

Chevron's El Segundo Refinery Coke Drum Reliability Project Named PMI Project of the Year Award Winner

Project completed vital petroleum facility maintenance with zero safety incidents

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PHILADELPHIA--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--The El Segundo Refinery Coke Drum Reliability Project has been honored by Project Management Institute (PMI) as the winner of the profession's highest accolade—the 2015 PMI Project of the Year Award.

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The El Segundo Refinery Coke Drum Reliability Project team oversaw the successful shipment and installation of six new coke drums — enormous containers that heat crude oil up to 920 degrees Fahrenheit (493 Celsius) — four months ahead of schedule and US\$7 million under budget. The new drums needed to be shipped from a manufacturing facility in Spain and installed in a refinery in El Segundo, part of Los Angeles County, California, USA. The city of Los Angeles relies on fuel from the refinery, which supplies 20 percent of the gasoline in the Los Angeles area market and more than 40 percent of the jet fuel for Los Angeles International Airport.

Highlights from the project include the seamless removal of six retired coke drums, each weighing roughly 400,000 pounds (181,437 kilograms). Because all installation work took place at least 20 feet above ground, project leaders implemented a fall protection protocol that required workers to wear double harnesses. The team held frequent safety meetings and avoided injuries by implementing a “stop the drop” program that required all tools and materials to be tied off with a leash. Even with 400 people working high above the ground to install the new drums, the project closed without a single fall or lost-time injury. Additional results include taking just six nights to move all the new drums from dockside to refinery, which meant less inconvenience for the residents of Los Angeles.

“PMI congratulates El Segundo Refinery Coke Drum Reliability Project on winning this year's award,” said PMI President and CEO Mark A. Langley. “The team was able to complete the installation under budget and ahead of schedule by applying sound project and risk management principles to overcome the myriad logistical and safety challenges, while minimizing the impact to the local community.”

About Project Management Institute (PMI)

Project Management Institute is the world's leading not-for-profit professional membership association for the project, program and portfolio management profession. Founded in 1969, PMI delivers value for more than 2.9 million professionals working in nearly every country in the world through global advocacy, collaboration, education and research. PMI advances careers, improves organizational success and further matures the profession of project management through its globally recognized standards, certifications, resources, tools academic research, publications, professional development courses, and networking opportunities. As part of the PMI family, Human Systems International (HSI) provides organizational assessment and benchmarking services to leading businesses and government, while ProjectManagement.com and ProjectsAtWork.com create online global communities that deliver more resources, better tools, larger networks and broader perspectives.