Athabasca Oil Sands Project

Client:
Shell Canada Limited, Chevron Canada Resources, Western Oil Sands

Location:
Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta (Scotford Upgrader) and Fort McMurray, Alberta (Muskeg River Mine)

AMECO Project Quick Facts

Project Duration:
24 months

Scope of Services:
General construction equipment supply and maintenance, tools, supplies, consumables, safety supplies, construction site services management, and scaffolding

Peak Workforce:
4,000-plus

Total Craft Hours:
34.5 million (Scotford Upgrader: 23 million; Muskeg River Mine: 11.5 million)

The Athabasca Oil Sands Downstream Project (AOSP) is a joint venture by owners Shell Canada Limited (60 percent), Chevron Canada Resources (20 percent) and Western Oil Sands (20 percent). The AOSP project comprises the Muskeg River Mine and the Scotford Upgrader. The facilities will produce 155,000 barrels of synthetic crude oil per day. Construction began in late 1999, and production started in December 2002. Because the AOSP was located 30 kilometres east of Edmonton, the closest supply source was one hour away. Although the weather was not severe in the summer, the winter weather conditions could range from 32°F to 40°F, which made start-up and daily operation challenging at times.

AMECO supplied fully maintained construction equipment and vehicles, tools, consumables, safety supplies, and scaffolding to both the Muskeg River Mine and Scotford Upgrader locations. AMECO supplied fully-maintained construction equipment, including maintenance parts, supplies and labor, transportation, and insurance as well as small tools, tools, consumables, safety supplies, and scaffolding to the Scotford Upgrader. AMECO supplied construction equipment with insurance as well as small tools, supplies, consumables, and safety items on the Muskeg River Mine.

By project’s end, AMECO had supplied, managed, and maintained more than 3,400 pieces of construction equipment, including 158 cranes ranging from...
8 to 400 tons for five primary contractors including Fluor, Bantrel, Colt, Parsons, VECO, as well as multiple subcontractors.

AMECO’s Value to Shell:
• Realized $8 million in cost savings.
• Delivered proper tools and equipment one week faster than other suppliers.
• Implemented severe weather operating procedures, including an early morning equipment start-up program.
• No recordables or lost-time accidents.