

thebusinessyear



EMSTEEL
Sustainability
Leadership
Special Report

إمستيل
EMSTEEL 



UAE EMSTEEL

Special Report

As the global steel and cement industries reach a turning point in the race to decarbonize, the need for transformation has never been more urgent. Heavy industry accounts for around 15% of global CO₂ emissions, making its transition essential to achieving climate goals and supporting a more sustainable global economy. Within this context, EMSTEEL has emerged as a benchmark for responsible industrial growth in the Middle East and beyond, demonstrating that large-scale production can align with ambitious climate targets.

The UAE-based steel and building materials group, formed through the merger of Emirates Steel and Arkan Building Materials, operates integrated steel and cement divisions that support major infrastructure, construction, and energy projects across the region and internationally. As the UAE's largest steel and building materials manufacturer, EMSTEEL combines industrial scale with a strong commitment to sustainability, innovation, and operational excellence.

Rather than treating sustainability as a standalone initiative, EMSTEEL has embedded it into its core operating model. Investments in advanced technologies, digitalization, and energy efficiency are paired with responsible governance and transparent reporting practices. The company's progress is validated through independent verification of its emissions data and alignment with global reporting frameworks, reinforcing credibility and accountability.

Guided by a long-term commitment to the UAE's Net Zero by 2050 initiative, EMSTEEL has achieved measurable progress in reducing emissions intensity while maintaining strong operational performance. In 2025, Emirates Steel achieved a carbon intensity of 0.637 tCO₂e per ton of steel, approximately 40% below the World Steel Association global average, while Al Ain Cement continued to improve operational efficiency through process optimisation and lower-carbon inputs.

These achievements reflect a broader strategy focused on decarbonisation, clean energy integration, and circular manufacturing. EMSTEEL is expanding the use of renewable and clean electricity across its operations, deploying carbon capture solutions, and advancing hydrogen-ready steelmaking technologies. The company is also pioneering circular-economy initiatives that convert steel by-products into low-carbon cement inputs, reducing waste while lowering the embodied carbon of construction materials.

Aligned with the UAE's industrial and sustainability strategies, including Operation 300bn and Net Zero 2050, EMSTEEL is helping strengthen local manufacturing capabilities while advancing the region's transition to greener industry. Through partnerships with technology providers, research institutions, and government stakeholders, the company continues to develop solutions that balance industrial growth with environmental responsibility.

Inside this special report, readers will find insights from EMSTEEL's leadership, along with a closer look at the innovations shaping its sustainability journey, from AI-driven digital optimization and advanced energy management systems to pioneering projects in electrification, hydrogen-based steelmaking, and circular resource utilization. Together, these initiatives illustrate how EMSTEEL is positioning itself as a regional and global leader in sustainable heavy industry, contributing to the UAE's vision for a competitive, technology-driven, and low-carbon economy. ✘

This publication has been produced by The Business Year International's expert cadre of journalists, writers, editors, and designers. The content contained within is original and was compiled by our team on the ground.

Regional Director
Ioana Popa

Country Manager
Yasmine El Yacoubi

Country Editor
Isabel Renedo



ISBN 978-1-80506-049-9
www.thebusinessyear.com

thebusinessyear

UAE EMSTEEL Special Report



- 1 From the editor's desk
- 4 Homegrown success
 - Focus: A steel pillar of the UAE's industrial strategy
- 5 EMSTEEL at a glance
 - Infographic
- 6 Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi, Group CEO, EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 8 A greener approach
 - Focus: Decarbonizing Heavy Industry at Scale



- 10 Hugo Losada, CEO, Emirates Cement, Part of EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 11 Mark Tonkens, Chief Financial Officer, EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 12 Hassan Shashaa, Chief Project Officer, EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 13 Vladimir Arshinov, Chief Technology Officer, EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview



- 14 Michael Rion, Chief Commercial Officer, Emirates Steel, Part of EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 15 Medhat Hashem, Chief Operating Officer, Emirates Steel, Part of EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 16 Dimitrios Dimitriou, Vice President of ESG & Sustainability, EMSTEEL Group
 - Interview
- 18 EMSTEEL factsheet
 - Infographic

Read more at thebusinessyear.com/uae

The Business Year is published by The Business Year International, Trident Chambers, P.O. Box 146, Road Town, Tortola, British Virgin Islands. The Business Year is a registered trademark of The Business Year International. Copyright The Business Year International Inc. 2026. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrievable system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopied, recorded, or otherwise without prior permission of The Business Year International Inc. The Business Year International Inc. has made every effort to ensure that the content of this publication is accurate at the time of printing. The Business Year International Inc. makes no warranty, representation, or undertaking, whether expressed or implied, nor does it assume any legal liability, direct or indirect, or responsibility for the accuracy, completeness, or usefulness of any information contained in this publication. The paper used in the production of this publication comes from well-managed sources.





HOMEGROWN *success*

Committed to advancing the UAE's Operation 300bn strategy, EMSTEEL plays a central role in strengthening the nation's manufacturing ecosystem and supporting long term industrial growth.

OPERATION 300BN is the UAE's national industrial strategy, designed to increase the contribution of the industrial sector to the country's GDP and reinforce the UAE's position as a global hub for advanced manufacturing. Through targeted policies, infrastructure development and support for industrial innovation, the initiative aims to expand national manufacturing capabilities while strengthening economic diversification.

As the UAE's largest steel and building materials manufacturer, EMSTEEL contributes directly to this national vision through integrated steel and cement operations that supply critical materials for major infrastructure and development projects. The company supports key sectors including construction, energy, transportation and infrastructure, helping build resilient supply chains and supporting national development priorities.

EMSTEEL products contribute to many of the region's most important infrastructure projects, with a strong presence across domestic and international markets. Steel and cement solutions from EMSTEEL support large scale construction, energy and industrial

developments that drive urban growth and economic progress across the region.

At the same time, EMSTEEL continues to advance the transition toward lower carbon industry through investments in clean energy integration, circular manufacturing practices and innovative technologies such as hydrogen ready steelmaking and electrification solutions. Continued improvements in energy efficiency, carbon capture deployment and renewable electricity integration support the company's progress in reducing emissions intensity while maintaining strong operational performance.

Beyond industrial output, EMSTEEL also prioritizes the development of national talent and workforce capability. Emiratization initiatives, leadership development programs and technical training support the growth of a skilled workforce while strengthening the UAE's long term industrial capabilities.

Through these initiatives, EMSTEEL continues to reinforce its position as a national industrial champion that combines manufacturing scale, technological innovation and sustainability leadership to support the UAE's long term economic vision. ✖

EMSTEEL *at a glance*

PRODUCTION CAPACITIES

STEEL
Steel total: **3.5 mtpa**

CEMENT
Cement: **4.6 mtpa** Clinker: **3.1 mtpa**

2025 PRODUCTION

- Emirates Steel: **3.2 mn ton** finished steel products
- Emirates Cement: **5.5 mn ton** cement products

DIFFERENTIATORS

World Class Safety Performance with the lowest lost time injuries (LTIs)

Region's largest producer of heavy and jumbo structural sections

Only producer of hot-rolled sheet piles in the UAE

ASME accreditation for nuclear-grade rebar

ResponsibleSteel™ Core Site Certification (first in MENA)

Steel emissions intensity: 0.637 tCO₂e/t steel (2025)

~40% lower carbon intensity vs World Steel Association global average

TrueGreen
Each ton of steel products is accompanied by independently verified EPDs under TrueGreen™

ESG RATINGS SNAPSHOT

MSCI
MSCI ESG Rating: **AA (PROVISIONAL)**

SUSTAINALYTICS
Sustainalytics: **IMPROVED SCORE YOY**

S&P
S&P Global ESG Score: **40**

CDP
CDP Climate Score: **B**

SUSTAINABILITY LEADERSHIP

ResponsibleSteel™ Core Site Certification – first in MENA

World Steel Association Steel Sustainability Champion

Gold Awards – Gulf Sustainability Awards

- Best Net Zero Initiative
- Sustainability Team of the Year
- Visionary Leader of the Year



Received Sustainable Manufacturing Award & Excellence in Low Carbon Steel Production from Worldsteel Association

ISO CERTIFICATIONS

ISO 14001
Environmental Management

ISO 46001
Water Efficiency Management

ISO 50001
Energy Management

DECARBONIZATION ROADMAP

2025

- Steel emissions intensity: **0.637 tCO₂e/t steel**
- Cement emissions intensity: **0.638 tCO₂e/t cement**
- **4.48 million tCO₂e** Scope 1 & 2 emissions
- **2.3 million tCO₂e** Scope 3 emissions

2030

- **40% emissions reduction** in Steel (vs 2019 baseline)
- **30% emissions reduction** in Cement
- Transition to **100% clean and renewable** electricity

2050

- **Net Zero** emissions



SETTING *the standard*

One of the region's largest integrated steel and building materials producers, EMSTEEL continues to strengthen the UAE industrial ecosystem and support economic diversification through advanced manufacturing, innovation and responsible production.

Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi
GROUP CEO,
EMSTEEL GROUP

EMSTEEL plays a vital role in advancing the UAE's industrial ecosystem and economic diversification. How is the group's integrated steel and building materials model contributing to national growth, local job creation, and supply chain development?

EMSTEEL operates an integrated platform that combines steel and building materials operations across the UAE. This structure supports national growth through reliable domestic supply of essential materials for infrastructure, construction and energy projects. It also strengthens supply chain resilience and contributes to the development of a strong industrial base aligned with Operation 300bn and the UAE economic diversification strategy. Local job creation and capability development remain key outcomes of this integrated model. EMSTEEL invests in workforce development through structured training programs, leadership initiatives and technical career pathways that support long term skills development across operational and engineering roles. The group also supports domestic value creation through collaboration with national suppliers and procurement programs that reinforce local supply chains. Integration across steel and cement operations also enables practical industrial synergies. Circular economy initiatives allow steel production byproducts such

as slag to support lower carbon cement production. This approach improves resource efficiency and contributes to the UAE ambition to develop more sustainable construction materials. Our rebranding last year was part of a broader effort to unify EMSTEEL's businesses under one identity that stands for strength, innovation, and sustainability. This cohesive positioning enables us to communicate our purpose more effectively to international partners and reinforces EMSTEEL's role as a national champion in the UAE's industrial transformation. The new brand reflects our belief that industrial growth and environmental responsibility must advance together.

How does this transformation reflect your long-term vision and reinforce EMSTEEL's position as a leader in sustainable industrial growth?

Our transformation reflects a clear commitment to operational excellence, innovation and responsible manufacturing. The EMSTEEL identity unites our steel and building materials businesses under one platform that represents reliability, sustainability and long-term value creation. Sustainability remains central to our long-term strategy. EMSTEEL continues to reduce emissions intensity through energy efficiency improve-

ments, clean electricity integration, and carbon capture infrastructure. Steel emissions intensity reached 0.637 tons of CO₂ per ton of steel, reflecting continued progress in decarbonization and operational efficiency. The group has also introduced the TrueGreen sustainability framework, which strengthens transparency across our product portfolio through verified environmental product declarations and carbon footprint reporting. This framework supports measurable progress in sustainability and reinforces our commitment to responsible industrial growth.

What does this global leadership signify for the group and its partners?

Achieving ResponsibleSteel Core Site Certification represents a significant milestone for EMSTEEL and reinforces our commitment to responsible industrial production. The certification recognizes strong performance across environmental stewardship, governance, labor practices and stakeholder engagement and positions EMSTEEL among the most progressive steel producers globally. The group also continues to receive international recognition for sustainability and industrial leadership, including awards from the World Steel Association and regional sustainability platforms. These recognitions

highlight continued progress in operational excellence, innovation and responsible manufacturing.

What sets EMSTEEL apart in today's industrial landscape, and how are you leveraging your integrated steel and building materials operations to deliver greater value and strengthen competitiveness across regional and global markets?

As one of the region's largest integrated steel and building materials producers, EMSTEEL is uniquely positioned to support industrial innovation and sustainable construction. The group contributes significantly to the UAE industrial ecosystem and national manufacturing capabilities. At the center of our operations is a world-class integrated steel complex in Abu Dhabi that combines direct reduced iron and electric arc furnace technologies. This structure supports efficient production and enables the manufacture of high-quality steel with lower emissions intensity. Our sustainability journey began well before sustainability became a global priority and it continues to shape how we evolve. Integration across Emirates Steel and Emirates Cement created a circular industrial ecosystem in which steel production by products support cement manufacturing. This model improves resource efficiency, reduces waste

and strengthens supply chain resilience. EMSTEEL also remains the only producer of jumbo structural sections and hot rolled sheet piles in the MENA region. Our materials support major infrastructure projects across the UAE and international markets, with exports reaching more than seventy countries worldwide under the "Made in the Emirates" brand.

Looking ahead, what are EMSTEEL's top strategic priorities for the next five years, and how are you leveraging partnerships and investments to capture new growth opportunities?

Over the next five years our focus will remain on strengthening competitiveness, expanding product capabilities and deepening our role in global industrial value chains. We continue to build on strong operational foundations that support growth in high value and sustainable markets. Our strategic priorities center on three key pillars: asset enhancement, market diversification and technological leadership. Ongoing upgrades across production facilities will expand our offering in high strength steel and lower carbon steel products aligned with the TrueGreen sustainability framework. EMSTEEL will continue to invest in digital transformation and Industry 4.0 technologies that

enhance precision, operational efficiency and supply chain connectivity. Collaboration with technology partners will accelerate innovation in advanced manufacturing and artificial intelligence applications that strengthen productivity and sustainability performance. Through these initiatives, EMSTEEL aims to reinforce the UAE position as a leading global manufacturing hub while supporting long-term industrial growth and decarbonization objectives. ✖

BIO

Saeed Ghumran Al Remeithi is the Group CEO of EMSTEEL, Chairman of the Steel Producers Committee (UAE), and Vice Chairman of the Arab Iron and Steel Union. He leads the group's development and strategic direction as the UAE's largest integrated steel and building materials company. With over 24 years of experience, most of it at EMSTEEL, he has expanded manufacturing capabilities, driven innovation, and grown exports to over 70 countries. Al Remeithi is recognized for driving innovation and sustainability in steel production.



**You've reached
the end of the free
preview.**

Do you want to keep reading? Get the full
copy [here!](#)

Or contact us at:
info@thebusinessyear.com

thebusiness|year