit [www.orascom.com](http://www.orascom.com)

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