

SABIC seeks first LEED-Platinum certification for its High-Performance Demonstration Home in Riyadh

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RIYADH: Home of Innovation, a SABIC regional marketing and business growth initiative, is seeking the Kingdom's first LEED-Platinum certification for its High-Performance Demonstration Home in Riyadh.

The award is part of the US Green Building Council's LEED for Homes International Pilot rating system.

Platinum certification is the highest rating available within the LEED program.

The project would be the first of SABIC's facilities to achieve that distinction, and the seventh SABIC facility to earn LEED certification since 2012.

Nearing completion in Riyadh Techno Valley at King Saud University, the High-Performance Demonstration Home is one of three buildings designed and built for the Home of Innovation initiative. A Welcome and Orientation building and a Collaboration Center have already earned LEED-Gold certification from the USGBC.

"SABIC aspires to create high-impact signature programs that bring together our focus on innovation and collaboration and maximize our positive environmental, social and economic impacts," said Awadh Al-Maker, SABIC executive vice president, technology and innovation.

"We look forward to sharing the ideas, materials and methods that enabled our High-Performance Demonstration Home to seek this proud distinction."

The 676 square meter (7,284 square foot) home integrates innovative yet commercially available, materials, products and systems to yield a 40 percent

reduction in overall energy and potable water use compared to code-compliant homes in Saudi Arabia.

It is also designed and built to achieve a net-zero energy balance, generating as much or more electricity from a 28-kilowatt rooftop solar array than the home will consume in a 12-month period.

Other examples of the home's energy and environmental features include:

- An insulated and air-sealed thermal structure to reduce overall energy needs
- Controlled ventilation, pollutant control and filtration for healthy indoor air quality
- Energy-efficient cooling design and systems
- Long-lasting, energy-efficient lighting fixtures, controls and sensors
- Low-flow and water-saving plumbing fixtures and appliances
- Solar hot water
- Rain and gray-water reclamation system for landscape irrigation
- A building management system that enhances performance and efficiency

"To achieve these high-performance standards in one of the harshest climates in the world is a significant accomplishment," said Abdullah Al-Refaie, program director, Home of Innovation, SABIC.

"It will impact the way homes and commercial structures are built in the future to meet the challenges of rapid population growth and urbanization, natural resource demand, and housing affordability."

Members of the project team include IBACOS, a building innovation company based in Pittsburgh, PA USA; The Joannou & Paraskevaides Group (J&P), the project's general contractor from Cyprus; Green Technologies, an engineering consultancy company in Dubai, UAE; Sol design + consulting of Cincinnati, Ohio, USA; SABIC Engineering & Project Management (E&PM) in Riyadh; Zuhair Fayez Partnership Consultants, the project architect in Jeddah, KSA; and **theOtherDada, an interior design firm based in Beirut, Lebanon.**

Home of Innovation, a SABIC growth initiative, combines marketing, innovation and technology to create demand and promote downstream industry development. It offers a platform to showcase global innovation while identifying and developing new market opportunities and solutions.

It inspires the regional business community by facilitating collaboration among industry-leading companies and showcasing what could be manufactured locally. It brings together the best minds and organizations interested in the future of the Middle East and acts as a catalyst to transform ideas to industry. For more information, go to homeofinnovation.sabic.com.

Saudi Basic Industries Corporation (SABIC) ranks as the world's third largest diversified chemical company.

The company is among the world's market leaders in the production of polyethylene, polypropylene and other advanced thermoplastics, glycols, methanol and agri-nutrients.

SABIC recorded a net profit of SR23.3 billion in 2014.

Sales revenues for 2014 totaled SR188.1 billion. Total assets stood at SR340 billion at the end of 2014.

SABIC's businesses are grouped into chemicals, polymers, agri-nutrients, metals and innovative plastics.