

Great Asia Construction

Great Asia Construction builds roads, bridges, and tunnels. Their main business is new road construction in India and in various countries in Arabia. The company has been in business for 16 years and has 1125 employees. 100 of these employees are skilled employees. These employees have special skills and training and have job titles such as Foreman, Engineer, and Manager.

The rest of the employees are laborers - unskilled and usually illiterate workers.

Road construction is very labor intensive. Many workers are needed to do such tasks as:

- work machines
- dig ditches
- prepare and finish curbs, sidewalks, and ramps.

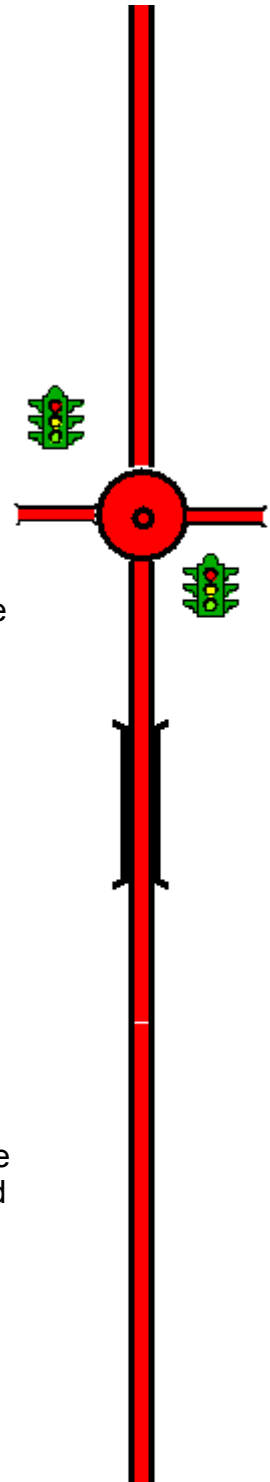
On larger road construction projects, such as highways, there can be hundreds of laborers at a time working for as long as 4 or 5 years on the single project.

Great Asia's New Project: The Sharjah Connector

Great Asia Construction has just won a new contract to build a 6 kilometer stretch of 2 lane highway between the cities of Dubai and Sharjah in the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The project is entitled "The Sharjah Connector". The project will require a total of 160 workers for a period of 2 years. 125 of these will be laborers. The company has other projects it is currently working on, so the company will have to hire some 20 new employees to be able to have 125 laborers working on the Sharjah Connector project. After the end of this project the company estimates that the workers will be kept on as other projects and attrition will result in their being needed at that time.

Some cost details:

- The current cost of labor is Dhs. 800 per month for each laborer's salary (about U\$220).
- For every 10 employees a cost of Dhs.1500 per month is required for accommodation and transportation to and from the work site.
- Sponsorship, visa, and patriation/re-patriation costs amount to Dhs 1000 per laborer. This cost is incurred once every 2 years.



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