

Atema was able to provide assistance to one of our clients on a large industrial project in the Dominican Republic. The project was development of a gold mine processing facility utilizing the latest technology to mine microscopic particles of gold from the ore at this site. The scope of the project for Acero Estrella included the design, fabrication and erection of three large structural steel buildings and multiple critical lifts of large process vessels.



There were several General Contractors on this site including Barrick (Prime contractor), Fluor Daniel, and Hatch. Acero Estrella was contracted by Hatch for their portion of the work. The requirements for this project were for all the contractors on site to adhere to the most stringent safety requirements and perform to a “World Class” standard. The number of workers grew at one point to 5,000 men on site. Acero Estrella had over 100 men performing just the steel erection. Equipment included four cranes (two 175 ton and two 125 ton), one boom truck, six manlifts, two telehandlers, and associated erection equipment for logistics and transportation.

This was a large project for this client and required implementation of a level of stringent quality and safety processes not typically in place for current projects. To satisfy the project demands of the General Contractors, Acero Estrella contracted with Atema to assist with this project by providing on site assessment, training, and project management assistance to bring the workforce up to the level of performance required. Being involved at the onset of the contract, we were able to perform a thorough contract review, assist with the site specific plan, work with safety to generate forms for Job Hazard Analysis, and train the field erection crews for this new level of performance.



As the project progressed, there were a number of large processing vessels that required a planned critical lift. Atema assisted AE in developing the critical lift plans, operator and rigger training, and execution of the lifts. Several of the vessels weighed in excess of 50 tons that were set at a crane pin radius of approximately 150 feet.

Upon mobilization, the steel erection of the first building was already three weeks behind schedule. As the project developed, AE was able to not only make up this schedule delay, but finished the steel erection of the major members four weeks ahead of schedule.

Overall, the project was able to achieve 10 million man-hours without a lost time incident. Out of all the contractors on site, AE was selected and awarded recognition for their efforts and achievements with regard to safety.