

Beirut St George Cathedral

Client: Beirut Maronite Diocese
Contractor: Enterprise Matta
Location: Beirut, Lebanon
Products: Rapidclimb / Superslim Soldiers / Alform Beams

Case Study

The peal of the Beirut Cathedral bell is set to reach even greater heights, thanks to contractor Enterprise Matta awarding RMD Kwikform the contract to supply a formwork solution for the construction of a new 70 metre high bell tower.

The bell tower, currently under construction and due to be completed in June 2011, is a new structure incorporated into the existing Beirut Saint George Cathedral (Solidere area). Once completed, it will replace the existing 20 metre high tower with the existing bell being relocated to a loftier perch at the top of the new structure.

In order to construct the new tower, RMD Kwikform engineers have worked with specialist Lebanese contractor Enterprise Matta to design a cost effective formwork system, using a combination of Superslim Soldiers, Alform Beams and Rapidclimb brackets.

Commenting on the new tower and the award of the contract to RMD Kwikform, Enterprise Matta project manager Mr Jo Ghanem said: "This is a very prestigious project at the heart of Beirut. By increasing the size of the bell



tower, we are also going to change the landscape of this historic city. With this in mind we wanted to ensure we selected the right formwork and shoring partner.

"When you are dealing with historic structures like the Beirut Cathedral, there is no room for error in the design and execution of the formwork system. This is why we chose to work with RMD Kwikform, as they have the proven expertise to design solutions that meet tight safety and structural integrity criteria, both of which you need for a project of this kind."

With a tight programme time of just 5 months, the construction of the new bell tower is already underway with the project completed in June 2011.

Commenting on the project, Sales Manager for RMD Kwikform Lebanon, Yousuf Alouf said: "When you are tasked with changing the landscape of a city like Beirut, experience and the knowledge that you have great equipment, with proven performance, is extremely important. From a customer's perspective it is also good to know that you can source equipment from us quickly, that does not have to be created specifically for the task at hand. This application of standard products has also helped to keep costs down in what is a very competitive market."

