AECOM Middle East, the Abu Dhabi-based regional branch of the global provider of professional technical and management support services, has been shortlisted for the DuPont Safety and Sustainability Awards as a result of the company’s safety performance improvement achieved in its Etihad Towers project.

With more than 3,000 staff located in the Gulf countries, as well as across Egypt, Iraq, Jordan and Lebanon, AECOM Middle East’s multidisciplinary teams of scientists, engineers, designers and planners strive to find solutions that create, enhance and sustain the built, natural and social environments – from providing flood control and infrastructure remedies in Saudi Arabia, to designing a state-of-the-art University Hospital in association with Harvard Medical International in Dubai.

Aspiring to a level of world-class performance leveraging the company’s global knowledge base, AECOM Middle East’s specialized Safety, Health and Environment team has a tripartite emphasis on preventing work-related injuries, preventing damage to property and equipment, and minimizing the environmental impact of operational activities. The success of its safety efforts in particular is encapsulated by the Etihad Towers construction project in Abu Dhabi, which has involved over 7,000 staff. It won the company’s internal global safety award in 2011, as well as the Impactus Middle East Safety Award 2011.

Building a strong safety culture through the ‘Reinforce and Recognize’, ‘Understand’ and ‘Embrace’ framework, the project’s dedicated safety team focused on risk assessment and compliance, regular safety meetings and reporting – including via an innovative online system – third party audits and ongoing training programs for staff and contractors. Ultimately, this resulted in the major milestone of BS OHSAS 18001 and BS EN ISO 14001 certification for the overall management system, but more importantly, an average incident frequency rate of only 0.011 per 100,000 hours worked between November 2009 and June 2012.

From 2009 to 2012 the project had an average incident frequency rate of only 0.011 per 100,000 hours worked.

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