

Teck's Quebrada Blanca (QB2) mine

The Quebrada Blanca copper mine is located in the northern Chilean Andes, 4,400 meters above sea level, and has been in existence since the 1800s. Recently, the Canadian company Teck planned a $4.8B extension of the mine (QB2) that would make Quebrada Blanca Chile's second largest copper operation and place it among the world's top five copper mines.

The mining process requires large quantities of water to treat the ore and extract the various minerals, and in line with Teck environmental stewardship, Teck opted for a seawater desalination solution that will satisfy the mine's expansion needs and, at the same time, preserve the existing and scarce natural water resources for the benefit of the population.

Why IDE?

With a record of more than 20 successfully operating desalination plants in Chile, Teck awarded IDE the project to produce desalinated water from the Pacific Ocean, which would be piped to the mine 145km to the East. The 102,360 m^3/day (27 MGD) desalination plant provided by IDE will be the second largest desalination plant in Chile.

The new RO desalination plant will produce high-quality water for mining operations, in compliance with uncompromising environmental requirements and strict safety regulations.

The prefabricated plant, based on IDE's unique MPD design, will be shipped to Chile in container-sized units, and tested off site before being reassembled on-site. IDE's extensive experience in designing and building large-scale modular RO plants significantly reduces construction time and costs.

The QB2 plant is expected to be commissioned in 2020 and IDE will work closely with Teck to ensure that the desalination plant meets its availability and reliability goals.

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Highlights of the QB2 Project

Complex Desalination Made Simple

The IDE MPD minimizes environmental impact and GHG emissions

Lowest OPEX in the industry. Highest standards of manufacturing and on-time delivery

The plant will be the 2nd largest desalination plant in Chile

The plant meets strict environmental requirements

IDE - Over 50 Years of Experience

A world leader in desalination and water treatment solutions, IDE is at the forefront of the development, engineering, construction and operation of enhanced desalination, industrial water treatment and water reuse facilities. IDE's headquarters are in Israel, with offices in the USA, China, India, Chile and Australia, facilitating client partnerships across the globe.

- Innovative water treatment technologies that provide our clients with end-to-end solutions
- Developed some of the most advanced membrane-based and thermal solutions
- Designed, built and operates some of the world's largest desalination plants
- Successful implementations in more than 400 plants in over 40 countries

MIT Technology Review 2015 -16
50 Smartest Companies

2016 Fortune Change the World List
2nd place



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