

## Senior Expert Corps – a Project of Swisscontact

Promoting entrepreneurship through expertise – Imparting technical skills through volunteer work

The retired professionals of our Senior Expert Corps (SEC) are qualified experts on site. Through their consulting services, they provide hands-on, cost-effective support towards sustainable development of companies and institutions.

### SEC Assignment in Bolivia, 2016

Assignment No. 2661

<b>Location</b>	Cochabamba, Bolivia
<b>Client</b>	Agricultural equipment factory, plows, seed drills, etc.
<b>Expert</b>	Peter Tschanz Mechanic, dipl. Trainer
<b>Period</b>	26.08. - 16.09.2016



#### Client Profile

The company was founded in 1978 through the Agricultural Faculty of the University of Cochabamba, in cooperation with SDC. Agricultural mechanics were trained and later developed a factory for agricultural equipment.

#### Tasks

In 2014, the client purchased 15 metal processing machines in Switzerland and China, with the purpose of renovating the old machines and expanding production. The task was to implement the machines in two different ways, to adapt them to the needs, to train staff, in the use of machines, in maintenance and in work safety.

#### Results

The majority of the machines were put into operation by the staff. One of the greatest success seems to be the commissioning of a powder coating plant. This allows paint to be applied to metal without solvent. The quality is thus very high, the costs are reduced and there is no release of solvents and color to the atmosphere. The workers are no longer exposed to the poison.

In addition, a 30-year-old sheet-metal cutting machine was completely revised.

The systematic, safe storage and transport of more than 100 tonnes of steel per year has been achieved. With the renewal of machines, the factory can work another 30 years.