

# Decarbonisation of the Steel Industry

Opportunities & Challenges for the Refractory Solution Providers

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- 1 Pathway towards CO<sub>2</sub> reduction for the steel industry
- 2 Transformation of the steel industry
- 3 Opportunities & Challenges for the Refractory Solution Providers
- 4 Summary

# Pathway towards CO<sub>2</sub> reduction for the steel industry:

Opportunities & challenges for the refractory solution providers

The presentation focuses on two aspects...



## Decarbonisation of the steel industry

### EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES IN STEELMAKING & CHANGE IN PROCESS CONDITIONS

- New emerging technologies (e.g. Smelter) for steelmaking require high-grade refractory materials
- Change in process conditions requires adjusted refractory concepts



### HYDROGEN AS REDUCTANT & COMBUSTIBLE

- 100% Hydrogen as reductant → influence on process conditions possibly requires adaption of refractories
- Hydrogen as combustibile → how will it affect refractories?



### FOCUS OF DECARBONISATION WITHIN RHIM

- Innovative refractory solutions enabling customers to reduce their CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint
- Reduction of Scope 1 + 2 + 3 emissions in our own production plants
- Increase of recycling rate up to 10% until 2025



## CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

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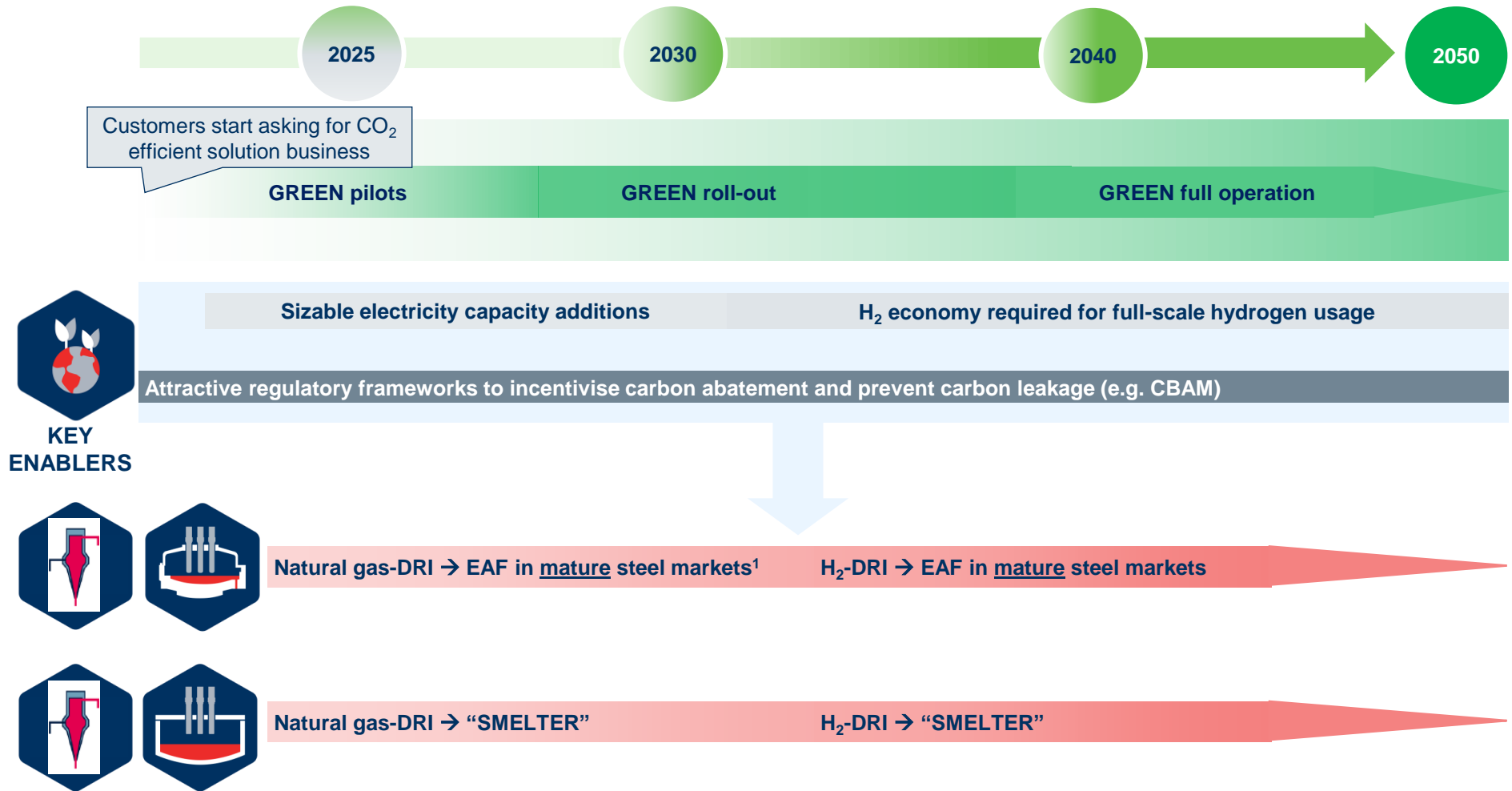


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# Reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> Footprint: Timeline for the steel industry

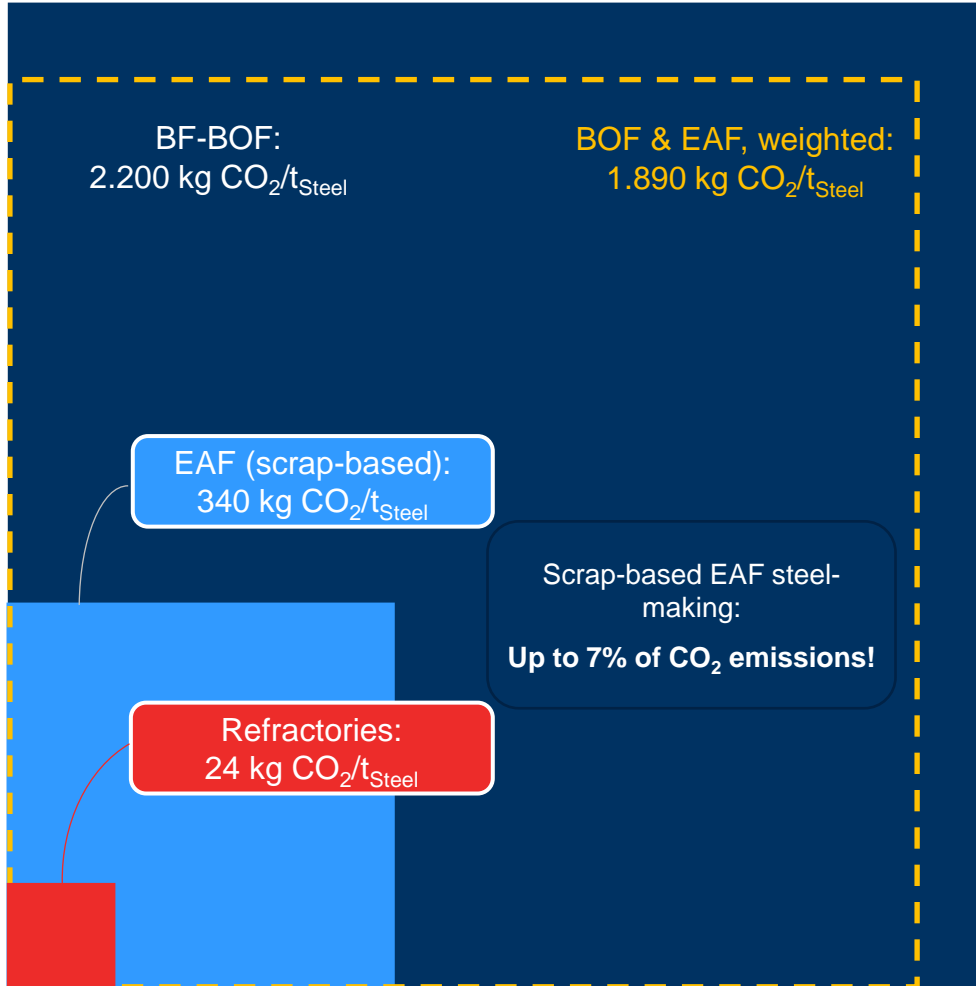


Steelmaking technology to transition stepwise to H<sub>2</sub>-DRI-EAF & H<sub>2</sub>-DRI-SAF



# Refractories in the realm of challenges for steel makers

## CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for steel making



- **Total emissions per ton of BF-BOF steel:** 2.200 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/t<sub>Steel</sub>
- **Total emissions per ton of EAF steel:** 340 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/t<sub>Steel</sub>
  - **Charge material EAF:** Scrap
  - **Charge material BOF:** Hot metal, scrap
  - **Source:** International Energy Agency (IEA)
  - **Scope of calculation:** Direct emission intensities: IEA calorific and carbon content values for each fuel (IEA, 2020b). Indirect emission intensities: Global average CO<sub>2</sub> intensity of power generation for electricity imported from the grid
- **Total emissions of refractories per ton of steel:** ~24 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/t<sub>Steel</sub>
  - **Source:** RHIM assumptions
  - **Scope of calculation:** Gradle-to-Gate calculation, including Scope 1, 2 and Scope 3 downstream emissions
- **Total emissions per ton of crude steel cast:** 1.890 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/t<sub>Steel</sub>
  - **Routes:** BOF & EAF, weighted
  - **Source:** World Steel Association
  - **Scope of calculation:** BOF and EAF route, weighted based on the production share of each route and includes scope 1, 2 and 3 according to the GHG protocol, excluding the upstream value of mining and transport to the steel site

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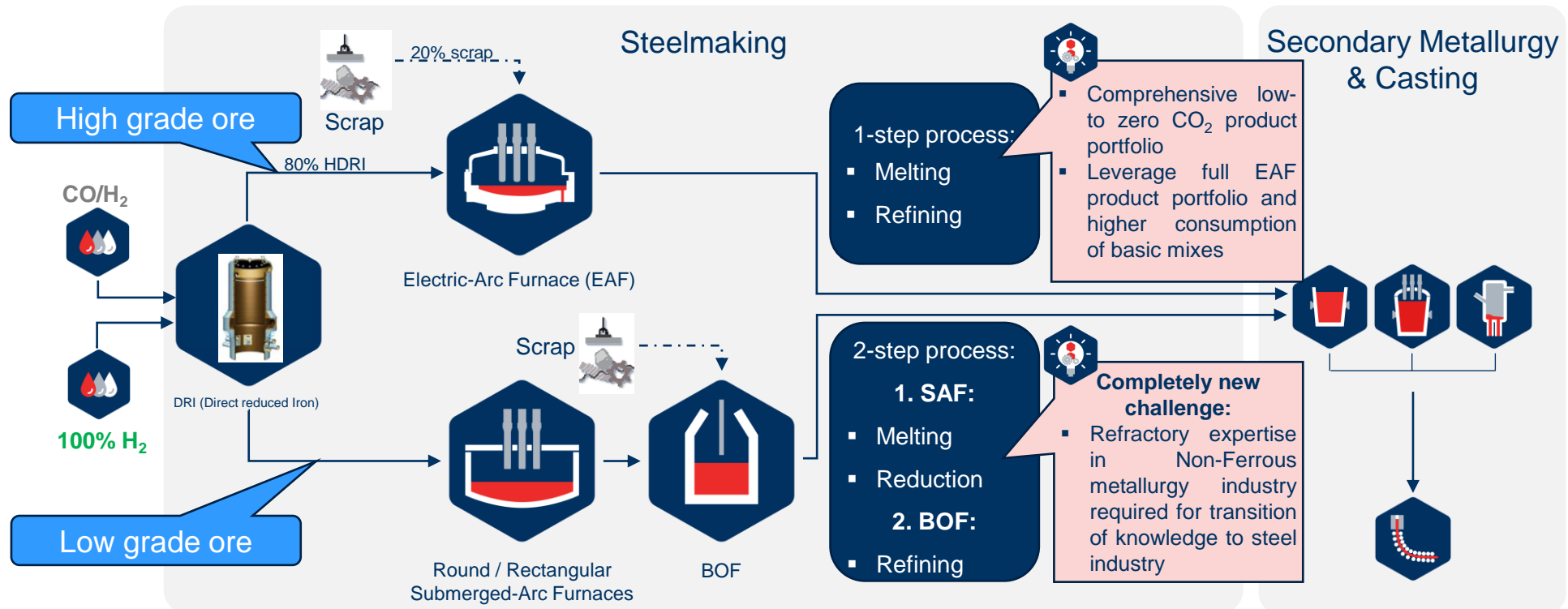


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# Transformation of the steel industry

New emerging technologies for steelmaking require adjusted refractory concepts

- **20+ DRI projects** are officially announced in Europe
- Two dominant routes for steelmaking
  - 1.) Direct reduction plant feeding an Electric-Arc Furnace (EAF)
  - 2.) Direct reduction plant in combination with Submerged-Arc Furnace





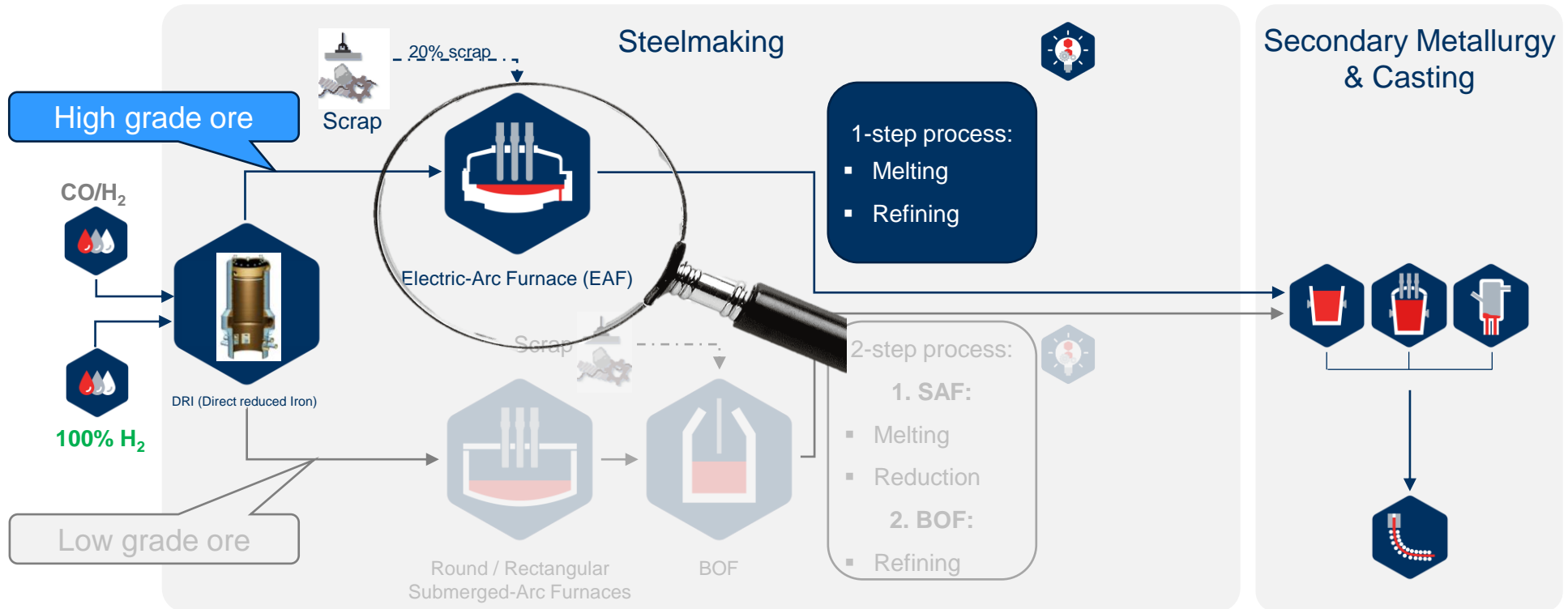
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# Transformation of the steel industry

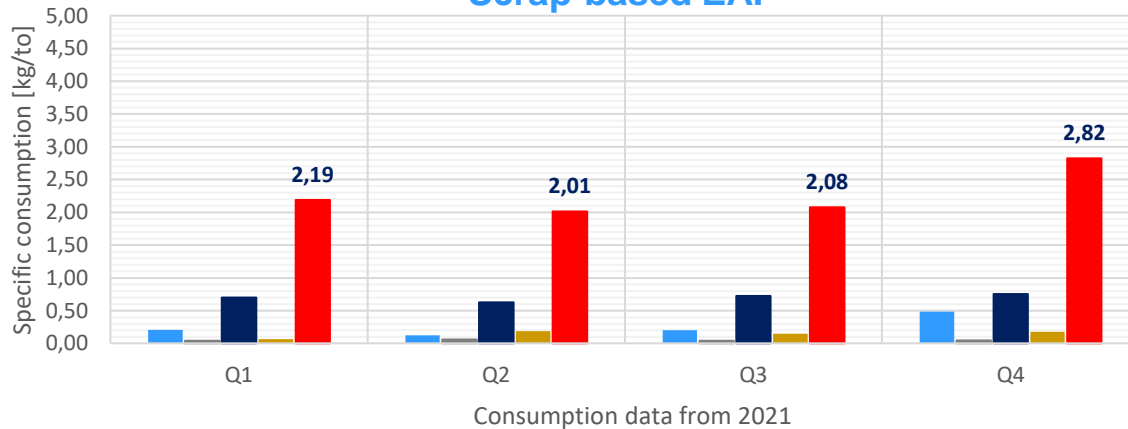
New emerging technologies for steelmaking require adjusted refractory concepts



# Scrap-based vs. DRI-based EAF Process

Long-term evolution of EAF consumption

## Scrap-based EAF



■ Working lining ■ Gunning mixes ■ Hearth mixes ■ Fettling mixes ■ Total refractory consumption

**REFERENCE 1**

- Plant capacity: 1.500 kt
- EAF capacity: 145 t
- Deoxidation: Silicon, Aluminum
- EAF type: AC
- Campaign length 1.600 heats

**Process Route:**

- EAF → LF → Billet Caster
- All heats processed through LF
- **Charge mix: 100% scrap**

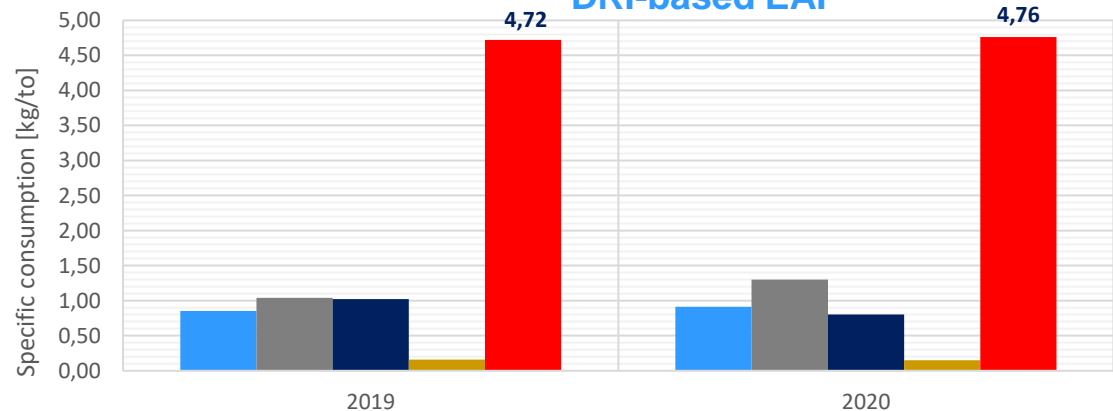
## REFERENCE 2

- Plant capacity: 1.100 kt
- EAF capacity: 130 t
- Deoxidation: Silicon killed
- EAF type: AC
- Campaign length: 465 heats

**Process Route:**

- EAF → LF → Billet Caster
- All heats processed through LF
- **Charge mix: 98-99% hot DRI max. 2% scrap**

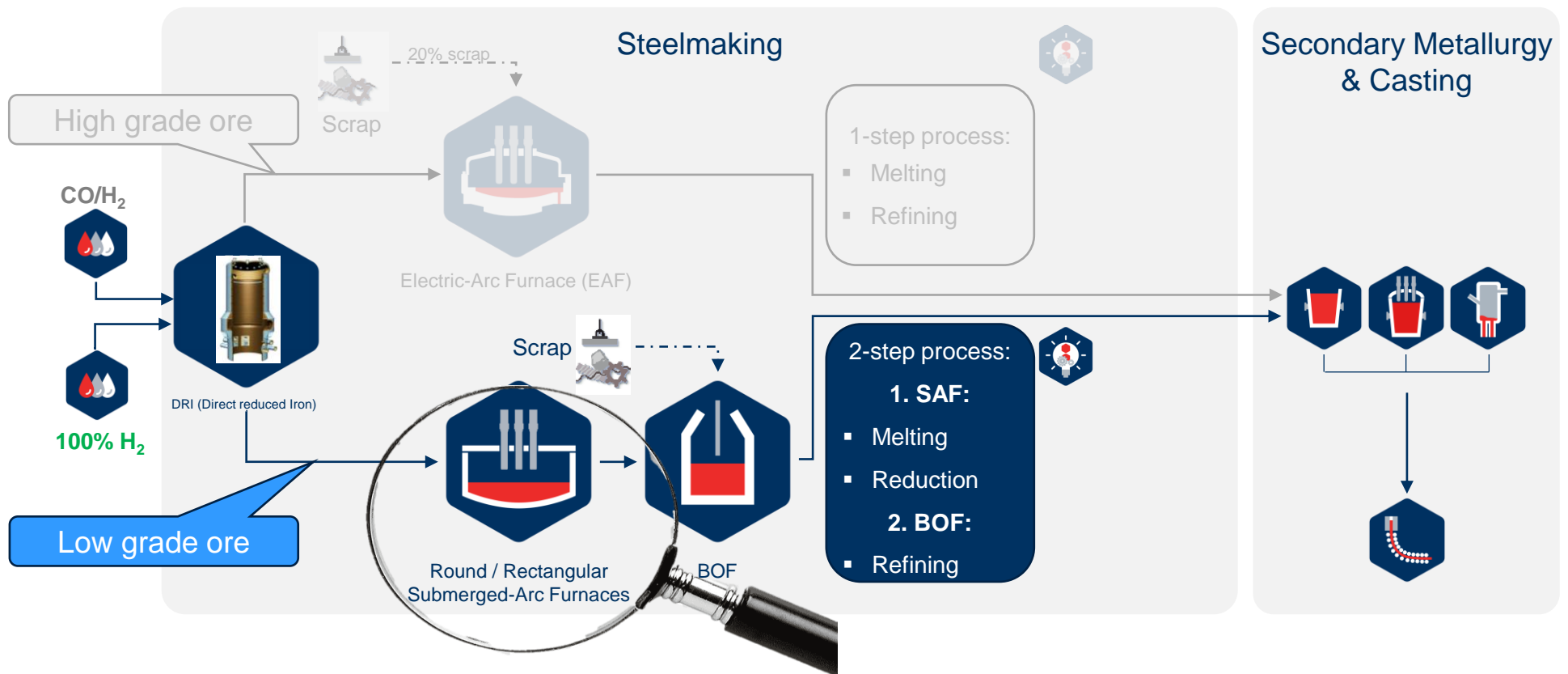
## DRI-based EAF



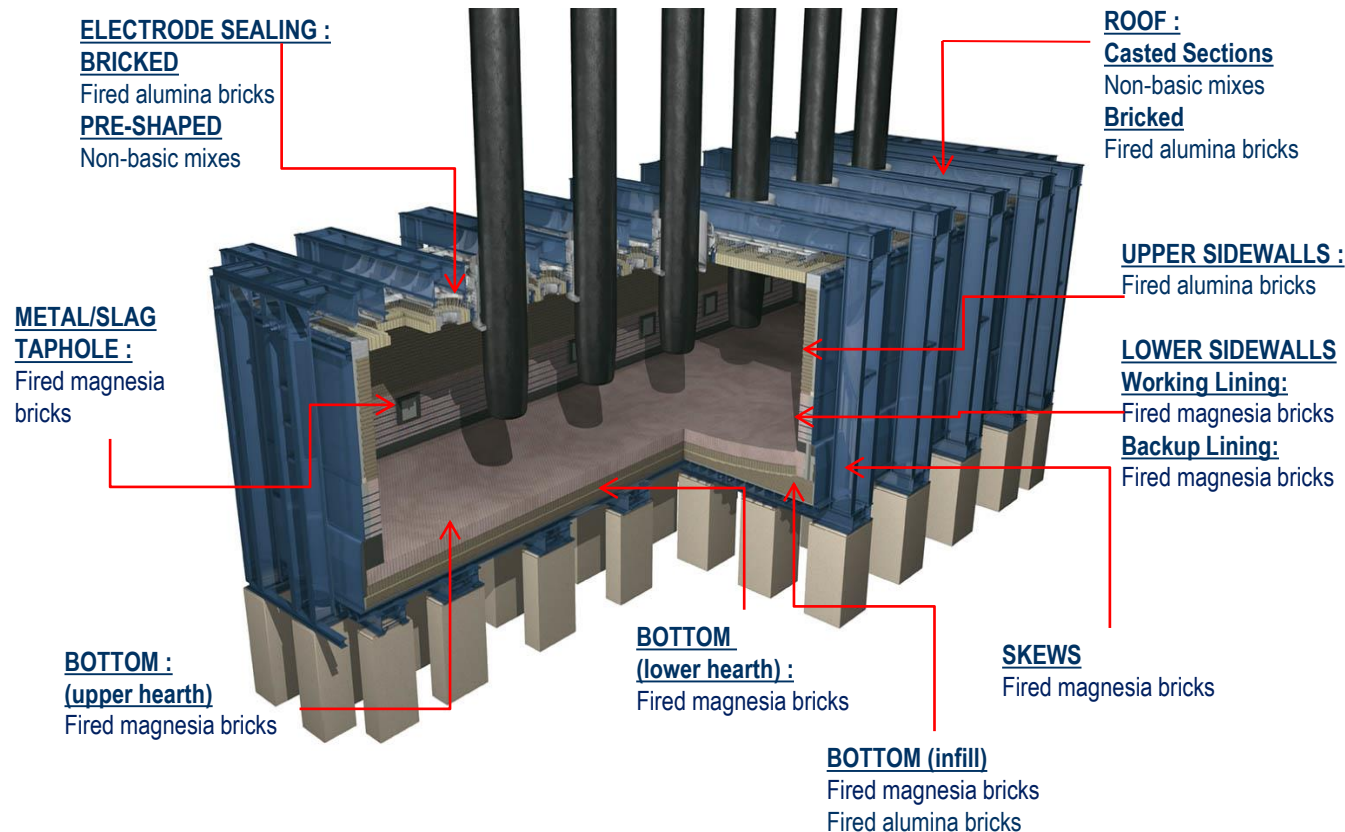
■ Working lining ■ Gunning mixes ■ Hearth mixes ■ Fettling mixes ■ Total consumption

# Transformation of the steel industry

New emerging technologies for steelmaking require adjusted refractory concepts



# Steelmaking technology trends require expertise in refractories for Submerged-Arc Furnaces (SAF)



## Upcoming challenges

- Design of refractory concept adapted to process conditions of DRI-melting
  - Adaption to temperatures
  - Adaption to composition of slag
  - Adaption to metal composition
- Cover future demands of refractories
  - Huge volumes → ~ 1.500-3.500 tons of refractories per SAF

Long-term refractory expertise in NFM-industry as a foundation for providing full support on DRI-Smelter Solutions

# Pathway towards CO<sub>2</sub> reduction for the steel industry:

Opportunities & challenges for the refractory solution providers



There are two aspects...

## Decarbonisation of the steel industry

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### HYDROGEN AS REDUCTANT & COMBUSTIBLE

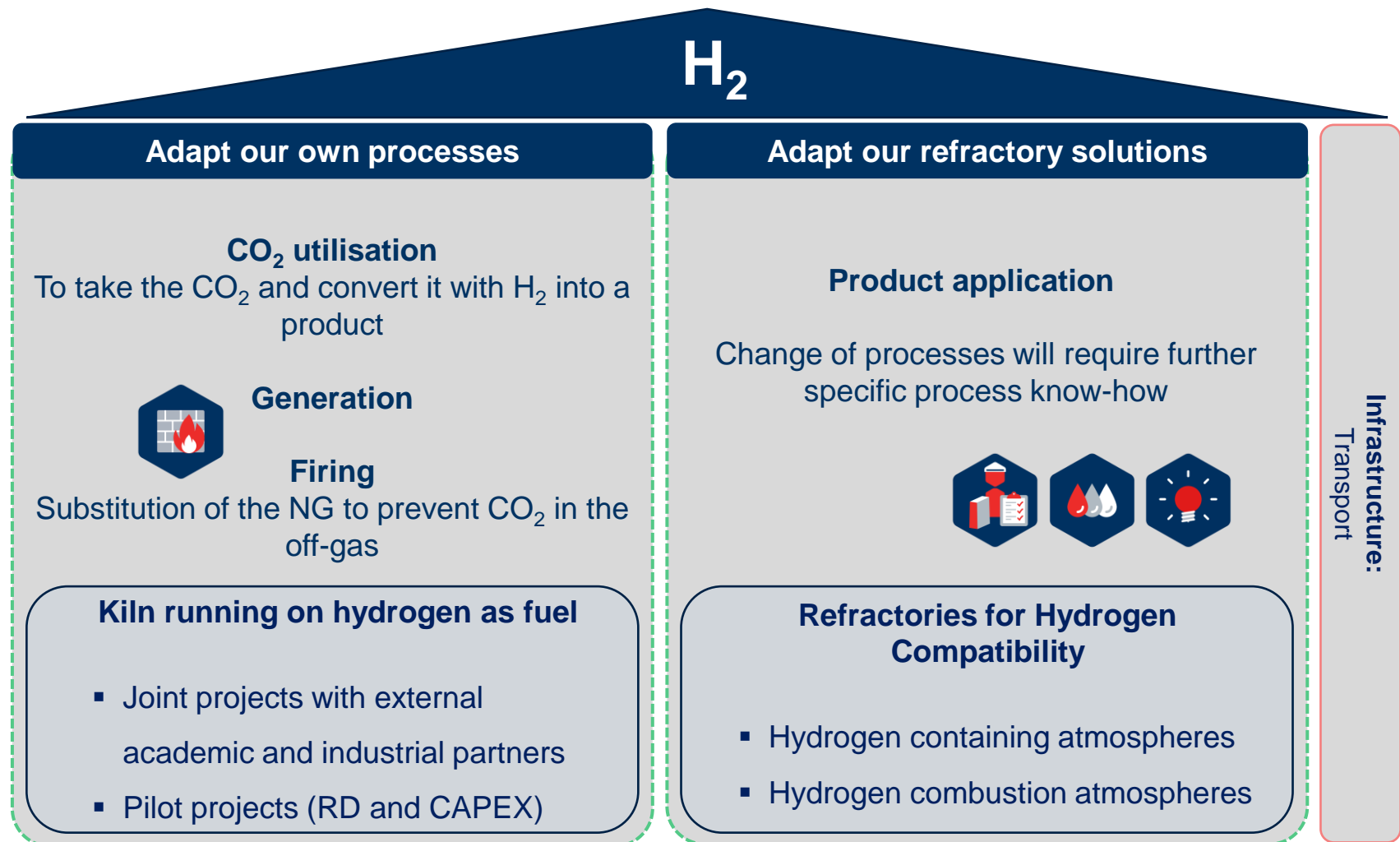
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CHALLENGES & OPPORTUNITIES

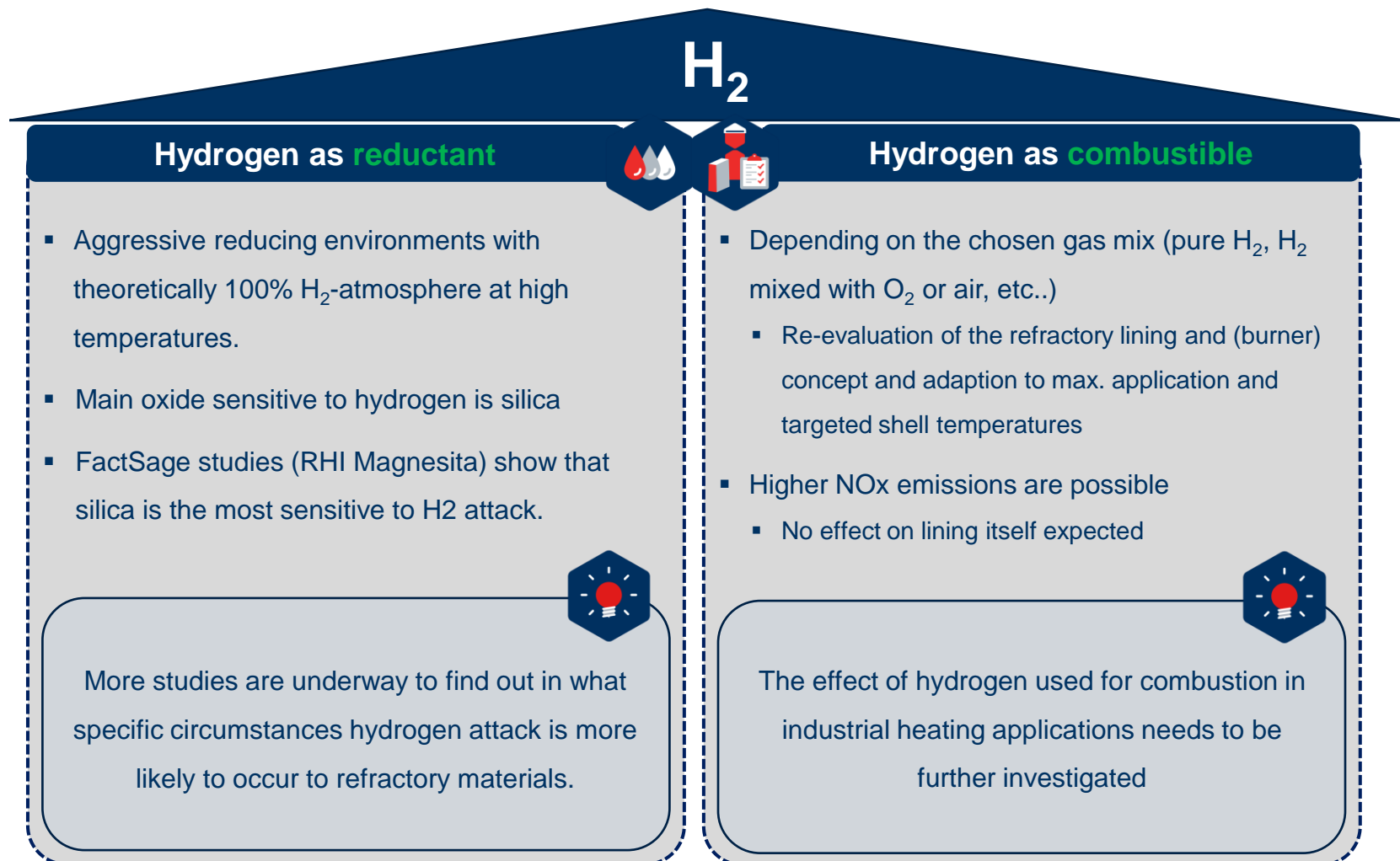
# H<sub>2</sub> at RHI Magnesita

Hydrogen is technology of strategic importance for RHI Magnesita



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# Summary

## Opportunities & challenges for the refractory solution providers

### Challenges will be...

- R&D efforts needed to make new required refractory grades available for the altered and more demanding steelmaking process
- Understand the implications the new processes will have on refractory products
- Ability to supply and engineer all qualities for a DRI, Smelter or EAF is not a given for all suppliers

### Opportunities will be...

- Assist both the OEM's and the steel producers with the challenges the new processes have on the lining
- Transformation from traditional refractory supplier to solution provider
- Application of proven concepts and learnings of one industry into another industry

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