

# Summertown Interiors opens multi-million dirham HQ in Jafza

## DUBAI Staff

Summertown Interiors, an international corporate turnkey design and fit-out solution specialist, recently opened its multi-million dirham corporate headquarters and showroom in Jafza.

It said that it is implementing the international green standards already on offer to its clients.

The new premises use water-efficient fixtures to reduce water consumption by more than 32 per cent.

Building lighting energy has been reduced by about 54.98 per cent, it added. To create a superior working environment, ventilation has been increased, providing about 30 per cent more fresh air than the minimum specified in the standards set by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

“There has been a significant increase in the uptake of green initiatives, as companies become more aware of the cost-savings in reducing energy, and we incorporated all the best elements of green



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design into the new headquarters and showroom to demonstrate to existing and potential clients how to create an eco-friendly work environment that is also cost-effective and productive,” said Marcos Bish, Managing Director of Summertown Interiors.

The company is compliant with the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification, in the gold category.

“A key consideration of the

design was creating a positive work environment for our staff – we believe that by focusing on vital aspects such as ergonomics, productivity is boosted. Our philosophy can be summed up in a popular saying in this part of the world: ‘We shape our buildings; thereafter, our buildings shape us,’” said Bish.

Natural materials have been chosen – including medium-density fiberboard (MDF) made from eucalypt-

tus. All wood used in the project was certified by the Forest Stewardship Council, in keeping with the responsible management of the world’s forests. The premises occupy 900 m<sup>2</sup> over two levels. The design strategy has factored in access to public transport and other services. As an initiative to reduce the company’s carbon footprint, the facility has bicycle storage spaces with changing room facilities.