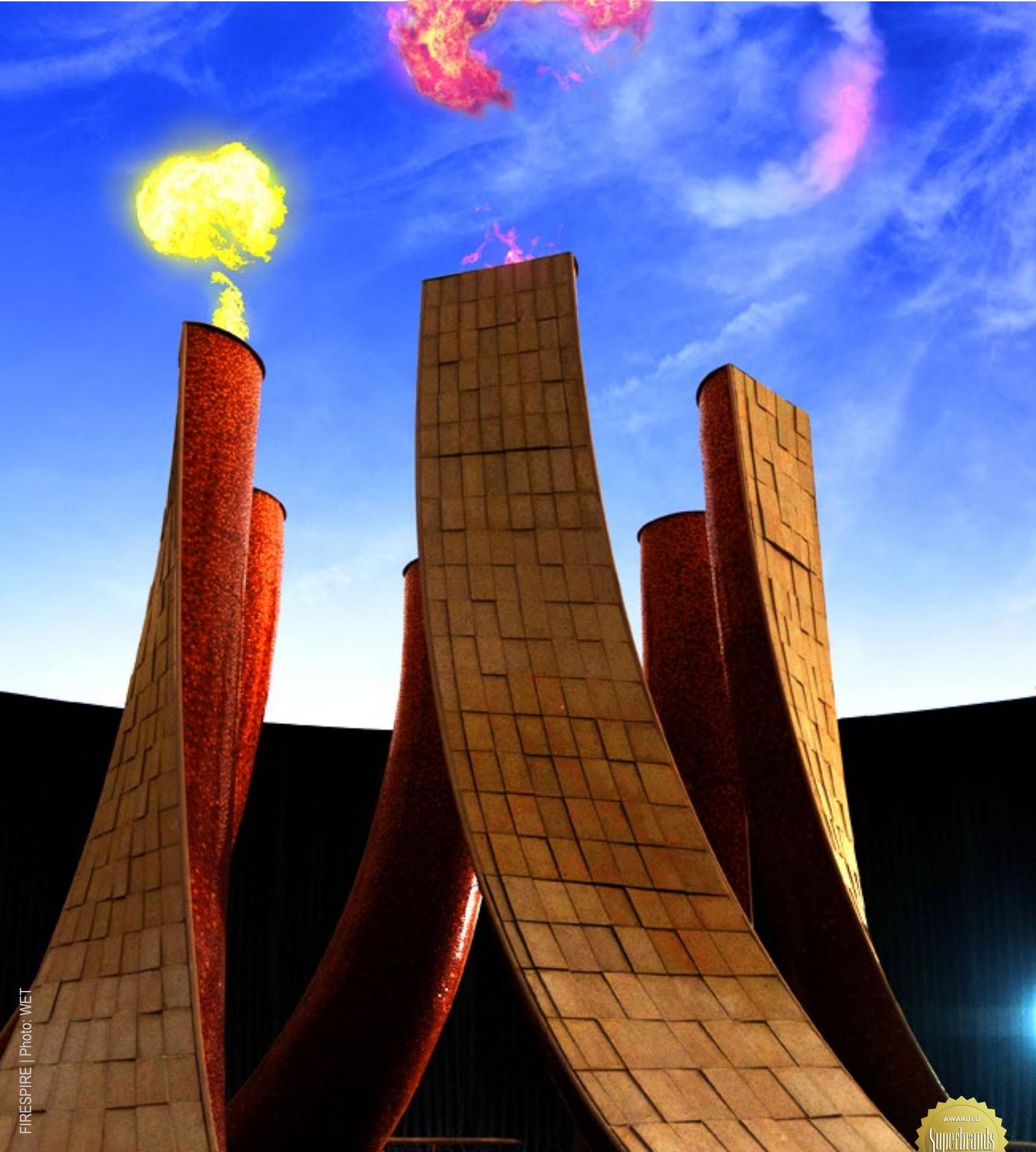


# WATER FOUNTAIN - EXPO 2020, DUBAI

## Project Spotlight



FIRESPIRE | Photo: WET

Globally Proven Construction Solutions



# THE WATER FOUNTAIN AT EXPO 2020 DUBAI

Customer: Expo Dubai 2020  
Design & Water Choreography: WET Design  
Main Contractor: Al Naboodah Construction Group LLC  
Sub-Contractor / Finishes: SIA Landscaping LLC  
Application Type: Exterior Thin Bed, Façade  
Area: 300 Sqm.  
Location: Expo 2020 City - Dubai

## The Background

Expo 2020 is a World Expo hosted by Dubai in the United Arab Emirates from October 1, 2021, to March 31, 2022. Initially scheduled for October 20, 2020, to April 10, 2021, it was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

World Expos have always been a gallery of innovative and creative architectural designs, and this is the first time the fair has been held in the Middle East since its launch in 1850. In the UAE, the most fantastic element is transforming a large desert into a city where we can see many architectural spectacles. Undoubtedly, this conversion is a testament to the vision and creativity of the UAE rulers.

The three core themes of the Expo are sustainability, mobility, and opportunity. The event will focus on the achievements of humanity and how far individuals and society have come.

LATICRETE Middle East is proud to be a part of the construction and infrastructure of EXPO 2020 Dubai by delivering a wide range of LATICRETE® products. A 15 km expansion of the metro stations connected to the Expo 2020 city and numerous diversified projects are new feathers in the LATICRETE crown.



“ The water feature’s lower plaza area is almost the size of half a football field, with water walls more than four stories high. ”



Children attempt to scale the stone walls of the water installation on the Expo site.  
photo: Victor Besa / The National.



Installation of glass mosaics

The water fountain is one of the most significant and attractive projects on our Expo 2020 Dubai projects list.

This exclusive water feature is designed by WET, an integrated architecture, design, manufacturing, and engineering firm based in Los Angeles, California. WET creates immersive, experiential large-scale water features worldwide, such as this, one of their most significant and most technologically advanced installations for Expo 2020 Dubai.

The water feature's lower plaza area is almost the size of half a football field, with water walls more than four stories high. Situated between Al Wasl Plaza and Jubilee Park, the Expo 2020 Water Feature combines the elements of water, earth, and fire in a way that will both surprise and delight the senses.

Not only does this fountain look beautiful with its six spiraling pillars and vibrant circular tile pattern, but it is also part of a stunning performance of fire and water! The display is set to a piece of orchestral music written

for the project by one of the world's foremost modern composers, Ramin Djawadi, who composed the iconic music from Game of Thrones, Iron Man, Pacific Rim, and many more.

The four-story walls surrounding this fountain are giant water features that send 153 waves cascading in time with the music, while the six spires in the center exhale hydrogen flames of neon green, red, pink, and yellow. The water is continually filtered and recycled within the system, and the hydrogen flames produce no harmful emissions, making the fountain a certified green project.

## The Challenge

Glass mosaics and cement tiles had to be installed on steel metal sheets. Apart from the general need for the installation to be robust, it also had to withstand the hot/ cold weather, high operational temperature, and movement stress. The grout had to blend in with the Bright Orange hue of the Glass Mosaics perfectly. The stone pavers around the Firespire had to be installed as per Heavy Duty Floor criterion

## The LATICRETE Solutions

WET Design relied on the globally-renowned expertise of Australia-based tile company Everstone Group. Everstone knew that a project like this would require trusted, quality installation materials, and turned to LATICRETE to supply the grout and adhesive products for this incredible piece of art.

LATAPOXY® 300 was proposed as an ultimate thin-set solution to installing Glass Mosaics and Cement tiles onto the steel substrate. LATAPOXY 300 also has outstanding in-service temperature exposure values, which further substantiated it as the ideal choice.

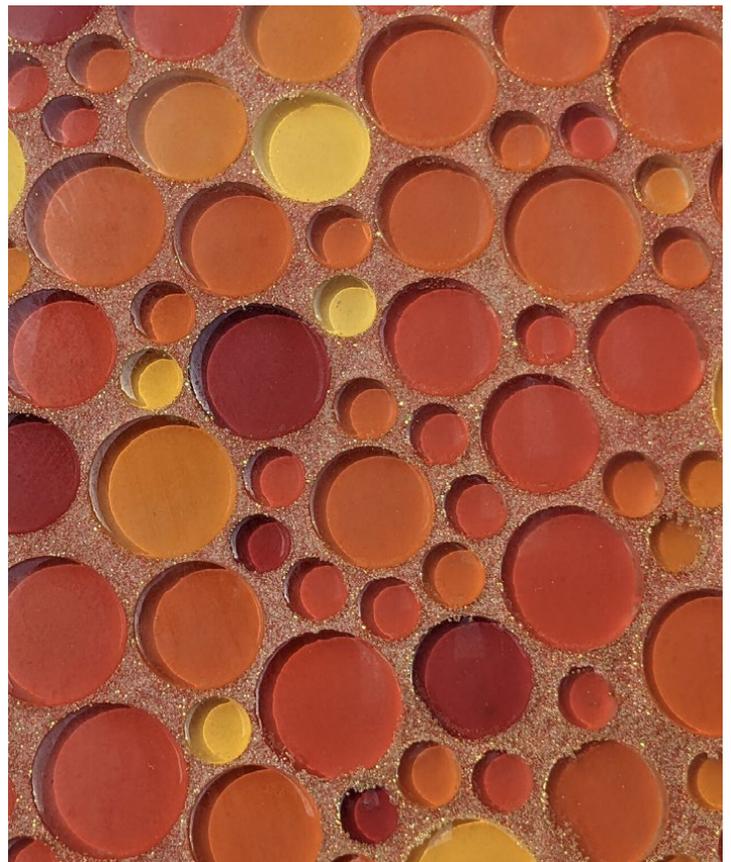
SPECTRALOCK® Pro Premium Translucent Grout and SPECTRALOCK Dazzle Tangerine Orange allowed the designers to align the grout with their aesthetic preferences closely. SPECTRALOCK PRO Premium TRANSLUCENT Grout is a patented, extremely high-performance epoxy grout that offers a unique opaque color that diffuses light and makes any design look more vibrant.

A unique design component, SPECTRALOCK DAZZLE, adds metallic and "Glow-In-The-Dark" enhancements to SPECTRALOCK Pro Premium grout.

254 PLATINUM Adhesive was proposed for installing pavers on the pedestrian area around the Fire-spire. Complying with the stringent standards of ANSI A 118.15, the product was the answer for external paver installation on floors expecting heavy traffic and various stress. LATASIL™ provided an aesthetically complementing and high-quality 100% Silicon treatment to the installation joints.

## The Outcome

Shiv Kumar Nair (LATICRETE Area Sales Manager) and the technical and specification team of LATICRETE Middle East worked to uphold the longstanding and immense trust of WET Design (Project Designer & Water



Choreographer). LATICRETE Solutions was instrumental in ensuring that "Firespire" adorns the center of the Majestic EXPO Fountain - one of "The Expo Dubai's" many spectacular and eye-catching attractions.



**LATICRETE MIDDLE EAST LLC**

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