

## NMDC Dredging & Marine inaugurates the region's first commercial hydraulic modelling facility to bring advanced marine testing in-country

- *New modelling capability enables local testing of complex marine and coastal infrastructure, reducing project timelines and costs*
- *Facility benchmarks the UAE directly with top-tier global facilities across Europe, North America, and Asia*
- *Facility unveiled at Make it in the Emirates, supporting the UAE's industrial and innovation agenda*

**Abu Dhabi, UAE, 20 May 2026** – NMDC Dredging & Marine, a subsidiary of NMDC Group (ADX: NMDC), has inaugurated the NMDC Coastal & Hydrodynamic Center, the region's first hydraulic physical modelling test facility, bringing advanced coastal and marine engineering validation in-country and reducing reliance on international laboratories.

Unveiled during Make it in the Emirates (MIITE) 2026 to strengthen in-country value and localize strategic engineering capabilities, the purpose-built facility enables the simulation and physical testing of complex marine, coastal and offshore infrastructure under controlled conditions, reflecting national priorities to localize advanced industrial capabilities and strengthen in-country value across strategic sectors. By establishing these capabilities in the UAE, NMDC is improving design efficiency and supporting faster project delivery and cost control, strengthening the UAE's position as a hub for world-class engineering and industrial capability.

The facility allows engineers to simulate and validate the impact of waves, tides and currents on critical infrastructure, including ports, breakwaters, sea walls and offshore structures. Using scaled physical models to replicate real-world environments, it ensures that model behavior reflects full-scale performance, including wave forces, pressures and structural response, enabling designs to be tested, refined and optimized before construction.

The facility, constructed entirely by NMDC Infra, the specialist construction subsidiary of NMDC Group, supports the Group's end-to-end engineering and delivery capabilities, demonstrating that NMDC Group possesses the expertise and capacity to conceptualize, build, and operationalize highly specialized infrastructure entirely within its own ecosystem.

**Dr. Yasser Zaghloul, CEO of NMDC Group**, said: "The launch of this pioneering facility is a strategic milestone in our commitment to building long-term, sovereign capabilities within the UAE by institutionalizing advanced engineering expertise and cutting-edge testing methodologies. We are dedicated to fortifying the nation's industrial foundation and driving sustainable growth across the infrastructure, energy, and maritime sectors. Ultimately, this center is a tangible realization of the 'Make it in the Emirates' vision, further cementing the UAE's position as a premier global hub for manufacturing, innovation, and engineering excellence.

Operating as the first and only integrated commercial laboratory of its scale in the Middle East and West Asia, the facility features a sophisticated 3D wave basin and a 2D wave flume. These advanced hydraulic installations leverage ultra-precise digital wave-generation systems to stress-test fixed and floating structures under the most severe operational and environmental conditions. The facility's capabilities span the entire project lifecycle—from foundational research to macro-project validation encompassing wave transformation and overtopping dynamics, sediment transport, hydro-erosion, and port optimization under diverse navigational conditions."

**Eng. Niels de Bruijn, CEO of NMDC Dredging & Marine,** said: "Physical modelling is critical to understanding and managing the risks associated with marine and coastal infrastructure. Historically, this level of testing requires working with specialized international laboratories. Bringing this capability in-house allows us to integrate design, testing and project delivery more closely, identifying and resolving challenges earlier in the engineering process while improving efficiency and supporting innovation within the region."

Beyond project delivery, the facility enables advanced research and consultancy, supporting collaboration with leading international partners and academic institutions, including opportunities for research, student engagement and knowledge development. It also supports the development and testing of offshore renewable energy systems, including wave, tidal and floating wind technologies.

The launch of the facility reinforces NMDC Group's role in advancing the UAE's industrial and localization agenda, a central focus of Make it in the Emirates, while strengthening supply chains and driving sustainable economic growth.

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### **About NMDC Dredging & Marine**

NMDC Dredging & Marine (D&M) is the specialist dredging, reclamation and marine construction services organization headquartered in Abu Dhabi with operations globally. NMDC D&M works across the energy, tourism and urban development sectors to shape marine environments globally.

Combining unrivalled expertise with the latest technology, NMDC D&M operates an extensive fleet of dredgers and support vessels, providing the capability to operate anywhere in the world, and navigate the most challenging site conditions.

Over several decades NMDC D&M has delivered many legacy projects across diverse sectors, including major island and beach developments in Abu Dhabi, and international projects in Egypt, Maldives, India and Bahrain. Its major island and beach developments in Abu Dhabi include Al Reem, Al Maryah, Yas, Saadiyat, Al Seef, and Al Raha, alongside ADNOC offshore islands and Corniche and Yas Island beaches.

The 3,600 employees of NMDC D&M contribute to NMDC Group's total workforce of over 18,000 professionals.



NMDC Dredging & Marine is a majority-owned subsidiary of NMDC Group.

For more information, please visit: <https://www.nmdc-dredgingmarine.com/en/>

### **About NMDC Group**

Headquartered in Abu Dhabi, UAE, NMDC Group is a home-grown global leader with 50 years of experience, providing cutting-edge engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) solutions for onshore and offshore projects, and state of the art marine dredging and construction capabilities. With projects executed across the MENA region and Southeast Asia, NMDC Group offers its clients high-quality turnkey solutions, underpinned by a commitment to sustainability and international standards. NMDC Group's backlog stood at AED 55.4 billion as of 31 March 2026.

The Group operates through five main business verticals: NMDC Dredging & Marine, NMDC Energy, NMDC LTS, NMDC Infra, and NMDC Engineering.

For more information, please visit: <https://nmdc-group.com/en/>