

Universal Forum of Cultures, Barcelona 2004

Innovative solutions for a challenging project

From May 9 to September 26, 2004 Barcelona is hosting the first **Universal Forum of Cultures**. A new international event that revolves around the three main subjects: cultural diversity, sustainable development and conditions for peace. 5 Millions visitors from all over the world will experience this creative space for reflection and experimentation in relation to the main cultural and social conflicts that humanity is faced with at the outset of the 21st century.

The 330 Mio Euro project is held in the centre of the city by the sea in a completely remodelled and newly constructed area. Because the large infrastructure works were still about to be finished all facilities required for the Forum such as exhibitions, event locations, restaurants and many other facilities had to be built in just a few months. Also most of the purpose built works were temporary, using material, which could be reused or recycled elsewhere. After the event the facilities will be dismantled to open the area for recreation, business and other activities.

In 2002, at an early state of this unique project Nüssli was called by the Organizing Committee to participate in developing concepts and ideas of how to install these facilities in the shortest possible time, cost-effectively and following the principles and values of the Forum. Feasibility studies, concept design and budgeting were some of the services provided. The planning team of the Forum could benefit from the extensive experience and expertise Nüssli had acquired by executing a large number of temporary facilities at the World Exhibition in Hanover and the subsequent National exhibition Expo.02 in Switzerland, where again most was build temporary.

At a later stage, during the tender phase in autumn and winter of 2003 Nüssli was then awarded some innovative and challenging works such as a theatre made of piled-up containers for 500 spectators, a 15 m high façade made out of scaffolding, cork panels and wooden pallets, two-

storey spectator's galleries for a daily show or a floating bridge for spectators and a 9-ton truck used for the evening show. Nüssli also planed and constructed key-in-hand exhibitions as well as an illuminated façade and fit out works in the mole area. All these works required continuous and online planning, perfectly organized logistics and an efficient crew on site to construct that in just a few months. As a turnkey contractor Nüssli was also responsible for the technical installations, the look items and services.

In total Nüssli executed 11 different infrastructure and exhibition projects, most of them had experimental character and required engineered solutions. More than 1000 tons of material and equipment needed to be transported on time and at the right place. The local project team worked very closely with the client and their architects and coordinated the works with our suppliers and subcontractors.

During the Forum period Nüssli guarantees the technical maintenance of the installations and in October 2004 all our works will be dismantled and the material and equipment reused or recycled as planed. Indeed a challenging venture.

For more information, please contact

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Universal Forum of Cultures, Barcelona 2004, www.barcelona2004.org

Attachment to Press release «Universal Forum of Cultures, Barcelona 2004»



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Legend

- 1, 2 Theater Grec
- 3 Marina Seca
- 4 Muelles Norte
- 5, 6 Puente Pantalan
- 7 Pantalan