

# Advances in Green Steel Making Technology - A Review

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**Abstract** The aim of this research work is to increase the quality, productivity of steel and to reduce the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the global manufacturing sector. On average, the production of one ton of steel generates about two tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emission. The main cause for energy inefficiency and environment pollution are outdated steel production technology in use. The green steel is a new steelmaking process lowers green house gas emission, cuts costs and improves the quality of steel. The new process is known as molten oxide electrolysis and the clever use of iron-chromium alloys. When we are using molten oxide electrolysis to create oxygen from the iron in lunar soil and steel was created as a byproduct of steel. This process is limiting carbon emissions. This concept is fundamental to the triple bottom line concept of sustainability, which focuses on the interplay between environmental, social and economic factors. The production of steel results in the generation of byproducts that can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions by substituting resources in other industries. The implementation of green manufacturing focused on investigating the energy saving & CO<sub>2</sub> emission from producing steel & effective utilization of recycling of steel scrap as a way of sustainable development in steel industry.

**Keywords:** *emission, environment, electrolysis, byproduct, green steel, etc*

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## 1. Introduction

Steel industries play a vital and crucial role in the development of a country. They increased the prosperity, employment and opportunities for livelihood. On the other hand they are accelerating the consumption of fossil fuels and releasing solid, liquid and gaseous pollutants in surroundings [1]. The emission of CO<sub>2</sub> is a big problem for steel industries. Increases the productivity through the adoption of efficient technology in production and manufacturing sector will be effective for environment and social development [2]. In this paper we discuss on the growth of productivity, reduced CO<sub>2</sub> emission and environmental change. This paper consolidates the available information on alternatives of emerging the iron making technologies and new emerging efficiency technology to guide the engineers, investors, iron and steel manufacturers, etc [3,4]. This paper helps to give the idea of utilizing green steel technology in iron and steel manufacturers and reducing the carbon emission in environment and increasing efficiency of process.

## 2. Literature Review

There are several valuable works have been identified that deal with carbon emissions measurements reduction prospects and industrial energy specifically regarding the iron and steel industry in relation with climate change [5]. The emission by iron and steel sectors are about 30% [6]. The

several processes are used for making the steel. The main [7] processes are-

- I. Coke production
- II. Sinter production
- III. Raw steel production
- IV. Iron production
- V. Continuous casting
- VI. Hot and cold rolling
- VII. Finally finished product preparation.

The secondary process for steel making, where the ferrous scraps is recycled by smelting and refining by an electric arc furnace [8]. The major units of a steel plants are-a. Sinter plants b. Blast furnace c. Coke pushing d. Non recovery coke oven battery combustion stack e. Basic oxygen furnace exhaust [9,10]. The primary combustion sources include the following-coke oven. The primary combustion sources of green houses gases include the coke oven battery combustion stack, blast furnace stove, process heater, reheat furnace, flame suppression system, annealing furnace, other miscellaneous combustion sources etc. for integrated steel making the primary sources of green house gases emissions are blast furnace stove (43%), miscellaneous combustion sources and process gases (30%), other process unit (15%), and indirect emission from electricity usage (12%) [11,12,13]. For coke facilities, the battery stack is the highest source with over 95 percent of the green house gas emission for byproduct coke plants and 99% of the green house gases emission from non recovery plants [14,15]. Industrial energy efficiency can be enhanced by informed management of the energy use by operation and processes [16].

### 3. Methodology

The various methods of steel making have been studied under this project for green steel manufacturing technology. This are-

- I. Pulverized coal injection (PCI)
- II. Continuous casting technology (CCT)
- III. Coke dry quenching (CDQ)
- IV. Coke dry cooling plant (CDCP)
- V. Carbon capture and storage (CCS) technology in iron and steel industries

**Pulverized Coal Injection-** In this process involves blowing large volumes of fine coal granules into the blast furnace. This provides a supplemental carbon source to

speed up the production of metallic iron and reducing the need for coke production. As a result, energy use and emission can be reduced. The amount of coal that can be injected will depend on the coke and coal quality, blast furnace geometry and practice of operations. The maximum level of coal that can be injected at the tuyere is around 0.27 t/tonne hot metal. The use of oxy-coal enables around 20% increase in coal injection and helps to reduce the coke quantity accordingly. With 170-200 kg/tonne hot metal and pulverized coal injection, coke consumption as low as 286-320 kg/tonne hot metal has been achieved in modern blast furnace. Cost of pulverized coal injection plant largely depends of the size of blast furnace and the layout of the plant.

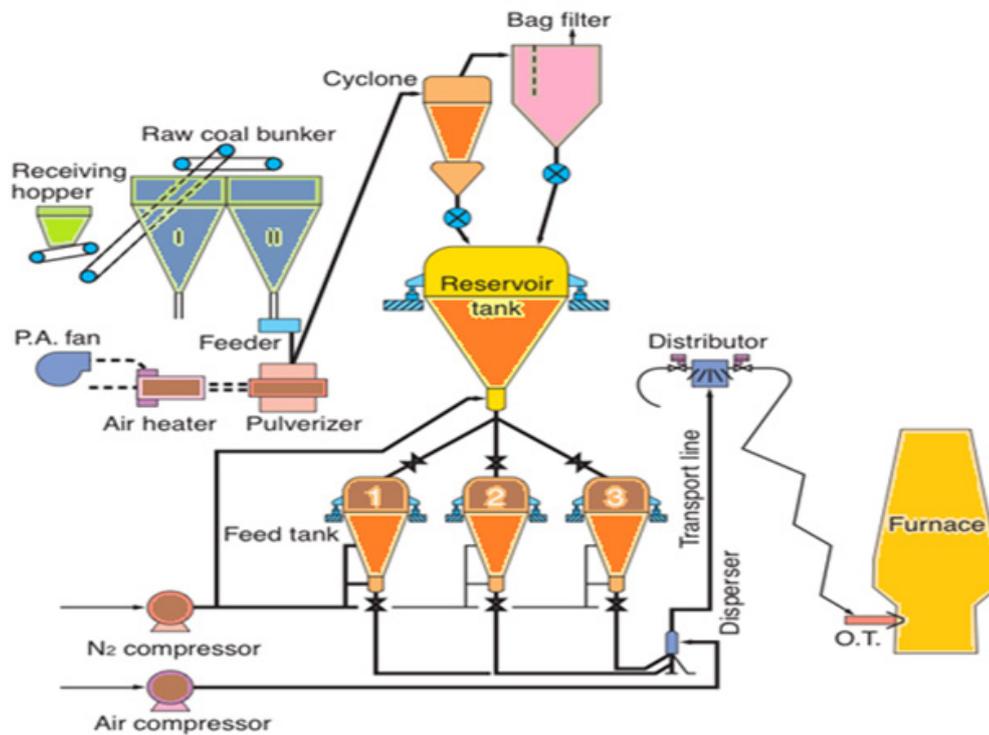


Figure 1. Pulverized Coal Injection

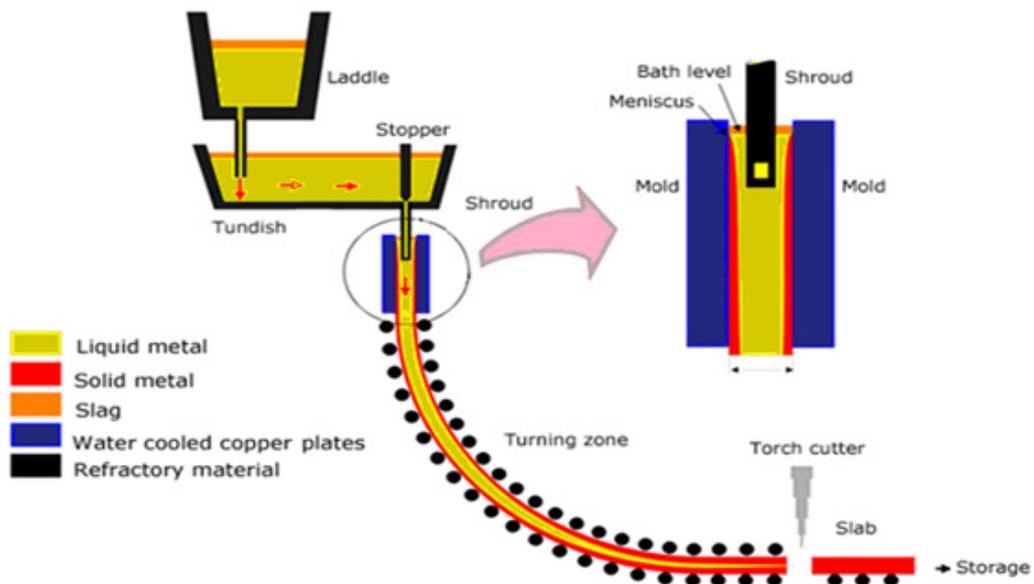


Figure 2. Continuous Casting Process

**Continuous Casting Technology-** In this process, liquid steel flows out of the ladle into the holding tank and then is fed into a water-cooled copper mold. Solidification begins in the mold and continues through the caster. The strand is straightened and discharge for intermediate storage. A considerable amount of energy is needed to reheat these cast items as part of the subsequent rolling processes for improving energy efficiency and productivity. The various range of continuously cast sections are-

- The cast machines are designed to be billet, bloom or slab caster.
- The conventional bloom casters cast sections above 200 x 200 mm. The bloom length can vary from 4 to 10 m.
- The billet caster cast smaller section sizes, such as below 200 mm square, with length up to 12 m long.
- Conventional beam like I-beams in cross-section vary from 1048 x 450 mm or 438 x 381 mm overall.

**Coke Dry Quenching-** It is a heat recovery system to quench red hot coke from a coke oven to a temperature appropriate for transportation. It is an energy saving system in which sensible heat of the red hot coke is recovered for power generation. The feature of coke dry quenching process are-

- It is a gradual coke quenching system and improves coke strength and coke size distribution.
- The coke dry quenching coke has lower moisture content than the coke wet quenching coke and the coke ratio of blast furnace can be reduced.
- A high annual operating ratio of 95% can be achieved by combining the double flue technology

through appropriate refractories and highly reliable equipments.

Coke dust and combustible component in circulating gas are burned by blowing air into gas so that the temperature of the circulating gas can be raised.

- Steam generation of 500 to 700 kg/ton coke and power generation of 140 to 185 kwh/ton coke can be obtained.
- The excellent feature realize the payback period of initial investment within three to five years.

The coke dry quenching is one of the excellent measures to global warming. Recovered heat by coke dry quench is used to generate the steam or electric power which leads to a reduction of fossil fuel usage at power plant. So we can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emission in total.

**Coke Dry Cooling Plant-** The dry cooling of coke is known as coke dry quenching and is an alternative to the traditional wet quenching. During wet quenching of run of oven coke the sensible heat of the hot coke is dissipated into the atmosphere and is lost. In a coke dry cooling plant red hot coke is cooled by inert gases. The heat energy from the red coke is recovered in a waste heat boiler for use as steam, resulting the conservation as well as a reduction in coke particle emissions. Hot coke is brought from the battery to the coke dry cooling plant in bottom opening bucket kept on the quenching car. This bucket is lifted at the coke dry cooling plant by a charging device to the top of the coke dry cooling plant chamber and red hot coke is discharged in the chamber for cooling. Hot coke is cooled in the chamber by the inert gas.

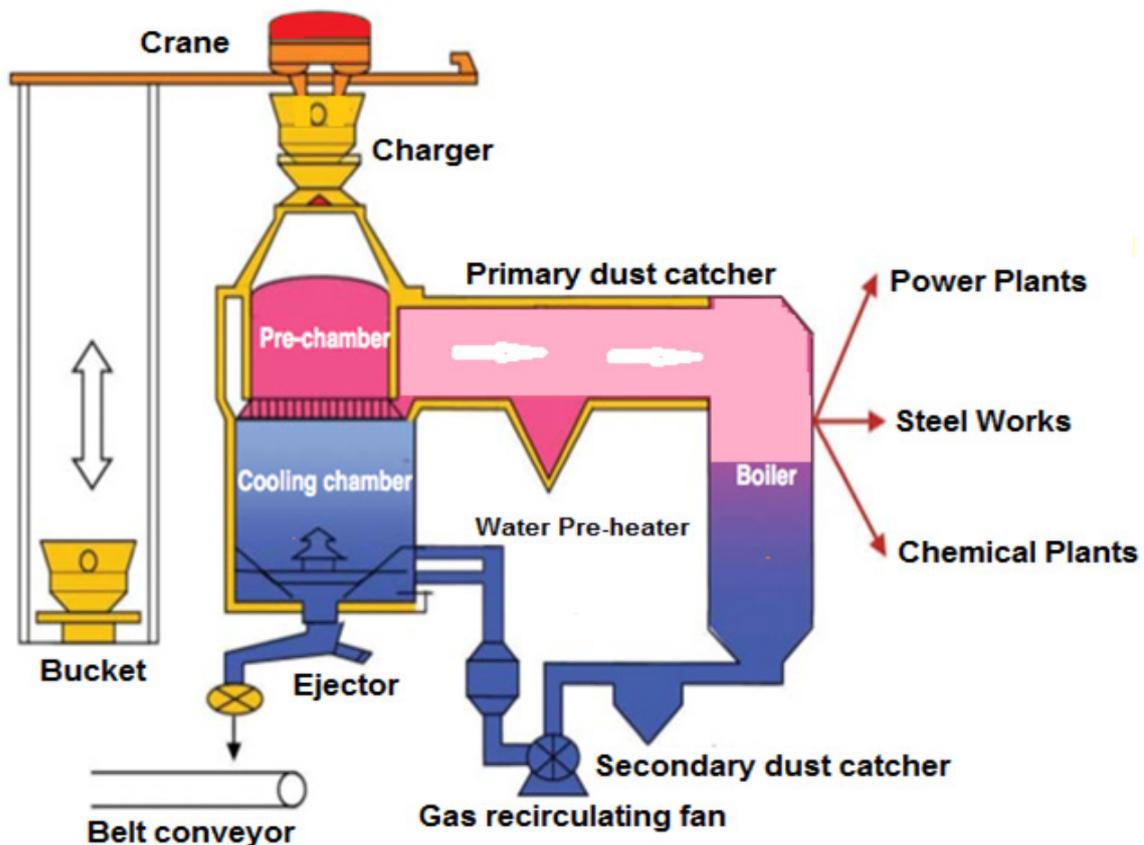


Figure 3. Coke Dry Cooling Plant Flow Process

## Capturing Carbon

Governments are urged to step up research of a process called carbon capture and storage (CCS)-Capturing carbon dioxide and storing it underground or underwater

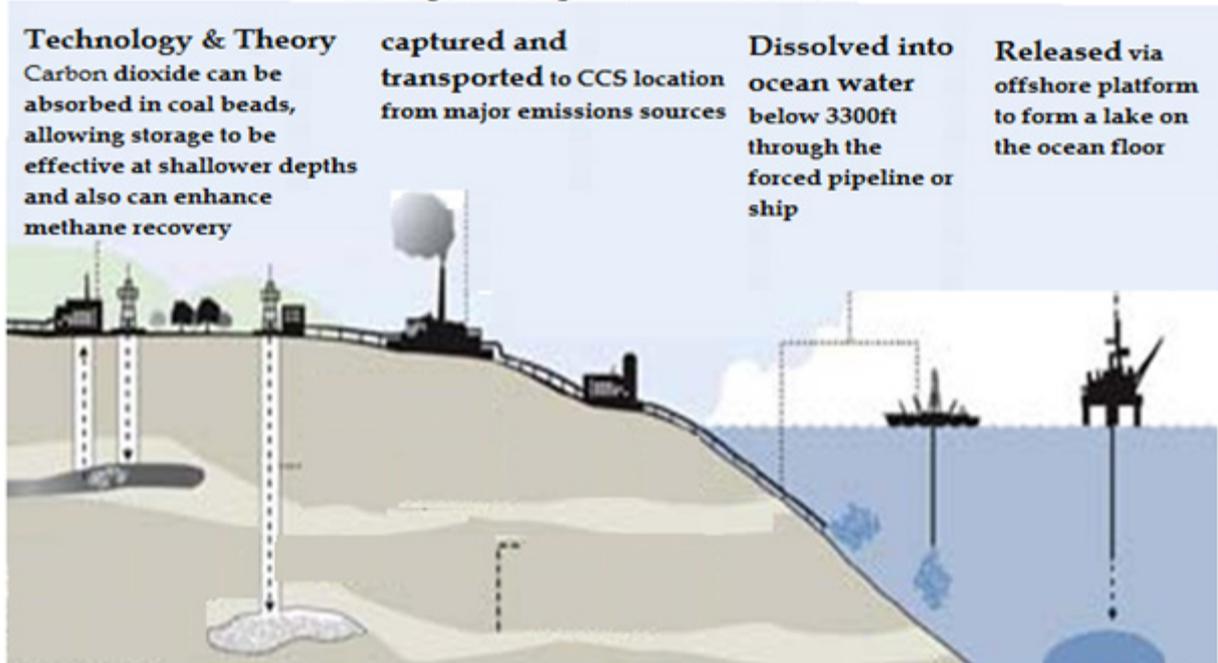


Figure 4. Carbon Capture & Storage (CCS)

In this chamber inert gas moves upwards while the coke moves downwards by the gravity. The coke is discharged at the bottom. The advantages of coke dry cooling are-

- The micron value of M 40 of the coke is improved by 3 to 8%.
- The value of CSR coke is improved by 2%.
- The hot coke is cooled gradually by inert gas so it is free from surface pore and internal cracks normally present in the wet quenched coke.
- Coke dry cooling is economical as compared to wet quenching and red coke is quenched by inert gas in a closed system and is equipped with efficient dust removing facilities, so its avoid the pollution of the atmosphere.
- Coke dry cooling generates from waste heat. Aprox 15-18 MW of power can be generated from a coke dry cooling plant having a capacity of more than 100 tons per hour.
- The moisture continent of coke produced by dry cooling is around 0.2% as compared to that of around 5% in wet quenched coke, so its help in reducing the coke rate in blast furnace.
- Coke dry cooling plant has better reliability and lower maintenance.

**Carbon Capture and Storage (CCS) Technology-** carbon capture and storage is the process of capturing waste carbon dioxide from large point sources such as fossil fuel power plant and transporting it to a storage site and deposit it where it will not enter the atmosphere, normally an underground geological formation. The aim is to prevent the release of large quantities of CO<sub>2</sub> into the atmosphere. Carbon capture and storage applied to a modern conventional power plant could reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emission to the atmosphere by approximately 80-90% compared to a plant without carbon capture storage. The

intergovernmental panel on climate change estimate that the economic potential of carbon capture storage should be between 10% and 55% of the total carbon mitigation effort until year 2100.

**Carbon Capture Technology-** Carbon dioxide can be separated out of air or flue gas with absorption or membrane gas technology. Absorption or carbon scrubbing with amines is currently the dominant capture technology. Carbon dioxide absorbed to a metal-organic framework through chemisorptions based on the porosity and selectivity of the metal organic framework leaving behind a greenhouse gas poor gas stream that is more environments friendly. The carbon dioxide is then stripped off the metal organic frame work using temperature swing absorption so that metal organic framework can be used. After capturing, the CO<sub>2</sub> would have to be transported to suitable storage sites.

## 4. Conclusion

- The use of steel scrap reduces carbon emissions from steel life cycle. Reducing the amount of pre consumer scrap generated when steel products are transformed into final consumer goods would have a large impact.
- The production of steel results in the generation of by products that can reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emission by substituting resources in other industries.
- Keeping total global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions at the current level depends on the development and introduction of radical new steelmaking technologies with a lower carbon footprint, including reuse of CO<sub>2</sub>. This process may prove successful and will help to lower the emission for the steel industry.

- The implementation of green manufacturing focused on investigating the energy saving & CO<sub>2</sub> emission from producing steel & effective utilization of recycling of steel scrap as a way of sustainable development in steel industry.
- Conducting independent studies and validation on the fundamentals development and operation of this emerging technology can be helpful to private and public sectors as well as academia.
- Analyzing the present situation of iron industry points were the world is now in a dilemma and increased wastage and pollution is default. Then analysis of the relationship between green manufacturing and wastage and pollution in iron industries is done.
- It is pointed out that adequate environment protection in a green iron and steel plant does not just mean an accepted disposal of pollutants emitted from its operation units to optimize the complete manufacturing process of the whole iron and steel plant.

## 5. Future Scope

- Green manufacturing process is used to improve and to maximize the yield and minimize the waste that is produced.
- Green manufacturing reduces green house gas reduction in iron and steel industries and providing a cleaner source of energy through use of new technology.
- Decreasing energy consumption in green manufacturing process by using energy saving technology and productive efficiency is improving the overall efficiency.
- Increase iron resource efficiency in the steel manufacturing process and emission mitigation of CO<sub>2</sub> by CO<sub>2</sub> capture technology is used.
- Converting pollutants and wastes into byproducts and promote their utilization and recycling along with the use of the product is the main aim of this process.
- Through the finding of this work, recycling of steel scrap is suggested as an alternative to boost the local content of steel production, reduce energy consumption and carbon dioxide emission.
- The implementation of green manufacturing focused on investigating the energy saving and CO<sub>2</sub> emission from producing steel and effective utilization of recycling of steel scrap as a way of sustainable development in steel industry.
- Finally, making the process much better for the environment and better use of the materials that are being used.

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