



# Minera Escondida Mine Project

**Client:**

Minera Escondida Limitada

**Location:**

Antofagasta, Chile

**AMECO Project Value:**

\$5.5 million

**Project Value:**

\$351 million

**Project Duration:**

19 months

**Peak Workforce:**

2,200

**Total Craft Hours:**

4 million

**Major Pieces of Equipment:**

46

**AMECO Work Scope:**

Crane and other rental fleet services, operators, operator training, certification, equipment inspection

**Staff Positions:**

Project administrator

*AMECO was the only subcontractor to pass Escondida's crane audit. As a result, the training and safety programs were developed jointly for the project.*

The Escondida mine is one of the largest open-pit and copper production mines in the world. This mine is 120 kilometers east of Antofagasta, Chile, in the Atacama Desert. Fluor Daniel designed and managed the Phase 3 expansion project. AMECO opened its Chilean operation in the middle of the project and took over the service and maintenance of all Fluor Daniel staff vehicles. After completion of start-up, AMECO began providing rental equipment services to the mine construction department. These services include crane certification, operator training, supervisor safety training for operators, and crane fleet rentals. Escondida controls its day-to-day activities and maintenance by using 142 contractors.

The Phase 3 project was a mine production capacity expansion. Construction was contracted in work packages to large Chilean contractors who provided their equipment resources. The work was in progress when AMECO opened its office in Chile, so the contracts had been awarded. However, Fluor Daniel did a small self-perform job at the mine-port shipping facility of Coloso. AMECO provided all the equipment and tools for this job. During this project, the client rented three cranes from AMECO. A few weeks later, an accident caused Escondida to audit all 10 subcontractors onsite.

AMECO was the only subcontractor to pass the audit. AMECO proved that it had made substantial performance and safety program improvements for crane rental services, contractor equipment inspections, and other client site needs. Escondida and AMECO jointly developed the rental and training programs for the project.

At the peak of the truck fleet program, AMECO had a staff of 3 mechanics performing service and maintenance on the 46-truck fleet. These services were performed on a rotating shift basis and included warranty service of the vehicles in Antofagasta. Following start-up, the ongoing equipment services include a fleet of 24 cranes, boom trucks, heavy forklifts, and work platforms that are operated and maintained on a 24-hour basis. A new AMECO shop facility has been erected onsite for maintenance and training services, and AMECO has 34 employees working 2 rotating shifts and a night shift. Since start-up, AMECO has maintained no accidents and no reportable injuries.



Delivering integrated equipment and tool solutions to industry

