US
Fluor in for med lab
Fluor Corporation has secured an engineering, procurement and construction contract to deliver a new $2 billion medical manufacturing facility in North Carolina.

The contract, awarded by Novo Nordisk, calls on Fluor to deliver a 77,000 m² facility from which lifesaving medicines will be produced for diabetes sufferers.

Since the project was announced earlier this year, Fluor has been working with Novo Nordisk, providing basic design services. With completion of the project expected in mid-2019, some 2,500 people are expected to be employed on the construction, with 700 jobs made available at the facility, once in full operation.

Juan G. Hernandez, president of Fluor’s Life Sciences and Industrial business, said, “Fluor is honored to have the opportunity to assist Novo Nordisk in building this world-class facility in North Carolina to provide modern treatments to diabetes patients.”

ETHIOPIA
Gibe III is tallest dam
The world’s tallest roller-compacted concrete dam – Gibe III – has been completed in Ethiopia, with an inauguration ceremony attended by the country’s prime minister, Hailemariam Deslegn.

The 51.56 billion dam – the third in the Gibe complex – will generate up to 6,500 GWh, increasing the country’s electricity production capacity by at least 80%.

At a height of 250 m, Gibe III is not only Ethiopia’s largest, but also the first in the country to have been built using roller-compacted concrete.

It has a crest length of 630 m, and Salini used some 6.2 million m³ in its construction – equivalent to two-and-a-half times that used to build the Great Pyramid in Egypt.

Over the course of the project, Salini has called on expertise from 32 countries, and some 20,000 Ethiopians were employed during various phases of construction.

Now fully operational, the dam’s 10 Francis turbines have a combined capacity of 1,870 MW.

SAUDI ARABIA
Shipyard gets green light
Saudi Arabia has signalled its plans to develop a shipbuilding industry by giving green light to a $5.3 billion shipyard on its Gulf coast.

Hyundai Heavy Industries will build the King Salman ship repair and shipbuilding complex, as a joint venture with the state-run oil firm Saudi Aramco.

The project is part of the country’s Vision 2030 initiative, aimed at diversifying the Saudi economy away from its dependence on oil and petrochemicals.

The government will also hope its plans for rail reforms will give a much-needed boost to the stable-run rail operator China Railway Construction Corp, which has recently suffered losses.

EVENTS DIARY

2017
Samoter
February 22 – 25, 2017
Verona, Italy
www.samoter.it

The Rental Show
February 28 – March 1, 2017
Orlando, US
www.therentalshow.com

ConExpo-Con/Agg
March 7 – 11, 2017
Las Vegas, US
www.conexpoconagg.com

SMOPYC
April 25 – 29, 2017
Zaragoza, Spain
www.smopyc.es

APEX
(International Access Equipment Exhibition)
May 2-4, 2017
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
www.apecshow.com

International Rental Exhibition (IRE)
May 2-4, 2017
Amsterdam, The Netherlands
www.IREshow.com

Komatek
May 3-7, 2017
Ankara, Turkey
www.komatik.com

International Tower Crane Conference (ITC)
May 10-11, 2017
London, UK
www.bni.com/itc

Plantworx 2017
June 6-8, 2017
Birmingham, UK
www.plantworx.co.uk

BIGES 2017
September 20 – 23, 2017
Beijing, China
www.e-bices.org

Excon 2017
December 12 – 16, 2017
Bangalore, India
www.excon.in