

NICKEL RECYCLING

Recycling nickel is an important factor in nickel life-cycle and an important contributor to global sustainability. Products containing nickel, such as stainless steel, are durable and are in use for a long time. The demand for nickel is growing. Nickel recycling is part of the solution, as a complement to primary production.

57%

of all mined nickel is still in use due to the long lifetime of the products

EXTRACT

abundant resource for the future

+60 MILLION TONS¹
historically mined nickel

600 MILLION TONS²
Potentially available nickel resources worldwide

FULLY RECYCLABLE

Nickel is a sustainable natural resource, which cannot be consumed. It can be fully recycled again and again without loss of quality.

USE

material recycling potential at the end of life

MANUFACTURE

conversion of nickel into end-use products

NICKEL END OF LIFE (EOL)⁴ RECYCLING RATE

63%

2000

63%

2005

68%

2010⁵

CO₂

The global nickel-related CO₂ emissions are reduced by one third³ thanks to nickel recycling.

Nickel
INSTITUTE

knowledge for a brighter future

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Sources:

- 1 USGS Minerals information: Historical Global Statistics for Mineral and Material Commodities.
- 2 Mudd and Jowitt (2014) – A detailed assessment of global nickel resource trends and endowments. Economic Geology v. 109 pp 1813-1841.
- 3 Eckelmann M. J. Facility-level energy and greenhouse gas life-cycle assessment of the global nickel industry. Resources, Conservation and Recycling Volume 54, Issue 4, February 2010, Pages 256–266.
- 4 Declaration by the metals industry on Recycling Principle (<https://nickelinstitute.org/en/Sustainability/LifeCycleManagement/RecyclingofNickel/DeclarationOnRecycling.aspx>)
- 5 Reck B. Comprehensive Multilevel Cycles for Nickel. Internal report for the Nickel Institute, 2015.

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