

# Interiors increase workflow

With Summertown Interiors being well-known in eco-friendly designs, it is only natural that their new corporate headquarters in Jebel Ali is built to conserve energy and water.

The company's new premise is designed to reduce water and lighting consumption by 50 per cent. In order to do this Summertown Interiors installed water efficient fixtures to reduce use by 32 per cent.

It also installed LED cove lights in the hallways and low wattage luminaries with daylight dimming systems that reduce the outflow of the lights during day time. This reduces the lighting consumption by around 55 per cent.

## Motion sensors

In addition, movement detection systems in restrooms were also installed so that lights only turn on when someone is inside.

Marcos Bish, managing director of Summertown Interiors, said: "We incorporated all the best elements of green design into the new headquarters and showroom to demonstrate ... how to create an eco-friendly work environment that is also cost-effective and productive."

The colour scheme comprising warm shades of grays and whites in the office, along with the clean desk policy implemented by the company influences the work output of employees.

## Positive colours

According to Corporate Wellness Advisor, a website focusing on wellness initiatives in a corporate environment, whites provide workers with a sense of breathing room, while grays are seen as soothing and promote concentration.

As for the outside, 50 bicycle docks have been added to encourage employees to use the facility.

Heidi Demuynck, Interior Design Manager, said: "This is for some of the workers at our joinery factory to travel from their JAFZA accommodation to the factory without having to pay for petrol."

To create a superior environment, Demuynck said: "We are increasing ventilation by 30 per cent to provide more fresh air. Carbon dioxide sensors measure the air quality and activate the fresh air intake when needed."

— Mohammad Jihad