



YAMARANGUILA, HONDURAS

The Water Relief Network®, a global program of the chlorine and PVC industries, provided a grant to the relief organization *Save the Children of Honduras* to provide a reliable, safe drinking water supply for approximately 2,500 people.

Project Background

The village of Yamaranguila, located in the rugged mountains of southwestern Honduras, was in dire need of a water system expansion. Previously, the town relied on a spring-fed water supply system with a 20,000 gallon storage tank and a small calcium hypochlorite chlorinator. However, the community quickly outgrew the capacity of this system. In 1998, the community's daily water demand reached 70,000 gallons per day, while the water system in place was capable of supplying only 59,000 gallons per day.



As a result, water service to most of the community became intermittent, as the storage tank periodically ran dry each day. It became more than an inconvenience; without adequate line pressure, there was an increased risk of contamination in the distribution system. In addition, without a reliable water supply, residents were forced to store water on-site, often in unsanitary containers. All the while, the town continued to grow, placing an ever greater demand on the already overtaxed water system capacity.



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Call to Action: The Water Relief Network®



In Yamaranguila, the per capita income is \$0.36 per day. As such, it was important that the expansion project employ low-cost, sustainable technologies that the community can afford to operate and maintain for decades to come. Based on ease of operation, low maintenance costs and high reliability, a system employing chlorine disinfection and gravity flow transmission/distribution coupled with upgraded PVC transmission lines was built. The system was designed through the donated efforts of *Water Engineers for the Americas*.

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Save the Children of Honduras, a non-profit organization that assists communities throughout Honduras, contacted the *Chlorine Chemistry Council*®, a national trade association representing the manufactures and users of chlorine and chlorine-related products, to request support in helping the community of Yamaranguila fund the water system expansion project. Under the auspices of the Water Relief Network, the *Chlorine Chemistry Council*, the *Canadian Chlorine Coordinating Committee* and the *Vinyl Institute* each provided grants to support the project.

Completed with labor provided by the local community, the new system is sufficient to supply the town of Yamaranguila with safe, chlorinated water for the next 20 years, with no need for ongoing outside financial support. Considered a model for other communities throughout Honduras, the Yamaranguila water system expansion demonstrates the Water Relief Network’s commitment to water sustainability projects around the world.



The Water Relief Network funds were used for the following improvements in Yamaranguila:

- **Transmission Lines Improvements**
 - Replaced approximately two kilometers of older pipes with durable PVC pipe.
 - Installed new clean-out valves and air release valves to increase water flow.
- **Water Storage Tank Upgrade**
 - Constructed a new 60,000-gallon brick and mortar tank.
 - Constructed a 50-gallon chlorinator built into the roof of the water storage tank.
- **Construction of a new well to supplement the town’s water supply.**

Water Relief®
Network



About the Water Relief Network

The Water Relief Network, a global program of the chlorine and PVC industries in cooperation with the American Red Cross and other disaster relief organizations, provides funding for critical water disinfection chemicals, PVC pipe and other chlorine-based products to help build needed water treatment and distribution infrastructure in vulnerable communities.

