Ex China Vanadium Market

Terry Perles Ferroalloynet.com Vanadium Forum Chengde, China March 7, 2019

Objectives

- Communicate the drivers affecting changes to vanadium consumption outside of China
- Vanadium consumption outside of China
- Production of vanadium outside of China
- China vanadium exports
- Total vanadium supply outside of China
- Vanadium demand outside of China
- Vanadium supply/demand balance outside of China
- Vanadium flow batteries
- New applications for vanadium
- Summary

Vanadium Consumption ex China

Vanadium Consumption

- Roughly 90% of current vanadium consumption occurs in the steel industry.
- Roughly 4% of annual vanadium consumption occurs in the titanium industry where vanadium is used to make titanium alloys for commercial aerospace, defense, industrial applications and consumer goods
- Roughly 4% of vanadium consumption occurs in the chemical and catalyst industries where vanadium is used as an oxidation catalyst in production of sulfuric acid and maleic anhydride, in pollution control catalysts and Benfield and Stretford processes in the petrochemical industry
- Roughly 2% of vanadium consumption currently occurs in energy storage applications where vanadium redox flow batteries are being deployed in grid level applications

Drivers to growth in ex China V Consumption

• Changes in ex China steel production volumes

• Changes in ex China specific vanadium consumption rates

Potential new applications

Ex China Steel Production



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Specific Vanadium Consumption Rate



Vanadium Consumption ex China



Ex China Vanadium Consumption Summary

- Ex China steel production has grown by 0.8% compound annual growth rate (CAGR) 2012-2018. We expect ex China steel production to grow at a CAGR of 1.3% 2018-2025
- The ex China specific vanadium consumption rate has grown at a CAGR of 1.2% 2012-2018. our projection assumes a specific consumption growth rate ex China of 1.2% in the near future
- Vanadium consumption ex China has grown at a CAGR of 1.8% from 2012-2018. We expect ex China vanadium consumption to grow from 50,075 metric tons vanadium (MTV) in 2018 to 59,494 MTV in 2025 (2.5% CAGR)

ex China Vanadium Production

Ex China Vanadium Production



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ex China Vanadium Production History

- Vanadium production ex China has varied from 33,000 38,000 MTV from 2011-2018.
- The demise of Highveld Steel in South Africa had a major impact on global vanadium supply beginning in 2015.
- The ramp up of production at the Largo Maracas mine in Brazil has allowed ex China vanadium production to recover in 2018 to close levels seen in 2014-2015
- Looking forward there are limited sources of supply ex China that can contribute in the near term to increased production

Ex China – Short Term New Sources of Production

- Vanadium production is limited by the availability of economically viable raw materials.
- In the near term there are limited sources of potential new vanadium raw materials outside of China.
 - Largo resources has announced plans to expand the Maracas mine in Brazil in late 2019 by 20% or an increase of 1,350 MTV/yr.
 - Bushveld has announced plans to expand the Vametco mine by 2,000 MTV in the coming years
 - We Anticipate eventually Vanchem in South Africa will find a way to feed their plant from South African ores resulting in an increase in supply of 4,000 MTV/yr.
 - Windimurra in western Australia has announced plans to restart and eventually reaching 4,200 MTV/yr. production rate



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Ex China V Production Existing Sources



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China Vanadium Exports

China Vanadium Exports



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Chinese Vanadium Exports

- Chinese net exports of vanadium have varied from 7,500 MTV to 10,500 MTV per year in recent years
- Chinese exports decreased in 2017 as a result of the ban on imports of vanadium slag and residues used as raw material for vanadium production in China
- Exports increased to more typical levels in 2018 as high prices resulted in the liquidation of inventories.
- Our projection for the future makes the assumption that Chinese vanadium exports will be constant at the 2018 level of roughly 9,000 MTV per year
- As a result we see total supply of vanadium ex China growing from 46,848 MTV in 2018 to 58,776 MTV in 2025, or a CAGR of 3.3%



Ex China Supply and Demand Balance

Ex China V Supply Existing Sources vs Demand



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Ex China V Market Balance and China Exports



3/7/2019

ex China Supply and Demand Balance

- Assuming no new sources of supply
 - We project the world ex China supply will continue to be less than ex China demand through 2020
 - Ex china vanadium inventories have decreased by about 11,000 MTV since the market bottomed out in December 2015
 - Inventories ex china will drop by a further 5,000 MTV from end of 2018 until the end of 2020
 - Beyond 2020 ex china inventories begin to recover until 2025 when inventories once again begin to be depleted
 - On a cumulative basis the deficit in total supply vs demand peaks at 15,000 MTV in 2020 before beginning to recede
- Our projection for the future makes the assumption that Chinese vanadium exports will be constant at the 2018 level of roughly 9,000 MTV per year
- This projection does not include provision for any new production ex China

New Sources of Supply

Potential New Sources of Vanadium ex China

Company name	Domicile	website	stock exch+symb	Project name	Project location	Deposit type
American Lithium Corp.	Canada, Vancouver	www.americanlithiumcorp.com	TSX: LI	Extinction Ridge	USA, Nevada	sediment hosted
Blue Bird Mattery Metals Inc.	Canada, Vancouver	www.bluebirdbatterymetals.com	TSX: BATT	Canegrass	Western Australia	layered mafic intrusion
Critical Metals Ltd	Australia	www.criticalmetals.eu		Soidinvaara	Finland	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Delrey Metals Corp.	Canada, Vancouver	www.delreymetals.com	CSE: SPMT	Star and Porcher	Canada, BC	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Delrey Metals Corp.	Canada, Vancouver			Blackie and Peneece	Canada, BC	magmatic, mineralized gabbro
Energy Fuels Inc.	USA, Lakewood	www.energyfuels.com	TSX: EFR	White Mesa Mill	Colorado	V in tailings of uranium mill
First Vanadium Corp.	Canada, Vancouver	www.firstvanadium.com	TSX: FVAN	Carlin Vanadium	USA, Nevada	sediment hosted
Intermin Resources Ltd.	Australia, Nedlands	www.intermin.com.au	ASX: IRC	Richmond	Australia, Queensland	sediment hosted, V+Mo
King River Resources Ltd	Australia, Perth	www.kingriverresources.com.au	ASX: KRR	Speewah	Western Australia	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Maxtech Ventures Inc.	Canada, Vancouver	www.maxtech-ventures.com	CST: MVT	exploration claims	Brazil, Bahia	magmatic
Maxtech Ventures Inc.				Lac Patu	Canada, Quebec	sediment hosted
Multicom Resources Ltd.	Australia, Brisbane	www.mcres.com.au/	private	Saint Elmo	Australia, Queensland	sediment hosted, U+V
Neometals Ltd.	Australia, Perth	www.neometals.com.au	ASX: NMT	Barrambie	Western Australia	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
New Energy Minerals	Australia, Perth	www.newenergyminerals.com.au	ASX: NXE	Caula	Mozambique	Graphite schists
Primary Energy Metals Inc.	Canada, Vancouver	www.primaryenergymetals.com	CSE: PRIM	Nirvana-Polar Mesa	USA, Colorado	sediment hosted, U+V
Primary Energy Metals Inc.	Canada, Vancouver			Odin-Altair	Spain, Badagoz	sediment hosted
Pursuit Minerals Ltd.	Australia, Brisbane	www.pursuitminerals.com	ASX: PUR	Airijoki	Sweden	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Pursuit Minerals Ltd.				Koitelainen	Finland	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Pursuit Minerals Ltd.				Karhukupukka	Finland	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Queensland Energy and Minera	Australia, Perth	www.qldem.com.au	ASX: QEM	Julia Creek	Australia, Queensland	Oil shales
Redzone Resources Ltd.	Canada, Vancouver	www.redzoneresources.ca	TSX: REZ	Wells	Canada, BC	sediment hosted
Regency Mines Plc.	Great Brittain, Londor	www.regency-mines.com	AIM: RGM	Yukon	USA	sediment hosted
Searchlite Resources	Canada, Vancouver	www.searchlightresources.com/	TSX: SRCH	Duddridge Lake	Canada, BC	sediment hosted, U+V+Co
Spearmint Resources Inc.	Canada, Vancouver	www.spearmintresources.ca	CSE: DLRY	Chibougamau	Canada, BC	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Spey Resources Corp.	Canada, Vancouver	www.speyresources.ca	CSE: SPEY	Uravan	USA, Utah	sediment hosted, U+V
Surefire Resources NL	Australia, Perth	www.surefireresources.com.au	ASX: SRN	Unaly Hill	Western Australia	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Tando Resources	Australia, Perth	www.tandoresources.com.au	ASX: TNO	SPD	South Africa	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Tarku Resources Ltd.	Canada, Saskatoon	www.tarkuresources.com	TSX: TKU	Lac-Fabien	Canada, Quebec	magmatic, ilmenomagnetite
Technology Metals Ltd.	Australia, Perth	www.tmtlimited.com.au	ASX: TMT	Gabanintha	Western Australia	magmatic, mineralized gabbro
United Battery Metals Corp.	Canada,Vancouver	www.ubmetals.com	OTCBB: UBMCF	Wray Mesa	USA, Colorado	sediment hosted, U+V
Vanadian Energy Corp.	Canada, Vancouver	www.vanadianenergy.com	TSX: VEC	Huzyk Creek	Canada, Manitoba	sediment hosted
Vanadium One Energy Corp.	Canada, Toronto	www.vanadiumone.com	TMX: VONE	Mount Sorcier	Canada, Quebec	magmatic, ilemenomagnetite
Venus Metals Corporation Ltd	Australia, Perth	www.venusmetals.com.au	ASX: VMC	Youanmi V-Oxide	Western Australia	magmatic, oxidized gabbro
Westwater Resources	USA, Centennial	www.westwaterresources.net	NASDAQ: wwr	Coosa Graphite	USA, Alabama	sediment hosted

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Potential New Sources of Supply of V

- Outside of China there are more than 80 potential new vanadium projects being promoted.
- Historically the time line for construction of a new primary vanadium mine and mill is 5 years from receipt of construction financing until first production
- Historically the time line from first production to full capacity in a new primary vanadium mine and mill is 18 months
- There are several secondary vanadium projects being promoted today that can have a shorter time to market than primary vanadium mining projects
- There are few potential new projects that have any significant funding in place today

Ex China V Supply Existing Sources vs Demand

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Summary

- Vanadium consumption today is driven primarily by use in the steel industry. Changing steel production volumes and changing specific vanadium consumption rates are the major variables impacts vanadium consumption
- Vanadium production is limited by the availability of economically viable raw materials. Currently there is very little idle capacity outside of China that can contribute to growth in vanadium production in the near term
- Vanadium consumption outside of China has outstripped production for the past 8 years by an average of 10,500 MTV per year.
- Chinese exports have averaged 9,000 MTV/yr. over the past 8 years.

Summary

- Total vanadium supply ex China is anticipated to be less than ex China demand through 2019.
- Growth in supply from existing sources combined with potential new sources and ongoing Chinese exports could result in a balanced market ex China in 2020.
- Longer term potential new vanadium projects ex China could result in significant oversupply ex China from 2022 onward without any new sources of demand
- The availability and price of Chinese vanadium exports will be a major driver to the international vanadium market situation over the next several years

Structure of a vanadium redox flow battery

Global Vanadium Demand in VRB's

- The high vanadium price is projected to result in a decrease in deployment of vanadium in VRB's in 2019 relative to 2018. it is difficult to forecast future demand in this application due to the price sensitivity to vanadium.
- Today competition for VRB's is primarily lithium ion systems. Li ion is suitable for some grid level storage applications (black start, frequency modulation, voltage regulation and control, etc.) and other short duration applications.
- VRB's are ideally suited for long duration applications (time shifting, peak shaving and load leveling).

- In recent times the market for grid level energy storage has been mostly related to short duration applications. In this market Li ion can compete with VRB's and given the fact that Li ion technology is more mature than VRB technology the capital cost of VRB systems has been more competitive than VRB's
- Assuming historically normal vanadium prices, today the capital cost of VRB's approach the capital cost of Li ion systems for grid level applications. Looking at the long term cost of the asset one can make an argument that VRB's would be less expensive today than Li ion systems if vanadium prices were in historically normal ranges

- The cost of producing electricity from solar panels is arguably today the cheapest source of new electrical power. As a result we are seeing massive growth in solar power production in many regions of the world.
- Solar power can only be produced when the sun is shining. However the demand of electricity varies significantly during the day, and the peak demand occurs when production of solar power is near a low point in the daily cycle.
- Today in California peak production of solar power occurs approx.
 2:00 PM while peak demand occurs approx.
 9:00 PM

California Duck Curve

- The massive growth in solar power production is resulting in a growing need for long duration storage technologies to support load leveling and peak shaving applications.
- The economic benefit of technologies that can allow solar power produced in the middle of the day to be delivered to the grid in the evening peak demand time is massive
 - Elimination of peaking plants which typically have very high operating and maintenance costs
 - Leveling load on the grid resulting in lower operating costs and better efficiencies
- Today, and in the future, energy storage technologies will win market share based on the value the asset delivers to the grid. Growing solar power production creates an environment where VRB's may be the best choice and Li ion systems are not capable of meeting critical long duration applications

Summary

- Vanadium redox flow batteries are reaching a state of maturity where they are cost competitive at normal vanadium market prices with other technologies and offer performance advantages in many applications
- High vanadium prices have negatively impacted the deployment of vanadium in flow battery applications
- It is anticipated that when vanadium markets come back into supply/demand balance and prices trend towards historical norms demand from flow battery applications will grow – in essence the flow battery market could put a floor on vanadium prices at historical levels going forward

New Applications for Vanadium

TRANSFORMERS: THE UNDERAPPRECIATED PROPERTIES OF vanadium oxides

Variable valence -1 to +5

- Tetrahedral, square pyramidal, and octahedral coordination environments
- d-orbitals not too narrow and not too broad
- Wide range of open ordered and disordered defect structures, nonstoichiometry, and crystallographic shear

Phase transitions!

P. M. Marley, G. A. Horrocks, K. E. Pelcher, and S. Banerjee, *Chemical Communications* **2015**, *51*, 5181-5198 L. Whittaker, C. J. Patridge, and S. Banerjee, *J. Phys. Chem. Lett.* **2011**, *2*, 745-758

Where does vanadium go NEXT?

CASE STUDIES IN ENERGY APPLICATIONS OF VANADIUM:

THERMOCHROMIC FENESTRATION (SMART WINDOWS!) INTERCALATION BATTERIES ENERGY-EFFICIENT COMPUTING ARTIFICIAL LEAF FOR WATER SPLITTING

Thermochromic FENESTRATION (SMART WINDOWS!)

- 40% of energy consumed in Mumbai, India goes toward space cooling
 China added 50M home air-conditioning
- units in 2010
- By 2050 27% of all global warming will be due to coolant gases

Breakdown of building energy consumption

\$15B
140M metric tons of CO₂

US Department of Energy, Energy Efficiency Trends in Residential and Commercial Buildings, Washington DC2008

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Buildings that Change with the Climate LIGHT WITHOUT HEAT

Dynamic switching of optical properties as a result of phase transitions

Under cold ambient conditions, the breadth of the solar spectrum is transmitted. • warming the interior

Image from AIST Japan

Dr. Sarbarit Banerjee, Texas A&M University

Under hot ambient conditions, infrared radiation is reflected. Reducing solar heat gain and space cooling

Issues facing intercalation Batteries: Life beyond Li-ION BATTERIES

- □ Safety, safety, safety!
- □ Materials criticality! Is there enough lithium?
- □ A transformational breakthrough needed in energy and power densities?

Jean-Marie Tarascon

Vanadium oxides for Intercalation Batteries

Layered 2D framework with room for Li-ions-But Li-ions run into bottle-necks

De Jesus, L. R.; Horrocks, G. A.; Liang, Y.; Parija, A.; et al. Nat. Commun. 2016, 7, 1–9. Bhatt, M. D.; O'Dwyer, C. **Phys. Chem. Chem. Phys.**, 2015, **17**, 4799-4844. A new phase of $v_2 o_5$: a path to viability for Mg-ion batteries

First new V₂O₅ structure in over <u>100 years</u>

- High voltage, high capacity, and high reversibility
- Pathway to safe, earth-abundant, and large area batteries made from vanadium

Chalker, C. J., An, H., Zavala, J., Parija, A., Banerjee, S., LutkenhausJ. L., Batteas, J. D. Langmuir, 2017, 733 . 5975-5981

the "age of dark silicon"

□ Modern microprocessors are energy guzzling because power consumption does not scale with transistor dimensions.

- Cell-phones and personal electronics run hot!
- □ Major roadblock to meeting future high-performance computing needs.

Vanadium in the "age of dark silicon"

C. J. Patridge, C. Jaye, H. Zhang, A. C. Marschilok, D. A. Fischer, E. S. Takeuchi, and S. Banerjee, *Inorg. Chem.* **2009**, *48*, 3145-3152. C. J. Patridge, T.-L. Wu, G. Sambandamurthy, and S. Banerjee, *Chem. Commun.* **2011**, *47*, 4484-4486.

Splitting water with vanadium oxides to generate solar fuels

- Hydrogen is an energy dense fuel that is combusted releasing water as the only by-product
- Splitting water using sunlight –mimicking a leaf to generate hydrogen would provide an endless fuel source

Oxidation of water is a huge challenge—most catalysts are destroyed rapidly

Dr. Sarbarit Banerjee, Texas A&M University

Splitting water with vanadium oxide to generate solar fuels

Miniature photosynthetic factories!

- Vanadium oxides can be tuned to introduce specific electronic states that can be used to oxidize water.
- Best-in-class performers that are building blocks for solar water electrolyzers.

Summary

- Vanadium will continue to support the efficient development of infrastructure required for economic opportunity in the developing world via the use of high strength low alloy vanadium steels
- Vanadium flow batteries could become a critical part of the global electrical grid supporting the ongoing deployment of renewable energy sources and microgrids.
- There are numerous potential new applications for vanadium in critical roles that are important in terms of impacting the global carbon footprint of human society