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**|| INDEX introduces 'Made in UAE' for 2018 – a live-display feature aimed at uniting interior designers with local craftspeople**

- Interiors exhibition has offered complimentary floor space to dozens of regional craftsmen
- The show section – titled Made in UAE – to welcome experts from across the country
- Glassblowers, upholsterers, furniture makers amongst the different trades involved
- INDEX is “answering the demand” from designers looking for stronger local contacts

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Architects and designers are to be given an unmissable opportunity to build working relationships with some of the country's most skilled and traditionally-trained craftspeople, with the launch of a new feature area at INDEX 2018.

For the first time in its history, INDEX will host a section of its show floor dedicated to local craftsmen – making it easier than ever for designers to meet the as yet undiscovered artisans behind many of the region's most historical and treasured design methods.



*Pictured: Architects and designers are to be given an unmissable opportunity to build working relationships with some of the country's most skilled and traditionally-trained craftspeople, with the launch of Made in UAE at this year's INDEX*

'Made in UAE' will feature upholsters, glass artists, furniture makers, sculptors, metalsmiths and more, and will be a central part of the Middle East's biggest interior design exhibition.

Samantha Kane-Macdonald, INDEX event director, said: “Our ultimate goal every year is to provide our ever-expanding design community with a fully-rounded interiors experience: one that offers inspiration, a one-stop shop for product resourcing and networking, and a chance to learn how to enhance a design

business further. With Made in UAE, we truly grow the influence of the show in its role in uniting designers of all backgrounds and disciplines.

“Over the last year we’ve learned that many designers in Dubai and Abu Dhabi in particular often feel they have to travel abroad to meet and work with craftspeople when it comes to the creation of bespoke pieces. Knowing the Gulf’s rich design and manufacture history, we conducted our own vast research into a local market of artisans that we’d soon discover was being too often overlooked.

“We spent weeks travelling throughout the Emirates and found dozens of different craftspeople specialising across the spectrum of design-associated disciplines. We’re now incredibly excited about welcoming these masters of their crafts to the show, and creating a lively feature area that we hope can bring these creators closer to our internationally renowned interior designers, architects and product manufacturers, answering their demand and making these craftspeople their go-to contacts.”

Made in UAE will feature live demonstrations by a number of craftsmen throughout its four days, taking place at the Dubai World Trade Center, March 26-29<sup>th</sup>.

**ENDS**

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**For more information, email Euan McLelland – INDEX PR Manager:  
[euamclelland@dmgeventsme.com](mailto:euamclelland@dmgeventsme.com) or phone +971 4 445 3720**

INDEX is the largest and longest running collection of interior, design and trend exhibitions in the Middle East. Established in 1990, INDEX is organised by dmg events Middle East, Asia & Africa.

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An international exhibition and publishing company, dmg events produces market-leading exhibitions and conferences for the global energy, construction, coatings, hospitality and interior design industries.

dmg events is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Daily Mail and General Trust plc (DMGT) an international portfolio of information, media and events businesses listed on the London stock exchange.

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Founded in 1989, dmg events has operated in the Middle East since 1995 and owns many leading brands including The Big 5 portfolio of construction events, INDEX – the Middle East’s largest event for the interior design industry and The Hotel Show, the longest running and most important event for the hospitality industry.

Headquartered in Dubai, UAE and with satellite offices in India, South Africa and the UK, dmg events Middle East, Asia & Africa organizes over 45 events across the Middle East, Africa, Asia, North America and Europe. For more information visit [www.dmgeventsme.com](http://www.dmgeventsme.com)

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