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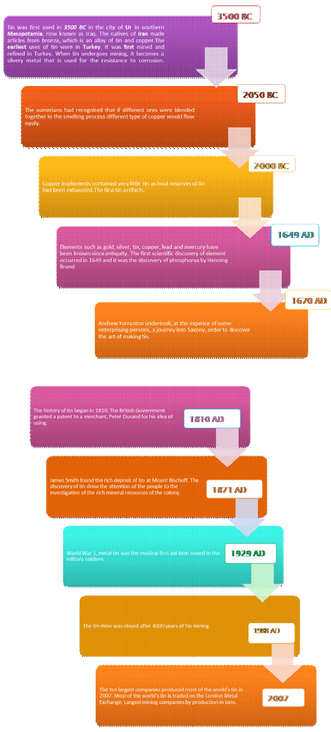
History of Tin

Brief Timeline



Modern Day

According to the unique feature of tin that include:

- Silvery-white metal
- Non-magnetic
- Fairly resistant to corrosion
- Non-combustible
- Lightweight
- Durable
- Soft
- Ductile
- Malleable
- Expensive, but can last long time when properly maintained
- Low maintenance material consisting primarily of routine inspection and periodic painting.

Pewter, for example, is mostly tin.

Electro-plating is an important application of tin. It can be done through the electroplating of a small coat of tin around objects of steel, copper, aluminium etc.

Moreover, the tinned pieces have countless applications such as in kitchen utensils, spray recipients and shaving foam, ink cans, electronic components, integrated circuits, clips, pins and many others.

Tinned objects can also be used with **ornamental purposes**. As a pure metal, it can still be used in storage tanks for pharmaceutical chemical solutions, in capacitors electrodes, fuse-wires, ammunitions, tinned iron sheets to protect victuals, sweets or tobacco etc. Some of the tin organic compounds have several applications as fungicides and insecticides for the agriculture and still as wood, textile and paper preservers.

Alloys of tin are also important, such as soft solder, pewter, bronze and phosphor bronze. The most important tin salt used is tin (II) chloride which is used as a reducing agent and as a mordant. Tin salts sprayed onto glass are used to produce electrically conductive coatings. Most window glass is made by floating molten glass on molten tin to produce a flat surface. Recently, a tin-niobium alloy that is superconductive at very low temperatures has attracted interest.

The more important tin compound is the tin dioxide (SnO_2), used in electric resistors and dielectrics, and the tin monoxide that it is used in the production of tin salts for electroplating and as chemical reagents. The tin compounds that contain lead, barium, calcium and copper are indispensable in the production of electric capacitors. The tin fluoride is used as addictive in toothpastes.

3500 BC
Tin was first used in 3500 BC in the city of Ur in southern Mesopotamia, now known as Iraq. The natives of Iran made articles from bronze, which is an alloy of tin and copper. The earliest uses of tin were in Turkey. It was first mined and refined in Turkey. When tin undergoes mining, it becomes a silvery metal that is used for the resistance to corrosion.

2050 BC
The Sumerians had recognized that if different ores were blended together in the smelting process different type of copper would flow easily.

2000 BC
Copper implements contained very little tin as local reserves of tin had been exhausted. The first tin artefacts.

1649 AD
Elements such as gold, silver, tin, copper, lead and mercury have been known since antiquity. The first scientific discovery of element occurred in 1649 and it was the discovery of phosphorus by Henning Brand.

1670 AD
Andrew Yarranton undertook, at the expense of some enterprising persons, a journey into Saxony, order to discover the art of making tin.

1810 AD
The history of tin began in 1810. The British Government granted a patent to a merchant, Peter Durand for his idea of using.

1871 AD
James Smith found the rich deposit of tin at Mount Bischoff. The discovery of tin drew the attention of the people to the investigation of the rich mineral resources of the colony.

1929 AD
World War 1, metal tin was the medical first aid item issued to the military soldiers.

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1988 AD
The tin mine was closed after 4000 years of Tin mining.

2007 AD
The ten largest companies produced most of the world's tin in 2007. Most of the world's tin is traded on the London Metal Exchange. Largest mining companies by production in tons.