

Heavy-lift fleet offers extensive service network

When the mining industry talks about moving capital equipment either locally or internationally, it often refers to cargo of gigantic proportions.

This, in turn, needs moving equipment of equally massive size.

One of the service providers for such big moves is the German heavy-lift operator, BBC Chartering.

With currently more than 140 vessels being marketed, the company operates the single largest multipurpose and heavy-lift fleet in the market – with lifting capacities reaching up to 800 tonnes and vessel sizes that range from 3 500t to 37 300t deadweight.

With this fleet, BBC Chartering offers an extensive network of liner services around the world,

and a network of 25 sales and chartering offices with 300 employees assist clients around the world in planning and executing their transport assignments.

It serves the mining, oil and gas, power and utility, offshore contracting, chemical processing, and mechanical engineering industries – offering tramp, affreightment and liner services.

A recent highlight was when BBC Chartering secured the contract to transport radio telescope antennas for what is currently the largest cosmic project on earth, the Alma observatory located in the Chilean Andes.

For this project 25 antennas were ordered from the European AEM consortium, and required maritime transportation from Aviles in Spain to Antofagasta in



BBC Arizona loading radio telescopes for the Alma observatory in the Chilean Andes.

Chile. Also, another portion of 12 antennas needed to be shipped from Kobe Japan to Mejilones Chile.

The availability of vessels with their own lifting gear, and the flexibility to load in Aviles on the regular European service to the

West Coast of Latin America, were major arguments favouring the company's choice.

The first antenna was shipped early 2009, and 16 antennas have now been delivered to Chile. Three more were loaded onboard the BBC Colorado in mid-December.