Obermayer, one of the largest German independent engineering companies, awarded SGS the contract for NDT of welding seams and tightening bolts for the steel structures which comprise the Baku Crystal Hall, the venue for the Eurovision Song Contest 2012. Dated January 1, 2012, the project was finished in April of the same year. The corresponding NDT testing contract for the new press centre built to support the event was granted by the State Committee on Properties Management, a division of the Cabinet of Azerbaijan responsible for regulating property issues and policy within the Republic. Signed in February 2012, the contract which encompassed testing welding seams and concrete strength and inspecting bolt torque, was expeditiously completed at the end of March.

**SGS HITS PERFECT NOTE AT EUROVISION SONG CONTEST HALL AND PRESS CENTRE**

Both Obermayer and the State Committee on Properties Management chose to rely on SGS extensive experience and expertise in quality assurance, quality control and non-destructive testing for the respective corresponding distinguished projects.

**SGS CONDUCTS NDT FOR EUROVISION CONTEST HALL**

SGS specialists worked round the clock to determine problem areas and provide prompt analysis and recommendations in order to facilitate rapid repair of welding seams and proper tightening of bolts, thus ensuring that all safety regulations and quality requirements for the Eurovision Song Contest 2012 Baku Crystal Hall venue were satisfied.

Demanding project timelines required on-site SGS qualified inspector supervision to minimise the risk of defects, to ensure compliance with regulations and to prevent possible damage incurred by substandard components. Construction works at the Baku Crystal Hall including the comprehensive range of SGS NDT services in monitoring welding seam integrity, bolt tightening and bolt torque inspection were completed on schedule at the end of April 2012 exhibiting the SGS expert ability to successfully meet such mandatory and rigid deadlines.

**SGS PERFORMS NDT FOR EUROVISION SONG CONTEST PRESS CENTRE**

Similarly, SGS experts provided quality control of welding seams and concrete strength and conducted inspection of bolt connections to guarantee the highest level of quality and safety of the steel structures at the newly built press centre. Here too, SGS identified problem areas and swiftly reported analysis and recommendations which resulted in the repair of welding seams and the verification of proper tightening of bolts in those components not compliant to safety regulations and quality requirements.

The experienced SGS team provided non-destructive testing and inspection of welding seams, concrete strength, paint thickness, engineering systems and bolt torque at the press centre in accordance with stringent criteria and triumphantly completed the project on time.

**SGS CONTRIBUTES TO SUCCESS OF EUROVISION SONG CONTEST 2012**

As independent testing and inspection provider, SGS utilised state-of-the-art NDT techniques including ultrasonic testing, magnetic particle and visual inspections in both projects to guarantee the quality necessary to ensure reliable performance and bring added value to the assets. Highly-skilled SGS specialists categorically fulfilled both contracts under strict mandates and tight schedules in a display of SGS professionalism and expertise.

SGS was especially pleased to support both Obermayer and the State Committee in successfully and safely hosting the Eurovision Song Contest 2012 in Azerbaijan.

**CONTACT**

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