



## Crude quality impact on the aluminum industry

Marty M. Bull COQA New Orleans November 7-8, 2012



## Alcoa overview

Calcined coke in aluminum smelting

Closing comments



## Founded in 1888

- 200+ locations
- **31** countries; 61,000 employees
- \$25.0 billion in revenues (2011)
- Lost workday injury rate 1/10 that of the avg. U.S. mfr. workplace
- Award-winning sustainability leadership





- We invented the aluminum smelting process in 1888
- Alcoa is the largest producer of aluminum in the world
- Alcoa is the leader in aluminum technology and innovation
- Only aluminum company covering every stage of aluminum production:





MidstreamFlat rolled aluminum



## Downstream

- Fastening Systems
- Power & Propulsion
- Wheel & Transportation
- Building & Construction
- Forgings & Extrusions





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## Hall-Heroult Cell

(Simplified cross section)

 $2AI_2O_3 + 3C \rightarrow 4AI + 3CO_2$ 







	1983-85	Present
Sulfur	2.6-3.5%	3.5-6.5%
Vanadium	250-350 ppm	200-600 ppm
Structure	Sponge	Sponge /Shot

Increasing shift to fuel grade cokes

Higher degree of variability in coke supply quality from a single refinery

Decreasing supply of premium anode grade cokes



# Coke properties are driven by crude selection and refinery operations

#### **Crude Selections**

- Gravity
- Sulfur
- Asphaltenes
- Concarbon Residue (CCR)
- Metals content

### **Refinery Operations**

- Desalting
- Chemistry Control
- Distillation
- Slops processing
- Coking conditions
- Decoking water quality

## **Coke Properties**

- Structure
- Sulfur
- Metals
- Volatile Matter
- HGI
- Other impurities



## Case studies: Refineries choosing to make anode grade coke



#### 1. AG coke campaigns

- 500 kMT, med. S, med. metals
- Planned campaigns for FG /AG coke
- Batch AG mode
- Increased revenue ~\$ 18 MM for 30% AG production

#### 2. Chemistry control

- 100 kMT, med. S, low metals, high Fe
- Planned VTB imports
- Continued phosphoric acid addition results in high phosphorous
- Opportunity to increase coke revenue by ~\$5-10 MM



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Changes in crude quality and refinery operations have a significant impact on the aluminum industry

- Long term quality changes
- Short term quality excursions/ unpredictability
- You can make a difference
  - Increased anode grade production can be mutually beneficial
  - Predictability in coke/ crude quality helps

We are just as interested in understanding the changes in the crude flows and its impact to refinery operations as you are



## Our Vision Alcoa. Advancing each generation.

# **Our Values**

We live our Values every day, everywhere, collaborating for the benefit of our customers, investors, employees, communities, and partners.

#### Respect

We treat all people with dignity and provide a diverse, inclusive work environment.

#### Innovation

We creatively transform ideas into value.

**Integrity** We are open, honest, and accountable.

#### Environment, Health and Safety

We work safely, promote wellness, and protect the environment.

### Excellence

We relentlessly pursue outstanding and sustainable results.