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Air Arabia Goes for Budget Hotel

The region's first low cost carrier Air Arabia is set to build a 300-room budget hotel in Sharjah. The company has appointed Gustav Pegel & Sohn as general contractor for the project due for completion in 2010.

This project follows a management agreement signed last year between Air Arabia and Rotana Hotels, to manage this property under their Centro by Rotana brand, offering affordable, superior-class accommodation and hospitality, a company statement said.

The property, which will include both standard rooms and suites, will offer comfort and convenience for travellers passing through one of the region's fastest-growing airports as well as for visitors to the emirate.

"We are very pleased to commence the construction of the Air Arabia Centro Hotel. This is an important initiative and part of Air

Arabia's strategy to grow ancillary revenues," said Adel Ali, board member and chief executive officer of Air Arabia.

Named Air Arabia Centro Hotel, it will include a full casual-style dining area, in-room wireless Internet connectivity and entertainment, and a range of personal amenities. This is combined with such comforts as gymnasiums and swimming pools, together with on-site business facilities such as private meeting rooms and business centres.

The contractors, headquartered in Berlin, Germany, has been operating for over 135 years. The company is recognised for its capabilities in building, civil engineering, multi-technical and maintenance services across several sectors including, education, healthcare, commercial, retail and industry infrastructure projects.

