



VMF Markets

Al Ain, UAE

Al Ain, known as the 'garden city of the gulf', has maintained a more authentic Arabic look and feel than other large cities in the Emirates such as Dubai and Abu Dhabi which are characterised by ultra-modern skyscrapers.

On the request of the client, Structurflex developed three different styles of tension membrane structures for the city's new Vegetable, Meat and Fish market. These were developed to blend in harmoniously with the classical design theme of the supporting masonry structures. Importantly, with the market being open air, the membrane structures need to be highly functional.

Structurflex tension membranes let through high levels of natural light so that the feeling is one of being in the open air. As they reflect heat, and offer 100% UV protection, people and produce are kept cool and protected from the elements. Their light filtering properties also mean that they work particularly well in the transition from the very harsh outdoor light into more light-subdued areas inside the masonry structures.

