



AUSTRALIAN
ALUMINIUM
COUNCIL LTD

Australia's Aluminium Industry

From Mine to Market, 65 Years Young

The Australian aluminium industry began domestic production in 1955 and has contributed significantly to the economy over many decades.

While the extrusion and distribution company now known as Capral, started in Australia in 1936, initially it distributed aluminium produced internationally.

Bell Bay Aluminium commenced production in 1955 as the southern hemisphere's first aluminium smelter which was built to overcome national security risks following the Second World War.

For decades, aluminium has been part of the solution to Australia's energy, security and regional economic challenges. While the reasons for building a smelter may change over time, our competitive position in manufacturing aluminium need not.

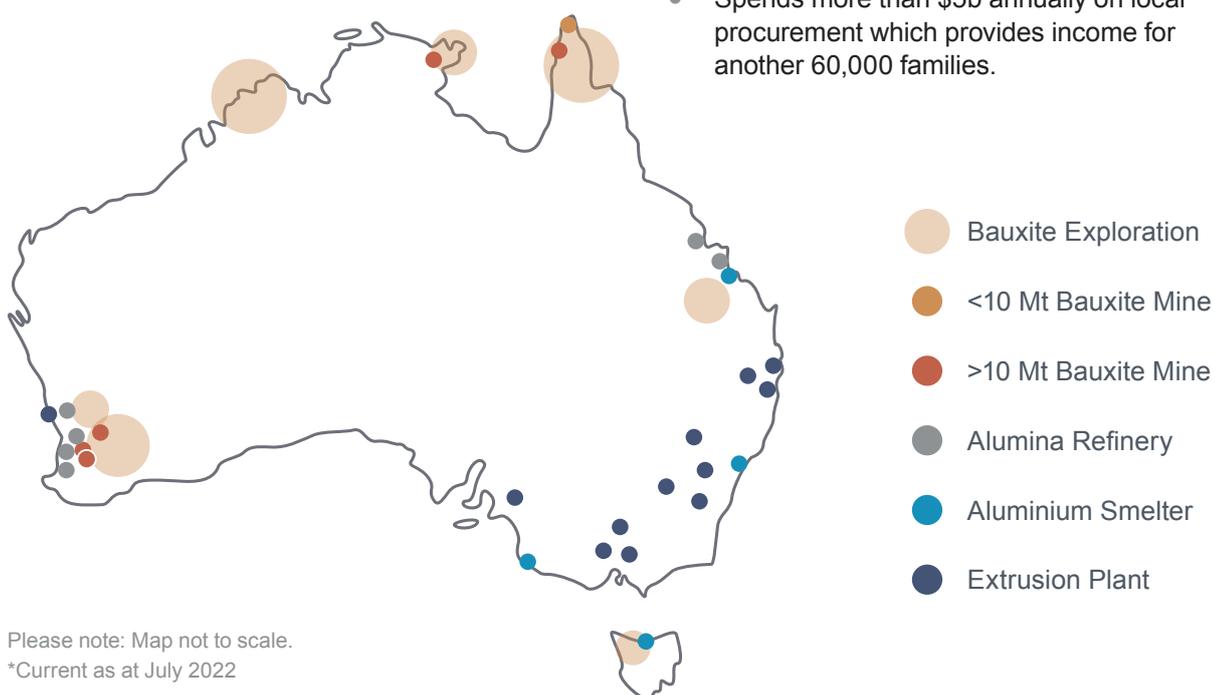
The industry is a key employer and contributor in regional Australia. Today the industry in Australia includes **six bauxite mines, six alumina refineries and four aluminium smelters** all located in regional areas.

There are also nine aluminium extruders which have over 20 presses. Australia is one of the few countries which has bauxite mining, alumina refining, aluminium smelting and aluminium extrusion industries.

The industry contributes around \$14b a year to the economy in export value. More than \$12b of this comes from the alumina and aluminium industries, as value adding sectors.*

The industry:

- Directly employs more than 17,000 people;
- Annually pays almost \$2b in wages, at a rate nearly double the Australian manufacturing average;
- Spends more than \$5b annually on local procurement which provides income for another 60,000 families.



Australia is a strategic and globally significant part of the aluminium value chain.

Australia has the world's largest resources of **bauxite**, making it strategically important in meeting long-term global aluminium demand. It is also the world's largest producer of bauxite – producing more than 100Mt of bauxite a year (about a quarter of global production). About 40% of this is exported and 60% is turned into alumina here in Australia.

Australia is the world's largest producer of **alumina**, outside of China and is the world's largest exporter of alumina. Around 85% of the alumina produced in Australia is exported and 15% is converted to aluminium domestically. Alumina and aluminium ores (bauxite) are Australia's 4th largest mineral export.

Australia is the world's sixth largest producer of **aluminium** and almost all the aluminium made here is exported. Aluminium is Australia's highest earning manufacturing export. With a relatively low population and small manufacturing sector, Australia is not a large overall consumer of aluminium.

Bauxite, alumina and aluminium production is also an area where Australia is highly skilled and has more than 50 years of technical experience. This experience helps not only us, but our customers of bauxite, alumina and aluminium, to reach their sustainability goals. Global research headquarters for alumina for Alcoa, Rio Tinto and South32's Worsley Alumina operations are based in Australia.



An enabler of a greater manufacturing sector

The regional capability underpinned by the aluminium industry is an important enabler for a broader manufacturing sector – including the renewables industry, low emissions technology development and other aluminium containing products.

Additionally, as a result of COVID disruptions to global industry including shipping, historically imported extruded aluminium products in the building, defence and transport industries have been replaced with increased domestic production since mid-2020. This existing capacity in the Australian extrusion industry has kept Australia going – supplying the building, transport and defence industries which otherwise would have halted.