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The goal of the work was to establish technology of pure anhydrous hexamminecobalt(III) perrhenate production from perrhenic acid solutions, obtained by ion exchange method, used in production of Re-Co powders





## **AMMONIUM PERRHENATE (APR) PRODUCTION IN POLAND**

In Poland rhenium can be found in copper domestic concentrates at the level of 5 to 15 ppm

Mine	Rhenium content in the ore, g/Mg	Rhenium content in concentrate, g/Mg			
ZG "Lubin"	1.22	8.2			
ZG "Rudna"	1.41	12.1			
ZG "Polkowice"	1.68	12.5			



The concentrates are processed by KGHM Polska Miedz S.A. in three copper smelters: Glogow I smelter, Glogow II smelter, Legnica smelter







The researchers of Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals (IMN) in Gliwice developed many technologies for recovery of rhenium from domestic resources, mainly in a form of ammonium perrhenate

In the result of cooperation between IMN and KGHM Ecoren S.A. two installations were constructed for recovery of rhenium, from week sulfuric acids, in a form of ammonium perrhenate of total capacity

8 tons/year



The method was patented in Patent Office of the Republic of Poland in 2006

KGHM Ecoren is the single EU manufacturer of ammonium perrhenate produced from their own raw material

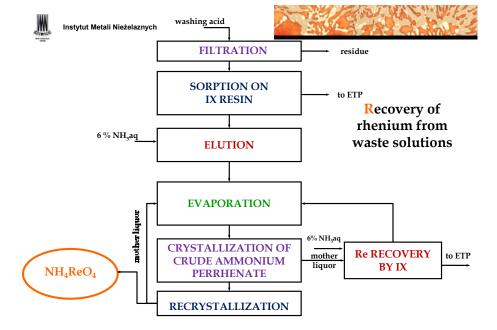




The acids contain on the average 20 mg/dm³ of Re and many other impurities such as fluorine and arsenic compounds, as well as selenium, lead sulfate and chlorides











The production of ammonium perrhenate from washing acids provided possibilities to undertake research on preparation of perrhenic acid directly from  $\mathrm{NH_4ReO_4}$ 



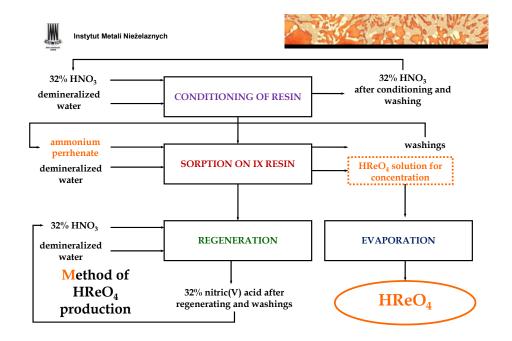
Composition of NH<sub>4</sub>ReO<sub>4</sub> (99.99 % purity): Re > 69.40 %, Ca < 0.0005 %, K < 0.003 %, Mg < 0.0005 %, Cu < 0.0005 %, Na < 0.0005 %, Mo < 0.0005 %, Pb < 0.0005 %, Fe < 0.0005 %





# Synthesis od perrhenic acid

[cation exchanger]-NH<sub>4</sub>++HReO<sub>4</sub>

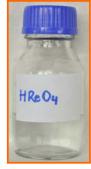






## Composition of HReO<sub>4</sub>

300-900 g/L Re and
Ca < 0.001 %, K < 0.001 %, Mg < 0.0001 %, Cu < 0.0001 %,
Na < 0.0001 %, Mo < 0.0001 %, Ni < 0.0001 %, Pb < 0.0001 %,
Fe < 0.0001 %, 0.0003 % NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup>



The method was patented in Patent Office of the Republic of Poland in 2007







Cobalt compounds

commercial product [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>]Cl<sub>3</sub> by Acros Organics

hexamminecobalt(III) chloride produced in laboratory

ammonia solutions containing cobalt





 $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 + 3HC1$ 

Rhenium compounds perrhenic acid solutions

commercial product NH<sub>4</sub>ReO<sub>4</sub> by KGHM Ecoren S.A.

anhydrous Co(ReO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub> produced in laboratory







## The following parameters were tested:

concentration of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>]Cl<sub>3</sub>

temperature

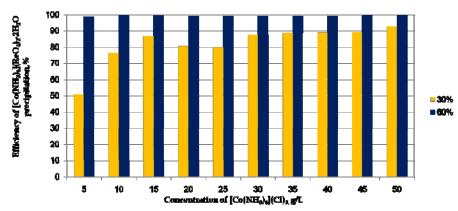
reaction time

excess of rhenium vs. cobalt

concentration of Re in HReO<sub>4</sub> solution



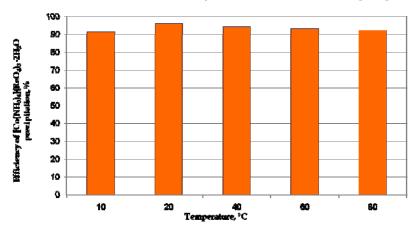








**Temperature** influence on the efficiency of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>](ReO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O precipitation

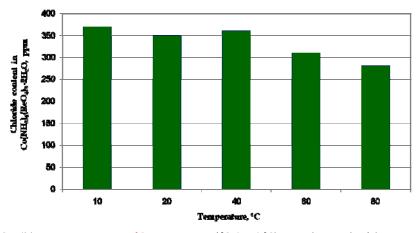


Conditions: temperature: 10-80°C, concentration of  $[Co(NH_3)_6]Cl_3$ : 30.0 g/L, 664 g/L of rhenium content in HReO<sub>4</sub> solution, 30 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt, reaction time:  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour





Temperature influence on the chloride content in [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>](ReO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O



 $\underline{\textbf{Conditions: temperature: 10-80 °C}, concentration of [Co(NH_3)_6]Cl_3: 30.0 \text{ g/L}, 664 \text{ g/L} of rhenium content in HReO_4 solution, 30 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt, reaction time: } 1/2 \text{ hour}$ 





## **Reaction time** influence on the efficiency of $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$ precipitation

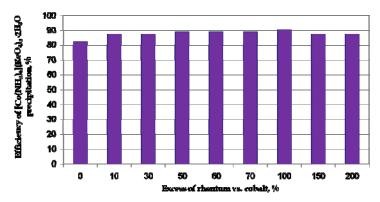
Reaction time	Volume	Concentration of cobalt after precipitation	Mass of product	Composition of product  Re NH <sub>3</sub> Co		Efficiency	
h	mL	g/L	g	%			%
0.5	110	0.13	9.7	58.8	10.9	6.2	91.2
1	110	0.19	10.2	58.9	10.7	6.3	95.9
3	105	0.23	10.0	58.9	10.9	6.2	94.0
5	105	0.14	9.9	58.8	10.8	6.2	93.1

Conditions: reaction time:  $\frac{1}{2}$ -5 hours, temperature: 25 °C, concentration of  $[Co(NH_3)_6]Cl_3$ : 30.0 g/L, 664 g/L of rhenium content in HReO<sub>4</sub> solution, 30 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt





**Excess rhenium vs. cobalt** influence on the efficiency of  $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$  precipitation

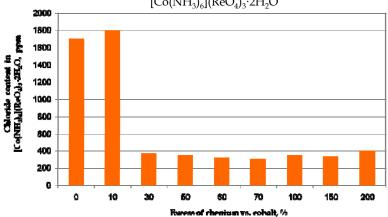


Conditions: 0-200 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt, reaction time: ½-hour, temperature: 25 °C, concentration of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>),<sub>6</sub>]Cl<sub>3</sub>: 20.0 g/L, HReO<sub>4</sub> contains 569 g/L Re





# Excess of rhenium vs. cobalt influence on the chloride content in $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$



Conditions: 0-200 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt, reaction time: ½-hour, temperature: 25 °C, concentration of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>]Cl<sub>3</sub>: 20.0 g/L, 569 g/L of rhenium content in HReO<sub>4</sub> solution





# **Influence of rhenium concentration in HReO**<sub>4</sub> on the efficiency of $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$ precipitation

Concentration		Concentration in solution after precipitation		Composition of product				
of rhenium	Volume			Re	NH <sub>3</sub>	Со	Cl	Efficiency
g/L	mL	Co	Cl	0%				0/0
508	108	0.0017	16.3	58.9	10.7	6.2	1.00	99.3
254	140	0.0016	13.4	58.9	10.6	6.1	0.95	91.4
127	168	0.0014	11.0	58.8	10.8	6.2	0.90	89.1
63	185	0.0014	9.6	58.7	10.9	6.2	0.77	88.0
31	223	0.0012	8.2	58.9	10.8	6.1	0.68	73.3
16	220	4.7	9.7	58.9	10.7	6.3	0.08	49.1





# Change of cobalt or rhenium source compouds

- 8						
Rhenium compound	Cobalt compound	Comp				
		Re	NH <sub>3</sub>	Со	Efficiency	
			%			
HReO <sub>4</sub>	commercial product [Co(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> ]Cl <sub>3</sub> by Acros Organics	58.9	10.7	6.2	90.3	
NH <sub>4</sub> ReO <sub>4</sub>		64.8	7.6	3.2	-	
Co(ReO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub>		56.8	8.7	8.0	-	
$\mathrm{HReO_4}$	commercial [Co(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> ](ReO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub>	58.8	10.7	6.2	90.2	
	[Co(NH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>6</sub> ](ReO <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> produced in laboratory	58.9	10.7	6.2	92.3	
	cobalt containing ammonia solutions	58.9	10.7	6.2	94.5	

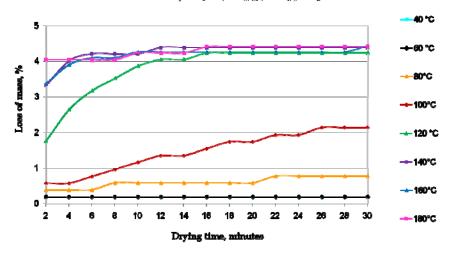
Conditions: 60 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt, reaction time: ½-hour, temperature: 25 °C

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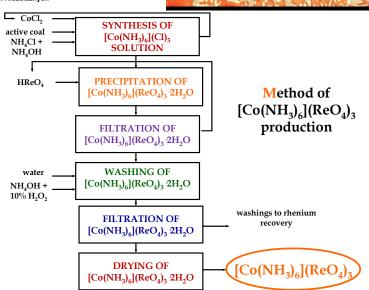


## Thermal stability of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>](ReO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O





#### Instytut Metali Nieżelaznych





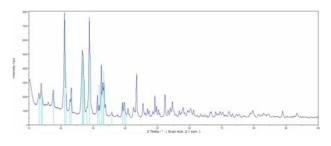


# Composition of [Co(NH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>6</sub>](ReO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>3</sub>

61.2 % Re, 6.5 % Co, 11.2 % ammonium ions and < 0.002 % chlorine, < 0.0005 % Na, Ca, Mg, Pb, Fe, Mo, Cr i Ni, < 0.001 % K and < 0.0003 % Zn



# The method was registered in Patent Office of the Republic of Poland in 2011







### **Conclusions I**

It was found out that precipitation of  $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$  should be conducted from solution of Co content at the level of 20-50 g/L, in room temperature, with 60 % excess of rhenium vs. cobalt

It is important to use aqueous solution of perrhenic acid where rhenium concentration is over  $100~{\rm g/L}$ 

The combined solutions should be intensively mixed for half an hour so the cobalt concentration in the solution after precipitation of  $[Co(NH_3)_6](ReO_4)_3$   $\cdot 2H_2O$  is <0.002 g/L

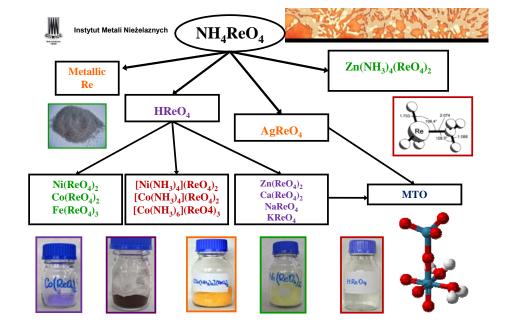
In the temperature level of 120 °C a stable anhydrous hexamminecobalt(III) perrhenate was formed





## **Conclusions II**

The researchers of Institute of Non-Ferrous Metals in Gliwice developed many technologies for recovery of rhenium from domestic resources, mainly in a form of ammonium perrhenate and that material was then used for development of other rhenium technologies, such as: production of metallic rhenium, synthesis of perrhenic acid, production of other perrhenates: silver(I), nickel(II), cobalt(II) and iron(III), hexaaminnecobalt(III) as well as organic rhenium catalysts









# History



- Established in 1952
- 1953 -launching of IMN Experimental Production Plant; currently Metal Processing Plant Inmet
- 1959 incorporation of Light Metals Division in Skawina
- 1974 establishment of Legnica Division
- 2007 incorporation of Central Laboratory of Batteries and Cells

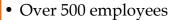






# **Today**

- Leading scientific centre of Polish non-ferrous industry
- One of the largest scientific institutes in Poland



- Turnover above 100 million PLN
- R&D investment return index
- Certified laboratories









# **Research activities**



- Mineral resources treatment and waste utilisation
- Non-ferrous metals metallurgy
- Hydrometallurgy
- Environmental protection
- Processing of metals and alloys
- Material science of metals
- Electrochemical power resources
- Analytical chemistry







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