

# Oakdene Hollins

## ICSG: Study of By-Products of Copper, Lead, Zinc and Nickel

- Peter Willis
- 26<sup>th</sup> April 2012

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## Agenda

- Presentation of Draft Report
- Policy Context
- Scope
- Methodology
- Overview of Findings:
  - Molybdenum, Cobalt
  - Rhenium, Selenium, Tellurium, Bismuth
  - Rare Earth Elements
- General Conclusions
- Questions & Answers

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## Project Scope

- Selection criteria of the by-product metals:
  - Linked to the production of study group metals
  - No or limited own-production infrastructure
  - Typically have high value
  - Increasing use in new technologies e.g. electronics, renewable energy
- Scope of the study:
  - Lead and Zinc: indium, germanium, bismuth, tellurium
  - Nickel: scandium, platinum group metals, cobalt
  - Copper: cobalt, rhenium, tellurium, selenium, rare earths, molybdenum

## Methodology

- Methodology:
  - Review of the literature
  - Web-based survey of producers, consumers, traders
  - Expert industry interviews
- Research conducted January-April 2012

## Overview of Findings

- Latest Production Statistics:

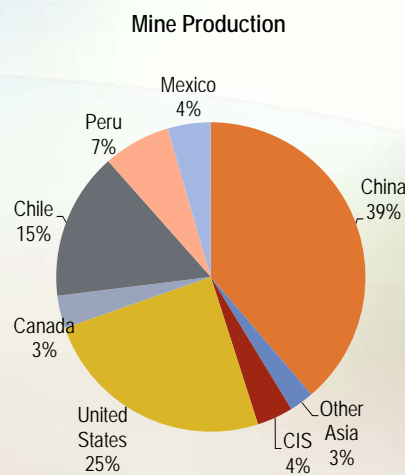
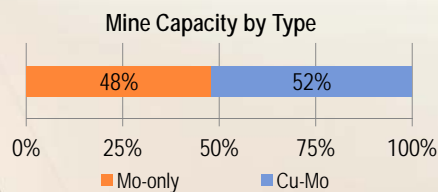
Principal Metal	Mine Production (tonnes)	By-product Metal	Production (tonnes)
Copper	16,100,000	Molybdenum	250,000
		Cobalt	98,000
		Rhenium	54
		Selenium	2,600
		Tellurium	450
		Bismuth	8,500
		Rare Earth Elements	130,000

Sources: USGS & Industry Estimates

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## Molybdenum: Production

- Supply split between: Mo-only and Cu-Mo
- China and United States as major producers
- Some dislocation in mine and roasting capacity



Sources: USGS & Roskill

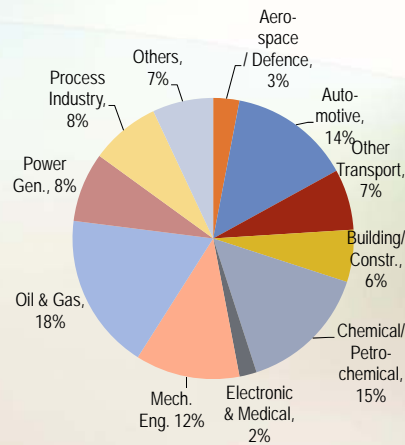
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## Molybdenum: Use

- Diverse end-markets: importance of steel alloys
- Growth of 3.6% p.a. to 2020
- LME traded; low volumes
- Export levies: China, Russia



Use by End-Use Industry



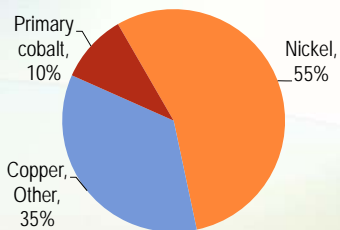
Sources: IMO, Metal Pages

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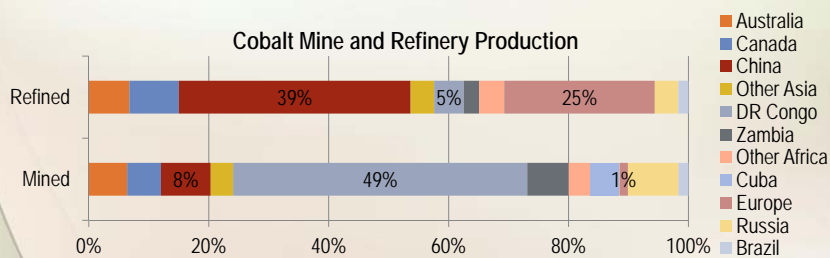
## Cobalt: Production

- Cu, Ni & primary supply
- Trade of ores for refining
- Large number of pipeline projects – oversupply
- High recycling rate (68%)

Sources of Cobalt



Cobalt Mine and Refinery Production



Sources: USGS, CDI

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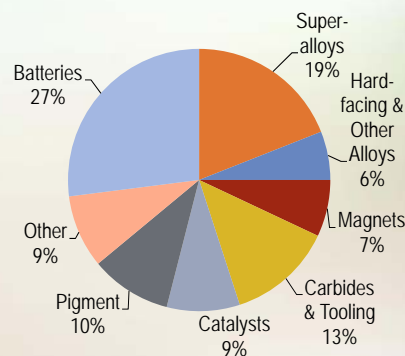
## Cobalt: Use

- Diverse end-markets; recent growth in batteries
- Possible substitution in Li-ion batteries
- REACH Concerns (5 SVHCs)
- LME traded; low volumes

Co Metal Price, min. 99.3% (US\$/kg)



End use of Primary Cobalt



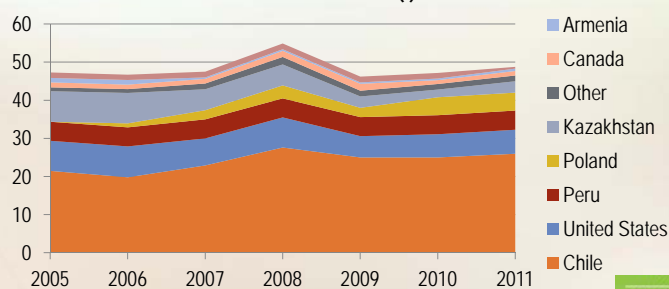
Sources: CDI, Metal Pages

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## Rhenium: Production

- By-product from Copper Porphyry (Mo)
- Importance of Chile, emergence of Poland
- Limited pipeline of projects
- Efforts to improve recycling efficiency

World Rhenium Production (t)

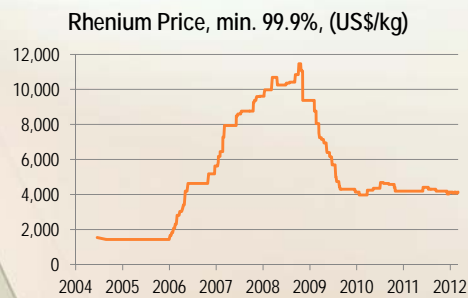


Source: USGS

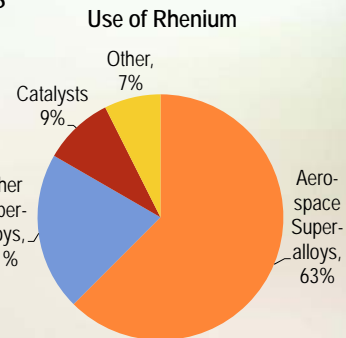
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## Rhenium: Use

- Importance of (aerospace) superalloys
- Growth in aerospace engines to result in rationing – substitution/reduction of rhenium content
- No major stockpiles or restrictions
- High and volatile prices



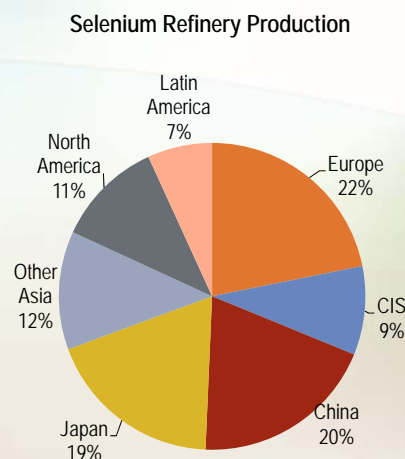
Sources: Lipmann Walton, Roskill, Metal Pages



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## Selenium: Production

- By-product of copper, recoverable from slimes
- Incomplete official data – industry estimates
- Concentration varies – highest for refineries in Japan, Korea, CIS
- Often not recovered
- Technology shift to SE-EW may hurt recovery



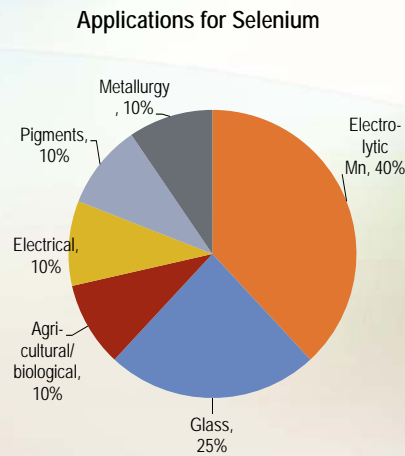
Source: Industry Estimates

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## Selenium: Use

- China as main consumer: Electrolytic Mn production
- Uncertain short term outlook
- Some risk of substitution
- Modest use in solar

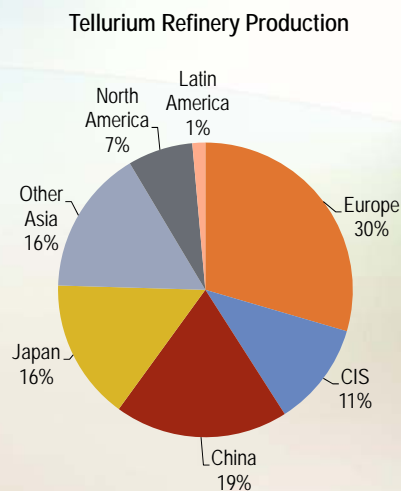


Sources: STDA, Metal Pages

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## Tellurium: Production

- By-product of copper, recoverable from slimes
- Lack of official data
- Diverse supply, but fewer high purity refiners
- Often not recovered, or efficiency not high
- Technology shift to SE-EW may hurt recovery
- Gold as possible source



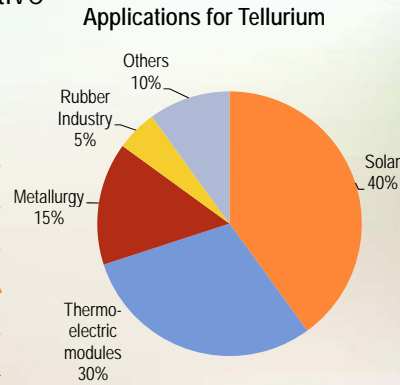
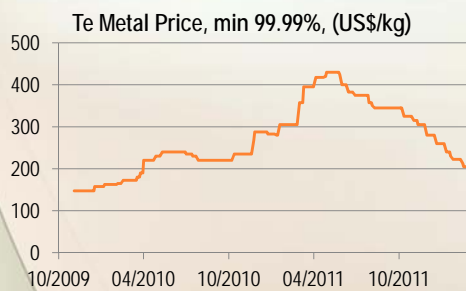
Source: Industry Estimates

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## Tellurium: Use

- CdTe solar as major market:
  - Long term strong growth, short term weakness
- Some applications price sensitive or could be substituted
- Recent price falls

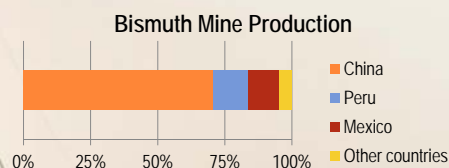
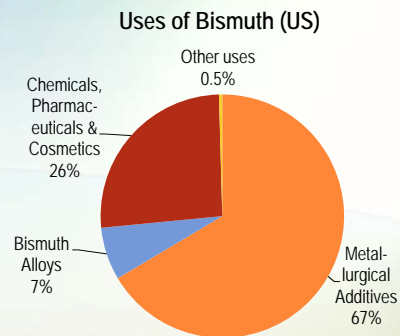


Sources: STDA, Metal Pages

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## Bismuth

- Lead, tungsten as sources
- Limited production from Cu
- China, Peru and Mexico as largest suppliers
- Metal alloys, additives and chemicals as major markets
- Mature, slow growing

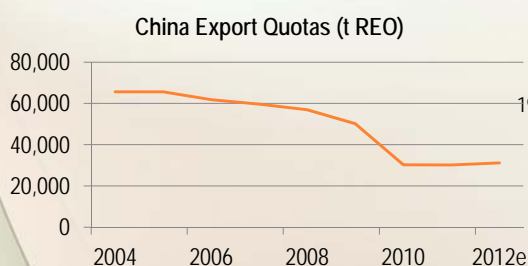


Sources: USGS, Metal Pages

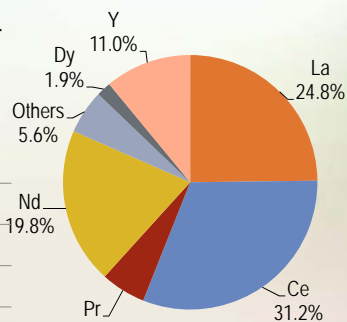
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## Rare Earth Elements: Production

- Dominance of China, large fall in quotas in 2010
- Tightening of China production
- Numerous pipeline projects
- Limited prospects from copper
- Development of recycling



Rare Earth Supply by Element



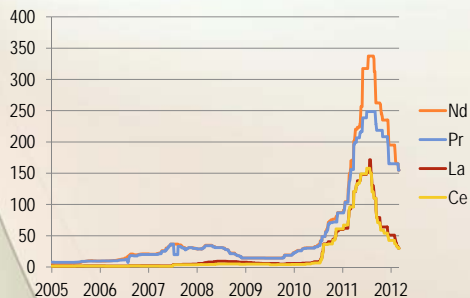
Sources: US Dept. Energy, TMR, Lynas

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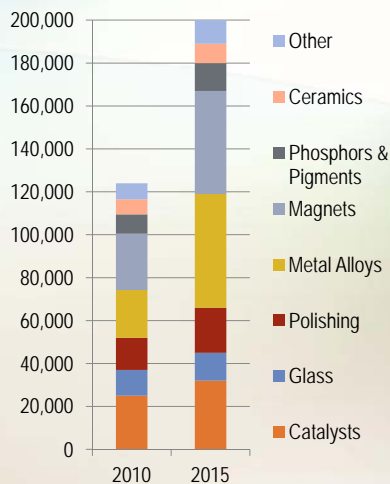
## Rare Earth Elements: Use

- Strong market growth
- Deficits likely for HREEs
- Price ramp up in in 2010/11, now partially unwound

REO prices, 99% purity (\$US/kg)



Outlook for Rare Earths (t)



Sources: IMCOA, Metal Pages

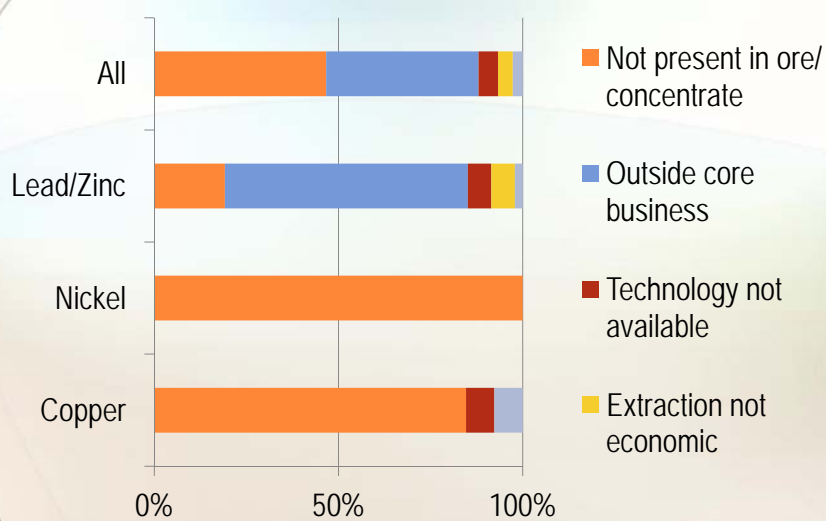
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## General Conclusions

- Spectrum of availability of data:
  - Government, industry could collaborate to improve it
  - Better trade statistics could be recorded
- Economics of by-production:
  - Mo, Co, REEs with primary production
  - Bi, Re, Se, Te solely as by-products
- Market outlook strongest for Te, REEs, Re
- Considerable opportunities to increase recovery of certain by-products or its efficiency
- Wastes could be sold on for by-product recovery

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## Barriers to By-Product Recovery



Sources: Oakdene Hollins Industry Survey

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## Questions & Answers

Thank-you for listening!

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