



RioTinto | Kennecott

Sulfuric Acid

At Rio Tinto Kennecott (RTK), we take pride in responsibly producing sulfuric acid, a useful by-product obtained during the smelter's copper production process. Our customers use sulfuric acid in a variety of applications, such as the manufacturing of fertilizer, paper processing, and copper leaching.

At RTK, copper-sulfide ores are extracted from Bingham Canyon Mine for processing. The copper smelting operation generates gaseous sulfur dioxide, which is captured and converted into highly concentrated sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4).

RTK is a fully integrated copper mining operation, enabling us to maintain our high quality standards across the production process. Our world class safety performance demonstrates our rigorous dedication to our customers, employees, and surrounding communities.

As one of America's largest producers of sulfuric acid, we own and manage a fleet of private tank cars and work closely with trucking carriers to distribute acid across the country – all with the goal of providing enhanced supply chain security to our customers.

Acid Concentration
93–98%



Delivery

Rail cars – 100 tons



Trucks – 25–35 tons





About Rio Tinto and our Kennecott operations

Rio Tinto is one of the world's leading metals and mining companies with a global workforce of over 49,000 and an extensive portfolio of operating assets spanning across Australia, Asia, North and South America, Europe and Africa.

We produce iron ore, aluminum, copper, gold, silver, molybdenum, tellurium, selenium, diamonds, and industrial minerals. Many of our materials are essential for the low-carbon transition and for advancing human progress.

As a subsidiary of Rio Tinto, Rio Tinto Kennecott (RTK) has been mining and processing minerals from the rich ore body of the Bingham Canyon Mine at Salt Lake City, Utah for nearly 120 years. It is one of only two US smelters currently operating in the country, making it a critical asset for ensuring supply of copper.

RTK produces copper cathode, molybdenum, gold, silver, tellurium, selenium, carbonate and sulfuric acid, and ships those products around the world to meet customers' needs.



Sustainability

At Rio Tinto, sustainability is more than a catch phrase. Aligning our business strategy and daily practices around sustainability enables us to strengthen our operations and products, build enduring communities, and provide lasting benefit to customers, employees, and stakeholders.

Companywide, we have committed to achieving net zero emissions by 2050 and target a 15% reduction of scope 1 and 2 emissions by 2025, with a 50% reduction by 2030*.

At our Kennecott site, we moved to renewable energy in 2019, which reduced our carbon footprint by as much as 65%** . In 2020, we became the first mine in the world to be awarded the Copper Mark, the industry's first and only independent assurance framework- verifying that the copper is responsibly produced.

Safety

Safety is our number one priority at Rio Tinto. Our goal is for everyone to go home safe at the end of each day. We have global safety standards which address key areas of risks, and they provide consistency in safety management and performance across our global operations and projects. Our businesses are audited internally against these standards and are expected to meet safety performance requirements and targets.

Our commitment to safety has enabled us to achieve a safety performance which is higher than the industry average for all injury frequency rates.

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References

* Visit <https://www.riotinto.com/en/sustainability/climate-change> to learn more about Rio Tinto's sustainability commitments.

** Learn more about our Kennecott operations here: <https://www.riotinto.com/operations/us/kennecott>