

Dubai Chamber and Emirates Green Building Council **push for 'greener' buildings**

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HE Eng Hamad Buamim, Director General, Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and HE Ali bin Towaih, Chairman, Emirates Green Building Council, signed a Memorandum of Understanding to promote, support and facilitate the ongoing collaboration between the Chamber's Centre for Responsible Business (CRB) and EGBC in spreading awareness on the importance of sustainable management of the environment.

Under the agreement, both CRB and EGBC will work as partners affiliated in the common goal of helping Dubai businesses incorporate high-performance 'green buildings' and environmentally-friendly technologies as part of an overall Corporate Social Responsibility approach that includes the organization of a joint half-day workshop in the first quarter of 2009.

The seminar, planned and promoted jointly by CRB and EGBC, will cover the topics of the current and proposed UAE and Dubai Municipality regulatory framework and plans for Green Building advancement, an explanation of what 'green buildings' are and what is the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) program internationally and in the UAE and more importantly, how the Green Building Movement impacts/benefits SMEs in the country.

Formed in 2004, the Centre for Responsible Business (formerly known as the Dubai Ethics Resource Centre) is a hub of expertise in Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and the longest standing Centre for Business Responsibility in the UAE. As part of the Dubai Chamber, its international team of experts assist Dubai businesses in applying responsible practices that enhance performance and competitive advantage. The Centre for Responsible Business does this through the provision of research, training, assessments, certification, programmes, events and advisory services that cover all aspects of CSR.

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