



Affans new head-office is built in composite material with Diab structural foam

If you are based in Dubai and need an advanced architectural structure made of composite material, we would strongly recommend you to turn to Affan Innovative Structures LCC. Affan started out 11 years ago, designing and manufacturing in complex steel and glass. Four years ago, Affan added sandwich composite materials into their material portfolio. Today, they can create basically any shape and size you need, whether it is a dome, a bridge, a façade, a canopy or a sculpture.

Affan – a leader in composite constructions

Affan and Diab have been cooperating several years, first creating a roof over the entrance to the Sidra Medical and Research Center: [Sidra-Medical-and-Research-Center](#) and lately building a huge canopy roof that shelters the entrance of Abu Dhabi's premier shopping mall: [Canopy-roof-featuring-Diab-material-shelters-the-entrance-of-Abu-Dhabis-premier-shopping-mall](#). Today, Affan is busy creating, among other things, a completely new head office, showroom and factory for themselves in Dubai Investment Park (DIP). Affan designs and makes all the calculations for the building, which will be manufactured using mainly [Divinycell P](#).

“We do everything in house”, says Jacqueline Rufenacht, Production Manager Structural Composite at Affan. “We have five CNC machines whereof the largest is 30 meters long, 8 meters wide and 2.5 meter tall. We do all the composite work ourselves, and moreover we have all the tools and machines necessary for shaping metals.”

The new building will stand ready to welcome the 250 Affan employees at the end of 2015.

Composites for better sustainability

“The reason we chose sandwich composites with Divinicell for the construction was that we wanted to reduce the steel structure as much as possible”, says Jacqueline Rufenacht. Many steel beams are taken away and parts of the building are self-supporting, taking their own load. Since the composite panels are much lighter, the building process gets a lot easier and faster. Composites are also very durable and sustainable due to their long lifetime without noteworthy maintenance and low environmental impact.”

The building is 7,500 square meters and 13 meters tall, with production and storage on the upper floor and offices built in on the sides. The ground floor is taken by a big showroom, more production space, and all the machinery.

Large roof windows let in lots of light and everything is painted white to create a spacious, airy feeling. A sliding skylight above the stairs allows access to a recreational area on the roof terrace.

Affan has been working with Diab ever since they started using composite materials.

“We have a good working relationship”, says Janaranjana Oliver, Production Manager at Affan. “Diab has all the products we need plus fast delivery times compared to other suppliers.”

Read more about Affan Innovative Structures LCC: <http://affan-uae.com/home/>