

# Global Staff



Fernando Pastor / Assistant Manager / BATA International Airport / Equatorial Guinea

**Q** Please describe your overall career path.

In April 2015, I started working as a Spanish-English interpreter for the EMOTA site for about 1 year. Then, due to my previous marketing work experience, I became involved in the Marketing team assisting our General Director in preparing meeting documents, such as commercial proposals, presentations and attending meetings with our clients. During this time, I contributed to Ssangyong E&C in getting awarded various projects.

In 2019, I was involved in the preparation of the contracting documents for EBATA. After various successful meetings with our client and assertive preparation of documents, Ssangyong E&C was awarded the EBATA project. In May 2019, I was promoted to Assistant Manager.

**Q** When were you appointed Assistant Manager? How did you feel at the time?

I felt very grateful and motivated to further contribute to our company. I felt that all my efforts were acknowledged, but also realized that with a new title comes new responsibilities.

**Q** What is the most memorable project you have worked on as a construction professional?

The most memorable project I have worked on is EMOTA because it was my first site in Equatorial Guinea and helped me learn many aspects of the business in the local community. It was very challenging at the beginning, to get used to the new

country, but thanks to the support of my peers I was able to overcome such difficulties.

**Q** Are you currently living with your family or by yourself?

I currently live alone at our camp in Equatorial Guinea. My wife is Korean, and she is currently working as an English teacher in Pyeongtaek. Thankfully, I can see her every four months during my vacation.

## ■ Professional Questions

**Q** What is the corporate image of Ssangyong E&C in the local region?

Ssangyong E&C has raised the construction standards to a total new level in the region, our habits of going the extra mile are well known. Equatorial Guinea's Government Officials and its citizens always praise Ssangyong E&C for the marvels it has been building in the Country. In the region, the name Ssangyong E&C is synonym for efficiency, good quality and trustworthiness.

**Q** Could you share with us a communication technique that can help ensure work proceeds smoothly?

Since we communicate in English which is not our first language, I think the most useful aspects to consider while communicating being articulate, empathetic and respectful with others. This will avoid any misunderstandings that can impact the workflow and work environment.

**Q** What are the major challenges of the EBATA project?

The EBATA project is located in the city of Bata, about 200km from Mongomo where Ssangyong E&C has completed many projects and mostly operates. Since EBATA is a megaproject, becoming established in a new city and mobilizing our staff, materials, equipment will require great coordination, efficient logistics and extensive preparation such as networking with local authorities or finding locally sourced materials and labor. However, this challenge will be short-lived since we have experience all this during the construction of EMOTA which was completed successfully.

**Q** What are the major plans or focus areas for the site, moving forward?

First, we should focus on our client's satisfaction. As we did with EMOTA, we proved to our client that Ssangyong E&C excels in every aspect of engineering and construction. There we were given another megaproject such as EBATA. Another aspect is the reduction in operating expenses. Since we already completed a similar project. With the gain know-how, we can avoid decisions that can negatively affect our overall efficiency.

**Q** Do you have any inspirational advice for your colleagues and staff members?

Being in Africa is quite difficult and challenging because of the country itself and because we are far from our significant

others and family which can give us support in times of hardship. However, EG staff has gone through so much and always been successful thanks to our unity and teamwork, and as a famous quote says: "Talent wins games, but teamwork and intelligence wins championships"



Mostafa Emad / Project Manager / Andaz Hotel by Hyatt / Dubai

**Q** Please describe your overall career path?

I am a civil engineer, with 19 years of field experience, out of them 14 years in UAE, during which I have worked in both local and multi-national organizations.

I have participated in many large-scale projects such as marina residence apartments in The Palm Jumeirah, The interchange number 8 Shiekh Zayed Road with Shimizu Corporation, and The PALM Retriet, Palm Jumeirah, With ANC.

I have earned my MBA, Project management stream, from University of Wollongong in Dubai UOWD in August 2014 with distinction, I am a PMP certified in good stand since 2008, I have a B.Sc. in civil engineering, from Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt - class of 2000, and I have an IELTS with an average of 6.5.

**Q** When were you appointed Site Manager? How did you feel at the time?

I felt that the company needs me on the front, and as a professional, wherever the company needs me, I serve to my level best.

**Q** What is the most memorable project you have worked on as a construction professional?

The AED 2.7 Billion "marina residence apartments" in the PALM Jumeirah, with Shimizu corporation.

**Q** Are you currently living with your family or by yourself?

With My Family.

**Q** Do you have any useful strategies to relieve stress?

Yes, always plan ahead for weekends, gatherings and team building activities, whenever possible. so, I have something to look forward to after the stressful week.

## ■ Professional Questions

**Q** What is the corporate image of Ssangyong E&C in the local region?

A large multi-national organization, which is progressing towards stabilizing itself in the market and increasing its market share.

**Q** Could you share with us a communication technique that can help ensure work proceeds smoothly?

Ensuring clear communication and instructions through conducting regular (weekly, daily) meetings with the project team.

**Q** What are the major challenges of the DANHA project?

- 1) The first project in UAE with SSSY as sole contractor
- 2) The first Project in UAE away from ICD as a client and with WASL (one of the most reputable and demanding clients – Government - entity as well)
- 3) Fast track project, with constraints from the underdeveloped design and the sensitivity of the project location.

**Q** What are the major plans or focus areas for the site, moving forward?

The main focus of the project as of now is to complete the superstructure ahead of schedule allowing adequate time for the finishing activities, finalizing all the major packages to follow the superstructure progress opening more work fronts, and kick start the authority related approval at the earliest, to avoid the risks associated with authority's approval delays.

**Q** Do you have any inspirational advice for your colleagues and staff members?

I would say; conduct yourself to the same level you want to conduct your staff, and don't only show the way or walk the way but lead the way. **S**

### NOTICE



Ssangyong E&C News posts interviews with our global staff members. Our interviewees will also receive a small token of appreciation from us. Please join us! Thank you.