

# VANADIUM

By Henry E. Hilliard

Vanadium, when present in small amounts in certain ferrous alloys, can significantly improve their properties. Manufacturers of automobiles and machinery recognized the toughness and fatigue resistance of vanadium alloys as far back as the early 1900's, incorporating the alloys in axles, crankshafts, gears, and other critical components. Vanadium has been used together with aluminum to give the required strength in titanium alloys used in jet engines and high-speed airframes. Vanadium improves the properties of alloys by reacting with carbon and nitrogen to form refractory carbides and carbonitrides, which act as precipitation strengtheners and grain refiners.

In addition to its metallurgical uses, vanadium has a wide range of uses that include catalytic, ceramic, and electronic applications. The first use of vanadium as a catalyst was in the production of sulfuric acid by the contact process. This type of catalyst was introduced into the United States in 1926 and gradually replaced platinum. Vanadium replaced platinum because it is more resistant to poisoning, is inexpensive, and is relatively abundant when compared to platinum. Sulfuric acid, known since the Middle Ages, has been an important item of commerce for more than 200 years. The catalytic activity of vanadium oxides enables the controlled oxidation of naphthalene and oxylene to phthalic anhydride, and of butane and benzene to maleic anhydride. Both compounds are essential monomers in the production of polyesters and plastics.

Few U.S. vanadium producers would call it an outstanding year, but most were satisfied with the results of 1994. Prices began to rise in the fourth quarter, and most other indicators of industry health, such as sales and shipments, began to move upwards as well. After more than 4 years of decline during which the price of vanadium pentoxide and ferrovanadium fell more than 50% from their 1989 peak, the change was welcome by U.S. vanadium producers.

The gains came, for the most part not from stronger demand, but through cutting costs, increased productivity, and production curtailments in a market that had been in oversupply for more than 4 years. There were signs that the most recent recession was over and that the newly trim vanadium industry

might find 1995 a better year than 1994.

## Legislation and Government Programs

Importers of Russian ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium into the United States faced preliminary antidumping duties following a U.S. Department of Commerce preliminary determination, announced on December 28, 1994. In accordance with the preliminary determination, the U.S. Customs Service was directed to suspend liquidation of all entries of ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium from the Russian Federation that had entered, or been withdrawn from warehouses for consumption on or after January 4, 1995, the date the notice was published in the Federal Register. The Customs Service would require a cash deposit or posting of a bond equal to the amount by which the fair market value exceeds the U.S. price. A final determination was postponed until the 135th day after the publication of the notice in the Federal Register.<sup>1</sup>

The Defense Logistics Agency was authorized to sell vanadium pentoxide ( $V_2O_5$ ) in fiscal year 1995. The Pentagon decided that  $V_2O_5$  was no longer needed in the National Defense Stockpile (NDS) and approved the sale of the entire stock. This will be the first vanadium sales from NDS since 1972. At yearend, the NDS contained 651 metric tons of  $V_2O_5$ .

## Production

Vanadium pentoxide is the starting material for the production of most useful vanadium products. An exception is the direct production of ferrovanadium from vanadium-bearing iron slag by Shieldalloy Metallurgical Corp., at its plant in Cambridge, OH. In 1994 there were four active vanadium pentoxide mills in the United States: AMAX Metals Recovery Corp., Braithwaite, LA; Gulf Chemical and Metallurgical Corp., Freeport, TX; Kerr McGee Chemical Corp., Soda Springs, ID; and U.S. Vanadium Corp., Hot Springs, AR. U.S. Vanadium is a subsidiary of Strategic Minerals Corp., Danbury, CT, a totally integrated vanadium producer. A fifth mill, Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc. (formerly Umetco Minerals Corp.) Blanding, UT, was idle the entire year.

Domestic production data for vanadium were

developed by the U.S. Bureau of Mines (USBM) from a voluntary survey of all U.S. operations. All five U.S. producers responded to the survey. In addition to the vanadium pentoxide mills, the Bureau canvassed three other companies which produce ferrovanadium, vanadium metal, vanadium chemicals, and other specialty vanadium alloys, e.g. aluminum-vanadium master alloys. These three companies also responded to the voluntary survey.

Production of vanadium pentoxide grew by 3% in 1994. Production grew by 9% in 1993 as well, after declining by about 18% in 1992. Production of downstream vanadium products varied widely, however. Production of ferrovanadium grew by 8%, whereas that for aluminum-vanadium master alloys increased by more than 20%. Preliminary data for the production of vanadium chemicals and catalysts indicate a moderate decrease in production. There was no domestic production of vanadium from primary ores in 1994. Raw materials included ferrophosphorous slag, spent catalyst, fly ash, and petroleum residues.

## Consumption

Consumption data for vanadium were developed by the USBM from a voluntary survey of all known domestic consumers. There were 61 respondents to the 1994 survey, down from 83 in 1993. The 61 respondents represented 77% of the total canvassed and were estimated to have accounted for 90% of total consumption, or about 3,860 tons. The consumption of nonrespondents was estimated based on past consumption relationships, trends, and data from nonsurvey sources to be about 430 tons. The USBM estimate of total U.S. consumption of vanadium in 1994 was 4,290 tons as shown in table 1.

Metallurgical applications continued to dominate vanadium usage in 1994, accounting for more than 95% of total consumption. Nonmetallurgical applications included catalysts, ceramics, and vanadium chemicals. The USBM did not publish consumption figures for the nonmetallurgical end-use categories for 1994. However, the dominant nonmetallurgical use was in catalysts. Much less was consumed in ceramics and electronics. (See table 4.)

## Prices

At yearend 1994, world vanadium supply and demand were in balance for the first time in more than 3 years. One large producer estimated world production of  $V_2O_5$  in 1994 at 44,000 tons. The Republic of South Africa's (RSA) Minerals Bureau reported that about 52,600 tons of  $V_2O_5$  were produced in 1993. The approximately 16% decrease in production mainly represented curtailments by producers in RSA and China, which effectively removed more than 5,000 tons of  $V_2O_5$  from the world market. At the same time, steel production in the United States and the European Union increased in 1994; the price of molybdenum, for which vanadium may be substituted in some application, soared. As a result, vanadium prices firmed in the fourth quarter of 1994 and actually began to rise after more than 3 years of steady decline.

The domestic price, in first quarter 1994, of  $V_2O_5$  was \$1.35 to \$1.40 per pound. By the end of December, the range was \$4.25 to \$5.00 per pound; the spot market price at the end of December 1994 ranged from \$3.90 to \$5.10 per pound. Ferrovanadium prices in 1994 were as follows (pounds/vanadium content): first quarter, \$3.50 to \$4.00; second quarter, \$3.90 to \$4.15; third quarter, \$3.90 to \$4.15; and fourth quarter, \$4.15 to \$7.95. Part of the price increase of ferrovanadium was caused by an increase in the price of aluminum, which increased from \$0.50 per pound in January to \$0.90 per pound in December. Aluminum is used as a reducing agent in the production of ferrovanadium. Another factor was the imposition of antidumping duties, ranging from 40.46 to 108 weighted average margin percent, on imports of low cost Russian ferrovanadium and nitrided vanadium into the United States.

## Current Research and Technology

A family of oxides that contracts uniformly when heated near room temperature reportedly has been discovered. The new materials, discovered by researchers at Oregon State University, are the first that shrink in all three dimensions when heated at or above room temperature. Most materials expand when heated, though a few are known to expand in some dimensions and contract in others. Some glasses are known to contract uniformly in all directions, but only at temperatures below room temperature. The materials contain zirconium, vanadium, phosphorus, and oxygen, with a typical composition being  $ZrVPO_7$ . Contraction occurs because the bond angle in certain linkages, such as P-O-P and V-O-V, diminishes as the temperature increases. This behavior was

seen from room temperature to 900° C. Such contracting materials could be combined with expanding materials to form a composite whose dimensions do not change on heating or cooling. This type of composite would be of interest as a structural material in optical and electronic devices, whose performance can be affected by thermal contraction and expansion.<sup>2</sup>

An experimental ferritic steel, under development at Mintek in the RSA, was said to have properties that are equal to or superior to the austenitic grades. The new iron-base alloy contains 18% chromium and up to 4% vanadium. According to Mintek, the alloy had superior resistance to corrosion induced pitting in chloride solutions. This feature, combined with a ductile-to-brittle temperature of less than -40° C, gave the new alloy the potential to capture part of the market for type 304 and type 316 stainless steel.<sup>3</sup>

## Outlook

World steel production, which consumes more than 90% of total vanadium demand, was expected to continue to recover in 1995. Relatively vigorous growth in all markets in 1995 was expected to lead to an increase of about 3.5% in global apparent steel consumption, equal to an increase of more than 21 million tons of finished products. Reflecting the recovery in apparent steel consumption, production of crude steel at the world level was expected to increase by about 3.2% to 746 million tons.<sup>4</sup> At that level, world demand for vanadium was expected to be 61,000 tons of  $V_2O_5$  equivalents. The U.S. steel industry forecasted strong demand for 1995. Estimates for 1995 U.S. mill shipments ranged from 90 to 95 million tons.<sup>5</sup> At that level, U.S. demand for vanadium was expected to be 7,770 tons  $V_2O_5$  equivalents. Whatever the short to medium-term prospects of the steel industry, stability in the vanadium industry will depend on the possibility of further new vanadium capacity and the reopening of mothballed plants. Vanadium supply and demand should remain in balance through 1995, provided there is no new capacity and the mothballed plants remain closed.

<sup>1</sup>Federal Register, v. 60, No. 2, Wed., Jan. 4, 1995, pp. 438-441.

<sup>2</sup>Chemical and Engineering News, Sept. 5, 1994, p. 35.

<sup>3</sup>MINTEK Bulletin, No. 78, Nov. 1994.

<sup>4</sup>Steel Times International, v. 19, No. 1, Jan. 1995, p. 4.

<sup>5</sup>Iron Age-New Steel, v. 11, No. 1, Jan. 1995, p. 10.

## OTHER SOURCES OF INFORMATION

### U.S. Bureau of Mines Publications

Iron and Steel. Ch. in Minerals Yearbook, annual.

Vanadium. Ch. in Mineral Commodity Summaries.

Vanadium. Reported monthly in Mineral Industry Surveys.

### Other Sources

Chemical and Engineering News.

Engineering and Mining Journal.

Metal Bulletin Monthly (London).

Metal Price Support (London).

Metalworking News.

Roskill Reports (London).

TABLE 1  
SALIENT VANADIUM STATISTICS 1/

(Metric tons of contained vanadium unless otherwise specified)

|  | 1990      | 1991      | 1992      | 1993      | 1994      |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| United States:                                   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Production:                                      |           |           |           |           |           |
| Ore and concentrate:                             |           |           |           |           |           |
| Recoverable vanadium 2/                          | W         | W         | W         | W         | W         |
| Value thousands                                  | W         | W         | W         | W         | W         |
| Vanadium oxide recovered from ore 3/             | W         | W         | W         | W         | W         |
| Vanadium recovered from petroleum residues 4/    | 2,310     | 2,250     | 1,350     | 2,870     | 2,740 e/  |
| Consumption                                      | 4,080     | 3,290     | 4,080     | 3,970     | 4,290     |
| Exports:   |           |           |           |           |           |
| Ferrovandium                                     | 271       | 94        | 213       | 219       | 374       |
| Vanadium pentoxide (anhydride)                   | 819       | 700       | 26        | 126       | 335       |
| Other oxides and hydroxides of vanadium          | 976       | 1,110     | 1,110     | 895       | 1,050     |
| Imports for consumption:                         |           |           |           |           |           |
| Ferrovandium                                     | 244       | 420       | 592       | 1,630     | 1,910     |
| Vanadium pentoxide (anhydride)                   | 83        | 133       | 206       | 70        | 294       |
| Other oxides and hydroxides of vanadium          | 271       | 110       | 103       | 19        | 3         |
| Ore, slag, ash, and residues                     | 3,830     | 882       | 838       | 1,450     | 1,900     |
| World: Production from ore, concentrate, slag 5/ | 36,900 r/ | 34,300 r/ | 31,500 r/ | 33,400 r/ | 33,900 e/ |

e/ Estimated. r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data.

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits.

2/ Recoverable vanadium contained in uranium and vanadium ores and concentrates received at mill, plus vanadium recovered from ferrophosphorus derived from domestic phosphate rock.

3/ Produced directly from all domestic ores and ferrophosphorus slag; includes metavanadates.

4/ Includes vanadium recovered from fly ash, residues, and spent catalysts.

5/ Excludes U.S. production.

TABLE 2  
U.S. VANADIUM PENTOXIDE PRODUCERS

| Producer                            | Plant location   | Capacity<br>(metric tons<br>pentoxide per year) |
|-------------------------------------|------------------|---|
| AMAX Metals Recovery Inc.           | Braithwaite, LA  | 1,800   |
| Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc.          | Blanding, UT     | 6,800   |
| Gulf Chemical & Metallurgical Corp. | Freeport, TX     | 1,400   |
| Kerr-McGee Chemical Corp.           | Soda Springs, ID | 2,000   |
| U.S. Vanadium Corp.                 | Hot Springs, AR  | 6,800   |

TABLE 3  
U.S. CONSUMPTION AND CONSUMER STOCKS OF VANADIUM MATERIALS 1/

(Kilograms of contained vanadium)

| Form                     | 1993         |               | 1994        |               |
|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
|                          | Consumption  | Ending stocks | Consumption | Ending stocks |
| Ferrovandium 2/<br>Oxide | 3,600,000 r/ | 297,000       | 3,890,000   | 446,000       |
| Ammonium metavanadate    | 15,100       | 9,200         | 18,700      | 9,970         |
| Other 3/                 | 2,170        | 1,900         | W           | W             |
| Total                    | 348,000 r/   | 20,700        | 382,000     | 17,500        |
|                          | 3,970,000    | 329,000       | 4,290,000   | 473,000       |

r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Other."

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes other vanadium-iron-carbon alloys as well as vanadium oxides added directly to steel.

3/ Consists principally of vanadium-aluminum alloy and small quantities of other vanadium alloys and vanadium metal.

TABLE 4  
U.S. CONSUMPTION OF VANADIUM IN 1994, BY END USE 1/

(Kilograms of contained vanadium)

| End use   | Quantity  |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Steel:</b>                                     |           |
| Carbon  | 1,680,000 |
| Stainless and heat-resisting                      | 26,000    |
| Full alloy  | 777,000   |
| High-strength low-alloy                           | 979,000   |
| Tool  | 424,000   |
| Unspecified                                       | 10,500    |
| Total   | 3,890,000 |
| Cast irons  | 31,400    |
| Superalloys                                       | 15,600    |
| <b>Alloys (excluding steels and superalloys):</b> |           |
| Cutting and wear-resistant materials              | 311       |
| Welding and alloy hard-facing rods and materials  | 2,750     |
| Magnetic alloys                                   | W         |
| Other alloys                                      | 323,000   |
| <b>Chemical and ceramic uses:</b>                 |           |
| Catalysts   | W         |
| Pigments  | W         |
| Miscellaneous and unspecified                     | 22,800    |
| Grand total                                       | 4,290,000 |

W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; included with "Miscellaneous and unspecified."

1/ Data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to total shown.

TABLE 5  
U. S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM-VANADIUM MASTER ALLOY, FERROVANADIUM, OXIDES AND HYDROXIDES  
OF VANADIUM, AND VANADIUM METAL 1/

(Kilograms, vanadium content unless otherwise specified)

| Material and country                                     | 1993           |                   | 1994             |                   |
|--|----------------|-------------------|------------------|-------------------|
|  | Quantity       | Value             | Quantity         | Value             |
| <b>Aluminum-vanadium master alloy: 2/ (gross weight)</b> |                |                   |                  |                   |
| Australia  | 3,560          | \$67,500          | 274              | \$3,570           |
| Brazil   | 2,170          | 29,300            | 20,900           | 30,700            |
| Canada   | 153,000        | 2,000,000         | 127,000          | 1,680,000         |
| Egypt  | 1,440          | 20,100            | --               | --                |
| France   | 752            | 12,700            | 172              | 18,500            |
| Germany  | 85             | 13,900            | 8,520            | 107,000           |
| Hong Kong  | 248            | 3,230             | 1,990            | 25,900            |
| India  | --             | --                | 1,590            | 20,700            |
| Indonesia  | --             | --                | 1,540            | 20,000            |
| Israel   | 323            | 4,190             | --               | --                |
| Italy  | --             | --                | 130              | 3,610             |
| Japan  | 13,200         | 166,000           | 27,300           | 488,000           |
| Korea, Republic of                                       | 6,180          | 83,700            | 256              | 29,100            |
| Malaysia   | 195            | 2,530             | 2,160            | 28,000            |
| Mexico   | 589,000        | 7,660,000         | 758,000          | 9,860,000         |
| Netherlands  | 8,550          | 313,000           | --               | --                |
| Norway   | --             | --                | 362              | 4,710             |
| Romania  | 3,410          | 44,300            | --               | --                |
| Saudi Arabia   | --             | --                | 233              | 3,410             |
| Singapore  | --             | --                | 3,200            | 41,500            |
| South Africa, Republic of                                | 78,900         | 273,000           | --               | --                |
| Spain  | --             | --                | 10,300           | 7,940             |
| Taiwan   | 1,860          | 20,900            | 7,960            | 96,900            |
| United Kingdom   | 2,320          | 46,200            | 41,800           | 233,000           |
| Venezuela  | 568            | 7,380             | 11,600           | 151,000           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>866,000</b> | <b>10,800,000</b> | <b>1,030,000</b> | <b>12,900,000</b> |
| <b>Ferrovanadium:</b>                                    |                |                   |                  |                   |
| Canada   | 163,000        | 1,870,000         | 319,000          | 3,420,000         |
| Colombia   | --             | --                | 375              | 9,600             |
| Japan  | --             | --                | 4,100            | 137,000           |
| Mexico   | 45,300         | 551,000           | 38,700           | 552,000           |
| South Africa, Republic of                                | --             | --                | 593              | 19,800            |
| Sweden   | 10,800         | 359,000           | 2,970            | 99,000            |
| Taiwan   | --             | --                | 4,260            | 44,000            |
| United Kingdom   | --             | --                | 3,750            | 125,000           |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>219,000</b> | <b>2,780,000</b>  | <b>374,000</b>   | <b>4,410,000</b>  |
| <b>Vanadium pentoxide (anhydride): 3/</b>                |                |                   |                  |                   |
| Australia  | --             | --                | 300              | 2,850             |
| Belgium  | 5,230          | 49,700            | 207,000          | 1,160,000         |
| Brazil   | --             | --                | 34,800           | 214,000           |
| Chile  | 1,280          | 12,200            | 302              | 2,870             |
| Finland  | 1,070          | 12,100            | --               | --                |
| Germany  | 92,400         | 380,000           | 18,200           | 90,200            |
| Italy  | --             | --                | 5,020            | 37,100            |
| Japan  | --             | --                | 13,700           | 87,400            |
| Kuwait   | 3,270          | 24,500            | --               | --                |
| Mexico   | 820            | 16,800            | 16,900           | 137,000           |
| Netherlands  | --             | --                | 15,900           | 87,800            |
| Netherlands Antilles                                     | --             | --                | 363              | 3,450             |
| Pakistan   | 5,090          | 79,700            | 3,970            | 50,800            |
| South Africa, Republic of                                | 16,800         | 136,000           | 60               | 2,700             |
| Spain  | --             | --                | 418              | 3,970             |
| Switzerland  | --             | --                | 15,900           | 83,400            |
| Trinidad and Tobago                                      | --             | --                | 2,500            | 38,500            |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>126,000</b> | <b>710,000</b>    | <b>335,000</b>   | <b>2,000,000</b>  |

See footnotes at end of table.

TABLE 5 -- Continued  
 U. S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM-VANADIUM MASTER ALLOY, FERROVANADIUM, OXIDES AND HYDROXIDES  
 OF VANADIUM, AND VANADIUM METAL 1/

(Kilograms, vanadium content unless otherwise specified)

| Material and country                     | 1993     |           | 1994      |           |
|--|----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|  | Quantity | Value     | Quantity  | Value     |
| Other oxides and hydroxides of vanadium: |          |           |           |           |
| Austria                                  | --       | --        | 589       | \$32,600  |
| Belgium                                  | 19,500   | \$81,300  | --        | --        |
| Brazil                                   | --       | --        | 12,200    | 250,000   |
| Canada                                   | 627,000  | 2,920,000 | 679,000   | 3,230,000 |
| Chile                                    | --       | --        | 9,740     | 51,700    |
| France                                   | 3,250    | 265,000   | 69,200    | 571,000   |
| Germany                                  | --       | --        | 1,870     | 9,560     |
| Hong Kong                                | --       | --        | 17        | 2,920     |
| Japan                                    | 36,300   | 143,000   | 14,500    | 71,600    |
| Mexico                                   | 13,300   | 38,500    | 2,910     | 11,900    |
| Netherlands                              | 16,000   | 115,000   | 7,770     | 88,900    |
| Nicaragua                                | --       | --        | 5,340     | 36,100    |
| Russia                                   | --       | --        | 2,600     | 274,000   |
| South Africa, Republic of                | 64,500   | 288,000   | 156,000   | 630,000   |
| Sweden                                   | 89,800   | 535,000   | --        | --        |
| United Kingdom                           | --       | --        | 4,970     | 36,700    |
| Venezuela                                | 25,200   | 158,000   | 84,400    | 575,000   |
| Total                                    | 895,000  | 4,540,000 | 1,050,000 | 5,870,000 |

r/ Revised.

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Includes vanadium metal.

3/ May include catalysts containing vanadium pentoxide.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM-VANADIUM MASTER ALLOY,  
FERROVANADIUM, OXIDES AND HYDROXIDES OF VANADIUM, AND VANADIUM METAL 1/

(Kilograms, vanadium content unless otherwise specified)

| Material and country   | 1993      |            | 1994      |            |
|--|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
|  | Quantity  | Value      | Quantity  | Value      |
| <b>Aluminum-vanadium master alloy: (gross weight)</b>            |           |            |           |            |
| Germany  | 19,100    | \$499,000  | 38,400    | \$948,000  |
| <b>Ferrovandium:</b>   |           |            |           |            |
| Austria  | 160,000   | 1,520,000  | 78,400    | 628,000    |
| Belgium  | 46,100    | 328,000    | --        | --         |
| Canada   | 387,000   | 3,560,000  | 639,000   | 5,270,000  |
| France   | 8,610     | 81,700     | --        | --         |
| Germany  | 179,000   | 1,120,000  | 31,000    | 181,000    |
| Japan  | 30,600    | 235,000    | --        | --         |
| Russia   | 688,000   | 4,380,000  | 1,110,000 | 6,480,000  |
| Switzerland  | 39,500    | 308,000    | --        | --         |
| Ukraine  | 40,800    | 304,000    | 9,480     | 53,100     |
| United Kingdom   | 48,900    | 394,000    | 37,300    | 238,000    |
| Total  | 1,630,000 | 12,200,000 | 1,910,000 | 12,900,000 |
| <b>Vanadium pentoxide (anhydride): 2/</b>                        |           |            |           |            |
| Canada   | 1,050     | 17,500     | 138       | 2,300      |
| France   | --        | --         | 851       | 152,000    |
| Germany  | 580       | 13,000     | 848       | 24,300     |
| Russia   | --        | --         | 80,700    | 250,000    |
| South Africa, Republic of  | 68,200    | 350,000    | 211,000   | 1,290,000  |
| United Kingdom   | --        | --         | 14        | 47,700     |
| Total  | 69,800    | 381,000    | 294,000   | 1,770,000  |
| <b>Other oxides and hydroxides of vanadium:</b>                  |           |            |           |            |
| Canada   | 32        | 2,930      | 238       | 4,020      |
| China  | --        | --         | 3,230     | 35,700     |
| France   | 8,270     | 140,000    | --        | --         |
| Germany  | 647       | 12,500     | 2         | 1,630      |
| Russia   | 740       | 4,470      | --        | --         |
| South Africa, Republic of  | 2,140     | 8,720      | --        | --         |
| United Kingdom   | 6,850     | 124,000    | --        | --         |
| Total  | 18,700    | 292,000    | 3,470     | 41,300     |
| <b>Vanadium metal, including waste and scrap: (gross weight)</b> |           |            |           |            |
| Canada   | --        | --         | 73        | 9,260      |
| Germany  | 11,400    | 287,000    | 41,200    | 1,420,000  |
| Japan  | 1         | 1,280      | --        | --         |
| Russia   | --        | --         | 880       | 41,200     |
| South Africa, Republic of  | 618,000   | 5,210,000  | 528,000   | 4,400,000  |
| United Kingdom   | 199       | 22,900     | 151       | 10,600     |
| Total  | 630,000   | 5,520,000  | 570,000   | 5,880,000  |

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U. S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ May include catalysts containing vanadium pentoxide.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 7  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF VANADIUM-BEARING ASH, RESIDUES AND SLAG 1/

(Kilograms, vanadium pentoxide content)

| Material and country                                    | 1993             |                  | 1994             |                |
|---|------------------|------------------|------------------|----------------|
|   | Quantity         | Value            | Quantity         | Value          |
| <b>Ash and residues:</b>                                |                  |                  |                  |                |
| Barbados  | 18,000           | \$7,940          | --               | --             |
| Canada  | 439,000          | 533,000          | 295,000          | \$187,000      |
| Dominican Republic                                      | 80,000           | 60,000           | --               | --             |
| Germany   | 202,000          | 142,000          | 392,000          | 50,100         |
| Israel  | 77,300           | 104,000          | --               | --             |
| Italy   | 250,000          | 180,000          | --               | --             |
| Jamaica   | 7,130            | 17,900           | --               | --             |
| Korea, Republic of                                      | --               | --               | 16,100           | 3,220          |
| Mexico  | 1,010,000        | 461,000          | 1,390,000        | 523,000        |
| Netherlands   | 12,700           | 8,320            | 6,730            | 9,300          |
| Netherlands Antilles                                    | 9,180            | 5,420            | 170,000          | 58,900         |
| Portugal  | 16,000           | 84,900           | --               | --             |
| South Africa, Republic of                               | --               | --               | 11,000           | 1,730          |
| United Kingdom  | 56,000           | 42,500           | --               | --             |
| Venezuela   | 60,300           | 63,200           | 108,000          | 121,000        |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>2,240,000</b> | <b>1,710,000</b> | <b>2,380,000</b> | <b>954,000</b> |
| <b>Slag, from the manufacture of iron and steel: 2/</b> |                  |                  |                  |                |
| South Africa, Republic of                               | 316,000          | 1,530,000        | 1,000,000        | 1,110,000      |
| <b>Other residues: (not advanced in value)</b>          |                  |                  |                  |                |
| Argentina   | 7,660            | 5,120            | --               | --             |
| Canada  | 15,900           | 20,500           | 6,760            | 4,390          |
| France  | 14,200           | 54,200           | --               | --             |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>37,800</b>    | <b>79,800</b>    | <b>6,760</b>     | <b>4,390</b>   |

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ As adjusted by the U.S. Bureau of Mines.

Source: Bureau of the Census.

TABLE 8  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MISCELLANEOUS VANADIUM CHEMICALS 1/ 2/

(Kilograms, vanadium content)

| Material and country          | 1993          |                | 1994          |                |
|-------------------------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
|                               | Quantity      | Value          | Quantity      | Value          |
| <b>Vanadates:</b>             |               |                |               |                |
| Canada                        | 84            | \$3,250        | --            | --             |
| France                        | 562           | 255,000        | 76            | \$159,000      |
| Germany                       | 36,800        | 286,000        | 7,490         | 71,300         |
| Japan                         | --            | --             | 4,230         | 13,000         |
| Netherlands                   | --            | --             | 4             | 19,200         |
| South Africa, Republic of     | 23,400        | 181,000        | 17,900        | 96,700         |
| United Kingdom                | 1,510         | 48,900         | 80            | 89,900         |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>62,400</b> | <b>774,000</b> | <b>29,700</b> | <b>449,000</b> |
| <b>Hydrides and nitrides:</b> |               |                |               |                |
| Canada                        | 4,360         | 5,130          | --            | --             |
| Sweden                        | --            | --             | 3             | 5,090          |
| <b>Total</b>                  | <b>4,360</b>  | <b>5,130</b>   | <b>3</b>      | <b>5,090</b>   |

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ Comprises vanadium ore and miscellaneous vanadium chemicals received for immediate consumption plus material withdrawn from bonded warehouses.

Source: Bureau of the Census.



TABLE 9  
WORLD VANADIUM PENTOXIDE ANNUAL PRODUCTION  
CAPACITY, DECEMBER 31, 1994 1/ 2/

(Metric tons of contained vanadium)

| Country                   | Rated capacity 3/ |
|---------------------------|-------------------|
| Austria                   | 1,500             |
| Canada                    | 770               |
| Chile                     | 2,300             |
| China                     | 8,200             |
| South Africa, Republic of | 27,200            |
| Russia                    | 9,500             |
| United States             | 11,000            |
| Venezuela                 | 2,500             |
| Other                     | 550               |
| Total                     | 63,500            |

1/ Data rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; . may not add to total shown.

2/ Includes vanadium pentoxide in vanadiferous iron slags and petroleum refinery residues.

3/ Includes capacity of operating plants as well as plants on standby status.

TABLE 10  
VANADIUM: WORLD PRODUCTION, BY COUNTRY 1/ 2/

(Metric tons of contained vanadium)

| Country  | 1990      | 1991      | 1992      | 1993      | 1994e/    |
|--|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Production from ores, concentrates, slag: 3/                 |           |           |           |           |           |
| China (in vanadiferous slag product) e/                      | 4,500     | 4,500     | 4,700     | 5,000     | 5,000     |
| Hungary e/   | 300       | 200       | 200       | 200       | 200       |
| Russia e/ 4/   | XX        | XX        | 11,000 r/ | 10,000 r/ | 10,000    |
| South Africa, Republic of: 5/                                |           |           |           |           |           |
| Content of pentoxide and vanadate products e/                | 7,100     | 6,500     | 6,300     | 8,400 r/  | 8,600     |
| Content of vanadiferous slag product e/ 6/                   | 10,000    | 8,460     | 7,730     | 6,650 r/  | 7,100     |
| Total  | 17,100    | 15,000    | 14,000    | 15,100 r/ | 15,700 7/ |
| U.S.S.R. e/ 3/ 8/  | 12,000 r/ | 12,000 r/ | XX        | XX        | XX        |
| United States (recoverable vanadium)                         | W         | W         | W         | W         | W         |
| Total  | 33,900 r/ | 31,700 r/ | 29,900 r/ | 30,300 r/ | 30,900    |
| Production from petroleum residues, ash, spent catalysts: 9/ |           |           |           |           |           |
| Japan e/   | 700       | 404 r/    | 245 r/    | 252 r/    | 300       |
| United States  | 2,310     | 2,250     | 1,350     | 2,870     | 2,740 7/  |
| Total  | 3,010     | 2,650 r/  | 1,590 r/  | 3,120 r/  | 3,040     |
| Grand total  | 36,900 r/ | 34,300 r/ | 31,500 r/ | 33,400 r/ | 33,900    |

e/ Estimated. r/ Revised. W Withheld to avoid disclosing company proprietary data; not included in "Total." XX Not applicable.

1/ Previously published and 1994 data are rounded by the U.S. Bureau of Mines to three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

2/ In addition to the countries listed, vanadium is also recovered from petroleum residues in Germany, and several other European countries, but available information is insufficient to make reliable estimates. Table includes data available through June 16, 1995.

3/ Production in this section is credited to the country that was the origin of the vanadiferous raw material.

4/ All production in the U.S.S.R. from 1990-91 came from Russia.

5/ Includes production for Bophuthatswana.

6/ Data on vanadium content of vanadium slag are estimated on the basis of a reported tonnage of vanadium-bearing slag (gross weight) multiplied by an assumed grade of 14.1% vanadium.

7/ Reported figure.

8/ Dissolved in Dec. 1991.

9/ Production in this section credited to the country where the vanadiferous product is extracted; available information is inadequate to permit crediting this output back to the country of origin of the vanadiferous raw material.