

Power Supply Outages to Cells in Aluminium Smelters

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Abstract

The need for the reliability of power supply to the cells in the aluminium reduction process is well known. However, there was a peak of outages in the period 2008 to 2011 coinciding with the start up of new large smelters and the reliability of supply to Western smelters is still not improving. Readily available data over the last fifteen years is provided. This data is used to develop a high level root cause analysis, which is used to provide suggestions for a way forward.

Keywords: Reliability of power supply to aluminium reduction cells; power interruptions to smelters; root cause analysis.