

## Aconex Deployed for Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Causeway Project

### *Project-Wide Collaboration Ensures Efficient Transition from Construction to Operation*

**KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait, January 5, 2017**— Aconex Limited (ASX: ACX), provider of the #1 global platform connecting teams on construction and engineering projects, has announced that Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co. Ltd. of South Korea and Combined Group Contracting Co. (CGC) of Kuwait are designing and building the US\$2.6-billion Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Causeway using Aconex solutions. Aconex was proposed by the two contractors and approved by the project owner, the Kuwait Ministry of Public Works.

One of the largest and most prestigious transportation infrastructure projects in the Gulf region, the causeway will connect Kuwait City with an area across Kuwait Bay known as the Subiyah New Town or the City of Silk. The new settlement, which is expected to be completed in 2035, is planned as a major stop on China's proposed "One Belt One Road" initiative, which is intended to revive the ancient Silk Road trade route. By shortening the distance between Kuwait City and Subiyah from 104 kilometers (65 miles) to just 36 kilometers (22 miles), the new thoroughway will trim travel times from 90 minutes to less than 30 minutes.

### **Controlling Project Information across Geographies**

In November 2012, the Kuwait Ministry of Public Works signed a contract with a consortium of Hyundai and CGC to design and build the causeway. A combination of low-level bridges and embankments, the project also includes 26 separate buildings and two artificial islands of 30 hectares each designed to enhance the scenic value of the drive. Other members of the consortium include Systra, based in France; AECOM in Hong Kong; Dar Al-Handasah (Shair and Partners), headquartered in Beirut, Lebanon; TYLN International; and SSH International.

Work began in November 2013. As the project team ramped up, members in Kuwait, France, Egypt, Lebanon, and San Francisco all required immediate access to project information. According to Eng. Mai Al Messad, the project engineer, the number of daily transmittals of inspection requests, checklists, approvals, and progress reports had already risen into the hundreds.

"We needed to manage the transmittals and to securely share documents with different organizations across multiple geographies," Eng. Al Messad said. "It was critical for us to locate and retrieve project information quickly, and we needed to improve project control by automating manual processes."

Eng. Al Messad said that the team settled on Aconex because the collaboration platform is project-wide, neutral and easy to use. With Aconex, no single organization owns the project information. Instead, each

organization retains control and ownership of its proprietary data, and determines which documents and communications are shared with other members of the team.

### **Replacing Manual Processes with Automated Workflows**

Aconex also enables the project team to leverage workflow automation and create standard processes for everything from project communications to handover. This has provided the team with greater visibility and control.

For example, instead of sending requests over commercial email programs, participants manage correspondence as part of standard workflows on the Aconex platform. Rather than create, upload and register Requests for Inspection (RFIs) in one location and then download, edit, upload, supersede, and transmit them back again in another, the project team manages RFIs using workflows. This not only reduces the amount of record-keeping associated with RFIs, but also provides full visibility and control of all RFI reviews and approvals. In this way, Aconex makes it easy to track which RFIs are unanswered or overdue and which have been transmitted and received responses.

### **Streamlining Handover**

The use of Aconex Smart Manuals frees the team from labor-intensive tasks related to gathering handover materials. These materials play a critical role in efficient operation and maintenance (O&M), and incomplete or inaccurate documentation can delay commissioning and significantly increase the asset's lifetime cost. With Aconex Smart Manuals, the team can assemble all of the project's drawings, blueprints, photos, change orders, reports, manuals, warranties, permit approvals, and operating procedures during design and construction, automating what had been an inefficient, last-minute process.

"The ability to generate digital O&M manuals was one of the reasons we selected Aconex," Eng. Al Messad said. "Complete, up-to-date manuals will ensure the efficient transition from construction to operation and maintenance of the causeway."

"The Sheikh Jaber Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah Causeway is one of the world's longest and most complex bridge projects," said Henry Jones, senior vice president of Europe, Middle East and Africa (EMEA) and global accounts at Aconex. "We are pleased with the opportunity to support the development through all phases of its lifecycle. The causeway is one of many examples of how Aconex is contributing to the successful delivery of transportation infrastructure projects throughout the Middle East."

### **About Aconex**

Aconex provides the #1 cloud and mobile collaboration platform for the global construction industry. The platform connects owners, contractors and their project teams in the construction, infrastructure, and energy and resources sectors, providing project-wide visibility and control between the many different organizations collaborating across their projects. With more than 70,000 user organizations and over \$1

trillion of project value delivered in more than 70 countries, Aconex is the industry's most widely adopted and trusted platform. Founded in 2000, Aconex has 47 offices in 23 countries around the world. The company's ordinary shares are traded on the Australian Securities Exchange (ASX) under the ticker code ACX and are included in the S&P/ASX 200.

### Supporting Resources

For more information on Aconex, please visit:

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- Twitter: <http://www.twitter.com/aconex>
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