







Concept & Location

The Aloft is a global boutique hotel chain combining modern, high-end design from David Rockwell Group with sophisticated combination of service, features and atmosphere. These hotels are aimed at modern business travellers and perfectly complement the exhibition oriented Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

The Aloft hotel in Abu Dhabi is a luxury hotel strategically located in UAE's capital city. Set in ADNEC (Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre) and located a short distance away from Abu Dhabi Airport and Abu Dhabi City's main highlights, the Aloft Hotel is designed to serve as the preferred choice of stay for visitors to UAE's glittering capital.

Aloft Abu Dhabi offers an excellent meeting experience with its unique no-walls, no-limits spaces and fresh loft-inspired rooms. Aloft Abu Dhabi aims to be a preferred destination to hold corporate events for the multinational companies based in the UAE.

The hotel has also been designed to cater to the booming tourism market in the UAE, and has been designed to meet all requirements of the modern traveller, featuring 408 spacious loft-inspired Rooms & Suites with ultra-comfortable signature beds, oversized spa showers, custom amenities and plug & play connectivity stations to link all electronics to LCD TV stations. The hotel also offers visitors free WiFi facilities, an outdoor rooftop pool and multi cuisine Restaurants.

Apart from the conference stations and the lodging rooms, the hotel also houses a unique Splash Garden on the 5th floor, which measures around 1500 sqm of premium dine & dance space housing a dedicated kitchen, bar and permanent stage that is able to entertain up to 1500 guests.

Another highlight of the hotel is "Tactic", Aloft Abu Dhabi's state of the art meeting space with two boardrooms connected to a break-out space, outfitted with the latest A/V set-up, including a 50" flat-panel plasma TV with both laptop hook-up and a DVD player, to address any corporate presentation needs of its corporate clients.

Besides these, the Aloft hotel also features a modern lounge, with the latest audio equipment, soundproofing materials, colourful lighting, high performance acoustics. In addition to the 400 guestrooms, the hotel also houses a wedding hall, a selection of restaurants, bars and meeting rooms to serve the exhibition guests and the capital, in addition to an open swimming pool, gymnasium and spa.

The hotel is first Aloft Hotel outside the USA and upon completion became one of the largest hotels in the city in terms of capacity.

The exhaustive list of services offered required an expertise in world class MEP solutions that could provide reliable 24x7 round the clock operation. The diverse nature of electrical systems had to be scalable and flexible to meet any unforeseen requirements. Because of the nature of the project, the clients required an MEP contractor with extensive hospitality experience in the region, with the technical knowledge, operational capability and sound practises to bring the MEP component to fruition.

Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre trusted Drake & Scull Engineering with the task of providing complete MEP solutions for the Aloft hotel.

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Scope of Work

DSE were chosen by ADNEC to undertake the following aspects of the Aloft hotel:

The Supply, Installation, Testing, and Commissioning of complete MEP works for the hotel, which included:

- Fresh Air Ventilation System and Extract Air Ventilation System
- · Duct Work and AHUs, FCUs
- · Chilled Water supply returns systems
- · Chemical Dosing Systems
- · ETS from District Cooling System
- · Domestic Water Storage Tanks
- · Hot & Cold Water distribution System
- · Installation of Sanitary Fittings & Accessories
- Drainage System excluding pumps
- · Fire Fighting Systems

- BMS Systems
- · MV & LV Systems with Transformers
- · Fuel Storage Tanks
- Bus bar System
- Electrical Cable and Containment System
- · Light point wiring and Installation of luminaries
- · Fire Alarm and Earthing Systems
- Lightning Protection System
- · Containment for ELV (Extra Low Voltage) Systems
- · Aircraft Warning Light Systems

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DSE Innovation

The Aloft Hotel in Abu Dhabi was the first Aloft hotel outside USA and the clients were keen on launching the hotel in time for the grand opening of the inaugural Formula 1 race in Dubai in 2009. Drake and Scull were presented with a very tight time frame within which to complete the entire MEP works for the hotel complex, and the company initiated several innovative methods to reduce the manhours needed to fulfil the task. Efficient logistics and systematic planning proved vital towards achieving the deadline.

From a plumbing perspective, the Aloft Hotel was unique as it was the first time that a major decision was taken by the developers to make the hotel as "green" as possible. Towards this end, the hotel decided to adopt solar heating panels on the rooftop, with backup storage tanks and purifiers, to utilise solar electricity for the purpose of central water heating. The hotel's 408 bedrooms, 2 production kitchens, food & beverage outlets, hotel offices and the swimming pools rely on the energy harnessed from solar panels for more than 90% of their hot water supply. The annual energy savings are estimated at 870 mega watt-hours. This required extensive co-ordination between the DSE team and the specialist sub-contractors hired for the execution of the solar network.

DSE provided the connections between the solar power network and the tap-off points (also known as downstream source connection points), which was a learning experience for the company. DSE's team of nearly 1500 staff and personnel

worked round the clock on the 16 floors, with a buildup area of nearly 80,000 m2, and 4 storeys of plant room, with a connecting passage to the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

DSE installed the HVAC systems, with a cooling capacity of nearly 4000 TR, and provided the complex wiring for the IT stations which would allow guests to connect a wide variety of laptops and other peripherals, with a complete connections solution. The electrical system has a capability to deliver nearly 8 MW of peak electricity to the hotel for its varied needs.

Another unique aspect was DSE's work on the novel "Infinity Pool" on the 9th floor of the hotel. The special design of the pool rerouted the outflow of water from the pool and circulated the water back into the pool itself, creating a sensation of unending movement of water.

As the Aloft hotel was part of the Aloft Hotels network in the USA, the look and feel of each aspect of the hotel had to be the same as any of the hotels in America, right down to the choice of components. DSE interacted with the clients on a daily basis to ensure complete compliance with the branding and aesthetics of the Aloft Hotels Chain.

DSE's efficient planning and operational strength allowed it to exceed the client's expectations and the hotel was launched in conjunction with the first Formula One race in October of 2009. The Aloft hotel in Abu Dhabi became a proud addition to the Aloft hotel Network worldwide, and is a stellar example of DSE's capabilities in delivering landmark hospitality projects.

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