

Aluminium production efficiency while reducing PFC emissions

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What is PFC?

- PFC = per-fluor-carbones
 - CF4 GWP = 7 390 kg CO2e/kg
 - C2F6 GWP = 12 200 kg CO2e/kg
- Caused by reaction between the electrolyte and the anode in the aluminium electrolysis process – so called anode effects
- Unstable production = high PFC emissions





Carbon footprint of aluminium





Development in PFC emissions





How did we get there?

- Stricter regulations has led to increased focus
- Phase out of old technology
- New technology elements
- Operational stability
- Good, fact-based dialogue with the authorities
- High level research on the relation between operational control and emissions has led to increased understanding and better operational stability
- Good control = high efficiency = low emissions



Way forward

- Potential for further reductions in PFC emissions is limited
- No technological breakthrough is expected in the foreseeable future
- EU ETS puts pressure on further emission reductions
- GHG reductions will come in the form of reduced anode consumption and higher energy efficiency
- Aluminium as a metal is an enabler for GHG savings in other sectors (like transport and buildings)

Lower emissions

kg CO₂e / Kg aluminium



werage specific emissions from Hydro's Norwegian smellers

Improved energy-efficiency* kWh / Kg Aluminium



Average specific energy consumption from 100%-owned Norwegian smelters





