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ALCOA FACTS SHEET

Aluminum Company of America (Alcoa) is the world's largest aluminum producer. It was the founder of the aluminum industry, originating in 1888. Charles Martin Hall, who discovered the electrolytic reduction process for aluminum, and other Pittsburgh, Pa., industrialists formed the company--known for the first 20 years as the "Pittsburgh Reduction Company."

Alcoa's total world-wide primary aluminum production today is 1,527,000 tons a year at 13 smelting plants in the U. S. and abroad (1,275,000 tons at 8 domestic smelters and 252,000 tons at five foreign smelters). Domestic smelters are at Point Comfort and Rockdale, Texas; Vancouver and Wenatchee, Washington; Alcoa, Tennessee; Badin, North Carolina; Warrick, Indiana; and Massena, New York. Foreign locations are at Geelong, Australia; Paranam, Suriname; Mosjoen, Norway; Lista, Norway; and Veracruz, Mexico.

Alcoa, with its subsidiaries, is an international, integrated producer and fabricator of aluminum. Its principal operations include:

1. Mining and processing of bauxite (an aluminum-bearing ore found in the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Suriname, Africa and in the state of Arkansas)
2. Transportation of bauxite
3. Refining bauxite into aluminum oxide (alumina)
4. Smelting of aluminum from the alumina
5. Production of aluminum alloys
6. Fabrication of aluminum and aluminum alloys into semi-finished mill products and finished products



Alcoa in Texas

Alcoa has three plants in Texas. They are (and their products):

1. Point Comfort Operations---The first facility to be built by Alcoa following World War II, and the first aluminum plant to be built in Texas. First aluminum production was in February, 1950. Today, the facility is made up of two "plants" within one fence---a smelting plant and a refining plant. Products include primary aluminum, alumina, natural gas (over 100 producing gas wells in area), hydrated alumina, aluminum fluoride, cryolite, caustic soda, chlorine, lime, salt, carbon briquettes, fabricating ingot and remelt ingot. Employment: about 2,100.

2. Rockdale Works---The second smelter to be built in Texas by Alcoa, Production of primary aluminum began in 1953. Other products are fabricating ingot, remelt ingot, powder and rod. Employment: about 1,400.

3. Marshall Works---Alcoa's first fabricating plant built in Texas. It was completed only last year. Produces aluminum electrical conductor. Employment: about 225 (plant not in full production).

Texas is second largest state in total primary aluminum production with 510,000 tons a year at the following three smelters:

1. Alcoa's Point Comfort Operations: 175,000 tons

2. Alcoa's Rockdale Works: 225,000 tons

3. Reynolds' San Patricio (Corpus Christi) Plant: 110,000 tons

State of Washington is No. 1 in primary aluminum production, with a total of 916,000 tons. Four companies operate six smelting plants in Washington. Reason: economical electrical (hydro) power. A smelting plant must have economical power because the electrolytic process requires great quantities of electrical energy.

Alcoa produces more aluminum in Texas than in any other state. Alcoa produces 400,000 tons annually in Texas at its Point Comfort and Rockdale plants, while its two Washington smelters at Vancouver and Wenatchee produce 275,000 tons.

Alcoa employs about 3,800 people at its three Texas plants, with a combined annual payroll of approximately $4 million.

Future of Alcoa in Texas: Construction now under way on one new potline at Rockdale Works, which will create about 200 additional jobs by the time it goes "on line" in 1970. Expansion has been almost continuous at Alcoa's Point Comfort Operations for the last 20 years. A multi-million dollar Well Brine Evaporator unit was completed in August, which is producing salt for the refining operations' Chlor-Alkali Plant.