

Industrial port of Sohar, Oman

In the Sultanate of Oman, at a strategic location on the Arabian Peninsula, the third phase development of the industrial port of Sohar brought aluminium, iron ore and additional container handling quays, suitable for the latest generation of vessels, in length totalling nearly two kilometres.

In addition a service quay of 500 metres and a heavy load out platform, suitable for offloading the heaviest steel structures for the offshore industries, were part of the scope. Material from the deepening of the approach channel and port basin was deposited within a contained area to prepare for further expansion of the port in the years to come.



Location	Sohar, Sultanate of Oman
Client	Ministry of Transport and Communications, Directorate General of Ports & Maritime Affairs, Sultanate of Oman
Contractor	BAM International - SixConstruct - Van Oord - Consortium
Contract period	June 2006 - December 2008
Contract sum	€ 220 million

*'A newly constructed port in
the Middle East, ready for the latest
generation of vessels.'*

The construction of a 570 metres long breakwater was also part of the transformation of a former fishery harbour north of the main harbour. With the experience of BAM International (formerly known as Interbeton), specific equipment was allocated to minimise double handling and maximise the possibility to re-use the material. Extensive model tests were carried out to analyse the wave penetration and optimise the design for sufficient protection for the new construction load out platform. The load out platform was realised as a design and construct project in liaison with Delta Marine Consultants, a specialised engineering firm and also part of Royal BAM Group.

The platform has a capacity to take up loads of 50 ton per square metre. With this capacity the former fishery harbour has been transformed into the world's only harbour to facilitate repair works of the biggest offshore rigs.

Construction of the third phase of the port of Sohar was carried out in only 30 months after signing the contract, resulting in what is now a brand new harbour ready to run in full swing.

Finishing of the load out platform capable for loads up to 50 ton per m²



Interim overview of quay wall construction



Main construction equipment:

- Four crane barges ranging from 80 ton to 300 ton.
- Associated material barges and tugs.
- Batching plant with a capacity of 120 m³/hour.
- Three gantry cranes for handling pre-cast blocks.
- Five crawler cranes for lifting shutters and placing rock for the breakwater.
- Eight truck mixers for concrete transport.
- Eight excavators ranging from 25 ton up to 85 ton.

The breakwater taking shape



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