

Influence of hydrogen burners in the electric arc furnace

Lilly Schüttensack – Aachen Hydrogen Colloquium 18.04.2023 – Aachen



- EAF process
- EAF process model
- Influence of hydrogen burners
- Free flame trials

Conclusion & outlook



- Project: Developing and enabling H2 burner utilization to produce liquid steel in EAF (DevH2forEAF)
- Main goals:

- Analysis of the influence of hydrogen burners in EAFs
- Design of a hydrogen burner for the EAF application
- Usage of hydrogen burners in pilot-scale EAFs
- Trials with full-scale hydrogen burner in industrial EAF





Electric Arc Furnace (EAF)



Pfeifer, H.; Nacke, B.; Beneke, F. (Hrsg.): Praxishandbuch Thermoprozesstechnik - Band II, 2. Auflage, Vulkan-Verlag, Essen, 2011



Electric Arc Furnace (EAF)



Meier, T.: Modellierung und Simulation des Elektrolichtbogenofens, Dissertation, RWTH Aachen University, 2016



Zone model

- Model of the EAF process
- Grouped by zones
- Energy and mass balance
- Energy and mass transport between the zones





Data module

- Unique for each EAF
- Adjustment to EAF under investigation
- Validation of model results with unused measured data
- All in- and output during one heat are considered in the operation diagram







- Adjusted EAF process model for investigated EAFs
- Usage of validated model for fuel gas variations
 - 100% natural gas to 100% hydrogen
- Effect on the EAF process can be estimated
- In the following results for:
 - 100 Vol.-% natural gas
 - 50 Vol.-% natural gas and 50 Vol.-% hydrogen
 - 100 Vol.-% hydrogen









Off-gas analysis – H₂

10

 100% NG
 0% H2

 50% NG
 50% H2

 0% NG
 100% H2



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Off-gas analysis – CO₂

Off-gas CO2 [V/Vmax]

11





100% NG

50% NG

0% H2

50% H2



 100% NG
 0% H2

 50% NG
 50% H2

 0% NG
 100% H2



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Temperature of gas zone

13

100% NG 0% H2 50% NG 50% H2 0% NG 100% H2









Free flame trials

- Const. caloric value of 50 kW
- Fuel gas mixtures from 100% natural gas to 100% hydrogen
- Free flame trials to analyze the flame









Free flame trials







Conclusion & outlook

- EAF process model is able to simulate hydrogen burners
- Model results:
 - Overall process stays the same
 - Less usage of the burners lowers the influence of hydrogen combustion
- Free flame trials:
 - Long, stable flame for all fuel gas compositions
 - Addition of hydrogen stabalizes the flame

- Integration of the 50 kW burner in a pilot scale EAF
 - Investigation of the effects of a hydrogen burner on the EAF process
 - Especially on the compsition of steel, slag and gas
- Validation and adjustment of the EAF model results with data from investigated EAFs using hydrogen burners



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Thinking the Future Zukunft denken

Your contact

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