

# Opening of the Anchor Marina floating utility buildings

Client: Nakheel

Utility building designer and builder: Marina Housing Oy, Finland

Architect Timo Urala, architect (M.Arch) SAFA

Year of completion 2009

**Anchor Marina in Dubai Palm Jumeirah is opened in November. At the same time the four floating utility buildings in the marina, built by Marina Housing, will be opened.**

The four floating utility buildings are placed on both sides of the palm, east and west. Two buildings are on each side. The buildings withhold technical rooms and male/female restroom facilities and they serve the marina users. The buildings float on house pontoons. The building structure itself is lightweight steel.

The Marinetek (Marina Housing parent company) pontoons are concrete/EPS heavy duty pontoons. Each building floats on four pontoon units, which are connected by stainless steel bars. The structure is modified from normal marina pontoon structure for use in floating houses. The mooring of the floating house is made by flexible Seaflex anchoring system that allows the building to move with the water level.

The structure of the houses is lightweight steel. Only highly corrosion resistant materials were used to endure the harsh environment. All the lightweight framing steel profiles are hot-dip galvanized and epoxy painted, all screws are AISI 316 stainless. The bathroom modules and the supplementary parts of the buildings were prefabricated in Marina Housing factory in Estonia. Everything was shipped to Dubai in containers.

The architecture of the floating utility buildings is modern, clean and simple according to client's wishes. The buildings are not meant to steal the attention from the beautiful yachts of the harbor so the design was kept very moderate. The wing-look roofs cover the rooftop cooling units and provide a canopy to restroom entrances. Side facades are covered with fiber cement sheets installed on site. The thru-pigmented sheets are also durable in marine environment with plenty of

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sun and UV. The side facades are composed with small non-see-thru windows. The front- and back facades are made with wood composite grill.

Gross area of one building is 107,0 sqm.

Marina Housing Oy 28.10.2009

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:**

Marina Housing

CEO Kimmo Anttalainen, email [kimmo@marinahousing.fi](mailto:kimmo@marinahousing.fi), mob. +358 400 794 617

[www.marinahousing.fi/en](http://www.marinahousing.fi/en)

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