At 240,000 square feet and the capacity to hold up to 40,000 people, the Sheik Zayed Grand Mosque in Abu Dhabi will be one of the largest in the world.

Every piece of architecture is finely detailed using the highest quality materials from the pure white marble exterior to the handcrafted Islamic carvings. The grandeur of the windows in the mosque are no exception, utilizing more than 2,500 different shapes, 54,000 square feet of crystal clear glass and 26,246 linear feet of Super Spacer®.

"Including specification and approval of our products, this project has taken us nearly two years to complete," said Fernando Sibaja, director of Alubat Middle East, the sole window producer for the project. "We won the bid for the Sheik Zayed Mosque after a colleague recommended us for the job. We were one of the few insulating glass producers able to produce so many windows with such complex shapes."

Because of the company's affinity to complex shapes, Alubat uses Super Spacer exclusively to ensure projects will go smoothly as possible - and in the least amount of time as possible.

"Metal spacers are too difficult and time-consuming to bend," Sibaja said. "We only use Super Spacer because it is very easy to form and we can change sizes and thicknesses in a few seconds. It's really the best spacer for doing shapes and has all of the energy saving benefits we require."

The Sheik Zayed Mosque will officially open in 2008, but Alubat's portion was completed in December 2007. The main dome will be the largest in the world with a height of 272 feet high and a diameter of 107 feet. More than 2,000 laborers and 10 engineers worked on the structure, which contains 47 tons of carpet hand stitched by 1,200 craftsmen.

"It's a wonderful piece of architecture and it has been a great honor to take part in it," Sabaja said. "As a 40-year-old man, to have worked on such an amazing project, it doesn't get much better. It's been great for the company, great for the crew and great for me personally."
TECHNICAL DETAILS OF THE PROJECT

THE CLIENT
Sheik Zayed Grand Mosque

THE PROJECT
Mosque

DATE OF COMPLETION
2008

ARCHITECT
Unknown

TYPES OF GLAZINGS AND QUANTITIES
54,000 square feet of glass
26,246 linear feet of Super Spacer®