

# **“Refractories for Non-Ferrous Applications”**



**Sixty-first Annual Symposium on Refractories**

*sponsored by*

**The Greater Missouri Section  
and Refractory Ceramics Division of**

**THE AMERICAN CERAMIC SOCIETY**

*at*

**Hilton St. Louis Airport Hotel  
St. Louis, Missouri**

*on*

**March 31<sup>st</sup> – April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026**

## PROGRAM

### “Refractories for Non-Ferrous Applications”

Monday, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026

5:00 P.M. Kickoff Social Event – Westport Social <https://westportsocial-stl.com>

Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2026

7:15 A.M. Registration and Coffee

8:00 Morning Technical Sessions  
Welcome and Introductions

**Greater Missouri Section Chairman**

*Jason Lonergan*

Missouri University of Science & Technology

**Refractory Ceramics Division Chair**

*John Waters*

RMA

**Co-Program Coordinators**

*Dan Gower*

Refractory Minerals Co.

*Kimberley Peterson*

Christy Refractories

8:15 A Review of Corundum Formation in Aluminum Furnaces  
*Roger Smith – Plibrico Company, LLC*

8:45 Hydrogen Resistance of Synthetic Alumina Based Castables at 1150°C and 1400°C  
*Andreas Buhr & Sebastian Klaus – Almatiss GmbH, Germany; Stefan Kulper – Almatiss B.V., Netherlands; John Holloway – Almatiss, Inc. USA; Isabelle Henn – Universitat Koblenz, Germany; Jerry Dutton – Stourbridge, UK*

9:15 Refractory Performance in Evolving SRU Conditions  
*Daniel Starr - HarbisonWalker International*  
*J. Jacob Dupree - J.T. Thorpe & Son, Inc.*

9:45 Coffee Break

10:15 Phosphates in Non-Ferrous Refractory Systems: Roles and Insights  
*Simon Horn - Chemische Fabrik Budenheim KG, Germany*

10:45 The Importance of Back-up Insulation for Refractory Applications in the Aluminum Industry  
*Tom Viverito & Tom Steele - Morgan Advanced Materials*

11:15 Development of Refractory Aggregate from Secondary Aluminum Salt Dross  
*Paul Ormond - PHOcon, LLC*

11:45-1:00 Luncheon Banquet

## **Afternoon Session**

- 1:00 Presentation of the T.J. Planje St. Louis Refractories Award to **Tomas Richter, MaterialsPro Technologies LLC**
- 2:00 Refractory Raw Materials for Non-Ferrous Applications – Binders (1<sup>st</sup> Part)  
*Chris Parr, Christoph Wöhrmeyer, Scot Graddick, Frederic Lacoue & Jean-Michel Auvray – Imerys*
- 2:30 Refractory Raw Materials for Non-Ferrous Applications – Aggregates (2<sup>nd</sup> Part)  
*Chris Parr, Christoph Wöhrmeyer, Scot Graddick, Frederic Lacoue & Jean-Michel Auvray - Imerys*
- 3:00 Coffee Break
- 3:30 Refractories for Smelting and Melting of Copper, Titanium, Aluminum and other Applications  
*Ruth Engel - Refractory Consulting Services*
- 4:00 Chromium-Free Refractories for Copper Converter  
*Somnath Mandal – Steel Flow Control Group*  
*Ilona Jastrzębska – AGH University of Krakow, Poland*
- 4:30 Questions & Discussion  
Co-Program Coordinator
- 5:00 Closing Remarks  
**Greater Missouri Section Chairman**  
*Jason Lonergan*  
Missouri University of Science & Technology  
**Refractory Ceramics Division Chair**  
*John Waters*  
RMA
- 5:00-7:00 Exposition and Cocktail Hour
- |  |                                |
|--|--------------------------------|
| AC Tech  | Nalco Water, An Ecolab Company |
| Almatis, Inc.                                    | R-E-D Industrial Products      |
| AluChem  | Refractory Minerals            |
| BassTech International                           | TAM Ceramics                   |
| Calucem  | The American Ceramic Society   |
| Christy Minerals                                 | The Refractories Institute     |
| Cimsa-Americas                                   | US Electrofused Minerals       |
| Cremer Erzkontor N.A.                            | Washington Mills               |
| Elkem Silicon Products                           |                                |
| FX Minerals                                      |                                |
| GNPGraystar                                      |                                |
| Gorka Cement                                     |                                |
| Hindalco/GBL                                     |                                |
| Hunter Chemical LLC                              |                                |
| Imerys   |                                |
| Kyanite Mining Corp                              |                                |
| Mintura  |                                |
| MO S&T – Advanced Characterization Core Facility |                                |
- 7:00 Dinner Buffet

Wednesday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2026

- 6:30 A.M. Refractory Ceramics Division (RCD) Breakfast Meeting
- 8:15 Morning Technical Sessions  
Welcome and Introductions
- Greater Missouri Section Chair**  
*Jason Lonergan*  
Missouri University of Science & Technology
- Refractory Ceramics Division Chair**  
*John Waters*  
RMA
- Co-Program Coordinators**  
*Dan Gower*  
Refractory Minerals Co.  
*Kimberley Peterson*  
Christy Refractories
- 8:30 High-Performance Sintered Bauxite and High-Purity Brown Fused Alumina: Novel Brazilian Sources for Non-Ferrous Refractories  
*Paschoal Bonadia, Irenilson Lima & Mateus Curado – Bautek, Brazil; Matheus Naves, Roberto Rettore & Vitor Domiciano – RHI Magnesita, Brazil; Otávio Borges, Luis Falsetti & Victor C. Pandolfelli – Federal Univ. of São Carlos, Brazil*
- 9:00 Optimization of Phosphate-Bonded Refractories for Non-Ferrous Applications  
*Dan Gower & George Gower - Refractory Minerals*  
*Ben Markel, Dawn Hill, Allison Slominski & William Headrick – RHI Magnesita*
- 9:30 Understanding the Mechanism of Alkali Corrosion of Spinel Refractory  
*Manoj K. Mahapatra & Rajat Durgesh Ramteke – University of Alabama at Birmingham*  
*James G. Hemrick – Oak Ridge National Lab & University of Alabama at Birmingham*
- 10:00 Coffee Break
- 10:30 Non-Contact Dilatometry as a Tool for Refractory Selection Under Thermo-Mechanical Cycling  
*Gibran Sánchez, Martin Miranda & Alejandro González – Pyrotek, Mexico; Hugo Sereno & Antonio Pola – Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Mexico, Mexico; Héctor Camacho – Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, Mexico*
- 11:00 Nb<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub> Additions for the Development of Special Aluminas  
*Vania Salvini – SOLVE High Temperature Ceramics & Federal Univ of São Carlos, Brazil; Matheus Santos – REDLAB, Brazil; Otávio Borges, Luis Falsetti, Victor C. Pandolfelli & José Anchieta Rodrigues – Federal Univ. of São Carlos, Brazil; Paschoal Bonadia – ACTECH, Brazil; Rogério Torres – Companhia Brasileira de Metalurgia e Materiais, Brazil*
- 11:30 Rheology-Performance Correlation in Microsilica Suspension-Based Dry-Gunning Material: Evidence from industrial trial  
*Izak Cameron - Materials Innovation, Elkem Silicon Product Development, Norway*
- 12:00 Questions & Discussion  
Co-Program Coordinator
- Greater Missouri Section Chairman**  
*Jason Lonergan*  
Missouri University of Science & Technology
- Refractory Ceramics Division Chair**  
*John Waters*  
RMA
- 12:30 Greater Missouri Members Meeting