

News Release: Septech Celebrates Festival Marina's First Anniversary

Dubai, September 3, 2008:

UAE-based Septech, the region's most innovative water infrastructure and specialised engineering solutions provider, is celebrating with Dubai Festival City the first anniversary of Festival Marina which they built and is now known as one of Dubai's most prestigious marina facilities. Festival Marina, located on the banks of Dubai's creek, was constructed by Septech and has state of the art facilities including; extra-wide pontoons, WiFi, and a helicopter-pad. Septech used its globally renowned Unifloat® - concrete floating pontoons – a patented technology - to construct Festival Marina, the only facility in the UAE equipped with quay side mooring compatible with European water side towns and standards. The high end customised marina development, offers 74 berths and further capacity for 15-35 metre yachts.

Currently there is over 17 million square feet of Unifloat® floating pontoons in operation around the world. Developed by Septech's Middle Eastern partner, the world's largest marina manufacturer Bellingham Marine in 1958, Unifloat® floating concrete pontoon systems are a tried and tested solution. Currently, Septech owns 75% of the Marina market in the UAE and provides a range of consultancy based services including; marina design, custom manufacturing of Unifloat® concrete floating pontoons, marina construction, pilling and dredging works. Septech's rapid expansion in the Middle East estimated at 200% over the past two years, far exceeds industry standards year-on-year. Expertise in key specialist areas including dry stack (on shore rack style boat storage), marina design and construction is expected to drive further growth and expansion in the Middle Eastern, North African and South Asian region (MENASA).

"Festival Marina's berth occupancy rate currently exceeds 100% and reflects the added value that Septech brings to marina developments. With marina's adding approximately 30% to a waterfront developments property value, it is easy to see why the demand for their construction is so high .The Middle Eastern marina market is both dynamic and exciting, we have made Significant contribution to regionally based iconic marina projects including; The Wave – Oman; Dubai Yacht Club Marina – Dubai Marina; and now the refurbishment of Jumeirah Beach Hotel's Marina – Dubai and Royal Yas Marina – Yas Island," said Bruce Birtwistle, Septech's Business Unit Manager - Marine.

Phil Blake, IGY Marina Manager for Festival Marina added: "Festival Marina offers a range of top end amenities to residents and tourists alike, bringing best of breed facilities and visitors tighter at our retail resort – Dubai Festival City." Over the last twelve months, the Festival Marina has established a reputation as the region's leading yacht dealer showcase marina with nine yacht dealers and manufacturers represented via top-of-therange yacht models for prospective buyers to board and view, first hand.

Dubai Festival City's inaugural Boat Festival, to be held October 24 –25, 2008, will provide a platform for celebrating Dubai's sea-going heritage. Replete with racing dhows and a show of luxury yachts, the event is set to be a major attraction for the local boating community. Dubai Festival City offering over 400 retail shops, including 72 cafes, restaurants and a cinema complex has already proved popular with boaters.

Over 50 marinas are due to be built over the next 10 years and will add an additional 40,000 berths to the sector which will provide a platform for celebrating Dubai's sea-going heritage - replete with racing dhows and luxury yachts on show.

About Septech

Established in 1997, Septech is a privately owned company that provides innovative water infrastructure and specialized industry solutions to governments, municipalities, public and private developers across the Middle East. Septech's extensive portfolio spans six major business units, including water, waste water, mobile water, precast infrastructure, marine and utilities management. Septech has distinguished itself within the industry as an independent entity capable of providing tailor-made water solutions and has been involved with a number of landmark projects in the UAE, including the Atlantis hotel, Festival Marina – Dubai Festival City, the Royal Yas Marina – Yas Island, The Els Club – Victory Heights and Tiger Woods, thereby earning the company a reputation as a specialist industry leader.

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