

## COMALES MUD PLANT HSE SUCCESS STORY

**Recognized by the Mexican Government as one of 25 success stories in Mexico that are HSE related; the only oil field related company of the 25 mentioned.**

### INITIAL SITUATION

On February 28 2005, the Comales Mud Plant of QMAX Mexico formalized its voluntary commitment for being incorporated to “Self-Management of Safety and Health at Work Program” (PASST - by its acronym in Spanish) whose achievement was done by complying with 95.4% of the implementation of the System on Safety and Health Administration at Work (SASST- by its acronym in Spanish); 99.5% compliance for the regulations of health and safety at work and a rate of zero accidents per 100 employees.

The main risks at work are associated with falls at different heights, explosions or fires caused by leaks or spills of flammable chemical substances, as well as noise and chemical substance exposure.

### CHARACTERISTICS OF SASST

The “Self-Management of Safety and Health at Work Program”, PASST, strengthened a work culture focused in preventing employees accidents in a proactive rather than a reactive way.

With the establishment of SASST Q’Max has been able to reinforce preventive programs, to define procedures for executing dangerous activities; to identify, evaluate and control risks associated to machinery and equipment, as well as get the necessary resources for having safe facilities.

The Comales Mud Plant has been able to keep a rate of zero accidents in the last six years and was also able to achieve the following certifications: ISO 14001:2004 Environmental Management System and OHSAS 18001:2008 Occupational Health and Safety Management System, as well as the acknowledgement of “Clean Industry” or “Industria Limpia” certificate under the Federal Environment Protection Attorney’s Office (PROFEPA).

Among the good practices achieved are revisions to the working area to detect unsafe actions or conditions that could put the employees or facilities at risk and also the evaluation and reinforcement of training in accidents prevention topics.

### **Reference:**

- Secretaría del Trabajo y Previsión Social. "Casos de Éxito 20012 Tomo 8". [Online] [http://www.stps.gob.mx/bp/secciones/dgsst/publicaciones/casos\\_exit/libro%20casos%20de%20exito%208.pdf](http://www.stps.gob.mx/bp/secciones/dgsst/publicaciones/casos_exit/libro%20casos%20de%20exito%208.pdf), page 53, [Accessed June 11, 2013].