



## QASR AL HOSN CULTURAL CENTRE ABU DHABI

Buro Happold's Smart Space team were appointed as People Movement advisors for the Qasr Al Hosn Rehabilitation project. The team provided advice on all areas of the site that are available for pedestrian use.

The Qasr Al Hosn Rehabilitation site is a multi-venue materplan, with a focus on culture and entertainment. The development will comprise a number of individual venues, each with a separate purpose and design, including a theatre, galleries, library, college of music, offices and a hotel.

Long term plans for Abu Dhabi identified QAHR as an 'anchor' around which a Cultural Quarter may develop. The 2030 Plan sees this area of the city as a commercial zone with a cultural focus.

The people flow modelling provided site-wide crowd flow information on levels of service under different scenarios, highlighting where target levels have or have not been achieved. This information allowed the client to make informed

decisions on the effects of site fine-tuning, such as positioning of cultural businesses.

A key component of the study was the assessment of the theatre complex. This includes a main house with a capacity of 1200 people, a Salle Polyvalente with a capacity of 500 and a smaller studio with a capacity of 120. There was a particular focus on the predicted demand on vertical transport provisions, and also the security checking requirements when VVIPs are present. Foyers were also checked for appropriate sizing to reach target occupant densities.

Recommendations were also provided on how to increase the attendance of the visitor centre without overloading the entrance corridors. Additional aspects included a study of the vertical transport, taxi waiting area and car park provisions, toilet calculations and an escalator study.

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