

## **Auburn Furnace Services**

**R.S. McDonald**  
The Auburn Group

*Keywords:* Pyrometallurgy, furnace, smelter, demolition

**Abstract** - Auburn began operations 40 years ago with an office in Sudbury, Ontario, Canada, to provide services to Inco Limited. Over the next 40 years, operations expanded considerably, with projects being undertaken around the world, servicing the smelting and refining industry. Operating bases have been established in Canada, United States, Mexico, Chile, and Spain, with further growth expected to continue with an operating presence in South Africa.

The Auburn Group of companies has serviced the smelting and refining industry for over 35 years. Auburn services a variety of metallurgical plants, and our worldwide experience has gathered considerable knowledge on industry processes and maintenance solutions. Today, the 'Business of Smelting' tackles demanding challenges, and operators search for opportunities and solutions to improve smelter maintenance, reduce operating costs, and decrease downtime. The Auburn Group has developed project teams, technologies, and equipment that provide specialised and innovative solutions to the non-ferrous metal industry to help address these challenges.

Our Furnace Services team offers a variety of repair and maintenance services for metallurgical furnaces. Our specialised team has proven methods for completing projects quickly and safely. Our worldwide experience includes turnkey project management, construction, and various scopes of work for demolition and refractory repairs on all types of smelting and refining furnaces. Auburn developed the Results First™ programme to provide optimized solutions and results for smelter projects. The programme utilises a proven three-step model for improved results for schedule, budget, safety, and ramp-up to production.

Our experienced Project Management teams can handle the planning and construction management of capital projects and plant shutdowns. Our projects have involved smelter/refinery modifications, oxygen plant installations, and sulphuric acid plant audits and maintenance.

Our Equipment & Products division supplies specialised equipment and products, which are used in the metals industry for plant maintenance tasks. Our capability to design unique equipment, combined with our ability to source products worldwide, makes us a useful resource to find the best-suited equipment to meet the work-site demands. We specialise in custom remote-control units to handle specific maintenance solutions for smelters and refineries, and custom equipment designs for catalyst handling for Acid Plant maintenance.

Our extensive knowledge of and experience with industrial technologies allows us to provide a wide range of Industrial Services. These services include vacuuming, high-pressure water blasting, chemical cleaning, pelletizing, dredging, ore bin

clearing, roaster repairs, baghouse/ESP services, and manpower supply for both industrial plants and mines.

Auburn's combined strength of personnel experience, knowledge of industry processes, innovative project methods, and equipment technology make Auburn a unique resource for problem solving on every facet of smelter operations.