Hydrometallurgical technologies

Metso Outotec is known for its innovative hydrometallurgical technologies. Our expertise extends from laboratory testing through proven technologies to unbeatable service and support. We collaborate with our customers to ensure that they receive the complete hydrometallurgical technology solution.

Metso Outotec offers solutions covering a wide range of processes from leaching, purification and solvent extraction to metal production for various metal products such as copper, zinc, nickel, precious and special metals. In addition, our technology transfer packages include proprietary equipment, automation and services.

Benefits

- High recovery
- Low operating costs
- Low maintenance need
- Easy to control
- Low investment cost
- Flexibility and adaptability
The best solutions for your process

Metso Outotec has a long track record in hydrometallurgy. We have experience both as technology provider and as plant operator. Thanks to such diverse know-how, you can be sure of receiving the most reliable and optimal solution.

Metso Outotec provides world-leading technologies, technology selection expertise based on laboratory test programs, feasibility studies, basic and detail engineering, technology specific equipment supply, training, erection supervision, start-up assistance, and follow-up and technical support services.

We strive to build long-term cooperation with our customers to ensure that they receive the very best solution for their operating environments, as we know that every plant is unique and has its own raw materials and requirements.

Furthermore, thanks to our extensive process and equipment know-how, we are able to provide you with process guarantees.

Metso Outotec offers you

• Innovative and proven technologies
• Laboratory and pilot tests
• Feasibility studies
• Basic and detail engineering
• Proprietary and key equipment supply
• Commissioning and start-up services
• Process automation
• Spare parts
• Shutdown maintenance services
• Process guarantees
At our research centers, we analyze our customers’ raw materials. Metso Outotec has the expertise and resources to design and develop hydrometallurgical processes.

Metso Outotec offers you a total solution from a wide range of processes that can be customized to fit your needs.

Deliveries range from single equipment to complete plants and comprehensive services.

Expertise covering most metals and the entire value chain from minerals to metals.

Tailored solutions through research and development
To begin, we analyze the customer’s raw materials and needs as the basis for creating a process solution. We complete the process by proving the optimized performance. All of this is done with the aim of constructing the most economical solution for you.

Metso Outotec’s unique research centers comprise state-of-the-art research facilities capable of piloting plants from bench to industrial scale. We also perform mineralogy studies of the customer’s raw material and feedstock.

In addition to working in our modern research centers, we work closely with universities in developing and improving our technologies.

We tailor our standard processes, or make a new tailored process according to your process needs. In our projects, we use 3D computer aided design. This not only enables you to visualize the plant more clearly, but also improves the efficiency of project implementation.

Furthermore, we utilize our groundbreaking Chemical Reaction and Equilibrium Software, HSC Chemistry® in our process simulations.

Collaboration with customers is an important part of Metso Outotec’s technology development, and several joint development projects have been performed with customers in various fields of hydrometallurgy.

Metso Outotec is known for its innovative hydrometallurgical approach. A vast number of our processes has been patented, and continuous research and the experience and incentive of our personnel ensure new improvements and innovations.

Environmental awareness and protection are also important features of all Metso Outotec technologies. We make effective use of raw materials and aim to reduce water and energy consumption. The production of residues is minimized, and the residues that are unavoidable for the process are stable or re-usable. Consequently, environmental protection is an integrated feature of our technologies.

Metso Outotec offers you the Best Available Technology, complying with local environmental requirements and the applicable legislation.

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Metso Outotec offers you the Best Available Technology, complying with local environmental requirements and the applicable legislation.
Versatile leaching methods

At Metso Outotec, we provide versatile leaching methods suitable for your plant: from chloride to sulfate leaching and from atmospheric to pressure leaching. Our metallurgical knowledge and experience enable us to optimize design, process conditions and equipment. We can ensure that metal recovery is high despite limiting parameters.

Metso Outotec offers you leaching solutions for greenfield and brownfield plants. The flexibility and adaptability of our technologies ensure that our solution fits your requirements.

Health and safety issues are essential elements of Metso Outotec leaching technologies. We ensure that our technologies are easy to control and have a low maintenance requirement. Due to the importance of ferric content, acidity and various metal contents, OTI™ titrators can be implemented, either with or without the Courier® analyzer, to obtain more accurate results. Metso Outotec’s leaching methods offer you an economically viable solution, which produces high-yield products efficiently.

Leaching technologies provided by Metso Outotec:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Zinc</th>
<th>Copper</th>
<th>Nickel</th>
<th>Other examples</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Zinc concentrate</td>
<td>• Copper ore leaching</td>
<td>• Nickel concentrate</td>
<td>• Cobalt leaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>direct leaching</td>
<td>• Copper concentrate</td>
<td>autoclave leaching</td>
<td>• Gold leaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Zinc oxide leaching</td>
<td>• leaching</td>
<td>• Nickel matte autoclave</td>
<td>• Arsenic leaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Zinc calcine acid</td>
<td>• Copper matte leaching</td>
<td>• Nickel laterite leaching</td>
<td>• Silver leaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>leaching</td>
<td>• Copper fines leaching</td>
<td>• Nickel EF and FSF</td>
<td>• Molybdenum leaching</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Zinc calcine neutral leaching</td>
<td>• Copper FSF flue dust treatment</td>
<td>• matte leaching</td>
<td>• Manganese leaching</td>
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<tr>
<td>• EAF dusts</td>
<td>• Copper upgrade/</td>
<td>• Nickel ore leaching/</td>
<td>• Synthetic rutile leaching</td>
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<td>• Zinc ore pre-treatment</td>
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<td>• Copper concentrate</td>
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<td>HydroCopper®</td>
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</table>

Metso Outotec provided Cobre Las Cruces S.A. with a new atmospheric direct leaching process. To ensure high yields, low operating costs and the flexibility Cobre Las Cruces required, Metso Outotec built its own miniature copper plant in the laboratory. This exceptional scale model proved the success of the new atmospheric leaching process beyond doubt. The Cobre Las Cruces plant is scheduled to be up and running in 2009.
Metso Outotec provided Zhuzhou Smelter Group Co. with purification technology for its zinc plant in China. The design for this solution took the plant's urban location, existing process conditions and demand for a high-yield product into account. Metso Outotec equipment was implemented at the plant in 2008.

Metso Outotec solution purification and metal recovery technologies have been successfully implemented worldwide. We provide sulfide precipitation, oxidative precipitation, neutralization, cementation and reduction technologies. Our precipitation and recovery technology can be fully integrated into the process. We strive to provide environmentally sustainable precipitation processes with the minimal consumption of additive agents.

The immaculate selectivity of Metso Outotec's processes ensures that the end product meets the strictest environmental norms. Metso Outotec also provides processes for the recovery of precious metals such as silver, gold and platinum. Furthermore, Metso Outotec has a wide range of common plant and reagent preparation technologies that further ensure the smooth running of your plant. Through a partnership with Metso Outotec, you will get the most out of your process.

**Effective solution purification and recovery technologies:**

**Iron removal**
- Jarosite precipitation
- Hematite precipitation
- Goethite precipitation

**Sulfide precipitation**
- Copper sulfide
- Zinc sulfide
- Nickel sulfide
- Cobalt sulfide
- Iron sulfide
- Cadmium sulfide
- Selenium sulfide
- Antimony sulfide

**Cementation**
- Copper precipitation
- Chloride precipitation
- Cobalt precipitation
- Nickel precipitation
- Cadmium precipitation

**Special recovery methods**
- Hydrogen reduction

**Neutralization**
- Metal sulfate precipitation

**Metal hydroxide precipitation**
- Metal carbonate precipitation
- Iron polishing

**Other**
- Indium recovery
- Gypsum removal
- Effluent treatment
- Magnesium bleed treatment
- Scrubber treatment

**Common plant and reagent preparation**
- Arsenic oxide preparation
- Lime milk preparation
- Flocculant preparation
- Zinc powder preparation
- Process water system
- Cooling water system
- Sealing water system

**Benefits of Metso Outotec's purification and recovery technologies:**
- High product yield
- Fast kinetics resulting in compact reactor size
- Small footprint
- Low operating costs
- Highly selective
- High filtering properties

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Metso Outotec’s unique and proven solvent extraction technology provides groundbreaking solutions for metals such as copper, nickel, zinc, cobalt, uranium, magnesium, calcium, and manganese.

Our vertical smooth flow, VSF®, solvent extraction technology is the forerunner in the industry. It includes a DOP® dispersion overflow pump, SPIROK® mixers and a proprietary settler design including DDG® separation fences.

Since launching the VSF® technology more than a decade ago, Metso Outotec has become the leading provider of solvent extraction solutions. Over thirty copper plants have chosen Metso Outotec VSF® technology.

The basic idea behind VSF® technology is to have smooth agitation throughout the SX plant, in order to avoid the oxidation of organic material and the development of overly small droplet sizes in dispersion. Our SX plants can be run in widely varying conditions and our VSF® technology is suitable for plants of all sizes.

**Solvent extraction settler design**
- OutoCompact™ is used to minimize the footprint and to simplify the flow sheet of an SX-EW plant
- OutoTrack™ configuration is an option when the pregnant leach solution (PLS) tenor varies/drops
- OutoReverse™ has in and out flow connections located on one side of the settler, which in certain cases lowers investment costs

**Benefits of VSF® technology:**
- Minimum operating costs
- Flexibility
- Scalability
- Reliable and stable production

Metso Outotec has successfully implemented VSF®, technology in Escondida, Chile. VSF®, technology enables minimal entrainment levels without compromising reaction and settling rates, which has helped Escondida to obtain the world's largest train PLS flow capacity, over 5,000 m³/h/train.
Advanced electrowinning and electrorefining plants

**Electrowinning**
Our continuous research and development work on tankhouse equipment and processes, as well as our own production experience, have led to a range of impressive new technology developments, specially designed for high performance and cost-efficient cathode production. Environmental protection and occupational health and safety are important aspects of our development work.

Metso Outotec is the right partner for building an efficient, productive and safe electrowinning plant with optimized cathode and cell sizes, current densities, busbars, and an automatic material flow of cathodes.

**Electrorefining**
Metso Outotec electrorefining technology covers all process steps in a copper refinery. We provide the tankhouse with an unbeatable combination of electrode handling system and innovative process technology including permanent cathodes. In addition to refining of copper, Metso Outotec has the leading technology for precious metals recovery from anode slimes.

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### Metso Outotec electrowinning-tankhouse packages include:

**Copper**
- Cathode stripping machines
- Permanent cathodes
- Lead anodes
- Tankhouse cranes and bales
- Polymer concrete cells
- DoubleContact™ busbar system
- Acid mist capture systems
- CellSense™ systems
- Process automation

**Zinc**
- Cathode stripping machines
- Anode cleaning machines
- Cellhouse cranes
- Aluminium cathodes
- Water-cooled busbars
- Highly efficient cooling towers
- CellSense™ systems
- Process automation

**Nickel**
- Cathode stripping machines
- Starting sheet machines
- Mother blanks
- Polymer concrete cells
- Busbar system
- Tankhouse cranes
- CellSense™ systems
- Process automation

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Completing the technology transfer package with proprietary equipment

The technology transfer package combined with Metso Outotec proprietary equipment ensure smooth process operation by eliminating unnecessary bottlenecks and shutdowns.

Metso Outotec equipment solutions are made to optimize metallurgical results and to ensure reliable operations. Metso Outotec’s equipment are designed to be the most economical solutions for the entire lifetime of your plant. Furthermore, we can guarantee equipment performance.

Metso Outotec proprietary equipment include OKTOP® Reactors, OKTOP™ Cooling Towers, scrubbers, SUPAFLO® thickeners, TankCell® flotation cells, cathode stripping machines, permanent cathodes, bales, DOP® pumps, SPIROK® mixers, settlers and DDG® separation fences. Metso Outotec has installed hundreds of reactors for a range of hydrometallurgical applications, from leaching to precipitation.

We tailor our proprietary equipment according to the customer’s process requirements. We utilize our experience and expertise from numerous implementation projects in customizing our equipment to your process conditions.

A complete technology transfer package with proprietary equipment from Metso Outotec ensures that you get a coherent process with a maximal financial return.
OKTOP® Reactor Family

**OKTOP® Reactor 1000 Series**
Multipurpose OKTOP® Reactor is suitable for a wide range of hydrometallurgical applications due to high configurability and infallible functioning. Metso Outotec has a number of successful implementation references.

**Benefit:** Number of references and reliable operation.

**OKTOP® Reactor 2000 Series**
Gas-liquid-solid OKTOP® Reactor is specially designed for three phase processes where gas dispersion rate is the limiting factor of the reaction rate.

**Benefit:** High gas utilization rate not only lowers equipment investment costs, but also increases savings in gas compression production and scrubbing costs.

**OKTOP® Reactor 3000 Series**
Low shear OKTOP® Reactor is specially designed for low shear applications. The reactor enables uniform energy distribution and very efficient axial flow. The self-supporting structure increases fatigue resistance.

**Benefit:** Lower operating costs due to lower energy requirements.

**OKTOP® Reactor 4000 Series**
Vertical fluid flow OKTOP® Reactor is specially designed for particle diffusion rate limited leaching processes. It achieves maximal agitation power and exceptional gas-mass transfer as well as excellent solid suspension properties.

**Benefit:** In challenging applications it may be the only option for receiving viable leaching yields atmospherically and in less challenging applications it allows lower total operating cost due to lower grinding and filtration costs.

**OKTOP® Reactor 5000 Series**
Special OKTOP® Reactors are applicable for unique applications which require totally individual approach.

**Benefit:** Specially designed for its application. Novel approaches possible. All the benefits and advantages are case specific.

**OKTOP® Reactor 9000 Series**
Special OKTOP® Reactors are applicable for unique applications which require totally individual approach.

**Benefit:** Specially designed for its application. Novel approaches possible. All the benefits and advantages are case specific.

**OKTOP™ Cooling Towers**
Metso Outotec has developed a new cooling geometry solution in its cooling towers by applying a horizontal gas flow exit and demisters based on computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and plant testing. The unique top structure enhances effective cooling.

The OKTOP™ Cooling Tower is categorized into series according to the cooling effect. We supply cooling towers for processes requiring minor cooling duties, such as chloride removal, or for processes with large cooling requirements, such as cooling in zinc electrowinning.

OKTOP™ Cooling Towers offer you immense benefits. Our cooling towers have a more compact size than conventional cooling towers.

Thanks to the horizontal demister technology, emissions into the environment are clearly lower than for conventional technology. In addition, the horizontal demister technology allows double air flow rate through the tower, which reduces the number of required cooling towers, lowering cooling process investment cost.

Moreover, the exceptional top structure enables easier access for housekeeping, which can be applied even when the tower is in use.

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Stable process operation with Metso Outotec automation

Our vast experience tells that a close link between process and automation design is vitally important to ensure a smooth process operation.

The important aspects of automation in hydrometallurgical processes are the ability to stabilize processes and gain an overall view of production. Our automation solution provides a long and short-term view of all processes. Safety issues with respect to operation, equipment, the environment and personnel are improved in an easy and convenient manner.

These benefits are gained with smooth equipment performance and ensuring that the consumption of additive agents and chemicals is diminished and variables such as impurity levels, process temperatures and element balances are fully controlled. PROSCON® Hydro is a process automation package for transferring our knowledge and experiences to our customers. The application includes a process control system, process instrumentation and process electrification with all of the required services. Metso Outotec uses modern, renowned and respected hardware and software manufacturers.

Tankhouse Information Management System (TIMS) is a new and modern data collection, reporting and management system to integrate Metso Outotec's material handling machines, CellSense™ monitoring and process control systems. Significant benefits are gained in increasing the energy efficiency, product quality as well as improving maintenance and safety.

Benefits of Metso Outotec automation:
- Link between process know-how and automation
- Process operated as designed
- Rapid production ramp-up
- Continuous and stable process
- Automation system pretested before installation at plant
- Smooth equipment performance
- Safety of operation, equipment and personnel
- Easy and convenient operation

Automation products by Metso Outotec:
- PROSCON® Hydro
  - Process control system
  - Process instrumentation
  - Process electrification
- Process analyzers
  - Courier®
  - OTI™ titrators
  - Metso Outotec sampling systems

Material management system for electrolysis CellSense™ to improve efficiency of electrolysis

Tankhouse Information Management System

Reporting systems
Metso Outotec services improve your process performance

Metso Outotec's comprehensive technology transfer package can be completed with expert services and support. Our customer service operates through a global network of local units that offers not only assistance meeting the customers' needs but also a commitment to providing advanced customer support whenever needed.

Our service experts provide punctual spare parts logistics, maintenance and training, as well as assessment and consulting services that generate a competitive advantage for you.

We can tailor services efficiently to your specific needs, when considering the necessary operational and maintenance services already from the beginning of the project. As your trusted service partner, Metso Outotec ensures an optimized operation for the entire lifetime of your plant.

Equipment services
Obtaining all spare parts and maintenance from the same organization as process and equipment design ensures that your plant runs optimally. We make sure that you receive only the highest quality parts, consumables and upgrades, that can be seamlessly integrated into your plant.

Plant and process support services
Metso Outotec's advanced plant and process assessment, ef-X® Efficiency Explorer, identifies the areas for potential improvements, e.g. equipment, automation systems, metallurgical processes and complete plants. What is more, we can make it much easier for you to fulfill current and future legislation, by ensuring that your plant and processes are running as efficiently as possible, and that maintenance is being carried out proactively.

Total service package from Metso Outotec:

Equipment services
• Spare parts and spare parts management
• Equipment inspections and maintenance
• Training

Process support services
• Process assessment
• Process control analysis

Plant services
• Plant assessments
• Operation and maintenance support services
• Upgrades and modernizations
• Shutdown maintenance services

Benefits of Metso Outotec services:
• Critical original spare parts in stock
• Process and equipment know-how
• Minimize downtime and unscheduled stoppages
• Maximum operating performance
Metso Outotec is a frontrunner in sustainable technologies, end-to-end solutions and services for the aggregates, minerals processing and metals refining industries globally. By improving our customers’ energy and water efficiency, increasing their productivity, and reducing environmental risks with our product and process expertise, we are the partner for positive change.