STADIUMS & ARENAS ARCHITECTURAL HANDBOOK

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BUILDING WORLD-CLASS STADIUMS WITH LOCAL INNOVATION

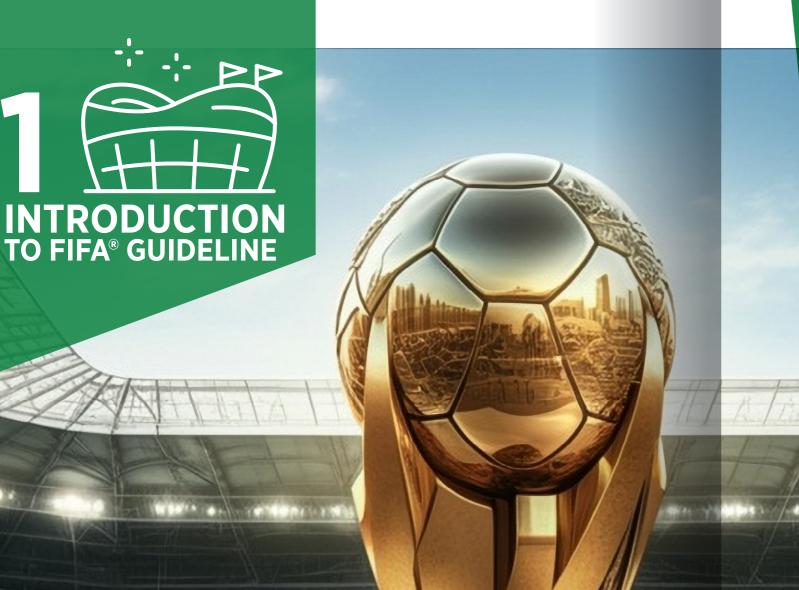
LUSAIL STADIUM, HOST OF THE FIFA® WORLD CUP™ FINAL, FEATURED A FAÇADE BUILT WITH USG ME'S SECUROCK® GLASS MAT SHEATHING AND DUROCK® CEMENT BOARDS PROVEN PERFORMANCE ON THE WORLD STAGE.

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ALA ROFRU



GIANNI INFANTINO FIFA® President

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community"

The football stadium is a magical place where players and fans celebrate the beautiful sport and where legends, memories, and iconic moments are created.

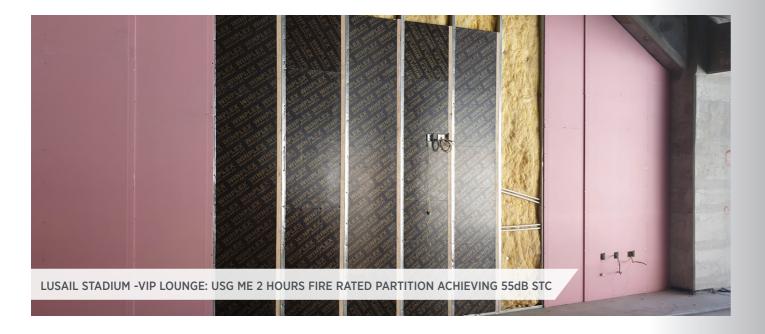
Every aspect of a stadium's interior - from the walls that define its spaces to the ceilings that shape its atmosphere - can be optimized using USG ME's specialized systems to meet FIFA[®] World Cup[™] standards.

In our efforts to make football truly global, these FIFA® football stadiums guidelines are a cornerstone of our efforts to educate and share best practices across the entire football



FIRE SAFETY & CODE COMPLIANCE

FIFA® GUIDELINE



SAFETY IS THE FIRST IMPERATIVE IN ANY STADIUM DESIGN. STADIUMS HOST TENS OF THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE, SO STRINGENT FIRE **RESISTANCE IS NON-NEGOTIABLE.**

FIFA®'s guidelines demand that all significant building elements be made of limited- or non-combustible materials to prevent rapid fire spread. For instance, external wall systems facades should be built of non-combustible or fireretardant materials, and interior wall and ceiling finishes are expected to have appropriate fire ratings as required by local building codes.

The façade, in particular, must not allow fire to spread quickly over its surface, giving occupants time to evacuate and protecting adjacent buildings. A World Cup[™] stadium will not receive its safety certification if it fails to implement the necessary passive fire protections and meet local code requirements.

USG Middle East delivers a full suite of fire-rated interior assemblies across walls, ceilings, and even specialty applications like Shaftwalls or protected zones. Its gypsum board products - including Sheetrock[®], specialized USG ME brand boards, and Skyrock® FR - are manufactured as Type X or otherwise fire-resistant panels, enabling partitions and ceilings to achieve 1-hour or 2-hour fire ratings as required. These boards are rigorously tested per ASTM. British. and European Norms, ensuring international-level fire performance even though they are locally made. Likewise,

USG's cementitious boards, such as Durock[®] and Solidrock[®], are inherently non-combustible, forming a fireproof base for areas like cladding structural steel members that require fire protection. Together, these products allow a stadium to have fire-safe enclosures for egress corridors, exit stairwells, press boxes, VIP suites, and critical service rooms - helping the overall design meet FIFA®'s safety regulations and local Civil Defense codes.

Beyond providing certified fire-rated products, USG ME brings a logistical advantage by sourcing fire-rated materials from a Saudi manufacturer allowing contractors to avoid long lead times for critical items. USG ME's guick local supply can be essential in completing fire-stopping and fireproofing works by the tight deadlines often set for event-ready venues. This local availability and on-site technical support ensure that even last-minute changes or additional fire safety measures can be accommodated rapidly.

USG ME enables stadium developers to meet or exceed FIFA®'s fire safety standards through certified, locally available systems - making the path to occupancy approvals smoother and faster.

ACOUSTIC PERFORMANCE

FIFA® GUIDELINE



MODERN STADIUMS MUST MANAGE A DUAL ACOUSTIC CHALLENGE - AMPLIFY THE **CROWD ROAR ON THE PITCH BUT MINIMIZE NOISE IN FUNCTIONAL AREAS LIKE OFFICES, HOSPITALITY ZONES, AND THE SURROUNDING NEIGHBORHOOD.**

FIFA®'s guidelines highlight that stadium facades and Transmission Class ratings. Such wall assemblies keep VIP roofs should be designed to contain noise; without proper suite conversations private and press conference audio acoustic treatment, loud music or PA announcements could contained despite the thunderous cheering outside. leak out and disturb the community. Likewise, enclosed interior rooms, VIP suites, and media centers need sound-Notably, even USG ME's fire-rated drywall assemblies can insulating construction to keep external noise out and double as sound-rated walls - when the gypsum boards provide privacy. The design should create an intense are combined with mineral wool or fiberglass insulation atmosphere inside the bowl while ensuring that adjacent inside the partition, the assembly meets the required fire spaces and outside areas are acoustically controlled. code and provides excellent sound insulation. This means

USG ME's acoustic ceiling and wall systems are tailored to tackle this challenge head-on. High-NRC ceiling panels - including soft fiber tiles, Tranguille[®] concealed ceilings, and Skynest[™] wood wool panels – absorb ambient noise in concourses, suites, and offices, preventing overwhelming echoes and reverberation. By installing these acoustic ceilings in hallways and gathering areas, stadium designers can significantly reduce the background noise level, making it easier for fans to talk and for staff announcements to be understood.

On the vertical side, USG ME recommends using multi-laver drywall partition systems, such as double-layer Sheetrock® or a layer of Fiberock® AR abuse-resistant board over studs with insulation in between to achieve high Sound

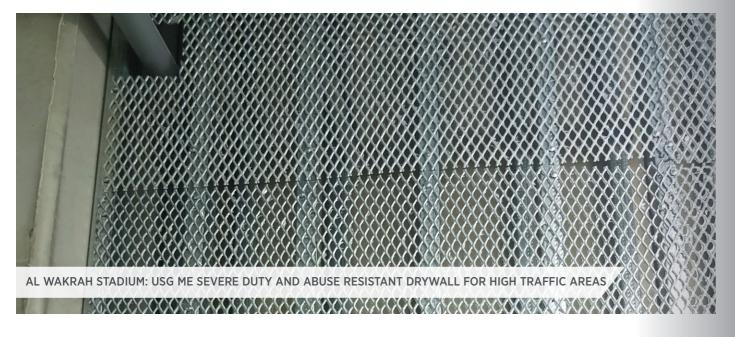


- a single wall specification can serve dual purposes, such as fire and acoustics, which is a win-win for designers trying to minimize construction complexity.
- To "score acoustic goals," the guide can highlight real scenarios; for instance, a media room built with USG ME acoustic solutions allows journalists to hear questions clearly without crowd noise intrusion, and a luxury skybox outfitted with sound-insulated walls and ceilings lets VIP guests enjoy the match in climate-controlled guiet comfort. By leveraging USG's high-NRC ceilings and STC-rated wall systems, stadium developers can ensure that you only hear the roar when you want to - out on the pitch. All other spaces remain havens of clear sound, meeting FIFA®'s expectations for an energetic atmosphere and controlled acoustics.



DURABILITY & IMPACT RESISTANCE

FIFA® GUIDELINE



STADIUM INTERIORS SEE ROUGH USAGE. EVERY SURFACE MUST ENDURE SUBSTANTIAL ABUSE FROM CROWDS LEANING OR PUSHING ON WALLS, EQUIPMENT CARTS BUMPING THROUGH CORRIDORS, AND FREQUENT EVENTS' GENERAL IMPACT, WEAR AND TEAR.

FIFA®'s guidelines explicitly call for robust construction; stadium wall assemblies, especially external ones, must handle high wind pressures and potential impact loads. Materials and connections should resist accidental bumps, crowd pressures, and even vandalism without damage. In high-traffic public areas, if finishes are not durable, they would deteriorate quickly under the stress of a busy tournament schedule. Thus, durability and toughness are key metrics for stadium interior products.

USG ME provides abuse-resistant drywall and cement board solutions specifically designed for high-impact environments. For instance, Sheetrock® gypsum panels and the aforementioned Solidrock® fiber cement boards are tailor-made for such conditions, offering enhanced surface hardness and core reinforcement to resist dents, punctures, and holes from impacts. Installing these reinforced boards in high-traffic zones – like main concourses, player access tunnels, locker room corridors, and loading docks – facility managers can drastically reduce wall damage during events. Even if exuberant fans shove against a wall or a maintenance crew bangs equipment into a partition, these walls hold up without constant patching. Similarly, USG ME's ceiling suspension systems come in heavy-duty ratings to ensure that ceiling tiles or panels remain secure; the grids will not sag or get dislodged even if someone enters the plenum for maintenance or if the stadium is vibrating from a concert's bass. This robustness also extends to metal ceilings and other specialty systems – all are engineered for the "bump and jostle" reality of public venues. "Built for the long game" is the philosophy here.

Imagine a partition wall that does not need repainting or repair every season or a ceiling installation that lasts decades without replacement. For stadium operators, this means less downtime for repairs and a better return on investment over the stadium's life.

USG ME's durable interior systems help ensure that a World Cup[™] venue still looks and performs like new by the time the final match is played – and for many seasons thereafter. In short, using high-impact, durable materials can design out frequent maintenance, keeping the venue safe and pristine despite the rigors of significant events.

MOISTURE & WEATHER RESILIENCE

FIFA® GUIDELINE

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LUSAIL STADIUM: USG ME SUPPLIED FULL ASSEMBLIES FOR EXTERIOR FACADE FOR MOISTURE & WEATHER RESILIENCE

STADIUMS MUST WITHSTAND THE EXCITEMENT OF FANS AND THE FORCES OF NATURE. FROM OCCASIONAL ROOF LEAKS DURING A DOWNPOUR TO THE CHRONIC HUMIDITY IN COASTAL CITIES, BUILDING MATERIALS IN A STADIUM INTERIOR MUST HANDLE WATER EXPOSURE WITHOUT FAILING.

FIFA®'s guidelines mandate high weather protection Using them in rest-rooms, kitchens, shower blocks, and standards; walls enclosing conditioned indoor spaces as exterior wall sheathing prevents water damage that could otherwise lead to costly renovations - or worse, should be well insulated, and waterproofing is critical facades must be adequately sealed against rain, especially health hazards from mold proliferation. Saudi Vision 2030 wind-driven rain, to prevent leaks. Even where parts of the emphasizes sustainable development, and one aspect of sustainability is durable construction - buildings that stadium are open to the elements, like open-air concourses or semi-outdoor concessions, materials and coatings are last longer and do not need premature retrofit. Moisturechosen for corrosion resistance and moisture durability. A resistant construction supports that longevity goal by leak or mold outbreak in a new World Cup™ stadium would averting early deterioration. be both a safety hazard and an embarrassment, so design teams prioritize moisture control in materials selection. USG ME encapsulates this with the slogan Designed to

USG Middle East addresses moisture challenges through various water-resistant boards and systems. For standard humidity control, e.g., general areas that occasionally get damp or must handle high indoor humidity, USG offers moisture-resistant gypsum drywall – often colloquially called "green boards" or specialized Mold Tough® gypsum panels. These are suitable for areas like bathrooms or locker rooms where occasional dampness occurs. However, for outright wet areas or places likely to see direct water exposure, USG ME's Securock® panels truly shine maintain structural integrity even when exposed to heavy weather conditions.

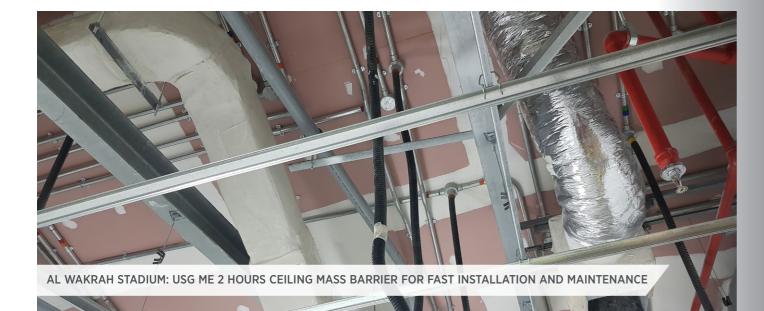


USG ME encapsulates this with the slogan Designed to beat Gulf humidity. Because USG ME's boards are tested in regional conditions, they are well suited to handle the intense sun, periodic rainstorms, and high indoor cooling, which can create typical condensation in Middle Eastern venues. In practice, this local climate testing means a stadium built with USG ME interior products is inherently equipped to shrug off the challenges of a hot, humid environment. The result is a venue that stays dry, moldfree, and structurally sound through many tournament cycles, fully satisfying FIFA®'s expectations for all-weather reliability.



SPEED & EFFICIENCY IN CONSTRUCTION

FIFA® GUIDELINE



IN THE RACE TO HOST INTERNATIONAL EVENTS, TIME IS OF THE ESSENCE. MAJOR **TOURNAMENTS HAVE IMMOVABLE DEADLINES - A STADIUM MUST BE FINISHED BEFORE THE OPENING WHISTLE OF THE FIRST MATCH.**

Saudi Arabia's ambitious build-up to 2034 comes with tight timelines for completion and commissioning. Any construction delays can jeopardize test events and operational readiness. Therefore, construction speed and adaptability are critical strategic factors for developers and contractors working on World Cup™ venues.

USG ME's systems are designed to accelerate interior buildout, helping project teams stay on schedule. One significant advantage comes from using drywall partition systems instead of traditional masonry. Gypsum drywall partitions can be erected significantly faster than blockwork, with no curing time required, and they are lighter and easier to handle for high-rise or large-span installations. With USG's integrated system of boards, metal framing profiles, readymix joint compounds, and finishes, contractors can close up large areas quickly and efficiently.

For instance, miles of interior walls for concourses and back-room areas can be framed and boarded in weeks rather than months, enabling other trades, such as electrical, painting, etc., to start work sooner. Another key factor is local supply chain efficiency. Having a local manufacturer means significantly reduced lead times for materials. USG ME operates four regional manufacturing plants in the Middle East and maintains extensive distribution networks, so products can arrive on-site within days from a nearby factory instead of waiting weeks or months for overseas shipments. This agility can be a project-saver if the design changes late in the game or additional materials are needed on short notice. For example, suppose an expeditor requires an extra fire-rated wall that is not in the original plan. In that case, USG ME can supply the needed Type X boards almost immediately, preventing schedule slips.

Moreover, USG ME provides technical support services - from detailed shop drawings to on-site installation guidance – which help contractors optimize their methods and avoid rework. This support can shave days or weeks off the schedule by getting it right the first time. In sporting terms, local manufacturing is like a "home-field advantage in supply." Just as a team performs better with home support, a construction project benefits from homegrown suppliers – fewer delays, more control, and direct collaboration: contractors working with USG ME have the confidence that materials are readily available and any issues can be resolved face-to-face.

SUSTAINABILITY & VISION 2030 ALIGNMENT

FIFA® GUIDELINE



SUSTAINABILITY IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF MODERN STADIUM DESIGN, AIMING TO MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AND EVEN ACHIEVE CERTIFICATIONS LIKE LEED.

FIFA® encourages hosts to incorporate green initiatives -Local Manufacturing & Reduced Carbon Footprint: By for instance, the guidelines suggest using the stadium's sourcing interior building materials from within Saudi expansive roof surfaces for solar panels and rainwater Arabia, developers cut down on the carbon emissions harvesting to boost the venue's eco-performance. Large associated with long-distance shipping. Ceilings, drywall, and cement boards are bulky, heavy items; using USG sports venues are increasingly expected to be energy-ME's locally-produced boards avoids the environmental efficient, resource-conscious, and integrated into the community's sustainability plans. In Saudi Arabia, this aligns cost of importing the same products from overseas. This with Vision 2030, which promotes sustainable development localization also supports the national economy, creating and local economic growth through projects like these local jobs and reducing reliance on imports - a key goal of world-class stadiums. USG ME's contribution to Green Vision 2030. Stadiums and USG Middle East's products contribute to sustainability in multiple ways. Indoor Environmental Quality: USG ME's products are

Recycled Content: Many USG ME materials contain substantial recycled content. For example, Sheetrock® gypsum boards use 100% recycled paper facings and a high indicating low VOC emissions. Additionally, specialty percentage of reclaimed gypsum in the core, and Solidrock® panels incorporate highly recycled materials in their fiber-(M1, FSC, PEFC) for low formaldehyde and sustainable cement formulation. Specifying these products helps reduce sourcina. the demand for virgin resources, and credits can be earned "Green stadiums, made in KSA." is more than a slogan toward green building certifications. Using locally made recycled gypsum boards was one strategy in the Aramco - it summarizes the idea that Saudi Arabia's world-class Stadium project in Al Khobar, which is targeting LEED sports venues can be built with homegrown technology certification. that respects the planet.



formulated to reduce emissions and ensure healthy indoor air quality. Many ceiling tiles, gypsum boards, and finishing compounds carry GREENGUARD certification or equivalent. products like Skynest[™] wood wool panels have certifications



STADIUM CATEGORY MATRIX

FIFA® GUIDELINE

This matrix shows the recommended application of key aspects of the guidelines to different categories of (new-build) stadiums.

	GENERAL							
CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5			
Net capacity (seats)	40,000	20,000	10,000	3,000	250			
Standing areas	Should be convertible to seating		Do not count towards minimum net capacity unless convertible to seating					
Green building certification	Internationally recognized certifica- tion to equivalent of LEED Gold			Internationally recognized certification or FIFA [®] Green Building Guidelines				
Roof	Covering all stands/seats	Covering main and opposite stand	Covering main stand		x			
Floodlights	FIFA® Lighting Guide Standard B	FIFA® Lighting Guide Standard C	FIFA® Lighting Guid	e Standard D	Min. 500 lux			

PLAYERS AND OFFICIALS							
CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5		
Players' dressing rooms	vers' dressing rooms 2 x 80m ² 2 x 60m ²		2 x 40m²		3 x 25m²		
Players' medical room	50m ² 30m ²		20m ²		1 x room		
Match officials' dressing room 45m ²			25m²	10m ²			
Doping control room 25m ²			15m ²	1 x room	x		
Competition parking Space for at least 2 full-size team buses							
Match director's office 1 x office x							

HOSPITALITY AND VIP Configuration should facilitate flexible usage and be consistent with business plan CATEGORY 3 4 5 1.000 1.000 250 Hospitality seats x Х 200 pax/20 boxes 100 pax/10 boxes Hospitality boxes Х X х Hospitality lounge 1,000 pax 500 pax 250 pax X Х VIP tribune 500 250 100 50 Х VIP lounge 500 pax 250 pax 100 pax 50 pax х VVIP seats 100 50 Х X х VVIP lounge 100 pax 50 pax Х Х x

MEDIA AND BROADCAST Local requirements by the relevant broadcaster should determine the stadium configuration							
CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5		
Main camera platform	12m x 3m	8m x 2m	6m x 2m	4m x 2m	х		
Commentary positions	10	5	3	1	х		
TV presentation studio	2 x 25m ²		1 x 25m ²	х	Х		
Broadcast compound	2,000m²	600m²	400m ²	300m ²	Х		
Media working area	30m ²	20m ²	20m²	20m ²	Х		
Press conference room	50 pax / 6-10 x camera positions	30 pax / 1-5x camera position(s)	20 pax	1 x room	х		
Press positions (with desk)	30	15	5	·	х		



STADIUM CATEGORY MATRIX

	SANITARY FACILITIES								
CATEGORY	1	2	3	4	5				
Male toilets	In principle based on a male to female ratio of a least 65:35 -1 seated toilet per 200 males and 1 sink per 167 males -1 urinal per 67 males								
Female toilets	In principle based on a male to female ratio of at least 65:35 -1 seated toilet per 36 females and 1 sink per 100 males								
Toilets for persons of limited mobility									
Wheelchair accessible toilets	Wheelchair 1 per 15 wheelchair-user places								

In line with the latest FIFA® stadium guidelines, USG Middle East provides complete interior systems to meet the performance standards required across all functional zones. From general areas and F&B zones to highly specialized spaces such as players' locker rooms, VIP lounges, media centers, and sanitary facilities, USG ME provides fully compliant drywall and ceiling solutions. Each system is designed to address FIFA®'s expectations for fire resistance, acoustics, moisture resistance, durability, and sustainability, ensuring that every part of the stadium performs to world-class standards, from the back-of-house to the final match-day dressing room making USG ME a one-stop partner for FIFA-compliant stadium interiors. **Refer to the below table of USG ME's proposed assemblies:**

USG ME ASSEMBLIES

								SUSTAINAB	ILITY
ACOUSTICS	CEILING CAC dB	CEILING NRC	WALLS STC dB	FIRE ¹	WALL TYPES ²	THERMAL ³	RECYCLED MATERIALS⁴	LIGHT REFLECTANCE CEILING⁵	HEALTHCARE
Corridors	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 55	2 hrs.	Severe Duty 2	NA	Yes	Above 85%	NA
Stadium Walk	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 55	2 hrs.	Security	0.35	Yes	Above 85%	NA
Ways					Walls	(External)			
Conference	Min 40	0.9 &	Min 55	1 hrs.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 80%	NA
Room/Media		Above							
Areas									
Hospitality Area	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 55	1hrs.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 85%	NA
Food Prep Area	Min 40	Min 0.6	Min 50	2 hrs.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 85%	Vinyl or Metal NP for ISO
Lockers Room	Min 40	0.9 & Above	Min 55	1 hr.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 85%	4
Fitness/Gym	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 55	1 hr.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 80%	NA
Medical Facilities	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 55	1 hr.	Severe Duty 1	NA	Yes	Above 89%	NA
Mechanical Rooms	Min 40	Min 0.6	Min 55	2 hrs.	Severe Duty 1	0.45	Yes	Above 85%	Healthcare ISO 4
Offices	Min 40	Min 0.75	Min 45	NA	Intermediate	NA	Yes	Above 85%	NA
					Duty				

NOTES

 Mechanical rooms can have 3 hrs. Requirement as per Life and safety project requirements

2. High traffic areas Security walls as well

- 3. All External Walls 0.35 U-value, energy cost saving
- 4. All products have LEED merits and recycled content, Low VOC
- 5. 0.89+ energy cost saving





QATAR WORLD CUP[™] CASE **STUDY**

Later States

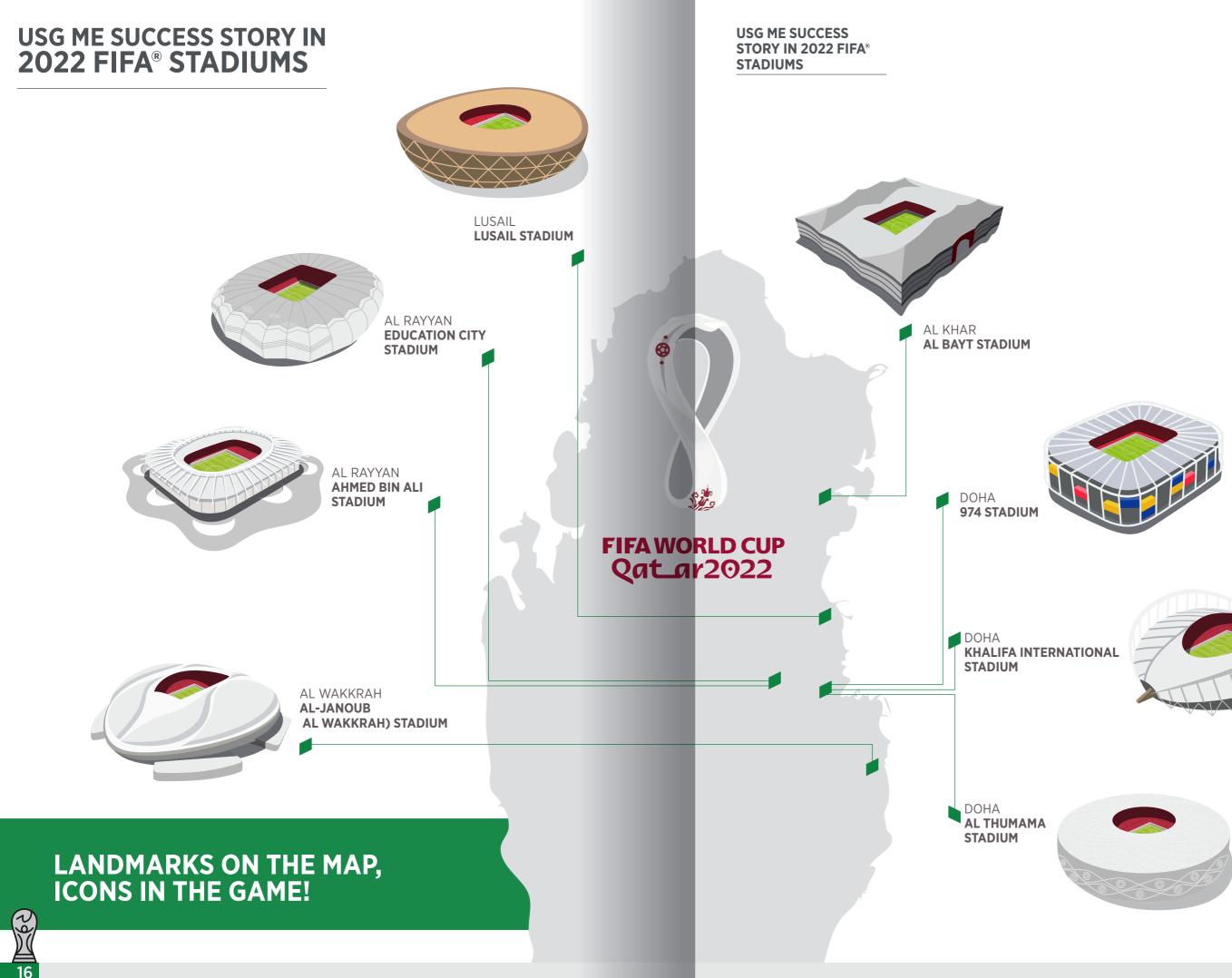


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A game that unites nations deserves arenas that inspire greatness. The Arab world is not just hosting football—we are redefining its future, one stadium at a time."











General contractor HBK Contracting and the China Railway Construction Corporation

Subcontractor Stream Acoustics Medtel W.N.N

Lusail Iconic Stadium, located in Lusail, Qatar, is a state-of-the-art venue that hosted the final of the FIFA[®] World Cup[™] 2022.

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TELET

Al Bayt Stadium – Where Tradition Meets Innovation

CAPACITY 88,966

EXTERNAL FAÇADE SECUROCK AND DUROCK 25,000M²

ACOUSTICAL CEILING SYSTEM 25,000M²

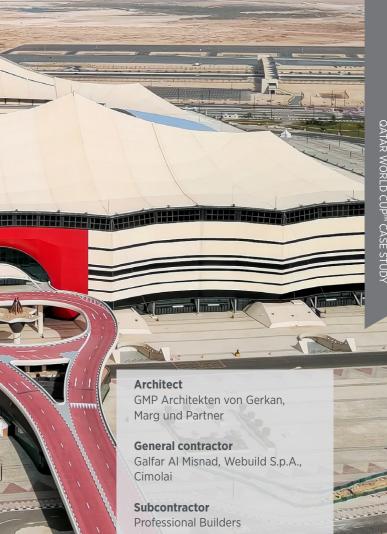
TECHNICAL DRYWALL **ASSEMBLIES** 10,000 M²

CAPACITY 68,895

TECHNICAL DRYWALL ASSEMBLIES 15,000 M²



AL BAYT STADIUM



DRYWALL CEILING SYSTEM 10,000M²

ACOUSTICAL CEILING SYSTEM 5,000M²







Stadium 974, located in Doha, Qatar, is one of the most innovative venues of venue that hosted matches during the FIFA[®] World Cup[™] 2022.

> CAPACITY 44,325

TECHNICAL DRYWALL ASSEMBLIES SYSTEM 20,000 M²

DRYWALL CEILING 10.000M²



the FIFA[®] World Cup[™] 2022.

ACOUSTICAL METAL WALL CLADDING 4.000M²

WALL LINING 10.000M²

METAL CEILING SYSTEM 13,000 M²



AL-JANOUB (AL WAKRAH) STADIUM

Al-Janoub (Al-Wakrah) Stadium, located in Al Wakrah, Qatar, is a stunning

ACOUSTICAL CEILING SYSTEM 5.000M²

METAL CEILING SYSTEM 5.000M²



AHMAD BIN ALI STADIUM

Architect Pattern Design

General contractor Al-Balagh, Larsen & Toubro

Subcontractor Hill-Point

Ahmad Bin Ali Stadium, also known as Al Rayyan Stadium, is located in Al Rayyan, Qatar.

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CAPACITY 45,032

FIRE-RATED SHAFTWALL SYSTEM 5,000M²



Khalifa International Stadium, located in Doha, Qatar, is one of the country's most historic sporting venues.

CAPACITY 45,857

METAL CEILING SYSTEM 5,000M²







STADIUM DRYWALL ASSEMBLIES



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USG ME Drywall and Substrate Boards - From multipurpose Sheetrock® and Skyrock® gypsum panels to heavy-duty Securock[®], Solidrock[®], and Durock[®] boards, USG's range covers every interior scenario. All boards are designed for quick installation and smooth finishing - critical for fast-track, sustainable stadium builds.





DRYWALL SOLUTIONS & SPECIALTY PANELS FOR STADIUM CONSTRUCTION

USG ME's plasterboard range delivers the adaptable backbone for stadium interiors – from VIP suites and offices to corridors and concourses. FIFA®'s guideline documentation recognizes gypsum drywall as a modern solution for stadium walls. In stadium projects, not all boards are the same; specialized substrate boards play key roles in areas exposed to heavy traffic, high moisture, or exterior conditions.

USG ME produces a spectrum of high-performance drywall panels to meet these challenges headon, ensuring every space in the stadium is built to last and meet international standards.



HIGH-PERFORMANCE MATERIAL

USG ME's products ensuring long-term reliability while meeting FIFA®'s strict standards



Ensuring optimal temperature control and comfort in FIFA®-compliant stadiums.



USG ME's high-performance systems ensure exceptional structural stability, withstanding heavy wind loads, crowd pressure, and environmental stress



USG ME's gypsum drywall assemblies provide durability, flexibility, and high-performance solutions that meet

FIFA®'s strict stadium standards.

FLEXIBILITY



USG ME's materials are designed to withstand harsh weather conditions and resist corrosion



USG ME's solutions are designed to endure high wind loads, crowd pressure, and vandalism, offering unmatched resilience and safety in FIFA®-compliant stadiums.





SHEETROCK® GYPSUM BOARDS



USG's flagship drywall panels are known worldwide for their quality. They come in various sizes to suit project needs and are UL-classified for fire resistance, featuring a non-combustible gypsum core wrapped in 100% recycled paper facings. In stadiums, Sheetrock[®] is used for high-performance partitions requiring fire ratings and sound insulation. For example,

SECUROCK® GLASS-MAT GYPSUM BOARDS



The hidden hero for exterior sheathing and wet-area lining, Securock[®] is a premier choice to envelop the stadium's structure strongly. These panels have a mold- and moisture-resistant gypsum core encased in a tough fiberglass mat facing. This design gives Securock[®] exceptional durability against the elements – it will not soften or mildew even when exposed to heavy humidity or rain during construction. Securock[®] is also available in Type X formulations, meaning it is UL-classified for fire resistance and non-combustibility. In a stadium, Securock[®] can sheath exterior walls beneath

cladding panels or form the substrate of parapets and roof edges,

Firecode® X Sheetrock® panels contain fiberglass and additives to achieve Type X fire resistance.

Used with USG ME's metal framing, they form lightweight

assemblies that meet stringent fire and acoustic criteria – ideal for fire-rated walls enclosing exit corridors or media rooms that need soundproofing.

contributing to the building's fire-rated envelope. It is also ideal for high-humidity interior zones like aquatic centers or large commercial kitchens where ordinary drywall would fail. Using Securock® on an open-air concourse ceiling or as backing for exterior metal façade panels ensures long-lasting construction that resists mold growth even in the region's harsh heat and occasional sandstorms. This product is built for the outdoors and delivered by a local expert, proving that even cutting-edge stadium exteriors can rely on Saudi-made materials rather than imports.



DRYWALL SOLUTIONS & SPECIALTY PANELS FOR STADIUM CONSTRUCTION

DRYWALL SOLUTIONS & SPECIALTY PANELS

SKYROCK[®] GYPSUM BOARDS



A cost-effective yet reliable drywall solution developed by USG ME. Skyrock® boards are asbestos-free and built with the same non-combustible gypsum core, covered in a heavy natural-finish paper for quick installation and decoration. Despite being budget-friendly, they have specialized variants, such as the Skyrock® FR for certified fire-rated performance in walls/ceilings, and the Skyrock® FR-MR, which combines fire and moisture resistance in one board. For less demanding or high-volume areas, Skyrock®

Regular offers standard performance for partitions without compromising compliance.

In a stadium, Skyrock[®] can be promoted as the smart choice for sizeable back-of-house partition areas where cost control is important. However, safety codes, e.g., general corridors and administrative offices, still apply. It is ideal for value-engineering big projects without sacrificing quality.

SOLIDROCK[®] FIBER CEMENT BOARDS



Engineered for extreme durability, Solidrock® boards are composed of cement, cellulose fibers, and special fire-resistant fillers. They are incredibly robust – offering outstanding fire resistance, water resistance, and even termite resistance in one product. Because they contain no paper or gypsum, these fiber cement boards do not deteriorate with moisture and can withstand heavy impact without damage. Solidrock® is an ecofriendly formulation with no asbestos or harmful chemicals and is ideal for high-traffic or abuse-prone areas.

In a stadium, Solidrock[®] is an excellent lining for heavy traffic areas, main concourses, loading docks, or parking garage interiors where occasional vehicle bumps or crowd impacts might occur. It is also a solid choice for exterior soffits or anywhere a hardened

surface is needed, for instance, where heavy equipment or large displays will be mounted. Fire resistance is another big plus – Solidrock® is essentially non-combustible so that it can be used in fire-rated wall assemblies or to protect structural elements like shaft walls. Notably, Solidrock® contains high recycled content, making it a star for sustainable construction. Using this board can contribute to green building credits (LEED) and align with eco-friendly goals – an important factor as many new stadiums aim for sustainability certifications. For example, the new Aramco Stadium in Al Khobar targets LEED status. In short, Solidrock® combines brute strength with sustainability, fitting the profile of stadiums that must be both tough and "green."

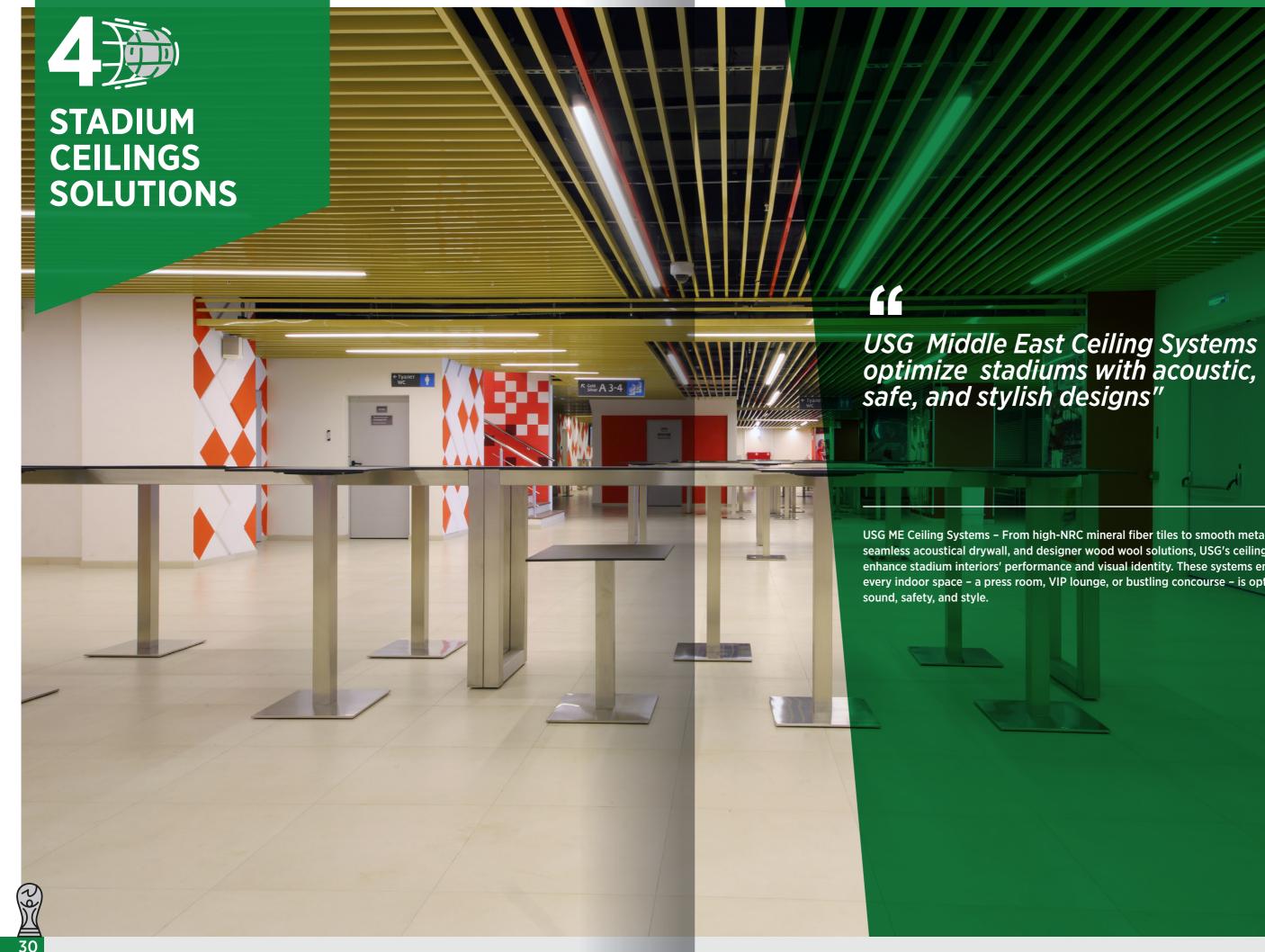
DUROCK[®] CEMENT BOARD (WITH EDGEGUARD[™])



A go-to substrate for tile and wet areas, Durock[®] cement board is renowned across the industry for its reliability in showers, locker rooms, and exterior façades. USG ME's Durock[®] boards feature reinforced edges EdgeGuard[™] technology that prevent crumbling or spin-out during handling and installation – contractors appreciate that screws hold firm even near the edges, avoiding the breakage common with lesser boards. Durock[®] offers exceptional water durability and mold resistance, performing equally well indoors or outdoors. It is the perfect underlayment for tiled floors and walls in stadium bathrooms, locker room showers, and kitchens – where continuous moisture is expected. Despite its cementitious toughness, installation is straightforward – Durock[®] can be cut and screwed similarly to drywall, speeding up what traditionally are laborious wet-area works.







USG ME Ceiling Systems – From high-NRC mineral fiber tiles to smooth metal panels, seamless acoustical drywall, and designer wood wool solutions, USG's ceiling offerings enhance stadium interiors' performance and visual identity. These systems ensure that every indoor space - a press room, VIP lounge, or bustling concourse - is optimized for



MODULAR ACOUSTIC CEILINGS

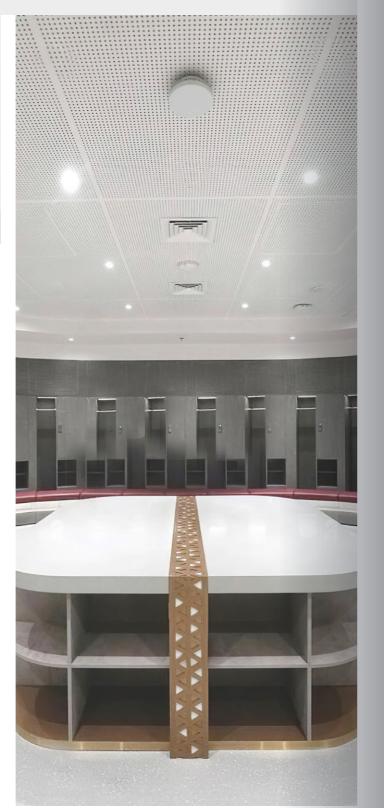
MINERAL FIBER, SOFT FIBER & METAL PANELS



These drop-in ceiling tiles are the workhorses of many commercial interiors – and stadiums are no exception. USG ME's mineral acoustical panels provide excellent noise reduction, helping dampen the roar in enclosed spaces.

For example, high-NRC mineral fiber tiles in a stadium concourse or merchandise shop absorb sound, making it easier for fans to converse and for announcements to be heard clearly. Soft fiber panels can achieve even higher NRC values for premium sound absorption. One of USG's ceiling system – the Tranquille® Concealed Ceiling – combines demountable soft-fiber panels with a torsion-spring grid, achieving NRC up to 1.0 100% sound absorption. This system delivers a smooth, monolithic look with no visible grid, which is excellent for large VIP lounges or conference areas that demand speech privacy and an elegant design. **Hear the game, not the echo.**

Installing high-NRC acoustic ceilings in back-of-house areas, stadium designers can ensure these spaces, e.g., a media center for commentators or a strategy room for coaches, remain comfortable and functional – no distracting reverberation during critical discussions. Additionally, mineral fiber ceilings offer high light reflectance, reducing the need for bright lighting and creating even illumination – an energy-saving plus that supports sustainability goals.



METAL CEILING SYSTEMS



USG ME's metal ceilings are available in different non-standard designs that are ideal for spaces requiring superior durability, easy cleanability, or a high-tech modern look. Metal panels, whether steel or aluminum, can be perforated and backed with acoustic fleece, allowing them to combine toughness with sound absorption. In a stadium setting, metal ceilings are well-suited for semi-exposed areas like outdoor concession stands or main entrances, where occasional exposure to weather or frequent cleaning is expected, and for high-end suite lobbies that want a sleek, contemporary finish.

One flagship product, the Celebretto® Metal Ceiling range, offers custom patterns and finishes to create iconic designs. For example, Geometrix® perforated metal ceiling in a VIP atrium could echo the stadium's façade design, tying the interior decor to the overall stadium theme. Beyond looks, metal ceilings carry inherent safety and longevity advantages; they are noncombustible and highly durable, making them a safe, long-lasting choice for large.







DRYWALL CEILING

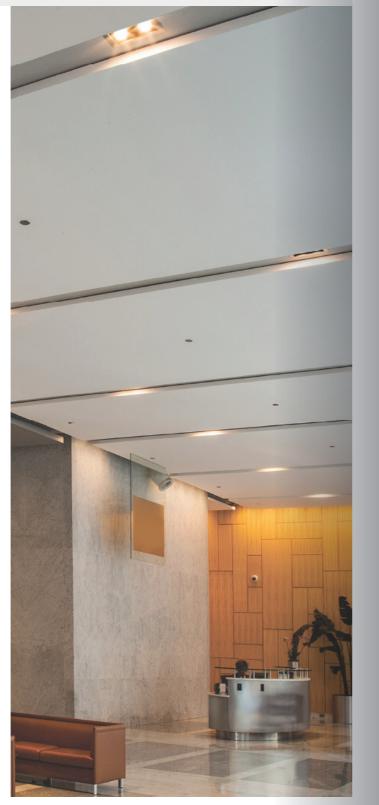
GYPSUM & MONOLITHIC ACOUSTICAL CEILINGS



In addition to modular tiles, USG ME offers gypsum-based ceiling systems, including drop-in gypsum ceiling tiles and seamless monolithic drywall ceilings. Gypsum ceiling tiles fit into standard Donn® T-grid system but appear like a smooth drywall ceiling. This is useful in areas with a refined look, but plenum access above the ceiling is also required to maintain HVAC, cabling, etc. For an entirely continuous ceiling with no visible joints, USG's Monolithic Acoustical Ceiling MAC, a globally known system, provides a seamless plastered look with built-in acoustic absorption.

These monolithic drywall ceilings are excellent for auditoriums, large conference rooms, or premium concourses where the designer wants a high-end, gallery-like interior without the "drop ceiling" grid lines.

The benefit is achieving the elegant appearance of a continuous plaster finish while still absorbing sound and concealing noise from the massive spaces beyond. Acoustical gypsum board ceilings often use perforated gypsum panels to reduce echo while maintaining a drywall aesthetic significantly. For instance, perforated gypsum ceilings can keep sound levels comfortable in a stadium club or media center without using an industrial acoustic tile look. We can think of these systems as "seamless sound control" – they cater to architects aiming for a premium look in VIP areas or team facilities yet need to ensure speech clarity and privacy. USG's monolithic ceiling solutions let designers achieve that balance, delivering high acoustical performance without sacrificing aesthetics.



WOOD WOOL ACOUSTIC CEILINGS



Wood Wool Acoustic Panels (Skynest[™]): A standout in USG ME's line-up is the Skynest[™] wood wool acoustic panel – a solution that marries natural aesthetics with high performance. Wood wool panels are made of wood fibers bound in cement, giving a textured, warm appearance that designers love for modern sports and entertainment venues. They provide excellent sound absorption NRC in the high range, up to 1.0, and even offer some thermal insulation benefits. USG's Skynest[™] panels are also environmentally friendly – they meet strict indoor air quality standards M1 rating for low formaldehyde emissions and carry FSC/PEFC certifications for sustainable wood sourcing.

In a stadium application, wood wool can be used in semi-outdoor but covered areas such as open-air concourses or fan zones; thanks to their cementitious makeup, these panels can withstand some exposure to the elements while absorbing crowd noise effectively. They are equally suited for indoor facilities like sports halls and training centers attached to the stadium. Skynest[™] panels can be left in a natural wood tone for a warm, organic look or painted for visual impact. For example, imagine a fan zone area under the stands treated with Skynest[™] panels overhead - it creates a trendy, comfortable environment by soaking up echoes and excess heat, and visually, the pattern might echo local architectural motifs or team branding.

Skynest[™] allows stadium designers to solve large-space noise issues in an aesthetically pleasing way, using a product that also supports sustainability and resonates with Vision 2030's emphasis on environmental stewardship







WORLD CUP™ COMING HOSTS

"

This section explores the upcoming stadium projects across 2027 AFC Asian Cup, 2030 FIFA® World Cup™ and 2034 FIFA® World Cup™, showcasing how they will shape the experience for players, fans, and the future of football."



YALLA VAMOS WORLD CUP™ 2030

SPAIN / PORTUGAL / MOROCCO

The 2030 FIFA[®] World Cup[™] will mark the 100th anniversary of the tournament, celebrating a century of football history. It will be uniquely co-hosted by six countries across three continents: Spain, Portugal, and Morocco as the main hosts, while Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay will each host one opening match to honor the birthplace of the first World Cup[™] in 1930.



Morocco, Portugal and Spain has proposed 17 potential host cities, including six cities in Morocco, two cities in Portugal and nine cities in Spain.

IT IS A HISTORIC AND INCLUSIVE **CELEBRATION OF FOOTBALL'S PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE!**



YALLA VAMOS WORLD CUP[™] 2030

HOST STADIUM: SPAIN

For the 2030 FIFA® World Cup™, several stadiums in Portugal, Spain, and Morocco have been proposed as host venues. Below is a summary of these stadiums, including their names, gross capacities, statuses



ESTADIO METROPOLITANO



City: Madrid Gross FWC30 capacity: 70,650 Status: Existing

A HISTORIC CELEBRATION ACROSS CONTINENTS

____ Malag

✓ MULTICONTINENTAL HOSTING (EUROPE & AFRICA)

A Coruña

Agadir

✓ A VIBRANT FIFA® FAN FESTIVAL™

✓ RICH FOOTBALL HERITAGE & PASSIONATE FANBASE

SAN MAMÉS STADIUM



City: Bilbao Gross FWC30 capacity: 56,633 Status: Existing

LA ROSALEDA STADIUM



City: Málaga

Gross FWC30 capacity: 30,044 (expandable to 45,000)

Status: Existing



ESTADIO SANTIAGO BERNABÉU





Gross FWC30 capacity: 78,297

Status: Existing

LA CARTUJA STADIUM

City: Seville

Gross FWC30 capacity: 71,000



Status: Undergoing renovation

ESTADIO GRAN CANARIA



City: Las Palmas

Gross FWC30 capacity: 32,392 (expandable to 44,500)

Status: Existing

ESTADIO NUEVA ROMAREDA



Saragossa

Gross FWC30 capacity: 43.144

Status: Existing



YALLA VAMOS WORLD CUP[™] 2030

SPAIN / PORTUGAL / MOROCCO



YALLA VAMOS WORLD CUP™ 2034

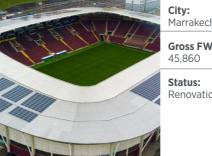
HOST STADIUM : MOROCCO

GRAND STADE HASSAN II



City: Casablanca Gross FWC30 capacity: 115,000 Status: New construction

GRAND STADE DE MARRAKECH



Marrakech Gross FWC30 capacity: 45,860 Status: Renovation underway

GRAND STADE D'AGADIR



Gross FWC30 capacity: 46,000 Status: Renovation underway



ESTADIO MUNICIPAL DE RIAZOR



32,940 (expandable to 48,015)

Gross FWC30 capacity:

Existing

City:

A Coruña



RCDE STADIUM

City:

Barcelona

Gross FWC30 capacity: 40,259

Status: Existing

HOST STADIUM : PORTUGAL

ESTÁDIO DO SPORT LISBOA E BENFICA



City: Lisbon Gross FWC30 capacity:

Status: Existing

65,209

ESTÁDIO DO DRAGÃO



City: Porto

Gross FWC30 capacity: 51,075

Status: Existing





City: Lisbon

ESTÁDIO JOSÉ ALVALADE

ESTADIO ANOETA

City: San Sebastián

Status:

2026

Gross FWC30 capacity:

Renovation underway

Completion Date:

39,313 (expandable to 42,300)

Gross FWC30 capacity:

Status: Existing

GI 5C St Ex

50,103

GRAND STADE DE TANGER



City: Tangier

Gross FWC30 capacity: 75,600

Status: Renovation underway

STADE PRINCE MOULAY ABDELLAH



City: Rabat

Gross FWC30 capacity: 68,700

Status: Renovation underway



STADE DE FÈS

City: Fez

Gross FWC30 capacity: 55,800

Status: Renovation underway

GROWING TOGETHER

THE SAUDI ARABIA FIFA® WORLD CUP™ 2034

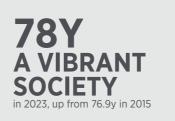


Saudi Arabia is entering a stadium construction boom - with plans for 11 brand-new stadiums and upgrades to others in preparation for events like the 2027 AFC Asian Cup and the 2034 FIFA® World Cup™. Meeting FIFA®'s stringent stadium guidelines means delivering on safety, acoustics, durability, and sustainability – all on tight timeliness. USG Middle East USG ME, a Saudi-based manufacturer of interior building systems, offers a comprehensive portfolio of ceiling systems and drywall assemblies specialized to these needs. As a local supplier aligned with Vision 2030 goals of economic localization and world-class infrastructure, USG ME provides quick delivery and on-site support through multiple regional plants and local Saudi offices.



ACHIEVEMENTS AS A RESULT OF VISION 2030

A VIBRANT SOCIETY





A THRIVING ECONOMY



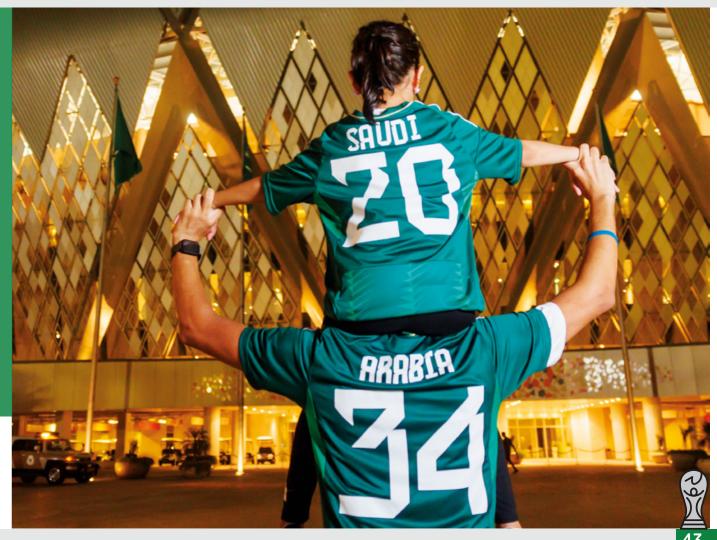


Our plans for the FIFA[®] World Cup[™] 2034[™] in Saudi Arabia are captured in our slogan: 'Growing. Together.' We want to grow the game of football and extend its benefits in Saudi Arabia and every part of the world.

GROWING PEOPLE.TOGETHER. GROWING FOOTBALL. TOGETHER. GROWING CONNECTIONS. TOGETHER.

AN UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE

- ✓ WORLD-CLASS INFRASTRUCTURE
- ✓ A VIBRANT FIFA® FAN FESTIVAL[™]
- ✓ STAYING IN SAUDI ARABIA
- ✓ SEAMLESS TRANSPORT **INSPIRING OUR YOUTH**











GROWING TOGETHER

THE SAUDI ARABIA FIFA® WORLD CUP™ 2034



GROWING TOGETHER WORLD CUP[™] 2034

5 HOST CITIES



Riyadh is Saudi Arabia's dynamic and thriving capital city, and its largest by both size and population. It is also the country's administrative center and financial hub. The city is preparing to co-host the 2027 AFC Asian Cup with Jeddah and Al Khobar, and will welcome the world when it hosts the World Expo 2030. Riyadh is also host of the 2034 Asian Games

7M+ population

127K+

tournament room keys tournament training sites

8 international destination proposed stadiums connections in 2023 20M+

> visitors to Riyadh season in 2023

Jeddah is the second largest city in Saudi Arabia. Its coastal location on ancient trade routes and status as a modern commercial center have made it Saudi Arabia's most cosmopolitan city. Jeddah is a captivating blend of old and new. The city's historical heart remains in the area around AI Balad, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, with its distinctive architecture, delicious food and live music events.

3.75M+ population

43K

international destination connections in 2023

114

30

tournament room keys

Tournament training sites



42

12

74

54



JEDDAH

AL KHOBAR



Al Khobar is a modern metropolis in Saudi Arabia's Eastern Province, part of an interconnected hub that also includes the cities of Dammam, Dhahran, and Al Qatif. Al Khobar is also home to King Abdulaziz port, one of the largest ports in Saudi Arabia and landmarks include Share Al Hob Soug, with its 350-meter-long stretch of souvenir shops and local delicacies.

international destination

tournament training sites

connections in 2023

2.7M+ population

17K+

tournament room keys



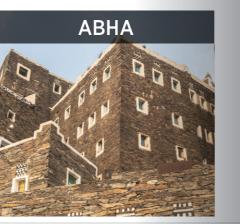
Abha is the scenic capital of the Aseer region in south-western Saudi Arabia. It is a major urban center forming a large metropolitan area that also includes Khamis Mushayt and Ahad Rafidah. It sits 2,200 meters above sea level in the fertile Sarawat Mountains, the country's highest and longest mountain range.







proposed stadiums





NEOM is a region in northwest Saudi Arabia on the Red Sea being built as a living laboratory – an accelerator of human progress. It will be a destination and a home for people who dream big and want to be part of building a new model for livability, doing business and environmental conservation. As a future global hub, NEOM will include cognitive cities, ports, research centers and tourist destinations.

300K population by 2030 24K+ tournament room keys

HOST STADIUM

Across all 15 stadia that are proposed for the FIFA® World Cup™ 2034™. Saudi Arabia will meet the stadium requirements set out by FIFA®, whether through refurbishment, new construction, or the addition of temporary facilities. The stadia plan for the tournament includes four existing stadia, three new stadia currently under construction, and eight planned new stadia guidelines to different categories of (new-build) stadiums

KING SALMAN INTERNATIONAL STADIUM						
	City: Riyadh					
	Gross FWC34 capacity: 92,760					
	Status: Planned					
	Completion Date: 2029					
	Highest Match Category: Opening and Final					

PRINCE MOHAMMED BIN SALMAN STADIUM



City: Rivadh

> Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,979

Status:

Planned

Completion Date: 2029

Highest Match Category: 3rd place playoff



KING FAHAD SPORTS CITY STADIUM



City: Riyadh

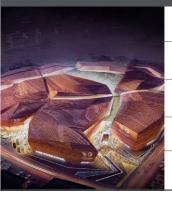
Gross FWC34 capacity: 70.200

Status: Existing reburshment

Completion Date: 2026

Highest Match Category: Semi-Final

NEW MURABBA STADIUM



City: Rivadh

Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,010

Status: Planned

Completion Date: 2032

Highest Match Category: Round of 32



GROWING TOGETHER

THE SAUDI ARABIA FIFA[®] WORLD CUP[™] 2034



GROWING TOGETHER WORLD CUP[™] 2034

ROSH	IN STADIUM	PRINCE FAISAL BIN FA	HAD SPORTS CITY STADIUM	AF	RAMCO STADIUM
	City: Riyadh		City: Riyadh		City: Al Khobar
-	Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,000		Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,865		Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,096
1/100	Status: Planned		Status: Under Construction		Status: Under construction
	Completion Date: 2032		Completion Date: 2027		Completion Date: 2026
A A ME	Highest Match Category: Round of 32		Highest Match Category: Round of 32		Highest Match Category: Round of 16
SOUTH R	IYADH STADIUM	KING SAUD UN	NIVERSITY STADIUM	1	IEOM STADIUM
	City: Riyadh		City: Riyadh	and the second sec	City: Neyom
	Gross FWC34 capacity: 47,060		Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,319		Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,000
	Status: Planned		Status: Existing refurbishment		Status: Planned
	Completion Date: 2032		Completion Date: 2032		Completion Date: 2032
JIPLe	Highest Match Category: Round of 32		Highest Match Category: Round of 32		Highest Match Category: Quarter-final
KING ABDULLAH	I SPORTS CITY STADIUM	QIDDIYA C	COAST STADIUM		
	City: Jeddah	and the second second	City: Jeddah		
	Gross FWC34 capacity: 58,432		Gross FWC34 capacity: 46,096		
V V	Status: Existing refurbishment		Status: Planned		
	Completion Date: 2032		Completion Date: 2032	The second	S S S S
	Highest Match Category: Quarter-final		Highest Match Category: Round of 16	ations wolks the	j. 6
JEDDAH CENTRAL	DEVELOPMENT STADIUM	KING ABDULLAH E	CONOMIC CITY STADIUM	and a start of the start of the	AUDI
	City:		City:	2 (AL 2008)	HODI

46

Gross FWC34 capacity: 45,794

Status: Under construction

Completion Date: 2027

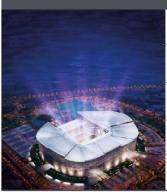
Highest Match Category: Round of 32

Gross FWC34 capacity: 45,700 Status: Planned Completion Date: 2027

Highest Match Category: Round of 32



KING KHALID UNIVERSITY STADIUM



City: Abha

Gross FWC34 capacity: 45,428

Status: Existing refurbishment

Completion Date: 2032

Highest Match Category: Round of16

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