



AMANTAYTAU GOLDFIELDS

BACKGROUND

In 2002 Maed Limited was awarded a turnkey FIDIC based contract by Amantaytau Goldfields AO, the Joint Venture managed and operated by Oxusgold, to build their first gold operation in Uzbekistan.

Uzbekistan is located in Central Asia and is part of the CIS group of states to emerge from the former Soviet Union. The country is one of only two in the world that are doubly landlocked making the mobilisation of large plant and equipment to the project a particular challenge.

The Amantaytau gold-silver property is located in the arid Kyzylkum Region of central Uzbekistan while the deposits are situated some 35 km south of the town of Zarafshan, and to the southwest of the gold mining complex at Muruntau.

SCOPE OF WORK

The Maed scope of work included the provision of both the complete processing plant and certain of the infrastructural requirements.

UZBEKISTAN 2002/03



PROCESSING PLANT

The plant section scope consisted of the metallurgical process and engineering design (all disciplines), all construction materials and equipment procurement, site earthworks, civils and construction, installation and commissioning of a nominal 1.0 million tons per annum processing facility for the treatment of the oxide gold bearing ores mined from an open pit operated by BCM.



DESIGN

Maed completed the metallurgical process design and initial engineering. An innovative package was developed to balance capital and operating cost effectiveness with precious metal extraction efficiency and environmental considerations.

The design package catered for the civil, structural, mechanical processing equipment, piping and electrical engineering design requirements of the project.

INFRA-STRUCTURE

The infrastructure scope of work, included the installation of an

- 11kV power supply to the site and incoming station
- Raw water supply and storage dam,
- Offices, workshops, change-houses, medical and fire station, canteen,
- plant stores and security buildings
- sample preparation and assay laboratory,
- container handling facility

The project cost was \$25million and was completed within 8 months of the first draw down by Oxus of the project financing facility.

PROJECT MANAGEMENT

Maed provided all the project management required for the successful execution of the scope of work in accordance with international standards and the stipulated Uzbek ordinance. This project management role comprised the traditional client liaison, resource management, co-ordination, communication, record keeping, planning, progress reporting, cost control and reporting. In addition, sub-contractor management; controlling project procurement procedures as well as adapting to a Russian speaking environment with laws and regulations emanating from the Soviet rule era was required for successful completion.

The project integrated both FSU purchased equipment together with Western technology resulting in a global supply chain routed through Russia and Kazakhstan.

ON-SITE WORKS

On site, Maed executed the construction and commissioning phases through the use of local and foreign sub-contractors as well as its own compliment of 50+ expatriate and 140 locally hired workers.

PLANT

The 130tph capacity processing plant comprised the following sections:

- Crushing and Stockpiling the Run of Mine (ROM) Ore,
- Milling,
- Thickening,
- Leaching,
- Carbon in Pulp (CIP) Plant,
- Acid Wash, Elution and Carbon Regeneration,
- Electro-winning and Smelting,
- Reagent Storage, Handling, Mixing and Addition
- Tailings Disposal and Management Facility
- HV, MV and LV Supply and Reticulation
- Water, Slurry and Reagent Reticulation