



Vanadium

Vanadium – Colorado was the most recent state to produce vanadium, which stopped in 2009, due to low prices and the lack of nearby processing mills. Found as a byproduct of, or co-located with uranium, vanadium is a soft, ductile, bright white metal with good corrosion resistance to alkalis, sulfuric and hydrochloric acid, and salt water. It possesses good structural strength and a low fission neutron cross section (determines the thermal power of a nuclear power plant), making it very useful in the nuclear industry. Vanadium is used to produce rust resistant and impact resistant steels, and acts as a carbide stabilizer in high-strength steels. About 80 percent of produced vanadium is used as ferrovanadium or as a steel additive. Vanadium foil is also used to bond titanium to steel; vanadium pentoxide is used in ceramics and as a catalyst in the manufacturing of sulfuric acid.

Locatable
Minerals



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