

ACES Amman Gets Certified for Environment and Public Health and Safety

ACES Amman was awarded recently the (OHSAS 18001) for public health and safety and the (ISO 14001) environmental standards certificates by SGS.

Obtaining the OHAS 18001 and ISO 14001 reflects ACES Amman solid commitment to serve its stakeholders according to the highest international standards and it is an important recognition of ACES Amman managerial efforts in terms of providing a safe and healthy environment for its employees and taking the necessary actions to complete the work without detriment or harm to the environment as well as pursuing advanced levels of performance excellence through continual improvement.

ACES would like to take this opportunity to congratulate ACES Amman on this great achievement and thank all its' staff that were involved in this process and appreciate them for their hard work and dedication. It was not easy to obtain two certificates as a result of one integrated audit. They definitely earned it.



Congratulations

ACES Amman Participation and Presentations in the 5th Jordanian International Civil Engineering Conference

ACES Amman recently participated in several capacities in the 5th Jordanian International Civil Engineering Conference held in the Landmark Hotel, Amman, between 17th and 19th of January 2012. In addition to being one of the sponsors, Dr. Amjad Barghouthi was a member of the organizing committee while presentations were given by Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi and Eng. Izzat Katkhuda during the geotechnical engineering session.

Dr. Naeem's presentation was titled "Measurement of stiffness of rock from laboratory and field tests" and focused on determining and comparing the deformation modulus of rock measured from laboratory and field tests which were carried out as part of the site investigation works for a major project in Irbid, Jordan. The laboratory tests comprised resonant column, torsional shear, ultrasonic velocity and uniaxial compression and point load strength tests (empirical relationships were employed for estimating the rock mass modulus from compressive strength results). In addition, the field measurements involved pressuremeter testing as well as seismic geophysical methods including down-hole and cross-hole techniques.

Eng. Izzat's presentation was titled "Narrow backfill lateral earth pressure" and discussed the estimation of narrow backfill lateral earth pressure on yielding and unyielding walls. The presentation provided an analytical approach to calculate the lateral earth pressure for narrow backfill which was checked against Janseen's established "Arching Theory". Furthermore, the presentation highlighted the results of extending the Arching theory to include surcharge load on top of the narrow backfill, and gave recommendations on using the various analytical methods in real life situations.

Both presentations were based on technical papers published in the conference proceedings; The first paper was titled "Measurement of stiffness of rock from laboratory and field tests" and was coauthored by Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi and Dr. Amjad Barghouthi, while the second paper was titled "Narrow backfill lateral earth pressure" and was coauthored by Eng. Izzat Katkhuda, Eng. Ahmad Al Hasan and Dr. Amjad Barghouthi.



Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi (Left)
& Eng. Izzat Katkhuda (right) at the 5th
International
Civil Engineering Conference
Amman-Jordan

The Jordanian Classification Committee inspects ACES Amman facilities

The Jordanian Classification Committee, part of the Government Tenders Committee, visited ACES Amman premises to inspect the facilities and to evaluate ACES qualifications and capacity. A power point presentation was given in addition to a tour in the laboratories. The committee members were impressed with ACES capabilities and expressed their pride in the regional success of ACES as a Jordanian company.



ACES Abu Dhabi Geotechnical Seminars

Series of interesting seminars were organized in the geotechnical department of ACES Abu Dhabi with the active participation of Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi, Senior Geotechnical Engineer at ACES Corporate Headquarters. The seminars were dedicated to various aspects of geotechnical operations and sharing best practices among ACES Geotechnical Departments; this included presentation on the Geotechnical investigation for Nuclear Power Plant Project in Jordan, Drilling Methods, Tools and Accessories , etc.

The seminars will continue with presentations by various ACES engineers on other geotechnical topics e.g., shoring, geophysics, seepage and consolidation, seismicity, advanced field and laboratory testing, etc.

Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi also coordinated the implementation of the new corporate system for management of geotechnical inventory and the system for fleet management and equipment maintenance.

Dr. Naeem Abdulhadi holds PhD in Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering from prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), USA and MSc In Soil mechanics from Imperial College, London.



ACES Holds HR for Non HR Managers Training Sessions

'HR for Non HR Managers' training sessions were held recently in ACES Riyadh, ACES Jeddah and ACES Amman with emphasis on identifying the tasks, activities and obstacles that face their Human Resources Department in performing their tasks. Also, it clarifies how the human resources role has transmitted from its traditional role to the new strategic role as an important business partner in formulating and achieving the vision, mission and strategic objectives of ACES. Also, it emphasizes on the HR role in creating and shaping ACES organizational culture which is inspired from ACES values that direct employees' conduct during performing their duties.

In addition, this training session clarifies the role played by any one who is on a supervisory position (Top, Middle or Lower management level) as an HR Manager in his/her department, in addition to his/her technical supervision role. Regarding this point, the session emphasizes on the importance of having HR job competencies that help the supervisory staff in managing their employees' performance to achieve ACES objectives.

Similar types of training sessions will be held in the near future at other ACES offices because it is considered as a job competency for the supervisory staff.



"Mohammad As'ad" Zaitoun
Chief Human Resources &
Administrative Officer

Change of Business Location – ACES Dubai

ACES Dubai is pleased to announce that it has moved its office and laboratory from Qusais to a new location at Dubai Investment Park. The new location has separate office building and laboratory warehouse.

ACES Dubai new location gives ACES Dubai the space and facilities to provide its clients with unmatched testing capabilities and superior customer service.

ACES Dubai welcomes its clients to its new location. The new contact details of ACES Dubai office are:

Tel : +971 4 8856466 , Fax: +971 4 8856460
e.mail:acesdubai@aces-int.com



ACES Dubai new location

Selected Major Projects

ACES Jeddah

- ACES Jeddah was awarded subsurface investigation work for the Haram Expansion Project by Saudi Bin Laden Group. The consultant is Dar Al Handasa. The main scope of work includes drilling of 11 nos. boreholes to depth of 25m below the existing ground surface, installation of piezometer, performing In-situ falling head permeability tests, performing packer tests in rock, installation of down hole camera in 6 No.s Boreholes and routine laboratory tests for soil and water samples.
- ACES Jeddah was recently awarded and carried out the geotechnical investigation for Prince Mohammad Bin Abdulaziz International Airport Project which is located in Madinah Al Munawarah- KSA. The main scope of work includes drilling 30 nos. of boreholes to depth of 30-40 meters below the existing ground surface, excavation of trial pits (approximately 45Nos.), coring, Laboratory tests including: sieve analysis, Plasticity Index Tests, UCS tests, Point Load Tests, Direct Shear Tests, Modified Proctor tests(Moisture-Density Relationship), Laboratory CBR Tests and Routine chemical tests for Soil and Water Samples and collecting information about present land use, geological features. The contract was awarded by Saudi Oger, TAV Construction and ACC.



ACES Muscat

- ACES Muscat has started a geotechnical study for Oukum Port-Road Construction to evaluate and advise on the existence of soft clays (subkhas) on the design and constructions. The scope of works included 50 CPTU and 50 Trial pits with detailed laboratory testing, geotechnical analysis and recommendations. The project client is M/S. Khatib and Alami.
- ACES Muscat was recently awarded the geotechnical projects for the proposed Design & Construction of underpass & Flyover at Darsait-al wadi, Al Kabir road, Sultanate of Oman. The scope of work included drilling of 49 boreholes to depths upto 20m, undisturbed sampling of cohesive materials, excavation of test pits, performing field tests including SPT, down hole seismic tests, stand pipe piezometer installation, plate load tests, etc. The project client is M/S. APCC and consultant is M/S.Parsons Intl.

ACES Dubai



- ACES Dubai is now engaged in the On-going project for BeSix Construction where the Client is RTA and the Consult is Systra Parsons .The Project is Al Sufuoh Transit System. The scope of the project includes inspection of Two Bridges –Marina Bridge and Marina Bridge 3.The scope of works includes removal of coating layer, detailed crack mapping, performing destructive and non destructive test like UPV, Half Cell Potential Survey, Rebound Hammer Test, Cover meter Survey, Concrete Core Drilling, Opening of Inspection Windows, Extraction of Steel sample and Testing, Dust Drilling for Chemical Analysis. The project is being performed with close coordination of RTA and Dubai Police as road diversion is required. Barge and Manlift/Cherry picker were included in the mobilization as some of the locations are above water.

ACES Doha

- ACES Doha had successfully completed the soil investigation works for Mesheirib properties (Dohaland) which is considered as one of the most prestigious and major projects in the state of Qatar. The works were executed in three different periods as the phases 2 & 3 carried out during the second and third quarter of the year of 2011 while the last phase was started on Nov. 2011 and just completed early of Feb. 2012. The client of this major project is Mesheirib properties and the consultant for phases 2 & 3 is Burohappold-Uk and Ramboll engineering-UK for phase 4. The proposed structures will be up to a maximum height of 6 to 20 storeys, with 4 to 5 level basement covering the majority of the site for retails, residential and hospital in addition to deep metro station box and platform within phase 4.The works were comprised from drilling of more than 120-boreholes with varying depths from 40m to 100m, excavating of more than 35-trial pits, packer permeability tests, falling head permeability tests, full wave sonic (FWS) and high pressure dilatometer (HPD) in addition to laboratory testing of soils and rock including environmental testing.

ACES Abu Dhabi

- ACES Abu Dhabi has recently established two new Site Laboratories upon awarding of quality control projects located in Taweelah, Abu Dhabi and in Shwiehat in the western region of Abu Dhabi Emirate. The Client is Hyodong Development Co., Ltd.These site laboratories are equipped with highly qualified and competent site engineers and technicians and modern laboratory equipment and site logistics. Scope of Service shall include:- Conducting wide range of on-site materials tests including testing of concrete, soil, aggregate and asphalt.- Design and implementation of quality control programmes for manufacturing facilities such as ready mix concrete plants, asphalt production plants, block and tiles factories and pre-cast units plants.



Eng. Mohammad Almadani, Site Laboratories Manager (ACES Abu Dhabi) and Mr. Hwang and Mr. Kiho Projects' Managers (Hyodong) during the contracts award ceremony.

Testimonies

The AE Business Council in Jordan would like to share with testimonials from some of the participants of its Knowledge Enhancement Program “ Business Strategic Planning ” session by Samir Said, Chief Marketing & Business Development Officer of ACES

“Thank you very much the session was very comprehensive ,consequence enlightening, the instructor is knowledgeable and highly experienced and has a very good communication and presentation skills”

Baria Abu Ghoush
Executive Manager
Archysis

“This was a valuable practice that demonstrated the merits behind establishing THE A/E Business Council and share experience across members”

Yaoub Shubilat
S&D
Dar Al-Omran



Handing of certificates by Samir Said to the Participants of the Business Planning Session



On 16th December 2011, ACES Abu Dhabi Management organized a DESERT SAFARI for the staff and their families. The event was organized by a team of ACES employees; the program included many parlor games, dune bashing, camel riding, photo competition and many gifts for the children and game winners.

ACES Abu Dhabi Desert Safari was truly unforgettable for all participants. It underscored the importance of friendship, sociability, camaraderie among the staff members. It also developed a team-stress management, team building, creativity and cooperation.

The event was a very successful team building activity which was reflected in the smiles on the faces of all participants.

ACES Doha Training News



Eng. Yousef Awad
Materials Engineer
ACES Doha

Eng. Yousef Awad, from ACES Doha, recently completed a training course in radiation protection, and now he is certified from the International General Certificate (IGC) as Radiation Protection Officer.



Mr. Alaa Kamal
Safety Officer
ACES Doha

Mr. Alaa Kamal, the safety officer in ACES Doha, recently certified from NEBOSH international general certificate in occupational health and safety.



The IGC Certificate provides a sound basis for evaluating risks and hazards in any country, in any business and focuses on international standards and management systems to provide a broad understanding of health and safety principles and practices, enabling candidates to effectively discharge workplace health and safety responsibilities in all parts of the world.