

NEWS from Lafarge

Publication of Lafarge Iraq - No: 1 - September 2015

**LafargeHolcim:
A new leader
for a new world**

 A member of
LafargeHolcim

 **LAFARGE**
Building better cities™

CONTENTS

SEPTEMBER 2015

NEWS

from Lafarge

- 2** CEO's MESSAGE
- 4** LafargeHolcim
- 9** HEALTH & SAFETY
- 12** CUSTOMERS & PROJECTS
- 17** OUR PEOPLE
- 19** OUR BUSINESS PARTNERS
- 21** OUR LOCAL COMMUNITIES
- 23** ARCHITECTURE
- 24** REWARD QUIZ

CEO's Message



Rachid Benyakhlef - Country CEO - Lafarge Iraq

“Lafarge is a customer and end-user centric company seeking to offer high quality, innovative and differentiated solutions and products to its customers.”

Dear Colleagues and Readers,

I am very pleased to introduce the first issue of Lafarge Iraq's company corporate magazine. It is a quarterly publication in English, Arabic and Kurdish languages.

The main objective of this publication is to share actual news and some important highlights regarding our projects, operations and activities with Lafarge employees as well as with external stakeholders such as our customers, architects and designers, suppliers, governmental bodies, local communities etc. We hope that this corporate magazine will reinforce our communications with our employees and other target groups on a regular basis.

I would like to take this opportunity to share key points about Lafarge in Iraq.

Lafarge entered Iraq in 2008 in cement, 2011 in concrete, and 2015 in aggregate developing leading positions in all its business lines. We are one of the largest non-oil investors in Iraq operating in cooperation with our local business partners which are: Faruk Holding (cement and industrial ecology), 77 Construction & Trading Company (concrete), BASF (additives) in Iraqi Kurdistan, and MerchantBridge (cement) in Karbala.

As of 15th of July 2015, Lafarge Iraq belongs to LafargeHolcim Group, the new world leader in building materials that emerged through the merger of two big groups Lafarge and Holcim.

Lafarge is a customer and end user-centric company seeking to offer high quality, innovative and differentiated solutions and products to its customers. Our worldwide vision "Building better cities" is well reflected in Iraq. Lafarge is involved in many large scale housing and infrastructure projects in Iraq. We offer cement, concrete, aggregate and other needed solutions as well as technical support based on our worldwide know how and experience. Lafarge has developed a strong working relationship with the local authorities, the Bismaya Residential Project in Baghdad, is an example of this. Once completed it will be the largest residential complex in Iraq.

CEO's Message

The health and safety of our people and our local communities is a core value and number 1 priority for Lafarge. Lafarge Group's international standards and guidelines regarding health & safety are well implemented in Iraq; we play a leading role in our industry and in the country contributing to significant improvements in this area. Lafarge maintains a commitment to protecting the health and wellbeing of our employees and local communities. This is the number one guiding principle for all employees of the Group, at every level of responsibility. We continue to revolutionize our industrial operations to make them safer.

"We are committed to making a net positive contribution to society and nature through our sustainability actions."

Furthermore, we have established clear directives and standards while continuing to increase safety awareness for both our full time and contracted employees. We consider ourselves responsible not only for our employees' wellbeing, but also for our contractors, customers, and anyone touched by our activities. Our main objective is to maintain a world-class level of safety in all of our operations including Iraq.

Our roadmap "Sustainability Ambitions 2020" aims to maximize our contribution to society while minimizing any negative impact. Lafarge has an ambitious program of over 30 objectives covering the three realms of sustainable development:

- Building Communities (social)
- Building Sustainably (economic)
- Building the Circular Economy (environmental)

We aim to be a model in environmental management systems; we maintain trusty relationships with our stakeholders and listen the needs and expectations of our local communities in order to be an active and supportive part of our communities. We want to be a model in industrial ecology and sustainability for Iraq. Lafarge aims to be a pioneer in environmental management systems in the country; we maintain trusty relationships with our stakeholders and listen to the needs and expectations of our local communities in order to be an active and supportive part of our communities. Lafarge has initiated a unique environmental project in Iraq, a new waste facility to be built in Sulaimaniyah that will also support our alternative fuel program in the country.

We do respect our natural and urban environment in line with our worldwide sustainability ambitions.

- Our products and solutions are used all over the world to support growth and contribute to building better cities
- We source, produce and sell our products locally and therefore have a direct interest in contributing to the socio-economic development of local communities

Lafarge is a preferred employer in Iraq offering every opportunity to its employees for professional & personal development. At Lafarge we understand that our people are the most valuable asset for the country and the business; we invest significantly in people development in Iraq. We have well established relations with the local universities in order to support successful students as well as young engineers, managers etc.

Lafarge is strongly committed to contribute to building the future in Iraq.

We hope that you enjoy the magazine and that we meet again soon in the next issue.



Sincerely yours,

Rachid Benyakhlef - Country CEO – Lafarge IRAQ

A new leader for a new world:

LafargeHolcim officially launched around the globe



Five key focus areas grouped around synergies, capital allocation, commercial transformation, integration and health and safety

Operating model defined with clear responsibilities of Countries, Regions, and Group functions

LafargeHolcim will be organized along a new operating model oriented to serve the local customers, while leveraging the Group's size, footprint, and capabilities at global scale. It combines empowered countries, regional management platforms and expertise-driven group functions.



LafargeHolcim



Eric Olsen
CEO LafargeHolcim

“Together we have the unique opportunity to make a difference to the world”

*W*e will now step into the next phase of our transformation to become the leader in every respect. We want to be the key player in one of the most fundamental shifts: the rapid and massive urbanization of the planet. Together we will capitalize on our combined strengths, our industry

leading capabilities in innovation and R&D, our unprecedented business portfolio and most importantly, our great talent pool. Together we have the unique opportunity to make a difference to the world – for our customers, our employees, our shareholders and society.

As we work through the integration, it is key that we all stay focused on health and safety, on meeting our customers' needs, and on delivering performance. We have a lot of challenging work ahead of us to deliver on the promise of LafargeHolcim.

The success of LafargeHolcim will come down to people – to you. I count on you and on your contribution to create a real environment of openness to change and build positive momentum. Let us embrace this unique chance to make LafargeHolcim into a new leader for a new world.



Adrian Horia
Middle East
Area Manager

“LafargeHolcim should be the company that helps to deliver the dreams of many people around the world”

*I*t is up to us to capitalize on the merger and transform the way we do business. We have a tremendous opportunity to change the way the game in our industry is played and to position ourselves as the solution provider for the construction sector, be it for individual or retail customers or large infrastructure and industrial projects. LafargeHolcim should be the company that helps to deliver the dreams of many people

around the world, the dreams of having a house, a school, a hospital, a power plant, a highway, or a tunnel.

In order to turn this into reality, we have to make sure that the customer is at the heart of our company, at all levels. Only through being in touch with our customers, understanding their businesses, their needs, and even going further to discover the needs of their own customers, can we be a successful company and ensure sustainable higher returns to our shareholders.

Being the largest company in our sector will also imply increased responsibilities towards environment and society. It is important to set clear industry standards, and to defend concrete as the most sustainable construction material. We have to be aware that through our environmental and social performance we will build our company attractiveness in the future.

I consider that this merger represents a true opportunity for every one of us, as it broadens our horizons, makes us part of a larger network, and gives us access to the best knowledge in our industry.



Rachid Benyakhlef - Country CEO - Lafarge Iraq

“ I sincerely believe that this big change will provide us with a strong momentum to our existing efforts to overcome the heavy challenges we have been facing in Iraq. ”

*A*s Lafarge Iraq, we are now a member of LafargeHolcim, the new, undisputed world leader in building materials operating in 90 countries, employing over 100.000 people. This is a unique professional experience for all of us.

Lafarge and Holcim, two groups of similar size with European roots and more than 100 years of history, are starting a new journey together as one group. We have shared values starting with health & safety and sustainable development; we are geographically complementary; we share the same customer-centric culture of innovation and performance. Therefore LafargeHolcim will be more innovative, more efficient and faster in responding to the challenges of increasing urbanization.

“ LafargeHolcim will be more innovative, more efficient and faster in responding to the challenges of increasing urbanization. ”

Since there is no Holcim presence in Iraq we will not be affected by any major re-organization, nevertheless a mindset change is ahead of us. A real change to adapt into LafargeHolcim business culture that is briefly defined as “CRISP”: Customers – Results – Integrity – Sustainability – People; naturally endorsed by a strong health & safety culture. It is a business culture that will be based on a unique synergy of the rich knowledge and experience of both groups coming from their long histories. A strong acceleration of our transformation journey towards a customer and end-user centric organization.

I sincerely believe that this big change will provide us with a strong momentum to our existing efforts to overcome the heavy challenges we have been facing in Iraq. This can only be possible through a real understanding of the new business culture and to implement it successfully.

The new group at a glance

90 countries –
from Algeria to
Zimbabwe



N°1 building
materials group
in the world



115,000
employees



386.5 MT installed
cement capacity



LafargeHolcim

Core values to guide us everyday

Health and Safety is our overarching value and embedded in everything we do.

Customers

Build an organization and culture that is centered on markets and customers.

Results

Passion to achieve goals and deliver with rigorous execution, with zero harm to people.

Integrity

Create an environment where compliance is a central focus and commitment.

Sustainability

Demonstrate leadership in environment stewardship and role-modelling responsibility to future generations.

People, Openness and Inclusion

Truly care for and respect every individual.



LafargeHolcim

Health & Safety



Health & Safety: Our overarching value

The Health and Safety Policy of Lafarge-Holcim embeds the overarching values. The importance of and commitment to first document shows health and safety by the new company's management.

The policy highlights that all works should be conducted safely in a healthy environment and our responsibility does not only cover our employees but it is extended to our contractors, customers and local communities. It also focuses on effective leadership role of our managers. The objective of the policy is

to have zero level of harm through our commitment to the required safety procedures, to create a safe workplace and to conduct all works through a risk management plan.

We are all responsible of health and safety; towards yourself and the people around you.

The health and safety is the responsibility of all of us.

Therefore, let me invite every one to adapt the health and safety slogan which is

“No Compromise on health and safety”





Health & Safety Policy

LafargeHolcim is the most advanced company in the building materials industry.

We conduct our business in a manner that leads to creating a healthy and safe environment for all stakeholders (employees, contractors, communities and customers) built on a true safety culture.

Health and Safety is our overarching value. We believe in visible leadership and personal accountability for Health and Safety at all levels and throughout our organization.

Our Commitment

We will:

- Conduct our business with a goal of zero harm.
- Provide safe, healthy and secure work conditions for employees and contractors.
- Maintain a global Health and Safety Management System designed to continuously improve our performance and actively manage risk in our business.
- Comply with applicable legal, regulatory, industry and corporate requirements.
- Communicate openly with all stakeholders on relevant health and safety issues.

Eric Olsen
Chief Executive Officer



Health & Safety Rules

Rule 1

I assess and control risks before starting any task.

Rule 2

I only perform activities for which I am authorized.

Rule 3

I never override or misuse health & safety devices, and I always use the required PPE.

Rule 4

I do not work under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

Rule 5

I report all incidents.

Living by these rules is a condition of employment.

“Lafarge is uniquely placed in Iraq combining extensive experience not only in cement, but also in other associated building materials”

George Elias
Country Marketing Director - Lafarge Iraq



1. What would you say are the main differences between Lafarge's products and services and others available in Iraq? How does the service Lafarge provides make it the preferred choice?

► Lafarge is uniquely placed, in that it is the only player in Iraq that combines extensive experience not only in cement, but also in other associated building materials (aggregates, sand, and concrete). Moreover, with its international presence, and the Lafarge Research Center in Lyon - the largest of its kind in the world - Lafarge Iraq has at its disposal an unmatched access to the latest innovations and product development expertise to transfer to our customers in Iraq.

We have built our marketing strategy around two pillars:

- Excellence in our manufacturing processes and services to ensure international standards in quality in all our products
- Deep understanding of our customers' needs, and development of innovative products and solutions to meet their requirements, based on Lafarge's latest research and development in the field.

The execution of our strategy is equally important: we spend a lot of time and effort to work closely with our customers, whom we consider as partners.

We have their success in their business as our priority: their success drives our success.

2. 2014 was a challenging year to operate in Iraq, what are your expectations for 2015; what new products and services will be offered?

► Indeed, 2014 has been a difficult year, not only for Lafarge, but for the Iraqi economy in general as well. However, short-term difficulties do not change our long-term positive view on the very strong fundamentals of the construction industry, and the significant business development opportunities it offers.

As such, we continue to accelerate our innovation projects: decorative and high performance concretes, block manufacturing, Binastore retail concept, Mateen cement, aggregates and sand business, Joint Venture (JV) with BASF. These innovative and new business lines will allow us to propose new solutions to the construction industry, in both building and infrastructure projects.

We are also completing the studies for the next wave of innovative solutions that will be launched in 2016, especially in roads, sea ports.

Innovation remains a cornerstone of our offer, and a key driver for our future profitable growth.

3. Lafarge and BASF has recently established a JV that is going to be operational soon. What is the objective of this business partnership and what will be its contribution to the sector?

► Lafarge and BASF, both world leaders in their fields, share common values (health & safety, innovation) and similar approach to the market (end-user focus, offer based on solutions). Both companies have decided to join their efforts in Iraq to propose a range of innovative products and services to the construction industry.

The JV will offer a wide range of specialty construction chemicals, covering admixtures for ready mix concrete, as well as a wide range of mortars, grouts, adhesives, waterproofing materials, and other innovative solutions. The manufacturing facility will be based in Erbil.

Moreover, Lafarge and BASF will be working jointly on marketing activities targeting large projects in KRG and Iraq. The specialty chemicals product range of BASF will be a good complement to the building materials offer of Lafarge, allowing us to have a complete and differentiated offer in the market, to satisfy the needs of our customers.

Customers & Projects



Bestun Haji Ahmed:

“Lafarge care about the health and safety of our drivers and workers and always involves us in their safety programs.”

I started working in the general trade field in 1992. Before that I was selling doors and windows. I established Bestun Company for trading, and construction materials like BRC and cement in 2000. Since then we have worked on BRC and cement continuously and year by year our business has improved until we successfully reached to where we are now.

We have been working with Lafarge for 7 years. When we tested and checked market response to Lafarge cement and discovered the strength of this brand in terms of quality and reputation then it was easy decision to enlarge our business with Lafarge.



Gulan Tower

Lafarge provides **40.000 m3** high performance special concrete for Gulan Tower Project that is about to be completed.

Lafarge concrete is preferred in prestigious large scale projects in Iraq

Lafarge has become the preferred concrete provider in large scale prestigious construction projects in Iraq. Recent examples of such projects are as follows: In the Kurdistan Region of Iraq projects include: Khabat Thermal Power Plant, a very important project for the energy needs of the region; Lafarge is going to provide 80.000 m3 high performance concrete for this project.

Gulan Tower, Erbil Media City and High Crest Hotel are other prestigious projects in which Lafarge concrete is used. Lafarge provided 40.000 m3 high performance special concrete for Gulan Tower Project that is about to be completed. Erbil Media City Project will be completed in 2016 and total amount of concrete to be provided by Lafarge for this project is 70.000 m3. High Crest Hotel Erbil Project is being built with Lafarge concrete; total amount of concrete to be used in this project will be 45.000 m3.

Customers & Projects



High Crest Hotel Erbil

This project is being built with Lafarge concrete; total amount of concrete to be used in this project will be

45.000 m3

The Bab Al Nassiryah project in Dhi-Qar (Nassiryah) is one of the largest investments in housing sector that Lafarge is involved in. It is a residential complex with 944 units with completed infrastructure that requires 200,000 m³ of concrete supply over 2 years meaning 60 KT of cement.

New technologies that will be used in this project, such the new molding system form work, because the house's construction materials is completely a concrete (foundation, walls and roof), and new heat isolation system by using Isofoam boards inside the walls, which Lafarge is working on giving them new options to integrate the design requirement, by using Lafarge Thermedia technology product, and we negotiate with them to use our VAPs as possible solution for many parts of the construction process. Lafarge will operate a RMX plant on the construction site and will be responsible for concrete production and quality control.



Erbil Media City

It will be completed in 2016 and total amount of concrete to be provided by Lafarge for this project is

70.000 m3

Lafarge Iraq launched a superior cement product: MATEEN

Lafarge launched a superior cement product in Iraqi Kurdistan with the brand name "Mateen" (HESC 52.5 R). "Mateen" is the name of a famous mountain in the region and the word means "strong, durable".

The product is specially designed for block manufacturing and precast applications to offer the best solution to the market. Lafarge M&S team initiated a road show event for major block

factories in Erbil to demonstrate the application and advantages of "Mateen". Owners of the block factories visited by Lafarge team have reacted very positively after they tried Mateen and discovered how strong and efficient it is. George Elias, Lafarge Iraq Country Marketing Director, stated "Mateen was



created by analyzing the needs of the market and transforming them into product specifications. Thanks to this innovative product, block owners will save money or time depending on their needs".



Lafarge Academy certified local masons



Lafarge-Iraq certified 11 local masons who completed Lafarge Academy training successfully. Speaking at the graduation ceremony, George Elias, Lafarge-Iraq's marketing director, said:

"There will be various training courses throughout the year and we look forward to working with the local masons to improve and develop skills in the local construction sector." One of the masons Wasta Jamal, commented that one of the most

important things he had learned was health and safety in the work place: "Before we wouldn't have worn a hard hat, gloves, special shoes or the protective glasses- but it's very important to wear them."

Addressing the graduates Elias went on to say: "Being a graduate of the Lafarge Academy certifies the standard of your work, your customers will be confident that you will provide a good service to them."

Duhok Laboratory Certified Karasta as per KRG Ministry of Housing Approval

The quality of KARASTA, Lafarge-Iraq's general use cement, has been certified by the governmental construction laboratory in Duhok as per the approval of KRG Ministry of Housing that completes certification process for KARASTA the Kurdistan Region of Iraq. Ahmed Hanafi, Country Technical Marketing Manager, stated that "this achievement has been reached through an effective collaboration of industrial and public affairs teams and it is important step towards country product portfolio strategy including positive impact on sustainable development by reducing CO2 emission".

Karasta is a CEM II A-L 42.5R, has recently been re-launched following adjustments and refinements to its composition in response to customer feedback. The changes in Karasta's formula makes it darker in color, with better workability, better adhesion, less cracks and bleeding as well as higher water retention with same strength like our CEM I. It can be used in finishing application, slabs, dams and variety of concrete structure amongst other things. Karasta meets Iraqi industrial specification 3868.



Being a Woman in the Cement Industry



Khoshi Abdullah
Cement BU North
Quality Assurance Manager

I graduated from Sulaimaniyah University in 2005 with a BSc degree in Chemistry.

I started my career in 2005 with Orascom company in Tasluja Cement Plant as chemist until the launch of Bazian Plant; so from the beginning of Lab in Bazian I worked as chemical lab supervisor in Bazian Cement Plant Laboratory.

“ I am the only woman on the team, the respectful and caring approach of Lafarge towards its staff lead me to stay for all these years ”

I joined Lafarge when Orascom was acquired by Lafarge, in 2010 I became responsible for Quality Assurance as leader and in Bazian in 2013 became Quality manager until 2015, my current position is Cement Business Unit North Quality Assurance Manager and I am responsible for Bazian and Tasluja cement plants.

I spent good years with Lafarge during which I have learned more from this organization in very short time. From my point of view Lafarge is very great organization which keeps me motivated and takes care for my development process and has given me different positions, I am the only woman on the team and the respectful and caring approach of Lafarge towards its staff lead me to stay with the organization, we are one big family.

As a working mother, it is always difficult to balance the challenges of a demanding job and home life- but working environment at Lafarge makes it easier.



Aaliye Kahdum
Karbala Cement Plant
Payroll Section Head

I hold a BA in Computer Science from the Technology University, I have been responsible for the Payroll Section since December 2012.

It was not easy to work in Iraqi governmental institutions as a woman; however, I don't face same difficulty at Lafarge. I think that communities adapt to work together men and women and Lafarge represents upscale image for this working environment.

“ I think that communities adapt to work together men and women and Lafarge represents upscale image for this working environment. ”

Lafarge Iraq laboratory teams are best in class

Cement and concrete laboratories of Lafarge Iraq are ranked at top level of LAI (Laboratory Accuracy Index). The Lafarge Group team responsible for LAI sends every year an unknown sample to the cement plants around the world to measure and to report. The results reported by plant laboratories indicate the accuracy level of each facility.

Lafarge Iraq laboratories located in Bazian and Tasluja cement plants (Sulaimaniyah) recorded a great achievement by remaining in class A for the sixth year in a row reaching above 95% accuracy level among 180 laboratories within Lafarge Group. Bazian and Tasluja laboratories are listed as SSL (Shared Service Lab. - Iraq) in LAI.

Also Karbala Cement Plant has made a great success by reaching 95% accuracy level in LAI although it was the first year that the plant has been involved in the program. The plant teams overcame a series of challenges since last year to get this successful result. The role of the maintenance team, and especially specific support provided by Mahmoud Hussien Alwain and Ahmed Ghadban were crucial in this success.



Shared Service Lab Team

Ali Aziz - Chemist - Tasluja
Aso Latif - Chemist - Bazian
Hardi Hassan - Quality Assurance Leader - Bazian
Khoshi Abdullah - Quality Assurance Manager - Bazian & Tasluja
Miran Jamal - Physical Supervisor - SSL



The quality team of Karbala Cement Plant:

Ali Alaraji (Lab Coach and Maintenance champion)
Mahmud Awad (Head of Quality Department)
Haider Kadhim (Quality assurance leader)
Hussien abbas (Quality Shift control leader)
Mohamed Kassem (Physical lab head)
Soudded Abdeladaim (Chemical lab head)
All QCSO (Amjed Kzar, Saad Abdelumer, Haider Aimaliky and Hussien Mehawesh, Waheed Talib, Sawsan Jabar, Mohammed abdelhussain, Entisar Ali, Hashim Karim, Qassim Yaas, Tamy Qassim and Ibrahim Mohammed Ali)

Bazian and Tasluja Plants welcomed 18 university students at internship program

Lafarge Iraq welcomed 18 students from the American University and other universities based in Sulaimaniyah to its internship program. The program covers practice in operational and functional departments of Bazian and Tasluja cement plants.

The process started with nomination from universities and the company training department designed a relevant schedule in accordance with related company departments to answer to each specialty need as much as possible. The program provides a unique experience to the students while creating a young potential resource for Lafarge.



Our Business Partners



Faruk Mustafa Rasool
Chairman of Faruk Holding

“ We are building tomorrow, together ”

Lafarge and Faruk Holding have steadily built a successful partnership in Iraqi Kurdistan over the last seven years that now encompasses not only cement projects but initiatives such as Ecocem- a joint venture between Faruk Holding and Lafarge to build the first modern recycling plant in Iraq that generates RDF, which can be used as a more environmentally friendly fuel in their joint cement plants.

At the heart of the partnership's success are key shared values. 'Developing human capital is key to our future success, at Faruk Holding we like to recruit talented people and to work and partner with international experts, in order to further increase our knowledge and success,' says Faruk Mustafa Rasool, Chairman of Faruk Holding.

These shared values can be seen by the joint community projects that Lafarge and Faruk Holding have invested in, such as schools, nursery and health clinic projects for the stakeholder communities in the areas where Lafarge and Faruk Holding have joint projects.

'It is important that we invest in developing our societies- but it must be sustainable and in both the social and economic spheres... for long term success we need to develop and support human capacity in the region' Rasool says.

In addition to the new Ecocem Project, Lafarge is also a partner to Faruk Holding at both the Bazian and Tasluja cement plants. Some of these products have been used in landmark projects across Faruk Holding's portfolio such as the Grand Millennium Hotel and Faruk Medical Centre.

Rasool highlighted how important it has been to rehabilitate the Region's cement industry

“ Shared values can be seen by the joint community projects ”

Faruk Holding (FH) is comprised of 27 companies operating across 12 separate sectors vital to Iraq's reconstruction: telecommunication & IT, cement, construction, industry, energy, development, medical services, hospitality, real estate, project management, commerce and trade, agriculture.

FH was incorporated as a holding company, controlling the shares and companies owned by Chairman of the Board, Faruk Mustafa Rasool, in 2008. Since its establishment, FH has continually been a champion of positive development inside Iraq in both social and economic sectors.



Opening Ceremony in a Local CSR Project



Faruk Holding and Lafarge executive team at the ceremony of Ecocem

Our Business Partners



Warzer Sarwar
CEO - Zarya Construction Company

“ We look to Lafarge as a role model for growing companies ”

For how long have you been working with Lafarge?

► Zarya Construction Company is honored to be associated with Lafarge and Faruk Holding. Our working relationship has been ongoing since 2008.

What is the main reason that you work with Lafarge?

► We look to Lafarge as a role model for growing Companies like ourselves and we admire the professional and dedicated approach they have adopted in both establishing themselves and their continued growth and development here in Iraq. We too are proud of the recognition Lafarge has bestowed upon us in their Safety Management Award to us in 2014 and recent Recognition Award for our works at their Clay Quarry Road Project.

How do you describe your partnership with Lafarge?

► We have a successful working relationship with Lafarge. As Zarya we have and continue to provide the complete range of our services from general construction, trading, importing\ exporting services and we tailor all to suit their ongoing requirements at Lafarge's cement plants (Quarries including blasting and supplying procedures, maintenance with refractory works, new EPC projects like (Roads, SRC, ESP filter, refurbishment of heavy full tanks) and sourcing materials both here and from abroad like (gypsum, iron ore and silica). Furthermore we are working hand in hand on Lafarge's new crusher plant project for opening and operating the quarry with blasting requirements. We are delighted to have recently been successful in being awarded construction of RDF project for waste recycling plant, which is a JV arrangement between Faruk Group Holding and Lafarge.

We wish Lafarge continued success.

Our Local Communities



Karwan Mahmoud
Cement BU North HR & Community Relations Director

“Our commitment and contribution to our local community is quite visible and we are glad to get their support”

How do you evaluate the local community engagement of Lafarge in Iraqi Kurdistan?

► We are maintaining good relationships with surrounding communities and we are supporting them through CSR projects. We are always open for people from the community to approach us if they want to share any concern related to our operations. We have a dedicated Community Relations Manager to coordinate local community issues. In last 5-4 years, we were more focused on engaging them through projects based on their needs especially on health, improving social environment & education sectors. They are now considering us a trustworthy partner who is contributing to improve their social environment. Our commitment and contribution to our local community is quite visible and we are glad to get their support. On a yearly basis we allocate a significant amount in our budget for local community actions.

What would be the most important aspect of our CSR approach in the region?

► Our CSR approach is quite clear where we are committed to act as responsible members and partners of the surrounding communities. We are contributing to the win-win relationships and development of the people, their health, rights and well being by generating economic growth and supporting social, educational and cultural advancement. To manage this vision, we are also involving some local NGOs and with their consultation and expertise we are trying to add more value to the betterment of communities. The most important part is that we are focused with clear vision and CSR is one of our main pillars supporting industrial excellence.

What are your projections for short and midterm in terms of local community engagement?

► We do not see any significant issue in terms of community engagement but it is clear that they have higher expectations and are always looking for more contribution from our side especially in terms of creating more job opportunities. We need to come up with economical solutions matching their expectations and needs which is not easy considering the increasing production and logistics costs in the country.

Lafarge engages with its local communities

Lafarge's approach to its local communities is built around the company's vision to building a better world for the communities. The company is dedicated to contributing to the economic, social and environmental progress of local communities. At Lafarge we believe that without giving back to the local communities in which we operate there cannot be sustainability and long term acceptance. This is why Lafarge has self imposed ambitious targets in terms of sustainability in its **"Sustainability Ambitions 2020 objectives"**. Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is one of the main areas connecting Lafarge with its surrounding local communities.



In Iraqi Kurdistan alone, Lafarge has spent around 5 million USD in recent years to build medical clinics, schools, kindergartens, play yards, mosques as well as to support refugees, farmers, official bodies and NGOs. Water source catchment projects and road renovations are two important projects supporting local communities significantly. Plantation activities have also taken place through the initiative of Lafarge in order to make the local environment greener.

Karbala Cement Plant has been implementing similar actions in South of the country to support its local communities. The company has built a new school in the residential camp around the plant and it has taken over all the education related expenses. Also the mosque inside the plant was opened after great efforts from the projects department and other sections



of the plant, showing Lafarge's respect for all religions, customs and traditions of the communities where there are plants of the company. Another contribution of Karbala Cement is the Pilgrims Center. As the plant is located on the road that links Iraq, Saudi Arabia, so each year the company establishes hospitality center for pilgrims provides the food, water and all the services. The displaced families are also included in Karbala Plant's CSR program; the plant has been providing food and medical care for increasing amount of displaced families coming from Al-Anbar region. The company has spent close to 100,000 USD in past 1,5 years for these activities.

The Le Corbusier Gymnasium in Baghdad

In the early 1950s, thanks to the revenues from the petrol boom, Baghdad experienced a fulgurating modernist architectural development. Led by a generation of young and brilliant Iraqi architects trained either in Europe or America, Iraq launched a series of grand scale construction projects and competitions, calling in the most renown representatives of international architecture: Gio Ponti (Ministry of Planning), Werner March (National Museum of Iraq) Walter Gropius (the largest university campus in the Middle-East), Frank Lloyd Wright (opera-house) Alvar Aalto (another museum), Marinus Dudok (civic center)... In 1956, Le Corbusier was commissioned with an Olympic sports complex: a 50 000 seat stadium, swimming pools, an

A building which until recently was almost entirely ignored by the international architectural community

open-air theatre, training fields. Only the Gymnasium, on which he worked up to the last detail until his death, was completed in 1980, following the original plan, by one of his former collaborators.

The Gymnasium became the headquarters of Iraqi sports federations. Many national



Photo: Caecilia Pieri - 2010

competitions took place there (basketball, hand-ball), and it was still in use until the 2003 war, when it was used by the American troops. But, because of the political situation and also perhaps because it is a posthumous work, it remained until very recently almost totally ignored by the international architectural community. Yet this work displays a series of the master's "signatures", such as the undulating panels (in fact Xenakis' design), the curved ramp, the zenithal lighting, the boîte à miracles... It has many common points with other works by Le Corbusier: Firminy, the La Tourette convent...

The present work reveals this amazing story through hitherto totally unpublished documents, both recent and ancient ones. The archives of the Gymnasium's construction were recently discovered, those belonging to the architect in charge of the building, Axel Mesny, as well as those belonging to the family of the music composer and architect Iannis Xenakis, the main collaborator of Le Corbusier on this project. Both illustrate in which manner, in Baghdad, this monumental concrete vessel

has always represented the double symbol of youth and modernity.

Its future is still suspended, as renovation and extension works might soon begin, thanks to the cooperation between France and Iraq. This recent recognition as modern heritage worth preserving has already taken the form of an international symposium held in Baghdad (April 2013), entitled: "The Architecture of Modernity. From Le Corbusier to the Iraqi pioneers".

A posthumous work which was conceived and designed by Le Corbusier down to the smallest details

More about the construction's rediscovery: <http://ifpo.hypotheses.org/3560>

Source: The press release of Centre Des Monuments Nationaux

Short history of concrete from Roman Empire to a French gardener*

Today, concrete is the most widely used man-made material in the world. The earliest large-scale users of concrete technology were the ancient Romans, and concrete was widely used in the Roman Empire. The Colosseum in Rome was built largely of concrete, and the concrete dome of the Pantheon is the world's largest unreinforced concrete dome. After the Roman Empire collapsed, use of concrete became rare until the technology was redeveloped in the mid-18th century.



The first building made of reinforced concrete - Paris-France



Pantheon - Rome - Italy

François Coignet was a French industrialist of the nineteenth century, a pioneer in the development of structural, prefabricated and reinforced concrete. Coignet was the first to use iron-reinforced concrete as a technique for constructing building structures. In 1853 Coignet built the first iron reinforced concrete structure, a four story house at 72 rue Charles Michels in the suburbs of Paris. Coignet's descriptions of reinforcing concrete suggests that he did not do it for means of adding strength to the concrete but for keeping walls in monolithic construction from overturning.

Joseph Monier, a French gardener and known to be one of the principal inventors of reinforced concrete, was granted a patent for reinforced flowerpots by means of mixing a wire mesh to a mortar shell. In 1877, Monier was granted another patent for a more advanced technique of reinforcing concrete columns and girders with iron rods placed in a grid pattern.

(*) Source: Wikipedia / <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Concrete>

REWARD QUIZ ?

Concrete is made up of three basic components: water, aggregate (rock, sand, or gravel) and cement. There is another component to include in concrete according to specific needs in construction.

Which one of the below listed items is it?

- a) Steel
- b) Chemical additive
- c) Oil
- d) Color

If you want to participate in the QUIZ, please send your answer to the mail below including your full name and contact information.

3 people among the participants given the correct answer will get a surprise gift.

Please send your answers to: info.iraq@lafarge.com

TOGETHER

WE'RE BUILDING A BETTER FUTURE



We have invested over 1 billion USD in the cement sector to develop infrastructure, build houses and ensure a consistently high standard of quality in building materials and construction.

We're building a unique recycling facility in Sulaimaniyah to solve the city's growing waste problem and provide an alternative source of energy.



We support our local communities through our social responsibility projects dedicated to education, health and culture.



FARUK HOLDING

www.farukholding.com www.lafarge-iraq.com

