

Brazil's Kepler Weber Builds UAE's Largest Storage Complex

Contributed by Geovana Pagel
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The Kepler Weber Group, in the construction of storage infrastructure and warehouse equipment sector based in Panambi, in the interior of the Brazilian southernmost state of Rio Grande do Sul, has just delivered the greatest storage complex of the United Arab Emirates.

The installations, which already are operational, are composed of six metallic silos, with storage capacity for 60,000 tons, with transporters for receiving soy. The installation was made on the Jebel Ali ports, located at 35 kilometers from Dubai, and cost the equivalent to US\$ 3 million to the company Edible Oil Company, of the Arab CAM Group.

This was the first export made by Kepler Weber to the Emirates. The deal included also transporters to feed an oil factory with crushing capacity for 2,000 tons of soy per day, as well as transporters of loading and unloading in a soy chaff storehouse. The Brazilian company also supplied all automated electric equipments used in the operation of the complex.

The complete storage systems and the electrical equipments were transported in 77 containers shipped from the Rio Grande Port, in Rio Grande do Sul. The journey to the Jebel Ali port took 30 days.

"It is fundamental for Kepler Weber to find alternatives in the international scenario and gain new markets, especially in the Arab countries that are potential buyers. We are conquering new fronts and constantly prospecting new buyers," stated the company's president Othon d'Eça Cals de Abreu.

In Syria

According to him, the grandiosity in the construction at the port and the approximation with the Arab market have ended up generating other business for the company in the region.

In April, Kepler Weber signed a deal worth US\$ 1.44 million with the company Middle East Factories Vegetable Oil Co. of the Syrian group Akharas.

The soy storage equipments will be used in an oil extraction and refinement complex in Homs, at 100 kilometers away from capital city Damascus.

The complex, to become operational in November, will be composed of four silos, each one with the capacity for storing 10,000 tons of grains. The Middle East Factories Vegetable Oil Co. is importer and exporter of agricultural commodities.

The company also owns a road transporter to meet the demands in the Syrian and Iraqi markets. Kepler Weber won the bidding disputed with another three European companies.

According to Abreu, external sales at Kepler have been quite significant. In the first semester of the year, as well as signing the contract with Syria, the manufacturer exported to the Dominican Republic, Chile, Bolivia, Argentina, Paraguay, Ecuador, Colombia, Uruguay, Venezuela, Peru, Thailand, China, Cuba, Bangladesh and Angola.

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