



Air Products' ASUs are Gold to PVDC in Dominican Republic

March 4, 2013 at 11:03 AM EST

LEHIGH VALLEY, Pa., March 4, 2013 /PRNewswire via COMTEX/ --Air Products' (NYSE: APD) air separation unit (ASU) technology is now onstream at what is the largest pressure oxidation (POX) gold production facility in the world located in Pueblo Viejo, Dominican Republic. Air Products worked closely with Hatch Ltd and Pueblo Viejo Dominicana Corporation (PVDC) on this sale of [equipment](#) to design a plant incorporating two Air Products 2,000 tonne per day (TPD) cryogenic oxygen units in order to satisfy the complex operating requirements of PVDC's advanced pressure oxidation technology used for gold extraction at the facility.

The combined 4,000 TPD [stand-alone ASUs](#) make up the largest single-site [oxygen](#) requirement for a POX application in the mining industry. The Pueblo Viejo site is reportedly one of the world's largest new gold assets and has a more than 30 year projected mine life with potential gold reserves of over 25 million ounces. This is the second set of oxygen plants Air Products has supplied into the Dominican Republic for gold extraction in the last few years.

"This project required a real team approach during all phases to make it successful. We requested that the engineering design of the ASUs focus on energy efficiency with the ability to operate in a challenging location and environment. The autoclave plant requires oxygen to operate, so the need to have a reliable oxygen supply to meet the needs of this plant consistently is very important," said Kevin Fraser, director Autoclave Technology at Hatch.

"Air Products was honored to be selected by PVDC for this project. The [mining industry](#) is a strategic focus for Air Products. We work to understand the nature of each project requirement from an end-customer's perspective, in this case PVDC, as well as from the perspective of engineering firms such as Hatch. Delivering plants, services, and products that exceed customer expectations is a value that is widely embraced throughout our company," said Steve Jones, senior vice president and general manager, Tonnage Gases, Equipment and Energy at Air Products.

Jones added that Air Products has a full range of products and services to meet mining customer needs including industrial gases supply, operating and maintenance services for gases plants, merchant gas supply where available, and amines for flotation requirements.

In addition to the equipment sale, Air Products also helped provide training for the local PVDC operations team through its [Customer Plant Support](#) after-market [services](#) group. PVDC is a joint venture of Barrick Gold Corporation (60%), the top gold producer in the world, and Goldcorp Inc (40%), one of the world's fastest growing senior gold producers. Air Products worked with Barrick and as a subcontractor to Hatch in the design, building and commissioning of the facility's equipment.

Air Products currently owns and operates over 300 air separation plants in over 40 countries worldwide in all types of applications. In addition to its plants, the company has sold, designed, and built more than 2,000 air separation plants globally. Air Products' cryogenic offerings span from plants with a capability of 50 TPD, to single train facilities with oxygen production capacities beyond 4,000 TPD.

About Air Products

Air Products (NYSE:APD) provides atmospheric, process and specialty gases; performance materials; equipment; and technology. For over 70 years, the company has enabled customers to become more productive, energy efficient and sustainable. More than 20,000 employees in over 50 countries supply innovative solutions to the energy, environment and emerging markets. These include semiconductor materials, refinery hydrogen, coal gasification, natural gas liquefaction, and advanced coatings and adhesives. In fiscal 2012, Air Products had sales of approaching \$10 billion. For more information, visit <http://www.airproducts.com>.

About Hatch

Hatch is an employee-owned, multidisciplinary professional services firm that delivers a comprehensive array of technical and strategic services, including consulting, information technology, engineering, process development, and project and construction management to the Mining, Metallurgical, Energy, and Infrastructure sectors. Hatch has served clients for more than 80 years and has project experience in more than 150 countries around the world. With 11,000 people in 65 offices, the firm has more than \$35 billion in projects currently under management. For more information on Hatch, visit <http://www.hatch.ca/Technologies/Autoclave/default.htm>.

NOTE: This release may contain forward-looking statements within the safe harbor provisions of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These forward-looking statements are based on management's reasonable expectations and assumptions as of the date of this release regarding important risk factors. Actual performance and financial results may differ materially from projections and estimates expressed in the forward-looking statements because of many factors not anticipated by management, including risk factors described in the Company's Form 10K for its fiscal year ended September 30, 2012.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

A downloadable photo of Air Products' ASU equipment at the PVDC mining site in the Dominican Republic is available in Air Products' online [News Center](#).

SOURCE Air Products