

UDC Wins Gold and Silver at the Abu Dhabi Maritime Awards 2025 for Excellence and Sustainability



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UNITED DEVELOPMENT CO.

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Doha, Qatar – 2 November 2025: In a new milestone that reinforces its position as one of the region's leading developers, United Development Company (UDC), the master developer of The Pearl and Gewan Islands, announced that it has won two prestigious accolades at the Abu Dhabi

Maritime Awards 2025. UDC received the Gold Award for “Outstanding Marina” and the Silver Award for “Sustainability,” as revealed during the awards ceremony held on 20 November 2025 at the Abu Dhabi International Boat Show in the Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre.

This recognition marks a major achievement for The Pearl Island Marina, inaugurated in 2007 and stretching along a five-kilometer waterfront. The award comes following a rigorous and multi-layered evaluation process that included formal submissions, committee assessments, and an in-depth expert interview lasting two hours, underscoring the credibility and robustness of this recognition. Today, the marina stands among the most advanced and vibrant in the Middle East, offering a dynamic marine lifestyle that combines high operational standards, hospitality excellence, and sustainable practices. The Abu Dhabi Maritime Awards honor marinas that demonstrate excellence in safety, service quality, environmental practices, and innovation, and this year’s win reflects how closely The Pearl Island Marina aligns with these principles by integrating advanced technologies, improving operational performance, enhancing visitor experiences, and strengthening customer loyalty.

Commenting on the achievement, Yasser Al Jaidah, President and Chief Executive Officer of UDC, said:

“This recognition reflects the significant progress The Pearl Island Marina has made in delivering

a world-class marine experience built on operational excellence and a firm commitment to environmental sustainability. Our efforts to develop an advanced and responsible marine environment continue to elevate the experience for yacht owners and visitors alike.

This achievement also reinforces our vision for The Pearl Island as a fully integrated and vibrant destination, and we remain dedicated to investing in sustainable marine infrastructure that supports Qatar's long-term development goals.”

UDC continues to advance its environmental efforts through impactful initiatives, most notably the “Sea Bin” project and the Collec'Thor initiative, both designed to maintain clean waters and protect marine life. To date, twenty water-filtration devices have been installed, successfully collecting over 150 kilograms of plastic waste and filtering more than eight million liters of seawater from The Pearl Island Marina.

The company also organized a large-scale seabed cleanup campaign with the participation of 250 professional divers, who removed more than 800 kilograms of plastic and metal waste from the seabed of Porto Arabia across an area of 30,000 square meters, representing approximately 60% of the marina, making it one of Qatar's most significant marine environmental cleanup initiatives. In addition to these efforts, The Pearl Island Marina operates the world's largest backwater management system for marina operations, collecting over one million liters annually and

preventing pollution caused by greywater and blackwater discharge, further reinforcing its commitment to environmental stewardship and marine sustainability.

In 2023, UDC introduced the innovative Smart Pedestal System, an advanced Internet of Things (IoT) solution that enables yacht owners to monitor their water usage, energy consumption, and overall environmental impact directly from their vessels. By providing real-time data and actionable insights, the Smart pedestal empowers users to adopt more sustainable practices, optimize resource efficiency, and effectively reduce their energy use. This initiative reflects UDC's ongoing commitment to environmental stewardship and operational excellence, further supporting the company's broader efforts to enhance sustainability across The Pearl Island Marina.

In parallel, UDC continues to enhance its marine infrastructure through the inauguration of the Corinthia Yacht Club, which provides berths for yachts up to 40 meters in length, further positioning The Pearl Island as a premier destination for regional and international yachts.

The Pearl Island Marina, operated by Ronautica Middle East, also maintains its distinguished status as a recipient of the "Gold Anchor" accreditation, one of the world's leading marina quality assessment programs.

UDC's environmental agenda additionally includes comprehensive studies on marine

biodiversity around the island, covering seagrass, algae, and reef habitats, to ensure ecological balance and long-term sustainability.

Reaffirming its strong commitment to social responsibility, UDC was recently awarded the “Best CSR Initiative in the Real Estate Sector in Qatar” for the second consecutive year during the Qatar CSR Summit, recognizing the company’s ongoing contributions to social and environmental development.

With more than twenty international participants competing in this year’s Abu Dhabi Maritime Awards, UDC’s dual win underscores its leadership in marina management, its advancement in sustainability, and its role in strengthening Qatar’s position as a distinguished marine destination.