

# PROJECT FACT SHEET

GLENCORE

## Aurukun Bauxite

ABOUT BAUXITE

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### WHAT IS IT?

Bauxite is a rock that is formed by the weathering of rocks rich in aluminium.

Bauxite deposits are normally found close to the surface in wet tropical and subtropical climates.



### WHERE DO YOU FIND IT?

Australia has the world's second largest reserves of bauxite.

Most Australian deposits have the disadvantage of being relatively high in silica, however, the Australian deposits are shallow and relatively easy to mine.

There are major bauxite mining areas in Cape York, Northern Territory and Western Australia. There are also a number of alumina refineries in Western Australia and Queensland as well as smelters in southern Australia.



Huntly mine, WA

### HOW DO YOU USE IT?

Bauxite is the world's main source of aluminium.

Aluminium is used for many different purposes:

- In cars and airplanes
- In soft drink cans
- In buildings

Aluminium is light, resists corrosion and is 100% recyclable so can be re-used many times.



Yarwun Refinery, QLD

### PRODUCING ALUMINIUM

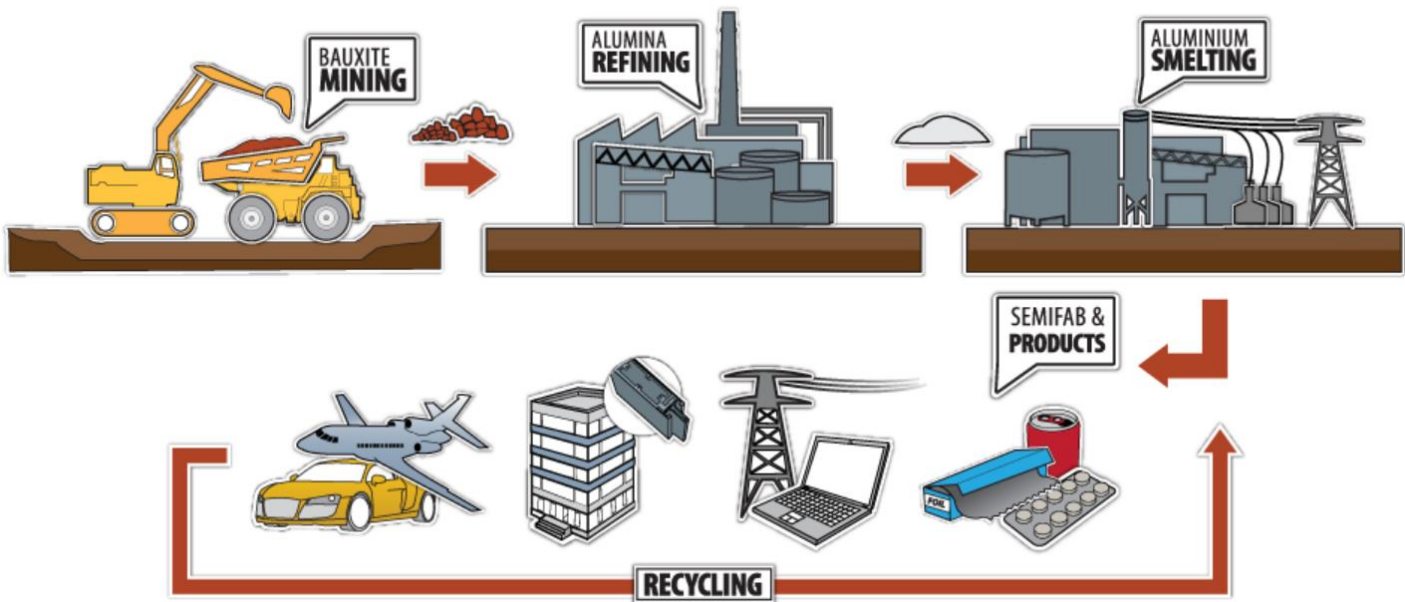
Alumina refineries process bauxite ore to produce alumina. A refinery will use energy, caustic soda, water and other inputs to form alumina.

Alumina will then be fed into a smelter which extracts metal from the alumina powder.

Aluminium metal is then used by many different manufacturers around the world.



### THE ALUMINUM PRODUCTION PROCESS



Source: <http://aluminium.org.au>

### THE ROLE FOR AURUKUN BAUXITE

The Aurukun Bauxite Project is assessing the feasibility of developing a bauxite mine near Aurukun.

If developed, any bauxite produced would be sold to customers who would use the bauxite to refine into alumina – most likely in China.

**FURTHER  
INFORMATION**

[www.aluminium.org.au](http://www.aluminium.org.au)