

Opteam eyes construction management efficiency



Ahmed Hegazy and Dr Tarek Hegazy ... developing pioneering AI-driven software.

THE construction industry is notorious for project delays, cost overruns, and inefficient workflows. Opteam, a pioneering AI-driven construction management software company, is aiming to change that narrative.

By leveraging cutting-edge technologies like generative scheduling and mobile data collection, Opteam aims to empower construction companies to streamline progress tracking, optimise resource allocation and, ultimately, deliver projects on time and within budget.

According to Opteam, key features of its solution include:

- **Seamless site tracking:** Mobile-enabled progress tracking reduces manual efforts by 80 per cent;
- **Centralised data access:** A unified platform provides easy access to project data for all stakeholders, saving 15 per cent of construction time;
- **AI-powered scheduling:** Generative scheduling minimises delays by 30 per cent and reduces recovery planning time from weeks to minutes.

Opteam last month announced that it has successfully closed its pre-seed round for an undisclosed amount from Plus VC, a leading venture capital firm in the Mena

region. Other strategic investors who participated in the round are Dar Ventures, the VC arm of Dar, SIAC Ventures, the VC arm of SIAC Construction, and Oraseya Capital, the VC fund of Dubai Integrated Economic Zones Authority.

The funding will be used to expand Opteam's team, enhance AI capabilities, and establish a strong market presence in the UAE and Saudi Arabia.

Opteam was founded in 2020 by Dr Tarek Hegazy, a professor and researcher with 20 years of experience in advanced computational project management for construction, and his son Ahmed Hegazy, a seasoned software sales executive. Its first-of-its-kind software is designed to improve how construction companies manage their data and reduce the time it takes to strategise from weeks to minutes. The solution combines advanced data analytics, mobile progress tracking, and automation to support construction teams in optimising resources, reducing delays, and managing complex schedules.

"Opteam is a tool that will finally automate so many of the manual tasks in construction," emphasises Dr Hegazy, Co-Founder and CIO at Opteam. "The Middle East suffers from the highest amount of time and cost overruns glob-

ally and is desperate for a solution. We believe that Opteam is perfectly suited to take on this challenge because we are intimately aware of the processes in construction and the adoption challenges of technology."

Opteam's goal is to use this technology to reduce the amount of resources needed for infrastructure by 30 per cent. With a focus on real-time insights and data-driven decision-making, it enables construction teams to automate a large amount of manual tasks, monitor the site with accurate updates, give real-time reporting and intelligently recover project delays, the company said.

At the heart of Opteam lies its innovative approach to data collection and analysis. "Instead of the current norm of extracting and sending excel sheets to the site for progress updates," explains Ahmed Hegazy, Co-founder and CEO of Opteam, "the app intelligently requests data from the users. It integrates directly with WhatsApp so the users interact with messages. It does not need to be installed, and makes it is easy to collect updates, descriptions, photos, and documents."

"For the first time in the industry, the project teams can just sit back and watch the data pour in from the site, automatically updating their dashboards, project schedules, and various teams at once," he adds. "We've shown to reduce manual efforts of progress tracking by 80 per cent while ensuring the information is clean and error-free."

The system is smart enough to ensure the data is entered correctly and according to the logic of previous entries, ensuring an accurate representation of the evolution of activities, he states.

To login, users require an OTP to validate identity. Careful segregation of data is part of the core function of the system, so there is full control over what data users can or cannot see.

Opteam's true differentiator lies in its AI-powered capabilities. "There are two ways Opteam leverages AI and machine learning," explains Dr. Hegazy. "Firstly, it generates insights and reports to the user. Because we have the original plan and are constantly tracking progress to that plan, we can use AI to do powerful risk analysis and predictive analytics." ■

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More than just a functional space

Bathrooms today are expected to be havens for relaxation. Hence, apart from their functionality, a number of factors such as hygiene, comfort and design need to be considered when choosing the right toilet, says Geberit, a leading provider of sanitary solutions.



Geberit's Doufix system eases installation of wall-hung WCs. INSET: TurboFlush boasts powerful flushing.

IN TODAY'S fast-paced world, the bathroom has evolved from a purely functional space into a sanctuary for relaxation and personal care. Geberit, a leading provider of innovative sanitary solutions, is at the forefront of this transformation. With its cutting-edge WC systems, the Swiss company is revolutionising how people perceive and experience bathroom hygiene.

Geberit's commitment to engineering excellence, sustainability, and user comfort drives the development of these toilets. Combining virtual engineering, innovative design, and user-centric features, they deliver superior flush performance while elevating standards of cleanliness, convenience, and overall bathroom luxury.

"Choosing the right toilet is more than just about functionality – it's about enhancing your experience in a space that's meant for relaxation, hygiene, and comfort. Geberit toilets, from their TurboFlush technology to their sleek design and hygiene-focused features, offer an experi-



ence that is hard to match," says Louise Pitt, Head of Marketing and Communication (Gulf Office), Geberit International Sales.

CUTTING-EDGE FLUSH TECHNOLOGY

The advanced TurboFlush technology utilised in Geberit toilets redefines flush performance. The Geberit Acanto WC, for example, boasts a powerful, precise flush that surpasses standard testing requirements by up to 10 times. This performance is a result of a sophisticated internal geometry and hydraulic system, meticulously engineered through years of development and fine-tuning.

"TurboFlush not only enhances efficiency

but also ensures the toilet remains cleaner for longer," states Pitt. "Thanks to its innovative design, water flows more effectively, minimising residue build-up and making the toilet easier to clean. Furthermore, the flush is also quieter, contributing to a more comfortable bathroom experience."

A NEW STANDARD IN CLEANLINESS

For Geberit, cleanliness extends beyond just the flush. Recognising the paramount importance of toilet hygiene and maintenance, the company has engineered its toilets with features that simplify cleaning. These include:

- **Rimless design:** Geberit's rimless WC ceramic appliances, such as the Acanto WC, eliminate the rim which is often a breeding ground for germs and grime. This results in a more hygienic toilet that is easier to clean and reduces the potential risk of bacterial build-up;
- **QuickRelease seat:** The QuickRelease function simplifies maintenance further. With a simple click, the seat can be removed without any tools, facilitating cleaning of both the seat and the area around it. Once cleaned, the seat clicks back into place in seconds; and
- **Special glaze:** Geberit's WC ceramics are treated with a special glaze that repels dirt, ensuring that the toilet stays cleaner for longer, making routine cleaning easier and less frequent.

DESIGN MEETS FUNCTIONALITY

Geberit's focus on aesthetics and functionality ensures that each product integrates seamlessly into any bathroom design. The sleek and modern design of the Geberit Acanto WC exemplifies how it combines cutting-edge technology with contemporary style. Some of their features include:

- **Customisable actuator plates:** To complement the design of the bathroom, Geberit offers a variety of actuator plates that can be matched to individual styles. These plates, combined with Geberit's cistern systems, not only enhance the visual appeal but also optimise the flush performance of the toilet.
- **Space efficiency:** Geberit's wall-hung toilets are a perfect example of how their design is optimised for modern living.