

IBAAS 2025

TECHNICAL LECTURE SERIES

**INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND
SAFETY IN YOUR CAST HOUSE
USING AUTONOMOUS RAIL
MOUNTED FURNACE TENDING
EQUIPMENT AND SMART IN-
FURNACE CAMERAS**



MARK BUMFORD, SALES DIRECTOR, RIA CAST HOUSE ENGINEERING GMBH



RIA Cast House Engineering GmbH



Rackwitz Industrieanlagen GmbH established in 1997

- Cast House Products
- Downstream Extrusion Line Products

Rebranded RIA Cast House Engineering GmbH in 2018

- Autonomous Furnace Charging Machines
- Autonomous Furnace Skimming Machines

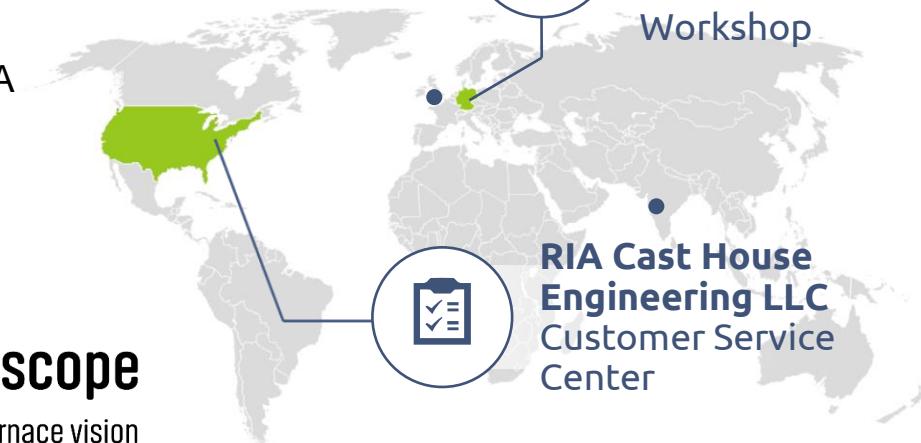
RIA Cast House Engineering LLC established in USA

- Spares, Service and Support
- US Sales

Introduction of first Fioscope GmbH Cameras in 2014

- Exclusive agreement for Aluminium Cast Houses 2021
- MD RiA becomes MD of Fioscope and RiA 2022
- Business relocated from Freital to Leipzig 2022
- Shared office space and resources 2022

 **fioscope**
in-furnace vision



92 Charging and Skimming Machine References Worldwide



Autonomous Furnace Charging Machines

Charging Machines: 57 Total

30 Europe | 25 Americas | 2 Asia

Autonomous Furnace Skimming Machines

Skimming Machines: 35 Total

18 Europe | 16 Americas | 2 Asia

RiA Customers



Hydro

sapa:

HUECK

remi claeys
aluminium

T U M

REAL ALLOY

KAI SER
ALUMINUM

TOWER
EXTRUSIONS

Novelis

LOGAN
ALUMINUM

Constellium

BENTELER
makes it happen

HINDALCO

Alexin LLC

SPEEDLINE ALUMINIUM

AGN Aluminium
NACHRODT

Höfer HMT

W.W.
extrusion
Erbstöh
Aluminium GmbH

thöni

STEP/G

ALINVEST
Member of MTX GROUP

mkm
KME

HODAKA

RiA Charging Machines



100% staff safety through fully automated charging

Up to 25% higher melt rates and energy savings due to shorter charging cycles

A reduction in melt loss due to less oxidation

Less vehicle movements in the cast house

Significantly reduced furnace and vehicle

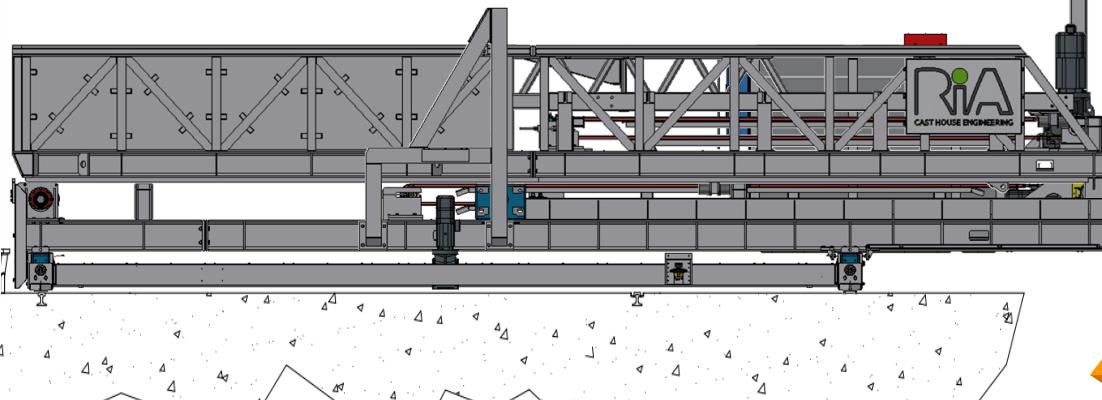
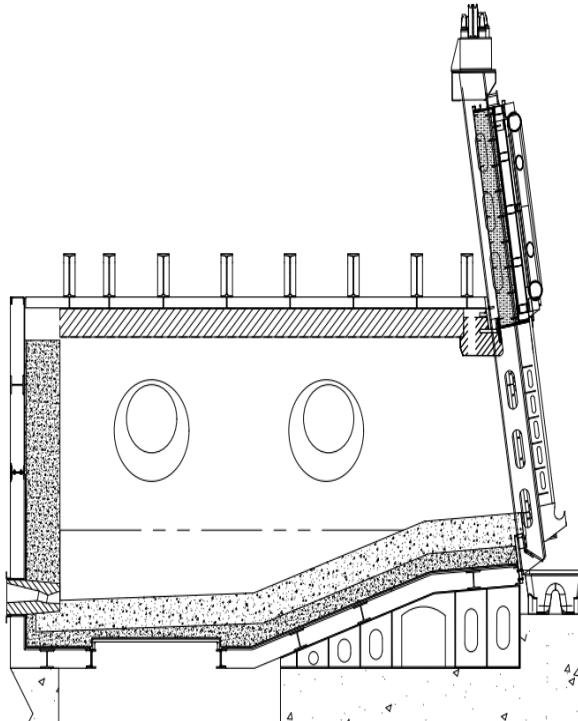
maintenance

Integrated weighing technology to weigh individual items/ loads and batches, improving inventory control

Precise Laser position control

Safety Laser Scanners

RiA Charge Cycle



Hydro video of RiA Machine in Operation



Better charging increases melt efficiency and reduces metal losses



- Factors affecting melt efficiency:
 - ✓ Even load distribution in the furnace
 - ✓ Not blocking burners
 - ✓ Charging at the right time
- Estimate 5% energy savings and 0.3% reduction in metal loss.
- Less metal loss also equals to less dross generation and less waste landfilled.

Why no Operator onboard?



Keeping the facilities most valuable assets out of harms way!

107 Fioscope In-Furnace References Worldwide, since 2022



In-Furnace Cameras can be easily retrofit to existing furnaces

fioscope

in-furnace vision



Fioscope cameras occupy a small footprint on the furnace shell

Pneumatic and Electrical control boxes are compact

Utilities Required; Compressed Air Feed and Electrical Connection

Fioscope Customers



Expect the unexpected



The ability to visualize or alert to potentially dangerous Events before they happen!



What should you do?

- Shut off the gas?
- Emergency Stop all Cast House Processes?
- Evacuate the facility?
- Change the furnace atmosphere?
- Vent the furnace?
- Auto - Call Emergency Responders?
- DO NOT OPEN THE DOOR!

What could you do?

- Using visualization & AI-Control it can all be done before it's too late.

RiA Autonomous Charging



Smart Air-cooled Cameras mounted In-Furnace identify scrap pile height, shape and progress

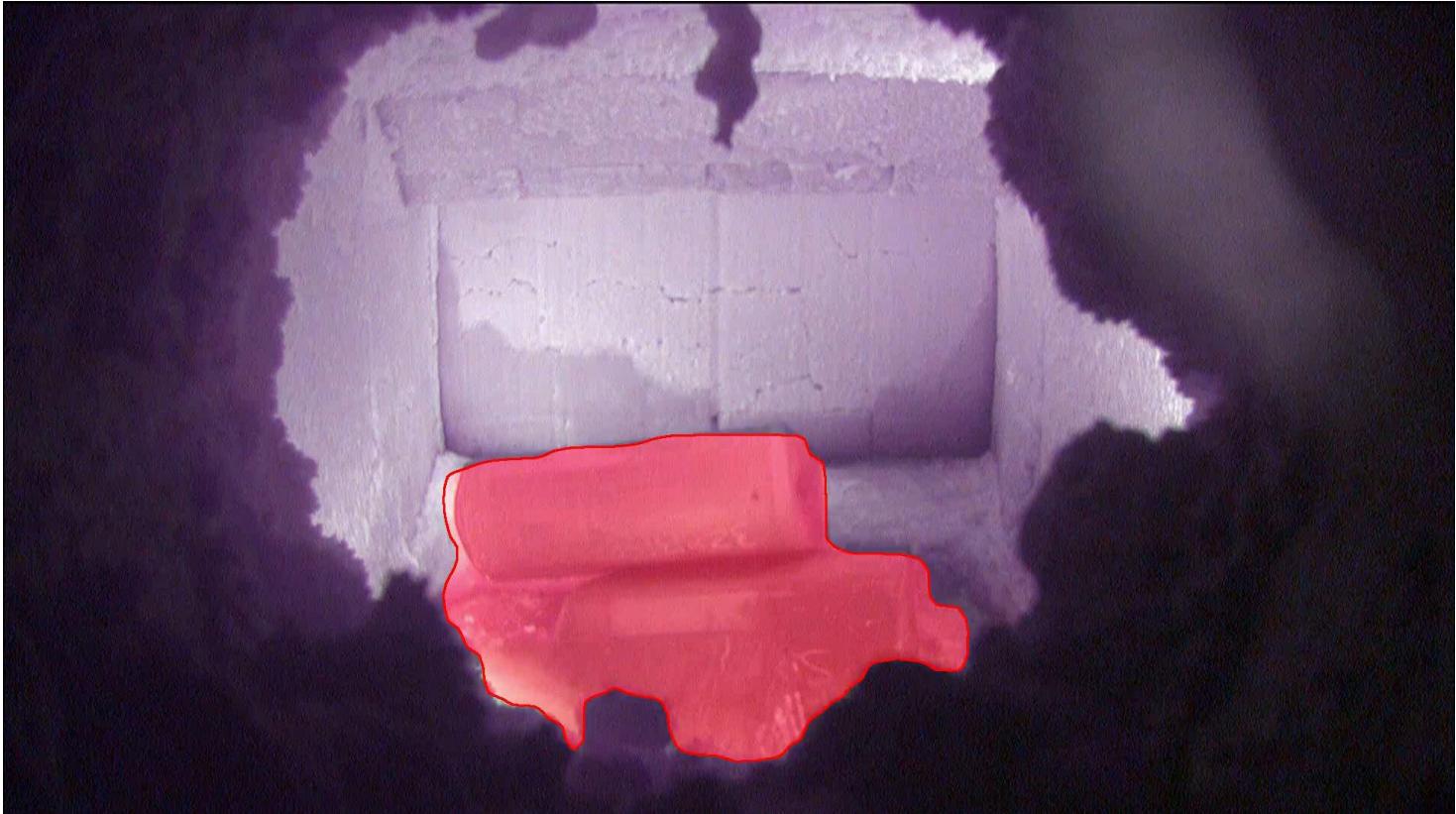
Production Advantages

Critical recharge time identification allows for shorter cycles, leading to energy savings and higher productivity.

Safety Advantages

See what is going on inside of furnace, avoiding risky/ dangerous conditions.

Autonomous Furnace Charging



Charge at the earliest and safest time, every time

- Trigger charging machine cycle with Fioscope autonomous furnace charging
- Ensure no production time is lost
- Increase safety during the charging process
- Lower Energy Consumption
- Reduce Cycle Times

Remote monitoring from a safe location



Operators can observe the Autonomous Furnace Charging and Skimming Cycles from a safe location.

Cameras mounted onboard the machines relay a live stream of the Furnace Charging and Skimming Cycles

Machines can be driven from the remote location using the Joystick controls

In-Furnace Cameras for all applications



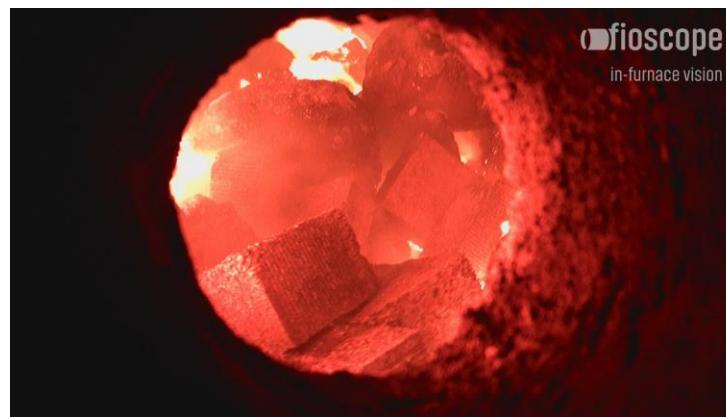
Single Chamber



Multi Chamber



Decoating Technology



Tilt Rotary



RiA Skimming Machines



Designed for Skimming, Mixing, Stirring and Cleaning of Melting and Holding Furnaces

Increased staff safety through protected operator cabin (or NO Cabin) and safety laser scanners

Fully automated or autonomous skim cycle for shorter furnace cycle times

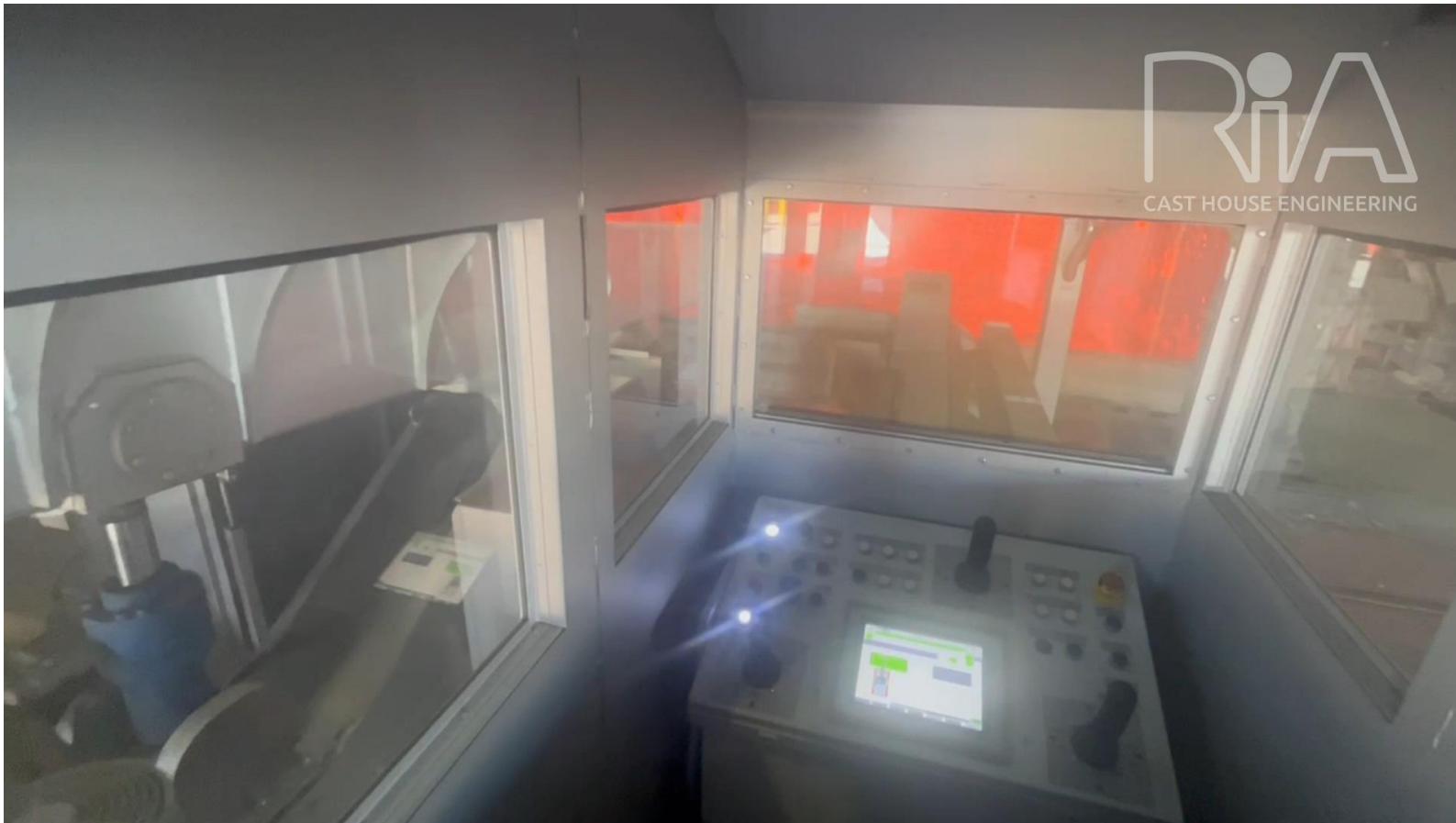
Protection of refractory lining by precise position and pressure control

Significantly reduced furnace and vehicle maintenance

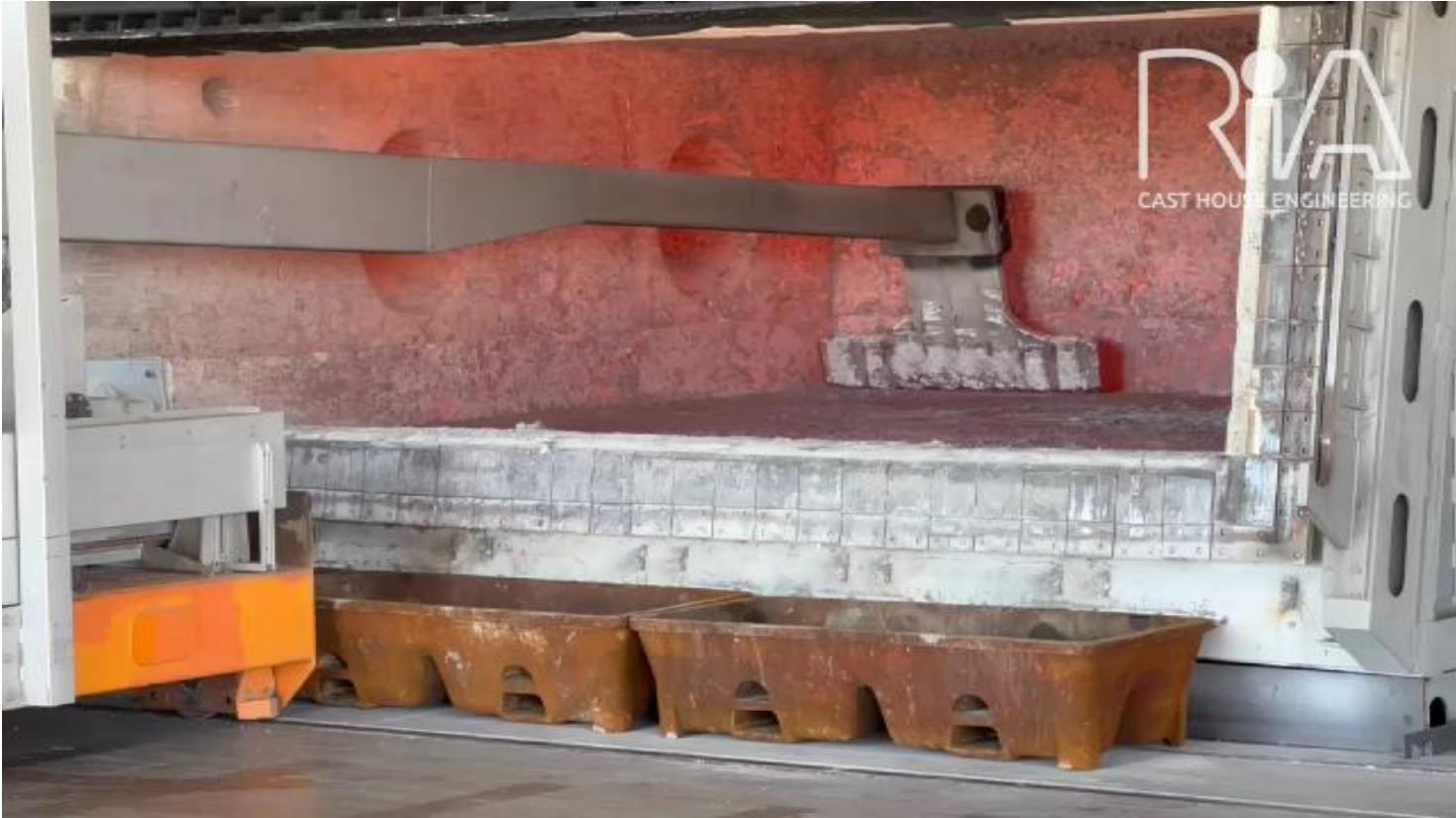
Air cooled boom

In-Furnace Dross Processing

Operatorless/hands free Operation



Operator free Skimming and IFDP, approx. 10 mins



Increased yields with additional Aluminium units remaining in the Furnace



WITHOUT IFDP



WITH IFDP



Less skinned dross weight and volume (due to less aluminum)

Reduces transportation and processing emissions

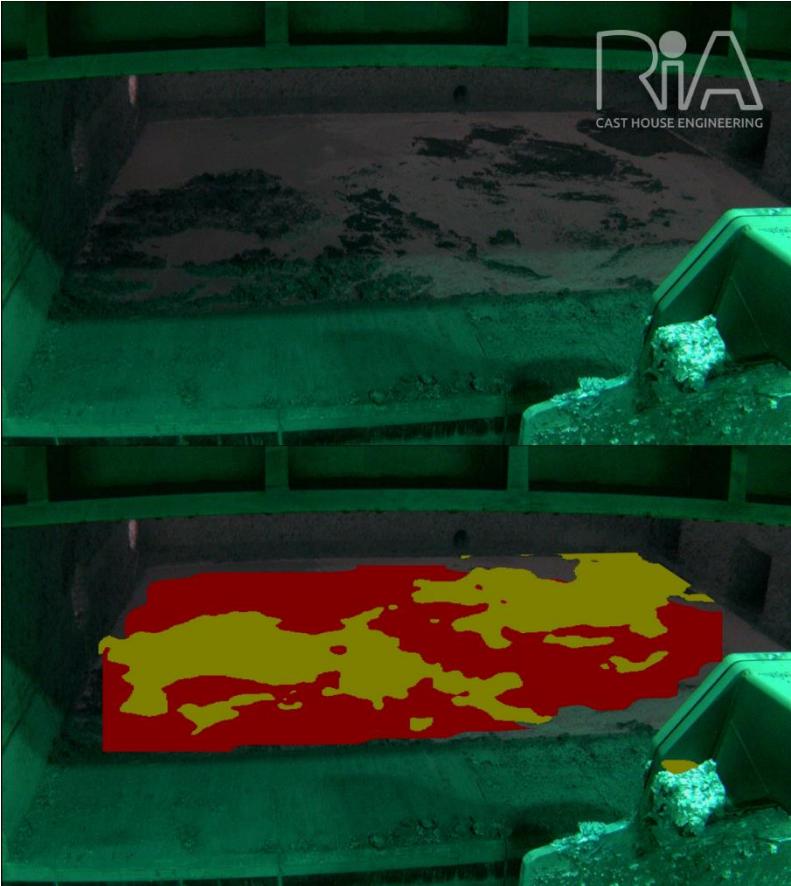
Better overall recovery

Reduces the need of “new” aluminum to be brought into the system.

Load spreading captured by onboard Smart Cameras



Dross Detection for Autonomous Skimming



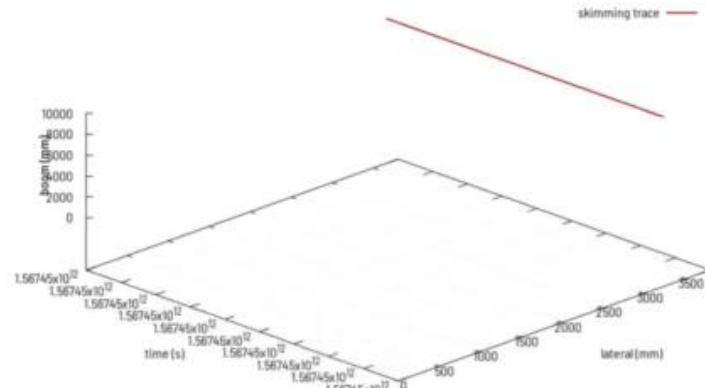
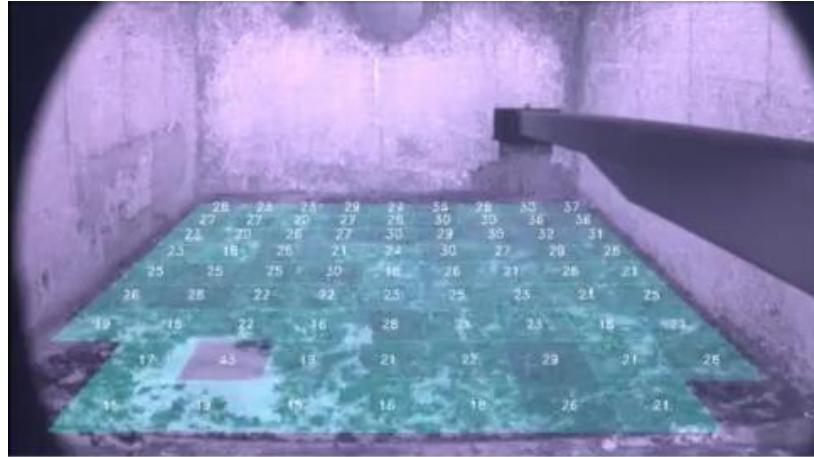
Smart On-Board Cameras identify dross coverage and its location



Advantages

- Detection of dross
- Only Skim where necessary
- Re-Skim if the Dross moves
- Faster and more precise than human operator
- Repeatable

Autonomous Skimming with Smart Cameras



Benefits of using RiA/Fioscope technology



Increased Plant Safety



Increased Plant Productivity



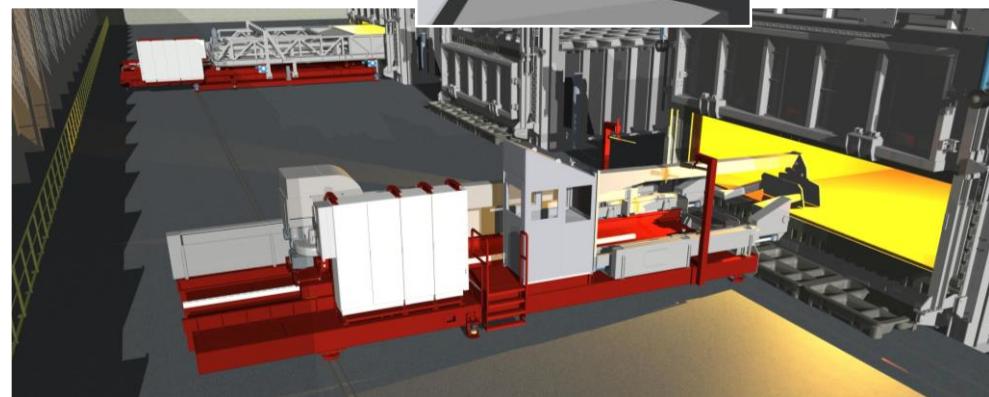
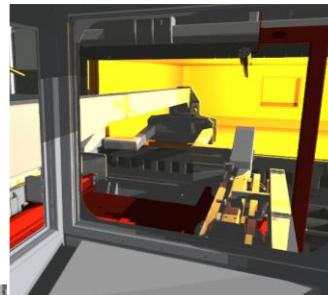
Increased Refractory Life



Fully Autonomous Operation



Reduced Dross Generation and Increased Metal Recovery





Thank you!



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