MINE READER



DID YOU KNOW?

7 INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT COPPER

Copper, element number 29 on the periodic table, is a mineral that has high ductility, malleability, thermal and electrical conductivity and is resistant to corrosion. These unique properties make it an essential mineral in our everyday lives. It's most common applications are: electrical wiring, electronics, plumbing, building construction and transportation.



- Copper is one of the few metals that can be found in its native form and therefore was one of the first metals used by ancient people.
- Pure copper's melting point is 1,981 degrees Fahrenheit – it's most important properties include superior heat transfer, electrical conductivity and corrosion resistance.
- The U.S. Geological Survey estimates that every American born in 2008 will use an estimated 1,309 pounds of copper during his or her lifetime.
- Copper is the third most consumed metal in America behind iron and aluminum.

- A standard car contains 42 pounds of copper while a hybrid car contains 75 pounds of copper.
- Copper easily alloys with other metals – there are more than 570 copper alloys in existence. More than 350 of the alloys have been acknowledged by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as antimicrobial.
- A single 3MW wind turbine contains 4.7 tons or 9,400 pounds of copper.
 - Minnesota is a national leader in the wind energy industry, ranking fifth nationally for the most installed wind capacity (as of 2011).
 - Minnesota ranks fourth in the U.S. for the percentage of electricity derived from wind power, generating 12.7 percent of its power from wind (as of 2011).

Sources: Copper Development Association, http://www.copper.org/education/c-facts/U.S. Geological Survey, http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2009/3031/FS2009-3031.pdf American Wind Energy Association, http://awea.files.cms-plus.com/FileDownloads/pdfs/3Q-12-Minnesota.pdf