

# Handbook on Rare Earth Metals and Alloys (Properties, Extraction, Preparation and Applications)

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Rare earths are essential constituents of more than 100 mineral species and present in many more through substitution. They have a marked geochemical affinity for calcium, titanium, niobium, zirconium, fluoride, phosphate and carbonate ions. Industrially important minerals, which are utilized at present for rare earths production, are essentially three, namely monazite, bastnasite and xenotime. In modern time techniques for exploration of rare earths and yttrium minerals include geologic identification of environments of deposition and surface as well as airborne reconnaissance with magnetometric and radiometric equipment. There are numerous applications of rare earths such as in glass making industry, cracking catalysts, electronic and optoelectronic devices, medical technology, nuclear technology, agriculture, plastic industry etc. Lot of metals and alloys called rare earth are lying in the earth which required to be processed. Some of the important elements extracted from rare earths are uranium, lithium, beryllium, selenium, platinum metals, tantalum, silicon, molybdenum, manganese, chromium, cadmium, titanium, tungsten, zirconium etc. There are different methods involved in production of metals and non metals from rare earths for example; separation, primary crushing, secondary crushing, wet grinding, dry grinding etc. The rare earths are silver, silverywhite, or gray metals; they have a high luster, but tarnish readily in air, have high electrical conductivity. The rare earths share many common properties this makes them difficult to separate or even distinguish from each other. There are very small differences in solubility and complex formation between the rare earths. The rare earth metals naturally occur together in minerals. Rare earths are found with non metals, usually in the 3+ oxidation state. At present all the rare earth resources in India are in the form of placer monazite deposits, which also carry other industrially important minerals like ilmenite, rutile, zircon, sillimanite and garnet.

Some of the fundamentals of the book are commercially important rare earth minerals, exploration for rare earth resources, rare earth resources of the world, some rare earth minerals and their approximate compositions, rare earths in cracking catalysts, rare earth based phosphors, interdependence of applications and production of rare earths, uranium alloys, conversion of ores to lithium chemicals, characterization and analysis of very pure silicon, derivation of molybdenum metal, electroplating and chromizing, electrolytic production of titanium, heat treatment of titanium alloys, tensile properties of alloys etc.

The book covers occurrence of rare earth, resources of the world, production of lithium metals, compounds derived from the metals, chemical properties of beryllium, uses of selenium, derivation of molybdenum metals, ore concentration and treatment and many more. This is a unique book of its kind, which will be a great asset for scientists, researchers, technocrats and entrepreneurs.

## Contents

## Natural Abundance

### Occurrence of Rare Earths

1. Placer Deposits
2. Vein Type Deposits
3. Bastnasite Deposits
4. Ion Adsorption Type Ores
5. Other Rare Earth Sources

### Commercially important Rare Earth Minerals

1. Monazite
2. Bastnasite
3. Xenotime

### Exploration for Rare Earth Resources

#### Rare Earth Resources of the world

1. China
2. United States of America
3. India

1. Beach Placers and Dunes
2. Inland Placers
3. Reserves of Monazite
4. Occurrence of Xenotime

#### 4. Australia

1. Placer Deposits
2. Hard rock Deposits
1. Mount Weld Deposit
2. Mary Kathleen
3. Port Pirie
4. Olympic Dam

#### 5. Brazil

#### Other countries

#### Table 1.

The Content of Rare Earths and Some Common Elements in the Igneous Rocks of the Earth's Crust

Table 2. Some Rare Earth Minerals and their Approximate Compositions

Table 3.

Typical Placer Minerals and their Specific Gravity

Table 4.

Mineralogical Composition of Typical Placer Samples, as mined in India and Australia

Table 5.

Rare Earth Distribution in Various Rock Forming and Accessory Mineral of Host Rock

Table 6.

The Rare Earth Pattern in Different Layers of an Ion Adsorption Type Deposit

Table 7.

Composition of REO recovered from major Ion-Adsorption Type Deposits in China

Table 8.

The REO Content of Different Types of Ores in China

Table 9.

Analysis of the Typical Loparite Sample

Table 10.

Rare Earths Distribution in Monazite from Different Sources (wt %)

Table 11.

Rare Earth Distribution in REO from Bastnasite from different Sources (wt. %)

Table 12.

Rare Earth Distribution in Xenotime Samples (wt.%)

Table 13.

Ore Types In Baiyunebo Deposit

Table 14.

Chemical Analysis of Ore Samples from Deposit no. 801, China

Table 15

Some Important Rare Earth Resources of Australia and their Rare Earth and Thorium content

Table 16

Countrywise Distribution of Rare Earth Resources

1. Arc Carbons

Glass Making Industry

1. Decolourization of glass

2. Colouring of glass

3. Special Glasses

1. Spectacle Glass

2. Television and Cathode Ray Tubes

3. Glass for Eye protection

4. Infrared Transmitting Glass

5. Radiation Protection Windows

6. Optical Glass

Laser Glass

Fibre

Glass Polishing Powders

1. Glass Polishing Technology

2. Different Types of Abrasives

3. Manufacturing Methods

4. Producers of Polishing Powders

4. Enamels and Glazes

Catalysts

1. Rare Earths in Cracking Catalysts .

1. Cracking Process

2. Evolution of the catalyst

3. Rare Earth, Exchange of the Zeolite

4. Composition of the catalyst

5. Role of Rare Earths in the Catalyst

Use of Rare Earth Zeolites

6. Rare Earth Consumption

7. Impact of Lead Additive Phase down

8. Scope for using cerium in FCC unit

2. Application of Cerium and Lanthanum in Auto-exhaust Catalysts

1. Catalyst Converter System

2. Role of Rare Earths

3. Other Catalyst Applications of Rare Earths

1. Methanation

2. Ammonia Synthesis

3. Homogenous Catalysis

4. Methane Conversion

Fine Ceramics

1. High Temperature Structural Ceramics

1. Stabilization of Zirconia

2. Sintering of Silicon Nitride ( $\text{Si}_3\text{N}_4$ )

3. Sintering of Silicon Carbide ( $\text{SiC}$ )

2. Functional Ceramics

1. Piezoelectric Materials

1. Role of REO in Piezoelectric Ceramics
2. Applications of Piezoelectric Ceramics
2. Optoelectronic Materials
  1. Applications
  2. Preparation of PLZT Materials
3. Thermistor, Varistor and Capacitor Materials
  1. PTC Thermistor
  2. Varistor Materials
3. Grain Boundary Barrier Layer (GBBL) Capacitors
4. Solid Oxide Fuel Cells
  1. Electrolyte
  2. Electrodes
  3. Interconnecting Material
5. Oxygen Sensors
6. Heating Elements
7. High Temperature Super-conducting Materials
- Rare Earth Based Phosphors
  1. General
    1. Laser Action
    2. Antistoke Emission
  2. Rare Earths as Phosphor Materials
    1. Fluorescence due to 4f Transitions
    2. Fluorescence due to Transitions from 5d to 4f Orbital
  3. Rare Earths as Phosphor Matrices
    3. Major Applications of Rare Earth Phosphors
      1. Low Pressure Mercury Lamps
        1. Desirable Phosphor Properties for Fluorescent Tubes
        2. Phosphors used in Tube Lights
        3. Rare Earth Phosphors in Fluorescent Tubes
          2. Rare Earths in High Pressure Mercury Vapour Lamps
            3. Trichromatic Compact Lamps
              1. Matching of Lamp Light to the Visual System
              2. Red Phosphor
              3. Green Phosphor
              4. Blue Phosphor
            5. Performance of the Trichromatic Lamp
          4. R&D in phosphor Development in India
        5. Preparation of Light Phosphors
        6. Application of Cathodoluminescence of Rare Earth
          1. Colour Television Phosphors
          2. Preparation of Phosphors
        7. Phosphors for Non-illumination Purposes
        8. Electroluminescent Phosphors
        9. Thermoluminescent Phosphors
        10. Rare Earth X-ray phosphors
          1. X-ray screens and scanners
          2. Advantage of Rare Earth Phosphors
          3. Rare Earth Compounds used in X-ray phosphors
        11. Rare Earths in other Medical Imagery
- Rare Earths in Nuclear Technology
  9. Miscellaneous Applications
    1. Application in Agriculture
      1. Techniques of Application

2. Nong-le and N.P.K. Fertilizers  
3. Areas of Application  
2. Dyeing and Currying  
3. Colouring of Plastics  
Interdependence of Applications and Production of Rare Earths  
Introductory  
Particle Characteristics  
Middlings  
Table 1.  
Types of Middling  
Staged Concentration  
Panning  
Gravity Separation  
Chemical Methods  
Flotation  
Magnetic and Electric Methods  
Amalgamation  
Exploitable Factors  
Concentration Formulae  
Preliminary  
Crushing  
Crushing Theory  
Physical Aspects of Comminution  
The Crushing Sequence  
Jaw Crushers  
Variations on the Blake  
The Dodge Crusher  
Gyratory Crushers  
Comparison of Jaw and Gyratory Crushers  
Mobile Crushing Units  
By-passing the Undersize  
Feeding Arrangements  
Protective Devices  
The Duty of the Section  
Lay-out and Equipment  
The Symons Cone Crusher  
Gearless Gyratories  
ROLLS  
Hammer Mills  
Gravity Stamps  
Dry Crushers, Summarised  
Optimum Grind  
Applied Power  
Useful or Net Power  
Grinding and the Particle  
Grinding Objectives  
Comminution of Particles  
Effect of Peripheral Speed  
The Return Load  
The Solid-Liquid Ratio  
Control  
Preliminary  
Fixed-path Mills

The Vibrating Mill  
Tumbling Mills  
Operation  
Application  
Mill Capacity  
General Conclusions  
Preliminary  
Milling Action  
Types of Mill  
The Hardinge Mill  
The Low-discharge Cylindrical Mill  
Tube, or High-discharge Mills  
The Cascade Mill  
Mill Liners  
Feeding  
Crushing Bodies  
Capacity  
Introduction  
Isotopes and Nuclear Reactions  
OCCURRENCE AND SOURCES  
PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS  
CONCENTRATION FROM ORES  
REFINING  
PREPARATION OF METAL  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
MECHANICAL AND METALLURGICAL BEHAVIOUR  
Hardness  
Elastic Properties  
Tensile Properties  
Creep  
Fatigue  
Deformation and Textures  
Recovery, Recrystallization, and Grain Growth  
RADIATION DAMAGE  
CHEMICAL BEHAVIOUR: REACTIONS AND COMPOUNDS  
Reactions with Nonmetallic Elements; Binary Compounds  
Reactions with Simple Compounds of Nonmetallic Elements  
Reactions with Aqueous Solutions  
Uranium Alloys  
Nonmetals: Carbon, Boron, and Silicon  
Metals  
Liquid Metals  
Phase Diagrams  
Table 13. Alloying Behavior of Uranium  
Metallography  
Melting and Casting  
Forging  
Rolling  
Extrusion  
Swaging and Drawing  
Machining  
Welding  
Powder Metallurgy

## USE OF URANIUM

In Nuclear Reactors

Other Uses

## INTRODUCTION

### OCCURRENCE

Cost Considerations

## CONVERSION OF ORES TO LITHIUM CHEMICALS

Production of Lithium Metal by Fused Salt Electrolysis

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES AND HANDLING OF THE METAL

Lithium Cartridges

Lithium Wire or Ribbon

Lithium Shot

Sodium-Free Lithium Metal

Molten Lithium

## COMPOUNDS DERIVED FROM THE METAL

Lithium and Hydrogen

Lithium and Nitrogen

Lithium and Oxygen

Lithium and Silicon

## OTHER LITHIUM COMPOUNDS

Lithium Hydroxide

Lithium Halides

Various Other Lithium Compounds

## ELECTROCHEMISTRY OF LITHIUM

Alloys

Lithium-Magnesium Alloys

Lithium-Aluminium Alloys

Lithium-Zinc Alloys

Lithium-Lead Alloys

## USES OF LITHIUM METAL

Lithium in Alloys

Lithium as a Degasifier and Refining Agent

Lithium in Cast Iron

Lithium in Steels

Lithium in Organic Chemistry

Lithium in Atomic-Energy Developments

Lithium in High-Energy Fuels

## USES OF LITHIUM COMPOUNDS

### INTRODUCTION

### OCCURRENCE

### PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS

### DERIVATION

Copeaux-Kawecki Process

Sawyer-Kjellgren Process

### PRODUCTION

Pure Beryllium Oxide

Beryllium Metal

Beryllium-Copper Master Alloy

### PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Beryllium

Beryllium Oxide

### CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF BERYLLIUM

### TOXICITY

## MECHANICAL PROPERTIES

Beryllium

Beryllium Alloys

## FABRICATION

Beryllium

Beryllium-Copper Alloys

## APPLICATIONS

Beryllium

Beryllium Oxide

Beryllium-Copper Alloys

Beryllium-Nickel Alloys

Beryllium-Iron Alloys

Miscellaneous Beryllium Alloys

## INTRODUCTION

## OCCURRENCE

## DERIVATION

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

The Solid State

The Liquid State

The Vapour State

Electrical Conductivity

Effect of Light on Electrical Properties of Selenium

## CHEMICAL PROPERTIES

Oxygen

Hydrogen

Halogens

## TOXICITY

## USES OF SELENIUM

Electronics Industry

Glass and Ceramics Industry

Pigment Industry

Steel Industry

Miscellaneous Uses

## INTRODUCTION

## OCCURRENCE

## PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS

## DERIVATION

Extraction of Platinum Metals from

Canadian Nickel Ores

Extraction of Platinum from South African Ores

Refining of Platinum Metal Concentrates

Treatment of Native Platinum

Refining of Scrap

## FABRICATION TECHNIQUES

Melting

Working

Electrodeposition

Vapour Deposition

Available Forms

## PHYSICAL PROPERTIES

Platinum

Palladium

Rhodium and Iridium



Ruthenium and Osmium  
Alloys of the Platinum Metals  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
Compact Metals  
Sponge and Powdered Metals  
"Blacks" and Colloidal Metals  
APPLICATIONS  
Platinum  
Palladium  
Rhodium  
Iridium  
Osmium  
Ruthenium  
History  
Occurrence and Sources  
Production and Price Statistics  
Extraction  
Production of Tantalum Metal  
Consolidation and Purification  
Physical Properties  
Mechanical Properties  
Chemical Properties  
Alloys  
Tantalum-Tungsten Alloys  
Fabrication  
Applications  
Surgical  
Nuclear Energy Systems  
Miscellaneous  
CALCIUM  
Derivation  
Physical Properties  
Mechanical Properties  
Applications  
Calcium Hydride  
Calcium Alloys  
BARIUM  
STRONTIUM  
INTRODUCTION  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS  
DERIVATION  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
APPLICATIONS  
SINGLE CRYSTALS  
CHARACTERIZATION AND ANALYSIS OF VERY PURE SILICON  
INTRODUCTION  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION AND STATISTICS  
Prices  
ORE PROCESSING  
DERIVATION OF MOLYBDENUM METAL

Powder Metallurgy Process  
Arc-Casting Process  
WORKING OF MOLYBDENUM  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
MECHANICAL PROPERTIES  
Corrosion Resistance of Metallic Molybdenum  
PROTECTION FROM OXIDATION  
MOLYBDENUM COMPOUNDS  
FABRICATION  
JOINING  
APPLICATIONS  
Molybdenum as an Alloying Element  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS  
DERIVATION  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
FABRICATION  
ALLOYS  
APPLICATIONS  
OCCURRENCE AND CHARACTERISTICS  
USES OF CHROMIUM ORE  
CHROMIUM METAL  
Alumino- and Silicothermic Chromium  
Carbon-Reduced Chromium  
Electrolytic Chromium  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES OF CHROMIUM  
Electronic Structure  
Thermal Properties  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
ANALYSIS OF CHROMIUM  
CHROMIUM TOXICOLOGY  
MELTING AND FABRICATION  
MECHANICAL PROPERTIES  
TENSILE PROPERTIES  
TRANSITION TEMPERATURE  
Electroplating and Chromizing  
CHROMIUM ALLOY SYSTEMS  
APPLICATIONS  
INTRODUCTION  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION AND STATISTICS  
DERIVATION  
Initial Recovery  
Purification  
Recovery  
Purification  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
Toxicity  
ALLOYS  
Binary Systems  
Ternary Systems

FABRICATION TECHNIQUES  
APPLICATIONS  
INTRODUCTION  
OCCURRENCE  
HISTORICAL REVIEW  
PROCESSES FOR MAKING BORON  
PRODUCTION OF BORON 10  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
METHODS OF ANALYSIS  
FABRICATION TECHNIQUES  
APPLICATIONS  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION  
EXTRACTIVE METALLURGY  
Oxide Reduction  
Magnesium Reduction of Titanium Tetrachloride  
Sodium Reduction Titanium Tetrachloride  
The Iodide Process  
Electrolytic Production of Titanium  
PHYSICAL AND MECHANICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
Corrosion  
Oxidation  
Chemical Compounds  
PHYSICAL METALLURGY  
Alloying Principles  
Heat Treatment of Titanium Alloys  
Metallography  
PROCESSING AND FABRICATION  
Melting  
Fabrication  
APPLICATIONS OF TITANIUM  
INTRODUCTION  
OCCURRENCE  
PRODUCTION AND ECONOMIC STATISTICS  
METALLURGY  
Ferrotungsten  
Tungsten Compounds  
Tungsten Metal  
Reduction  
Tungsten Carbide  
PHYSICAL PROPERTIES  
MECHANICAL PROPERTIES  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
ALLOYS  
Tungsten-Molybdenum, Columbium, Tantalum, Chromium  
Tungsten-Rhenium  
Tungsten-Iron  
Tungsten-Cobalt  
Tungsten-Nickel  
Tungsten-Nickel-Copper  
Tungsten Steels

Miscellaneous  
ANALYSIS AND METALLOGRAPHY  
FABRICATION  
Ductile Rod and Wire  
Tungsten Sheet  
Slip Casting  
Arc Casting  
Electron Beam Melting  
Hydrostatic Compacting  
Flame Spraying  
Sintered Carbide  
APPLICATIONS  
Present Applications  
Potential Applications  
INTRODUCTION  
Sources of zirconium  
ORE CONCENTRATION AND TREATMENT  
Separation of Zirconium and Hafnium  
PRODUCTION OF DUCTILE ZIRCONIUM METAL  
Reduction of  $ZrO_2$   
Reduction of Zirconium Halides  
Reduction of Other Compounds  
Reduction of  $ZrCl_4$  with Mg – the Kroll Process  
Iodide Decomposition Process  
Electrodeposition of Zirconium  
Physical and mechanical properties  
CHEMICAL PROPERTIES  
Reaction with Gases  
Reaction with Halogens  
Miscellaneous  
CORROSION RESISTANCE  
Corrosion in Various Media  
Corrosion in Gases  
Corrosion in Liquid Metals  
Corrosion in Other Media  
MELTING ZIRCONIUM  
FABRICATION  
Rolling and Forging  
Extrusion  
Cold Working  
Machining  
Power Brake Forming  
Surface Finishing  
Welding  
ZIRCONIUM-ALLOY SYSTEMS  
Tensile Properties of Alloys  
Zircaloy  
APPLICATIONS

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