

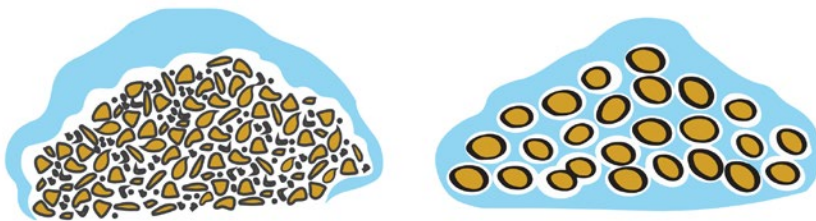


Copper ore being processed in the agglomeration drum.

### PROCESS

FEECO was commissioned to provide two heavy-duty [copper ore agglomerators](#) for use in the heap leaching process at one of the largest and most environmentally advanced copper mines in the world.

Rotary drum agglomerators are a valuable addition to copper heap leaching operations, as they improve the uniformity of the ore fines. This allows the leaching agent to more effectively percolate through the heap, as seen in the illustration below. This agglomeration step also serves as a pre-mixing step to mix the leaching agent with the ore fines, initiating the reaction and creating a more homogeneous mixture, which ultimately improves efficiency and maximizes recovery rates.



**Left:** When ore fines are not agglomerated, small fines clog the spaces between larger particles, preventing the leaching agent from thoroughly percolating through the heap.

**Right:** When ore fines are agglomerated, they are more uniform in shape and size, allowing even and thorough percolation of the leaching agent through the heap.

The success of the agglomerators has created an ongoing relationship as a preferred supplier for the equipment.

### PROJECT SPECS

**Customer:**  
Proprietary

**Equipment Supplied:**  
(2) 15' (4.6m) Dia. x 45' (13.7m) Long  
Agglomeration Drums

**Project Location:**  
Arizona, USA

**Industry:**  
Mining

**Material:**  
Copper Ore

**Project Engineer:**  
Fluor Daniel