

# Techno Economic Assessment of an HTS Busbar System

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#### Content

- I. TMS Paper
- II. Magnetic Compensation: Why?
- III. DC Connection Between Potline and Power Plant/Grid
- IV. Conclusion





#### I. TMS Paper





#### Where can HTS be utilized? With simplified, slightly altered calculations



#### Superconductor Busbars—High Benefits for Aluminium Plants

Wolfgang Reiser, Till Reek, Carsten Räch, and Daniel Kreuter

Abstract

Superconductor busbars have reached industrial readiness. Superconductors are conducting direct current with extremely high densities of more than  $50 \text{ kA/cm}^2$  with zero losses. Due to

#### Keywords

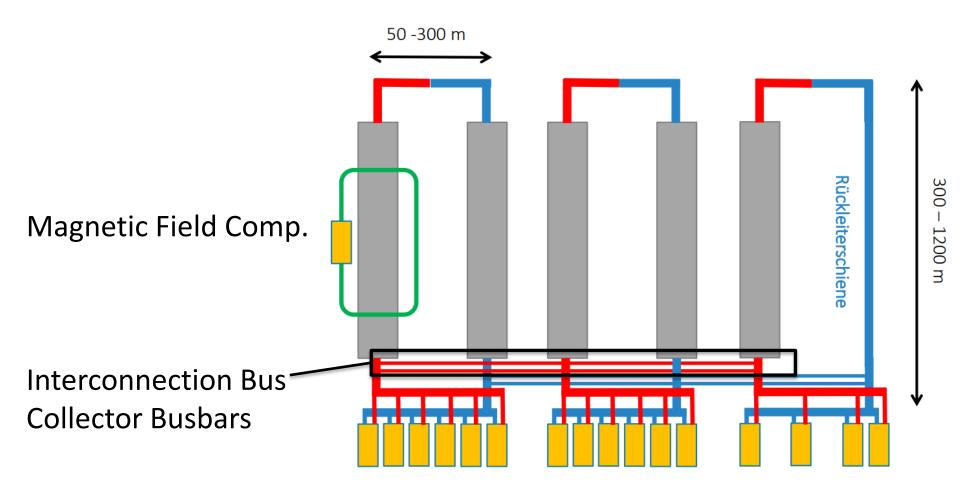
Aluminium • Superconductor • Busbar • Efficiency

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#### Where can HTS be utilized?

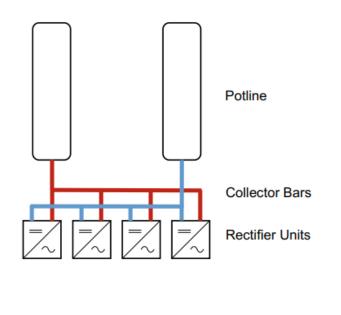


[1] earth.com/earthpedia-articles/aluminum





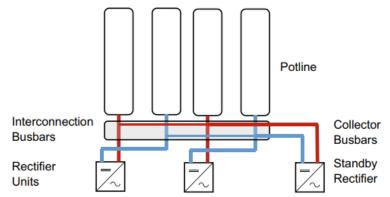
- Lets look at the cases:
  - Case 1: Collector Bars



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• Case 2: Interconnection Bus

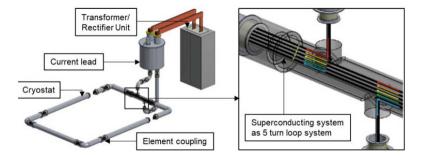


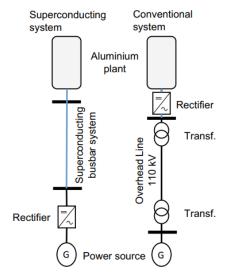




#### Where can HTS be utilized?

- Lets look at 3 cases:
  - Case 3: Magnetic Field Compensation





**Fig. 5** Superconducting DC/overhead line connection between power source and potline. (Color figure online)

Case 4: Interconnection Bus

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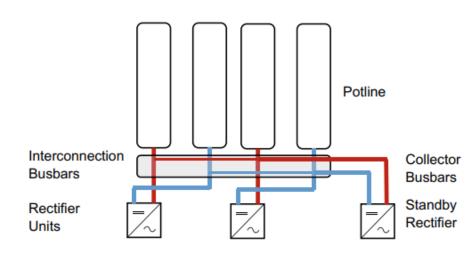
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#### Case 2:

- Interconnection bars connect multiple potlines
- Facilitates an even electrical load
- Less current than case 1
  (50 kA compared to 400 kA)
- Longer distance than case 1 (1,000 m compared to 415 m)



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• How will this affect the overall **CAPEX/OPEX?** 



Case 2:

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#### Case 1: (Collector Bars)

#### Case 2: (Interconnection Bars)

| -   | -         |           |                    |   |           |           |                    |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------------|---|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
|   | Al busbar | SC busbar |                    |   | Al busbar | SC busbar |                    |
| Nominal current                             | 400       |           | kA                 | Nominal current                             | 50        |           | kA                 |
| Conductor current density                   | 0.06      | 50        | kA/cm <sup>2</sup> | Conductor current density                   | 0.06      | 50        | kA/cm <sup>2</sup> |
| Conductor cross section                     | 6,667     | 8.0       | cm <sup>2</sup>    | Conductor cross section                     | 833       | 1.0       | cm <sup>2</sup>    |
| Conductor mass per meter                    | 1,800     | 7.0       | kg/m               | Conductor mass                              | 225       | 0.9       | kg/m               |
| System mass incl. supports & fixation       | 2,500     | 60        | kg/m               | System mass incl. supports & fixation       | 320       | 36        | kg/m               |
| Overall length                              | 415       |           | m                  | Overall length for 2 phases                 | 1,000     |           | m                  |
| Total mass (incl. LN2 for SC)               | 1,037,500 | 24,900    | kg                 | Total mass (incl. LN2 for SC)               | 320,000   | 36,000    | kg                 |
| Total electrical resistance                 | 0.022     |           | mΩ                 | Total electrical resistance                 | 0.429     |           | mΩ                 |
| Temperature rise above ambient              | 40        |           | K                  | Temperature rise above ambient              | 40        |           | K                  |
| Conductor temperature at nominal current    | 80/353    | -203/70   | °C/K               | Conductor temperature at nominal current    | 80/353    | -203/70   | °C/K               |
| Voltage drop at nominal current             | 8.9       | 0.3       | V                  | Voltage drop at nominal current             | 21.4      | 0.3       | V                  |
| Busbar power losses                         | 3,557     | 120       | kW                 | Busbar power losses                         | 1,071     | 15        | kW                 |
| Electrical power for SC cooling machines    |           | 820       | kW                 | Electrical power for SC cooling machines    |           | 141       | kW                 |
| CAPEX                                       | 6,200     | 17,000    | k€                 | CAPEX                                       | 1,920     | 5,680     | k€                 |
| Energy costs                                | 50        |           | €/MWh              | Energy costs                                | 50        |           | €/MWh              |
| Full load hours per year                    | 8,640     |           | h                  | Full load hours per year                    | 8,640     |           | h                  |
| Operating energy (Losses + machines)        | 30,700    | 8,100     | MWh/year           | Operating energy (Losses + machines)        | 9,300     | 1,300     | MWh/year           |
| OPEX  | 1,535     | 405       | k€/year            | OPEX  | 465       | 65        | k€/year            |
| Payback period                              | Base      | 9.6       | Years              | Payback period                              | Base      | 9.4       | Years              |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 10 years) | 21,550    | 21,050    | k€                 | TCO (Total cost of ownership over 10 years) | 6,570     | 6,330     | k€                 |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 25 years) | 44,575    | 27,125    | k€                 | TCO (Total cost of ownership over 25 years) | 13,545    | 7,305     | k€                 |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 40 years) | 67,600    | 33,200    | k€                 | TCO (Total cost of ownership over 40 years) | 20,520    | 8,280     | k€                 |
|   |           |           |                    |   |           |           |                    |

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#### **II. Case 3: Magnetic Compensation**





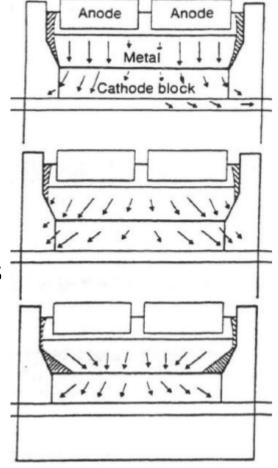
High currents cause high magnetic fields!

• This causes the Al in the smelter to magnetize and coalesce

 The current distribution in the smelter changes (depicted by arrows)

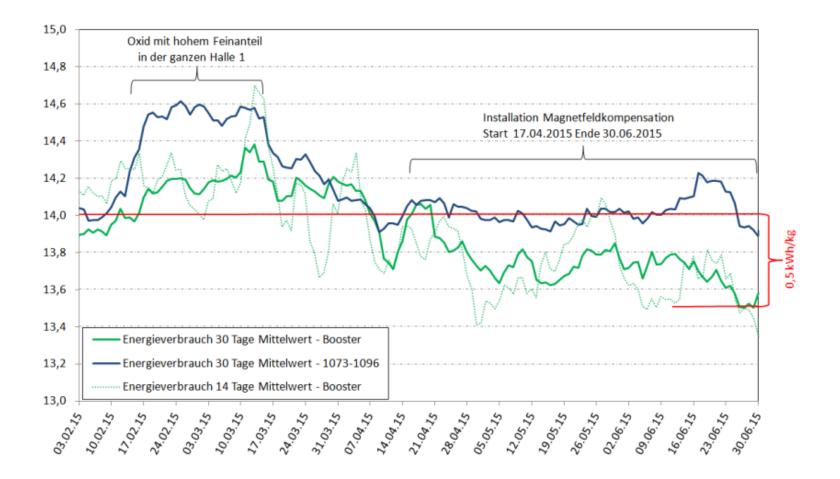
- Increasing the resistance of the smelter..
- ... which increases the losses

Düssel, Roman. Entwicklung eines Regelungskonzepts für Aluminium-Elektrolysezellen unter Berücksichtigung einer variablen Stromstärke und eines regelbaren Wärmeverlusts









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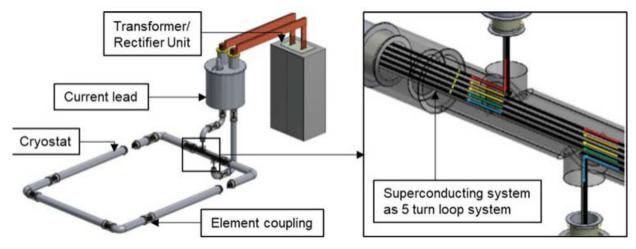


- Magnetic fields cannot be blocked, only redirected!
- The solution is to generate a counter-acting magnetic field...
- ...through a separate current
- Conventional compensation busbars are installed the pots in a hot and tight environment around the smelters
- This results in additional assembly difficulties and therefore additional costs





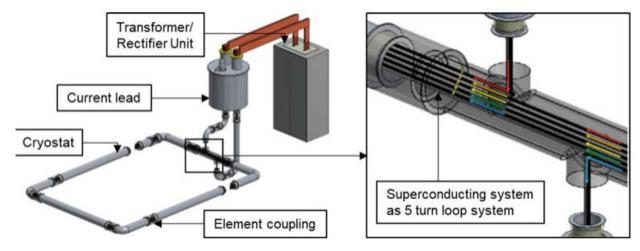
- Due to the small size of HTS busbars, these difficulties can be reduced
- Contrary to aluminum busbars, a HTS loop can be created inside the cryostat







- The additional turns increase the resulting magnetic field, similarly to an inductor
- By using 5 turns, we can reduce the operating current by a factor of 5!
- Reducing the needed power



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## **Magnetic Field Compensation**

- Resulting benefits:
  - Reduced compensation current
  - Increased space efficiency in an already crowded industrial space
  - No additional heat is introduced
  - Minimal interference with the smelters





#### **Magnetic Field Compensation**

#### • CAPEX rough order of magnitude:

| Needed:           |   |  | Unit Price |          |
|-------------------|---|--|------------|----------|
|                   | 1 | HTS  | 50         | €/kA/m   |
|                   | 2 | Cryostat                                     | 500        | €/m      |
|                   | 3 | Current Lead                                 | 2,500      | €/kA     |
|                   | 4 | Cooling Machine                              | 100,000    | €/kWcool |
|                   | 5 | Connectors, Supports, Control                | 300,000    | €/system |
| System Parameters |   |  |            |          |
| -                 | а | Current                                      | 40         | kA       |
|                   | b | Length                                       | 500        | m        |
|                   | с | Electric Power for Cooling Machines + Losses | 43         | kW       |
|                   | d | HTS Mutual Magnetic Factor                   | 1.5        |          |
|                   | е | Number of current leads                      | 1          |          |
|                   | f | Heat Losses per m                            | 0.002      | kW/m     |
| CAPEX Calculation |   |  |            |          |
|                   |   | HTS  | 1,500,000  | 1*a*b*d  |
|                   |   | Cryostat                                     | 250,000    | 2*b      |
|                   |   | Current Lead                                 | 20,000     | 3*a*e/5  |
|                   |   | Cooling Machine                              | 100,000    | 4*b*f    |
|                   |   | Supports                                     | 300,000    | 5        |
|                   |   | Total  | 2,170,000  |          |

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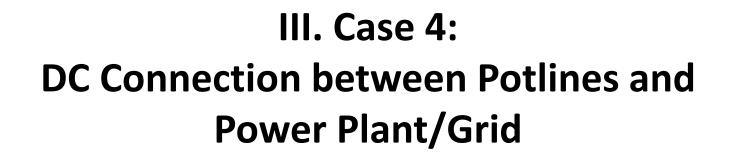




|   | Al busbar | SC busbar |                    |
|---|-----------|-----------|--------------------|
| Nominal current                             | 4         | 10        | kA                 |
| No of turns                                 | 1         | 5         |                    |
| Conductor current density                   | 0.06      | 50        | kA/cm <sup>2</sup> |
| Conductor cross section                     | 667       | 0.8       | cm <sup>2</sup>    |
| Conductor mass                              | 180       | 0.7       | kg/m               |
| System mass incl. supports & fixation       | 250       | 20        | kg/m               |
| Overall length of the MFC loop              | 5         | 00        | m                  |
| Total mass (incl. LN2 for SC)               | 125,000   | 10,000    | kg                 |
| Total electrical resistance                 | 0.268     |           | mΩ                 |
| Temperature rise above ambient              | 40        |           | К                  |
| Conductor temperature at nominal current    | 80/353    | -203/70   | °C/K               |
| Voltage drop at nominal current             | 10.7      | 0.2       | V                  |
| Busbar power losses                         | 429       | 8         | kW                 |
| Electrical power for SC cooling machines    |           | 43        | kW                 |
| CAPEX                                       | 1,250     | 2,200     | k€                 |
| Energy costs                                | 4         | 50        | €/MWh              |
| Full load hours per year                    | 8,640     |           | h                  |
| Operating energy (Losses + machines)        | 3,700     | 400       | MWh/year           |
| OPEX  | 185       | 20        | k€/year            |
| Payback period                              | Base      | 5.8       | Years              |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 10 years) | 3,100     | 2,400     | k€                 |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 25 years) | 5,875     | 2,700     | k€                 |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 40 years) | 8,650     | 3,000     | k€                 |

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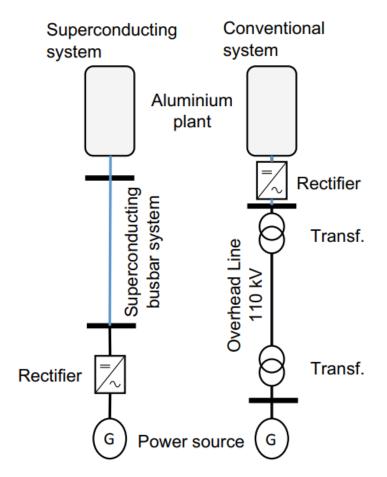


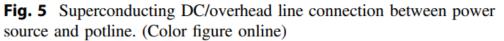


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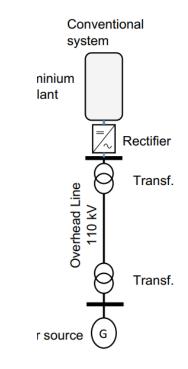




### **Conventional Overhead Line**

- Power is provided either by grid connection or a power plant
- The distance can be several 100 ms ranging to multiple kms.
- To keep transmission losses low, a higher voltage is needed ...
- ...which results in two transformers...

• ...and an overhead line





# **HTS System**

- Since HTS have no ohmic losses, we don't need to worry about transmission losses
- A DC transmission from the power source to the aluminum plant is possible...
- ...without the need for transformers
- No costly overhead lines are needed either
- Due to the small size of the HTS system, less construction is needed
- DC transmission also incurs no reactive power

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Rectifier

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Superconducting

Superconducting busbar system

Power:

Alumi pla

system

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#### Case 4: Results

|   | Overhead Line                            | SC busbar      |                    |           |
|---|--|----------------|--------------------|-----------|
| Nominal power                               | 400                                      |                | MVA                | IELECTRIC |
| Length of connection                        | 1,500                                    | m              | Super Conductors   |           |
| System configuration                        | Transformer/Overhead<br>Line/Transformer | SC busbar      |                    |           |
| Nominal voltage                             | AC 110                                   | DC 1.25        | kV                 |           |
| No of phases                                | 3  | 2              |                    |           |
| Nominal current                             | 2.1                                      | 160            | kA                 |           |
| Conductor current density                   | 0.1                                      | 50             | kA/cm <sup>2</sup> |           |
| Conductor cross section                     | 21.0                                     | 3.2            | cm <sup>2</sup>    |           |
| Resistance of 1 Phase OH-Line at 80 °C      | 15.5                                     |                | mΩ                 |           |
| Power Losses OH-Line, 3 Phases              | 230                                      |                | kW                 |           |
| Transformer efficiency                      | 99.6%                                    |                |                    |           |
| Power losses two transformers               | 0.8%                                     |                |                    |           |
| Power losses two transformers               | 3,200                                    |                | kW                 |           |
| Voltage drop of SC Busbar                   |  | 0.3            | v                  |           |
| Busbar power losses                         | 3,430                                    | 96             | kW                 |           |
| Electrical power for SC cooling machines    |  | 696            | kW                 |           |
| CAPEX                                       | 18,000                                   | 22,100         | k€                 |           |
| Energy costs                                | 50                                       |                | €/MWh              |           |
| Full load hours per year                    | 8,640                                    |                | h                  |           |
| Operating energy<br>(Losses + machines)     | 29,600                                   | 6,800          | MWh/year           |           |
| OPEX  | 1,480                                    | 340            | k€/year            |           |
| Payback period                              | Base                                     | 3.6            | Years              |           |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 10 years) | 32,800                                   | 25,500         | k€                 |           |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 25 years) | 55,000                                   | 30,600         | k€                 |           |
| TCO (Total cost of ownership over 40 years) | 77,200                                   | 35,700         | k€                 |           |
| Special case at 500 m distance              | -  |                |                    |           |
| CAPEX                                       | 14,000                                   | 13,400         | k€                 |           |
| Energy costs                                | 50                                       |                | €/MWh              |           |
| Full load hours per year                    | 8,640                                    |                | h                  |           |
| Operating energy losses                     | 28,200 6,000                             |                | MWh/year           |           |
| OPEX  | 1,410                                    | 300            | k€/year            |           |
| Payback period                              | Base                                     | CAPEX<br>LOWER |                    |           |

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#### Merci !