



EMPLOYMENT PROSPECTS FOR OFWs IN UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Despite the Emiratization issue, the POLO has reported that there is still a great need for expatriate workers in the UAE for many years. A study conducted by the Media International Center on the subject revealed that the government was taking major responsibility in handling the issue, while the role and contribution of the private sector was still marginal. Employment in UAE for Filipinos is therefore still promising.

Among the various industries with employment opportunities for Filipino specialists are the tourism, construction, manufacturing, health and related services sector:

- Tourism and construction. Beginning 01 January 2005, Sharjah International Airport will embark on a major expansion to be completed by 2006.
- Manufacturing industry. The Emirates International Investment Company is building two factories on Abu Dhabi which shall manufacture polyester fiber and copper rods.
- Tourism, construction, health and related services and professionals. Abu Dhabi plans to develop the Abush-Shoom Island northeast of Abu Dhabi to build a distinctive residential and tourist city to be called Emirates Pearl. The project will include building a bridge connecting Abu Dhabi with the new island. The newly developed island will comprise of many hotels, hospitals, universities and family entertainment facilities.

- Construction and oil industry. The Dolphin Energy Ltd. (DEL) awarded the Technip Group a US\$62M engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract to build the new onshore Tawleeh gas receiving facility and associated pipelines in Abu Dhabi. The facility will have three parallel gas receiving trains and associated equipment, metering, facilities, control buildings and warehouse.

The National Petroleum Construction Company (NPCC) of Abu Dhabi bagged a contract from Crescent Petroleum Company International of Sharjah for two tenders covering the line pipe coating and offshore platform and subsea installation works to be completed by September 2005. The scope of the work under the contract includes line pipe coating, offshore installation of pipelines, jacket, piles, deck, bridge and riser spools for Crescent Gas Project located at Mubarak field, which is offshore of Sharjah.

Source: POLO - Abu Dhabi, UAE Report