Kwinana Alumina Refinery

Operations

- Kwinana Alumina Refinery was commissioned in 1963 and was the first of Alcoa’s three Western Australian (WA) alumina refineries. It has an annual nameplate production capacity of 2.2 million metric tons and produces non-metallurgical alumina (15 per cent of production) and smelter-grade alumina (85 per cent of production).
- Alumina is the main feedstock for aluminium, the world’s most versatile, lightweight metal, and is extracted from bauxite.
- Kwinana refinery receives its bauxite ore from Alcoa’s Huntly Bauxite Mine.
- Approximately 75 per cent of the refinery’s total alumina production is exported to overseas markets, and the remaining 25 per cent is shipped to Alcoa’s Portland Aluminium Smelter in Victoria, Australia.
- The refinery operations occupy approximately 1,500-hectares within the Kwinana Industrial Area, 22 kilometres south of Perth.

Economic Impact

- Approximately 900 employees and 300 contractors work at the refinery. More than half of these employees live in the neighbouring communities of Kwinana, Cockburn and Rockingham.
- In 2019, 86 per cent of Alcoa Australia’s annual revenue stayed in Australia through wages, local purchasing, taxes, royalties and dividends to Australian shareholders.
  - Our Australian operations combined injected AU$1.1 billion into Australia’s local, state and federal governments through the payment of royalties, taxes, rates and charges.
  - Our WA operations injected approximately AU$617 million into the local community through direct salaries, wages and benefits and AU$1.5 billion in WA supply contracts.
  - Kwinana refinery’s contribution was approximately AU$127 million through salaries, wages and benefits and AU$356 million in supply contracts.
- Alcoa of Australia produces an annual Tax Transparency Report in support of high standards of corporate governance and an open approach to business conduct.

Community Engagement

- Refinery personnel engage with the local community through the Alcoa Environmental Improvement Plan Advisory Group, Kwinana Industries Council forums, strategy and project-based stakeholder reference groups and other forums as required.
- In 2019, Alcoa Foundation and Alcoa’s Australian operations invested AU$4.4 million into areas of need and worthy causes in communities near where we operate in WA.
  - Kwinana refinery invested approximately AU$130,000 in local community organisations through partnerships, along with further in-kind contributions.
  - Alcoa employees initiated 64 Alcoans Coming Together In Our Neighbourhoods (ACTION) events which saw local community organisations benefit from employee volunteer support.

Environment And Sustainability

- All WA mining and refining operations have earned certifications from the Aluminium Stewardship Initiative (ASI), which is validation of our commitment to responsible and sustainable production and working with stakeholders to deliver long-term value.
- Alcoa global research and development centre, the Alumina Centre of Excellence is located at the Kwinana refinery. The refinery implements a wide range of world-leading technology innovations that continuously improve production and environmental performance.
- Innovative residue filtration technology commissioned at Kwinana in 2017, reduces the need for solar drying of residue, which minimises water lost to evaporation. The new process enables more efficient land use and water savings of approximately 25 per cent.
Alcoa has operated in Australia for more than 57 years and in this time more than AU$12 billion has been invested by its Australian operations.

Alcoa’s Australian operations represent one of the world’s largest integrated bauxite mining, alumina refining and aluminium smelting systems.

Two bauxite mines and three alumina refineries in WA produce almost 45 per cent of Australia’s alumina. In Victoria, Portland Aluminium Smelter (which is 55 per cent owned by Alcoa of Australia) produces approximately 19 per cent of the nation’s aluminium.

Alcoa directly employs some 4250 people, predominantly from regional WA and Victoria. In 2019, Alcoa paid AU$681 million in wages and benefits.

Alcoa’s values ensure that employees act with integrity, operate with excellence and care for people.

Alcoa has been named an employer of choice for 18 consecutive years by the Federal Government’s Workplace Gender Equality Agency. Flexible work practices at Alcoa mean that employees can balance their personal interests and family life alongside their work commitments.

Alcoa Corporation is a global industry leader in bauxite, alumina and aluminium products, and is built on a foundation of strong values and operating excellence dating back more than 130 years to the world-changing discovery that made aluminium an affordable and vital part of modern life.

Since developing the aluminium industry, and throughout the company’s history, our talented employees have followed on with breakthrough innovations and best practices that have led to efficiency, safety, sustainability and stronger communities wherever we operate.

As a leader in the mining and metals industry, Alcoa has a strategic priority to advance sustainably and is a member of the International Council of Mining and Metals (ICMM).

Alcoa is the industry leader in the Sustainability Yearbook 2020, and was named the Aluminium Industry Leader in the 2019 Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI). Alcoa ranked on Fortune Magazine’s “World’s Most Admired Companies” list, and it is included in Bloomberg’s Gender-Equality Index.

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