

MEAB participated in the ALTA2016 Conference



The 21st ALTA conference was held in Perth, Australia (21-28 May 2016) and was opened by Conference Convener, Alan Taylor, Metallurgical Consultant/Managing Director, ALTA Metallurgical Services. The event was well-attended with 207 attendees from 25 countries, despite the industry downturn.

MEAB presented two technical papers at the conference, in the Uranium-REE Session.

In the first paper, named '*Recovery of Rare Earth Elements and Scandium from European Deposits by Solvent Extraction*', MEAB's vast experience in the separation and purification of the rare earth elements by solvent extraction methods was introduced. Within the EC funded EURARE project, MEAB conducted both laboratory and mini-pilot plant studies. We developed and demonstrated a novel flow sheet for the separation of heavy (HREE), medium (MREE) and light (LREE) Rare Earth Elements. Also, the separation of Y from the HREE fraction and Nd from the LREE fraction was studied and the developed flow sheet turned out to be effective for the selective separation of rare earth elements from leach solutions.

The second paper, named '*Recovery of Scandium from Bauxite Residue by Selective Precipitation from Leach Solutions*', MEAB introduced the studies performed in order to precipitate and recover Sc selectively from Bauxite Residue leach solutions. The study was performed within the consortium of EU H2020 ETN Red Mud Project. MEAB has developed a novel approach by direct precipitation and enrichment of Sc with selective precipitation reagents. MEAB also conducted various solvent extraction tests in order to selectively separate Sc from pre-purified and enriched PLS in terms of Sc and has the proprietary knowledge to selectively precipitate and recover Sc by solvent extraction method from various types of solutions.

Ref. <http://www.altamet.com.au/conferences/alta-2016/>