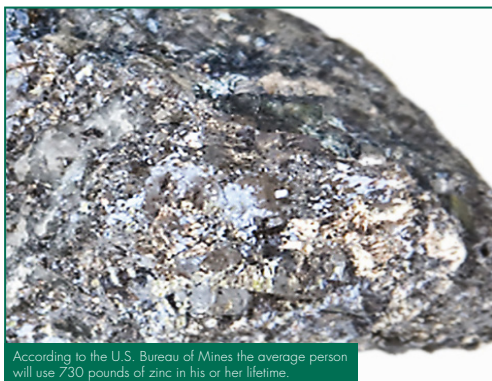


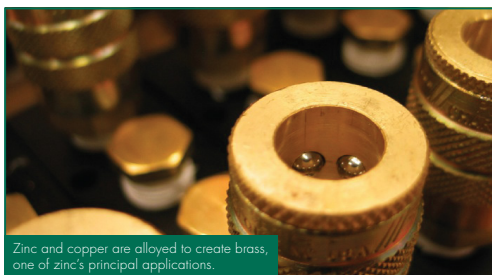
## ZINC - FAQ



According to the U.S. Bureau of Mines the average person will use 730 pounds of zinc in his or her lifetime.



Recently, zinc is found to enhance eyesight, preventing the onset of macular degeneration.



Zinc and copper are alloyed to create brass, one of zinc's principal applications.

### What is zinc?

Pure zinc is a bluish-white shiny metal. It ranks 23 in order of abundance in the earth's crust.

### What is zinc used for?

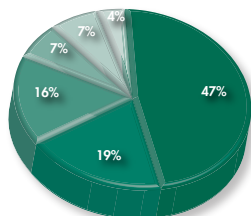
Zinc is an essential trace element for all living things. It is the second most common trace metal, after iron, in the human body.

Zinc is the fourth most common metal in world production after iron, aluminum and copper.

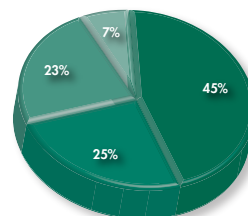
About 75% of zinc is consumed as a metal, mainly in galvanization, which is the process of coating iron and steel to prevent corrosion. Zinc metal is mixed with other metals to form alloys. Brass is an alloy of zinc and copper. Zinc is also alloyed with lead and tin to make solder.

The remaining 25% of zinc is used as zinc compound. Zinc oxide (ZnO) is used in paints, rubber products, cosmetics, pharmaceuticals and batteries. Zinc sulfide (ZnS) is used in luminous watch dials, TV screens and fluorescent light bulbs. Zinc chloride (ZnCl<sub>2</sub>) is used to protect wood from decay and insects.

Zinc can store six times as much energy per pound as other battery systems, increasing the range of electric vehicles.



- Zinc Coated Steels
- Brass
- Zinc Based Alloys
- Compounds
- Semi-Manufactures
- Other



- Construction
- Transport
- Consumer/Electrical Goods
- General Engineering

\*Source: ILZSG/Brook Hunt/Outokumpu/CRU 2004

Global demand for zinc is driven mainly by automobile demand and infrastructure projects including bridges and buildings. The average automobile contains:

20 pounds of zinc for door handles, locks and other die cast parts

17 pounds of zinc to protect against rust and help it last longer

½ pound of zinc in each tire





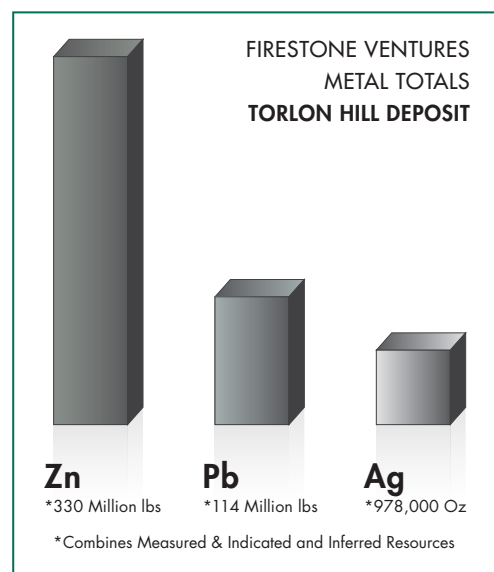
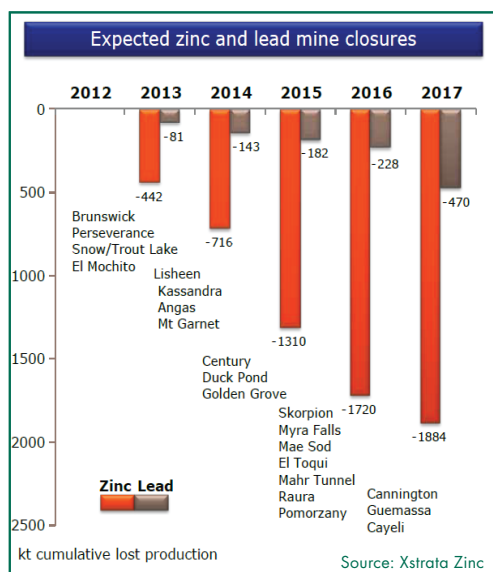
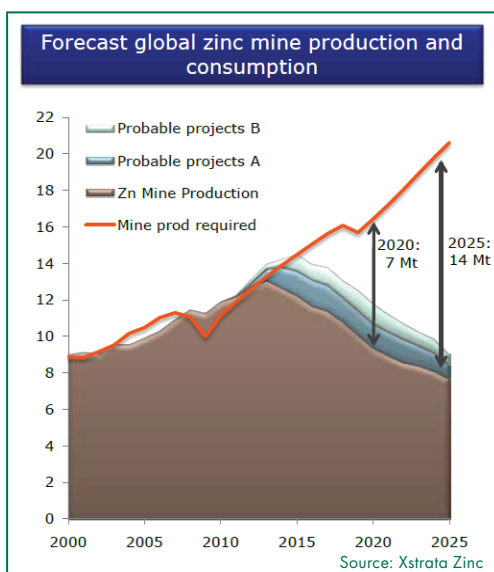
Zinc is produced mainly from 3 types of deposits: Sedimentary exhalative (Sedex), Mississippi Valley type (MVT), and volcanogenic massive sulfide (VMS).

## Where is zinc found?

Zinc ores are widespread and are mined in more than 50 countries. China, Canada, the US, Australia and Peru are the leading producers. A total of 95% of zinc worldwide is mined from sphalerite, a zinc sulfide mineral. Zinc is also extracted from smithsonite (zinc carbonate) and hemimorphite (zinc silicate).

## How is zinc mined?

80% of mines are underground, 8% are open pit and the balance are a combination of the two. Zinc is often concentrated at the mine site by crushing and separation before being shipped to a refinery. Zinc is recyclable. Over one-third of the zinc consumed in North America is recycled from old cars, bridges, buildings and other sources. Over 80% of the zinc available for recycling is currently recycled.



- There are few new sources of zinc supply entering the market.
- Most zinc mines are underground and are harder to expand than open-pit mines.
- Of key importance to new zinc mining projects are grade and availability of infrastructure.

- Several of the world's major zinc-lead mines are slated to close in the coming five years due to lack of ore.
- Mine expansions have provided new zinc supply; however most of the expansion projects are finished.
- The projected mine closures will generate a sharp decline in availability of zinc concentrate for zinc smelters/refineries.

## Firestone Ventures Inc. Torlon Hill Project:

- 22 km from Pan American Highway
- Road-accessible
- Open-pit, ore is on or near-surface
- 10.55% Zn eq. grade
- Zinc, lead and silver credits
- Open for expansion
- Development of new zinc-lead-silver district

<http://www.zincworld.org> • <http://www.yukonzinc.com/zincmarkets.htm> • <http://www.galvanizeit.org/aga/about-hot-dip-galvanizing/what-is-hot-dip-galvanizing/facts-about-zinc>  
<http://minerals.usgs.gov/minerals/pubs/commodity/zinc> • <http://chinese-school.net/firms.com/Zinc-information.html> • [http://www.nwma.org/education/zinc\\_facts.htm](http://www.nwma.org/education/zinc_facts.htm)  
[http://www.iza.com/zwo\\_org/FAQ/FAQmenu-zip.htm](http://www.iza.com/zwo_org/FAQ/FAQmenu-zip.htm) • <http://www.mii.org/Minerals/photozinc.html> • <http://www.hzindia.com/zinc.aspx>

## References

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