

## **Dubai Chamber commended for its environmental role**

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**Dubai Chamber of Commerce & Industry has been bestowed with the Middle East Business Achievement Seal of Distinction at the 2nd Annual MEBA awards ceremony held in Dubai recently.**

The achievement came from the shortlisting of a large number of companies from the Middle East where Dubai Chamber was nominated for the Environmental Contribution of the Year category.

Organised by 'Leaders Presents' in Dubai, the Awards aim to recognize and reward outstanding success, innovation and ethics across the Middle East business spectrum and honour industry leaders for their innovative business process, excellence and success and acknowledges the vital contribution of individuals and companies to the vibrancy of business in the region.

Jagath Gunawardena Manager, Projects & Building Development, Dubai Chamber, informed that the Chamber's sustainability accomplishments are behind this recognition.

'Thanks to the perpendicular structure of Dubai Chamber building we are able to utilize maximum sunlight. Also, we were able to reduce 75% of the overall water consumption from the baseline levels of 1996 and we consume 30% less energy than conventional Dubai buildings. Besides running highly efficient mechanical and electrical equipment we strongly implement solid waste recycling programme as we also aim to surpass the sustainability criteria set by the US Green Building Council for working building category (EB2).'

said Jagath.

Added Jagath, 'Getting this Highly Commended Seal of Distinction at the second round of the popular MEBA Awards encourages us to rigorously follow our strategy of being one of the leaders in implementing environmentally sustainable operations in the region.'

Under its environmentally-friendly procurement system, Dubai Chamber optimizes the Building energy performance as per ASRAE/IESNA Standards 90.1-2004.

Since the month of January 2008 the application of the 'reduce, reuse and recycle' initiative, the Chamber managed to recycle 14,400 kg of paper in the first six months of the year (a rate approximate to reducing waste at 40%) while the waste water at the Chamber is treated and reused for garden landscaping around the building.

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