

Damac Towers

Client: DAMAC
Contractor: Shapoorji Pallonji Middle East, L.L.C
Location: Dubai, UAE
Products: Alshor Plus / Superslim Soldiers / GTX Beams

Case Study



Located in the heart of the Dubai International Financial Centre, Park Towers is the latest in a long line of stunningly ambitious high-rise buildings to grace the skyline of the city.

Damac Towers consists of two identical towers connected through a podium at the base. Each tower comprises three basement levels, seven podium levels and 42 floors. Damac Towers boasts a full range of amenities including 400 apartments, ten floors of mixed retail and office commercial space as well as a host of leisure facilities all in the centre of one of the worlds fastest growing financial centers.

The AED600 million project was awarded to leading Indian contractor Shapoorji Pallonji Middle East L.L.C. a contractor with worldwide experience in major projects. With an extremely tight programme time of just 700 days from start to finish its experience with major projects would invaluable, and clearly a formwork solution that matched this ambitious build was going to be needed.

For H.D.Kumta Shapoorji Pallonji's Project Director, there were two keys areas to consider when choosing a formwork and shoring solution - flexibility and programme time. "When we were planning on what formwork table system to use on this project we had to take into consideration the tapered shape of the towers. From the 13th floor to 42nd floor we see an overall reduction of 15 metres in size, meaning we needed a table system that could be easily

adjusted to be used across all floors in each tower."The system chosen was RMD Kwikform's Alshor Plus aluminium shoring system, erected into pre assembled tables. The lightweight modular nature and ease of use of Alshor Plus meant that it could be easily manipulated to speedily accommodate the changes in soffit size throughout both towers. The tables encompassed 2-metre legs with quick strike jacks, using Superslim Soldiers as the primary member and GTX for secondary on the table forms. Once the initial 69 Alshor Plus tables per floor were in place the soffit could be poured and cured, the formwork could then be released by striking the quick strike jack and quickly moved to the next floor.

Stuart Bland, RMD Kwikform's Key Account Manager for Dubai explains the significant time savings Alshor Plus and RMD Kwikform's expertise bought to the project; "The beauty of this system is that we are able to work on two floors simultaneously and able to fly it in and improve cycle times using our 'C' Hook. We've worked in tandem with the Shapoorji Pallonji team, and developed the system to get an impressive four day cycle time - that's from slab to slab."

The 'C' Hook is an RMD Kwikform crane attachment that supports and cranes tables between floors. The clear benefit is that once the tables have been erected they can be moved with no need for dismantling between floors.

H.D.Kumta echoes the impact that the RMD Kwikform Middle East solution has had on the Damac Tower projects programme time. "By using RMD Kwikform Alshor Plus tables we have maximised the efficiency of the formwork element, and gained considerable time on this project. I can say without a doubt the system has helped us a lot, if we can say we have a 40 floor building and we can save 2 days in each floor, then it is almost 70/80 days we are saving in a total project time of 700 days - over 10%. The system is very easy to use onsite; the main thing with Alshor Plus is that the heavy-duty props are very lightweight. The load that one prop takes is much more than any other make."

Health and safety on site is always important, especially when working on a high-rise development such as Damac Towers, so any measures that can be taken to reduce risk are invaluable. The Alshor Plus system combined with the 'C' Hook for moving the tables between floors has made a significant contribution in this area. It has meant less working at height to assemble the table forms and the inherent safety features of Alshor Plus such as the quick release safety pins makes using the system simple and safe.

