

MCE International Case Study

Project: AL Rasheed Hotel

Location: Baghdad International Zone, IRAQ

The AL Rasheed Hotel was built circa 1981 and was reported to have cost \$1billion. Thirty years ago this was a considerable amount of money for such an undertaking by any standards. Site surveys prior to commencement of the project, confirmed that at that time, no expense had been spared, the Hotel was fitted out with top of the range fixtures and fittings as well as the latest state of the art systems. The Hotel was constructed to provide accommodation for the Arab Summit held at that time, and once again was to undertake the same role for the 2011 conference.

Structurally, the hotel had survived 30 years of war and neglect more or less intact. Only minor external damage caused by the odd rocket strike and small arms fire were indicators to a violent period in Iraq's history. Understandably, the systems and interior of the hotel had declined and were in very poor condition.

In preparation for the 2011 Summit, it was decided that the Hotel would undergo a complete refurbishment of the 16 floor 480+ room accommodation tower and the massive basement, ground and 1st



floor areas. These areas contained restaurants, offices, bars, casinos, a bowling alley and conference facilities. Not to mention the massive main hall/theatre with the attached interpretation rooms, extensive kitchen, laundry and service areas, boiler and plant rooms etc. Externally, there is a pool area with spa facilities, tennis courts, barbeque area, heli-pad with control tower, VIP building and much more.

MCE secured the contract and were commissioned by Harlow International the EPC Contractor, to carry out the design and integration of a number of systems including:- Fire Detection and Protection Systems; Interpretation System; Building Management System (BMS); Hotel Management System (HMS); Data/Network fibre optic/CAT5e System; CCTV System; PA System; Wireless Internet System; Telephone and TV Systems; inclusive of Installation drawings and specifications for use by the Client.

As the project progressed, further scope was added e.g. additional design work and control panel design and build. In addition, MCE were asked to provide onsite Electrical and Mechanical technicians to assist and supervise the Client's Installation teams during the months of January and February 2011. At this time, MCE had 15 personnel on site.

Rob Fenby (MCE Project Manager) and Steve Winn (MCE Technical Manager) have been to site several times and spent a prolonged period, working with Honeywell to commission the FDS V & PA Systems. Having previously undertaken intensive training at Honeywell UK. Honeywell are providing the Fire Detection (XLS3000) and Protection (FM200) Systems, as well as CCTV and PA Equipment. Their EBI system and software will allow all the hotel BMS/HMS/CCTV/PA and Fire systems to be interfaced and monitored via a single terminal.

We have now completed our main work scope and currently await the completion of final building works, which shall allow us to return in order to gain access to areas previously unavailable. Thus, we hope to conclude all activities by the end of April/beginning of May 2011.

Featuring MCE Apprentices

From left to right Steve Grainger (19) Allan Lewis (20), and Stuart Nelson (23)



- ◆ Steve is at the end of his third year, has completed his NVQ course and is continuing to study for an HNC in mechanical engineering. He currently works on control valve refurbishment and calibration.
- ◆ Allan is in his second year and has latterly specialised in the refurbishment and testing of safety relief valves, having first gained experience with other valve types such as control and mechanical valves.
- ◆ Stuart is back on track in his final year following a major set-back resulting from injuries received in a serious climbing accident. His main activities are concentrated on control valve refurbishment and instrumentation but he is familiar with all valve types and has gained experience working on site as well as in the workshop environment.
- ◆ All three Apprentices are familiar with the operational techniques of the Valve Database Management system.
- ◆ We very much look forward to their eventual integration into our core team of skilled craftsmen.

Achilles Verify (Used by the Utility Companies)

On 24 January 2011 we were subjected to the annual Verify Audit. This takes into account our performance in Quality, Environment, Health and Safety, both in our management systems and including an on-site assessment. Our new certificate shows a Category B2 assessment as follows:

Management Systems	2010	2011	On-site assessment	2010	2011
Health & Safety	90.6%	90.6%	Health & Safety	92.7%	92.7%
Environment	90.2%	90.2%	Environment	92.4%	93.1%
Quality	94.7%	94.7%	Quality	98.2%	98.2%

We have continued to improve year on year since 2005 and although the increase in the 2011 statistics appears insignificant, a lot of time and effort went in to achieving this result. As mentioned in previous newsletters, the average score of all UK Companies is 75%.— So well done! to all parties who helped along the way. Keep up the good work.

It is well to be aware that the improvement in our on-site environmental management will gain us more credibility during Client pre-qualification and tender assessments.

SO 9001: 2008 Certification

March heralded the bi-annual surveillance visit by SGS Ltd, this time with a new auditor in place, the previous auditor having retired.

We are pleased to announce that we maintained our ISO 9001: 2008 certification. The next surveillance visit is September 2011. We shall keep you appraised as this becomes more visible.

Valve Management Database

The beta testing of the Client remote access facility is now complete and the three Clients who participated during the month long test are comfortable with the result.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all three for their co-operation. It is much appreciated.

This means that all future work carried out shall have a remote access facility (web based) allowing Clients to check the % complete of all valves (in real time) as they progress through the workshop.

Remember! Wherever you are and whatever you're doing, be it at work or in the home

