

Aldes Group, a strong solution provider for healthcare



***Bellepierre Hospital
(Reunion Island)
- Panoramic view***

Aldes Middle East is actively involved in healthcare facilities, as it is one key infrastructure sector addressed by the federal government due to the growing need for quality care required for all UAE inhabitants.

Indeed, it is not only Aldes Middle East, but the entire Aldes Group that is concerned by **safety** and **indoor air quality in healthcare facilities**. For example, Aldes Reunion Island Bellepierre Hospital project.



Bellepierre hospital is a regional hospital, serving as a showcase for health for the entire Indian Ocean region. For Aldes Reunion, this hospital is an exceptional case study to reference!

In 1957, Bellepierre hospital had nine departments, including one for leprosy, and employed 200 health professionals. Today, it employs more than 2000 health professionals and has around sixty departments, including a department dedicated to bioterrorism, a pediatric oncology department, a highly secure virology laboratory and a heliport.

Twelve years of study and restructuring work were needed to make the radical changes at Bellepierre hospital, located in Saint-Denis on the island of Reunion.

Several issues were faced in order to complete this project, and to restructure the hospital in the best possible way.

The major issue of this project was that the hospital had to continue operating at full capacity even whilst the work was taking place. This meant the project had to be well organized and planned for. The time scale of the works thus presented a major difficulty.

Equipment requirements, health regulations, hygiene and safety standards and medical technologies and capabilities have progressed a great deal since 1997, which has meant that all the key players have had to adapt concept and solutions in order to stay focused on the initial goal.

The steep, sloping terrain of the island also required careful consideration, as it ultimately dictated the architecture of the hospital.





The risk of hurricanes on Reunion island also hampered the building work. It was necessary to follow specific **safety regulations** and to ensure that buildings can withstand extreme wind forces. Cooling solutions for all rooms were also part of the overall plan.

Preliminary work started in the year 2000, with the construction of a car park, an operating theatre, an emergency and urgent care department and the heliport. Then in 2002, architectural studies resulted in a tender for development of the general hospital departments – an area more than 50,000 m² of building space! The contractor, Xérus Group (based in Reunion), sent a bid for an air distribution and fire protection package. They called upon Aldes, a **key player** in Reunion island, for the **ventilation** and **cooling requirements**. Several companies competed for the fire protection section of the bid, but Aldes offered the **best solution both in terms of cost and technology**.

The work finally got underway in 2003. In order to ensure the best **indoor air quality** – which is **essential to a hospital environment** – the focus had to be on the air tightness of the ductworks, the maintenance of clean ducts and the observation of strict circulation restrictions for fire protection.

It was also necessary to **adapt the products and solutions to any changes** that were taking place on site. This meant that specific parts had to be made to fulfill requirements, and in record time. Consequently, Aldes adapted its offer to the requirement of the project, manufacturing non-standard products.



Aldes Reunion demonstrated once again to be a **reliable supplier**, fully committed to delivering both **quality** and **efficient solutions**.

Aldes Reunion's involvement in this project, included a total of:

- 20 kilometers of circular ducts
- 4500 elbows
- 100 tonnes of ducts and rectangular accessories
- 400 Istone motorized dampers
- 700 inspection doors
- 200 Vantone smoke-exhaust dampers
- 90 Cameleone air inlets
- 600 Bap'Color exhaust grilles



This project was a great example of how the Aldes Group has been able to prove its expertise by supplying high quality and efficient solutions to sensitive buildings, such as healthcare facilities not only just to the UAE, but all over the world. For instance, Aldes France supplies its products to 70% of the French hospitals.

Aldes Group ambition is to **enhance the level of safety, thermal comfort** and **indoor air quality** inside buildings.

History of Aldes Reunion Island

Aldes Reunion was set up in 1998 in the suburbs of Saint-Denis on the island of Reunion. It is the only company on Reunion island that manufactures rectangular and circular ducts locally, producing 350 tonnes a year! It also has ultra-modern equipment, including a plasma cutting table. Aldes Reunion's largest project to date is Roland Garros airport in Saint-Denis and work has just completed on the Beauséjour prison. Those working on the project had to take a number of precautions to ensure that the air exhaust grilles in the cells did not have any fastenings and could not be removed. Aldes is currently working on the extension of the Saint-Benoît hospital, where seven operating theatres are being built.