



**PTSG flying high
with Bechtel**



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Premier Technical Services Group PLC (PTSG), working with Bechtel, has successfully delivered a series of inspection and certification works on the Lightning Protection Systems (LPS) at the construction site of Hamah International Airport (HIA), Qatar.

PTSG was contracted by Bechtel in 2011 to carry out inspections on the LPS installed on the facilities at the airport, formerly known as Doha International Airport.

OBI/Bechtel was appointed by HIA to oversee the entire construction project. The project was split into numerous smaller projects or Construction Projects (CPs), which were completed by a variety of international sub-contractors.

As the new airport was an American design, all of the specifications of the CPs were to the numerous US standards. However, it was impractical to enable the CPs to comply with this standard (except CP18, which is the main airport terminal) due to the required time and expertise needed to achieve this. To comply with this standard there are many factors that needed to be adhered to such as the designers, installers, materials and inspectors all needed to be NFPA accredited. The main stumbling block for the CPs was obtaining compliant materials and inspectors.

The client asked if PTSG could provide them with third party inspection of its installations to confirm the systems it had installed were compliant with NFPA 780 or BS EN 62305 (British and European Standard).

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Subsequently, PTSG provided ADCC with its various accreditations and certifications of engineers and it submitted this to OBI/Bechtel for approval to use PTSG as its third party.

OBI/Bechtel approved PTSG's accreditations for work on HIA and, following the initial visits in late 2011, its team completed a minimum of 15 further trips for other clients, including this year when it was asked to certify various facilities on the airport to ensure the CPs comply.

PTSG provided specialist support to 12 individual site assets at HIA through a number of work packages, including central utility plants, communications masts, aircraft wash facilities and air traffic control. It did so working with a number of resident suppliers at each individual work site, extending the peer group within which PTSG had to collaboratively deliver the works.

The group experienced a truly international site with a number of independent assets built to varied international standards and codes. The challenge of standardisation and compliance was embraced by PTSG as an opportunity to demonstrate true collaboration with the client. The success of the collaborative approach is demonstrated by multiple further packages of work up to the present day, latterly working on the fully operational international airport hub, which opened in 2014.

PTSG overcame unique challenges presented by working in an environment foreign to many of its engineers. This was achieved through the development of a clear, specific methodology that was set out during the planning stage prior to works commencing.

