

# ASD FOR DOME OF THE ROCK

Xtralis to install smoke detection system in sacred landmark

## FIRE

**Fire detection** and security system provider Xtralis is to install a smoke detection system in the Dome of the Rock Mosque in Jerusalem.

The oldest surviving Islamic landmark in the work will be fitted with Xtralis' VESDA Aspirating Smoke Detection (ASD) system, deployed in conjunction with Xtralis partner Orientals Engineering based in Jordan.

"The Dome of the Rock has stood the test of time for centuries and it would be unthinkable to lose such a valuable piece of Muslim history to fire and smoke damage," said Mustafa Hamdan, general manager at Orientals. "The Xtralis VESDA solution can be unobtrusively deployed in the most sensitive and sacred areas and can reliably detect the presence of smoke well in advance of a fire, making it the only choice to protect this revered Muslim holy site."

The ASD system uses laser technology to detect traces of smoke from the earliest stages of a fire, alerting authorities to an incident before a blaze can begin.

"We are honoured that our VESDA solution has been selected to protect a building with such historical, religious and architectural significance as Dome of the Rock," said



■ The Xtralis system will help protect the Dome of the Rock from damage by fire.

Samir Samhouri, president and CEO of Xtralis.

VESDA ASD is the only early warning fire detection solution designed for use in environments with a zero tolerance for fire, such as historic buildings and landmarks, museums

and critical infrastructure facilities. VESDA has also been used at other historical sites such as Istanbul's Topkapi Palace and the National Gallery in London, thanks to its ability to detect traces of smoke even in highly dilute and open environments.

## NOHMI INAUGURATES DAFZ REGIONAL BASE

### FIRE

**Japanese fire suppression supplier** Nohmi has inaugurated its Middle East office, located in Dubai Airport Free Zone (DAFZ).

During the inauguration, the company launched its NN 100 nitrogen gas suppression system and announced plans for expansion in the region.

"The Nohmi office in DAFZ will be a sales and technical support office for the GCC region and Africa and support expansion plans of Nohmi in the Middle East," said Keiji Kageyama, deputy director and international

general manager of Nohmi Bosai.

He also added that the NN 100 had been proven in the region, having already been deployed in Kuwait and Kenya.

The event was attended by the Japanese Consul General in Dubai, Hiroyasu Kobayashi who said in an address that said the Japanese are good at designing and manufacturing products that are efficient and reliable. "You only realise that it's there when they are required in an emergency like fire extinguishers for example," he added.

A delegation from DAFZ, led by Nasser Madani, assistant director general, took the opportunity to highlight a new Health and Safety Business Award for organisations and establishments operating within the Free Zone, of which one award is dedicated to fire protection.

"We have also been honoured with the Fire Protection and Safety Award granted by the Dubai Ports, Customs and FZ Authority," he added.

Nohmi was founded in 1924 and claims to be the largest fire protection company in terms of sales in Japan.

## IN BRIEF

### SS8 EXPANDS IN MIDDLE EAST

SS8 announced today that it has acquired OCI Mobile, a technology provider specialising in providing highly secured surveillance solutions to government organisations.

"This addition is part of our strategic plan to strengthen our already strong presence in the Middle East region, a region we feel is poised for both immediate and long-term growth," says SS8 CEO Dennis Haar. "We're very pleased to fortify our operations with such a strong and talented team of surveillance experts."

### DM ENGINEERS GET CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COURSE

Dubai Municipality, in cooperation with Mirdif Security & Safety Consultants, has held a course for its engineers as part of the series of training courses held by the Engineering Supervision Section in the Buildings Department aimed at enhancing their level of competence, field supervision and work inspection in construction sites.

The course coincides with the Buildings Department issuing a new safety manual for construction sites in Arabic and English.

All fifty engineers in the Engineering Supervision Section were trained on safety conditions and the new additions in the manual.

### LAFFAN REFINERY ACHIEVES SAFETY MILESTONE

Qatargas has announced that the Laffan Refinery project has completed 20 million man-hours without a Lost Time Incident (LTI).

"Since the start of the Laffan Refinery Project, the GS-Daewoo Consortium has worked over 27 million man-hours with only one LTI. This performance has been achieved through the hard work and dedication of the contractor consortium and the Laffan Refinery Project Management and Expansion Start-Up Teams. We encourage the entire workforce to continue this good effort," said Salman Ashkanani, venture manager, Qatargas.