

# THE IRREPLACEABLE NEED FOR CARBON OF A TRANSFORMED STEEL INDUSTRY

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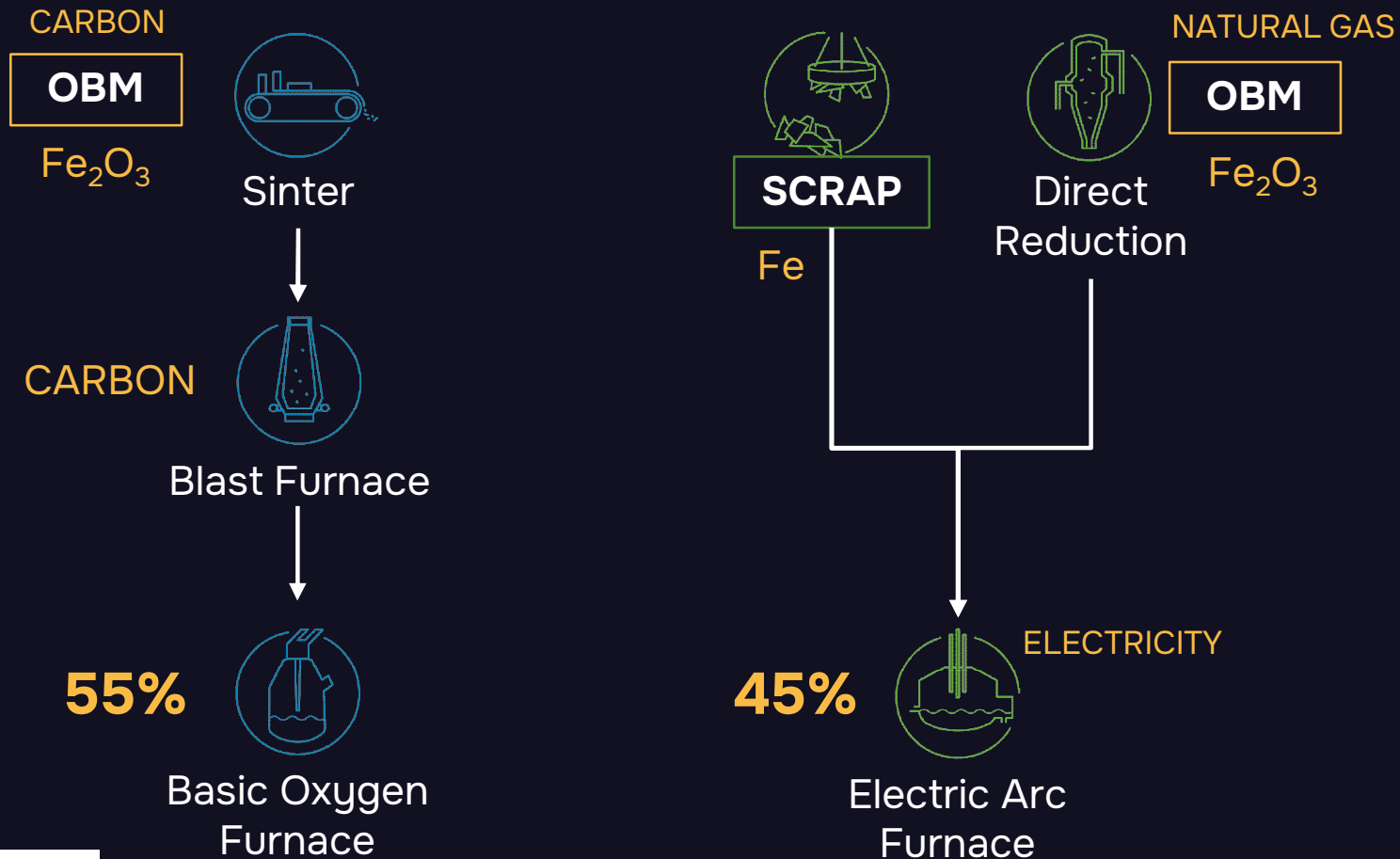


# TRANSFORMATION of steel industry

- AIM: Replace CARBON by HYDROGEN & ELECTRICITY!
- **HYDROGEN:** chemical reduction from ore to iron
- **ELECTRICITY:** energy for heating & smelting



# Existing Steelmaking Routes: BF-BOF, DR-EAF



OBM: ore based material

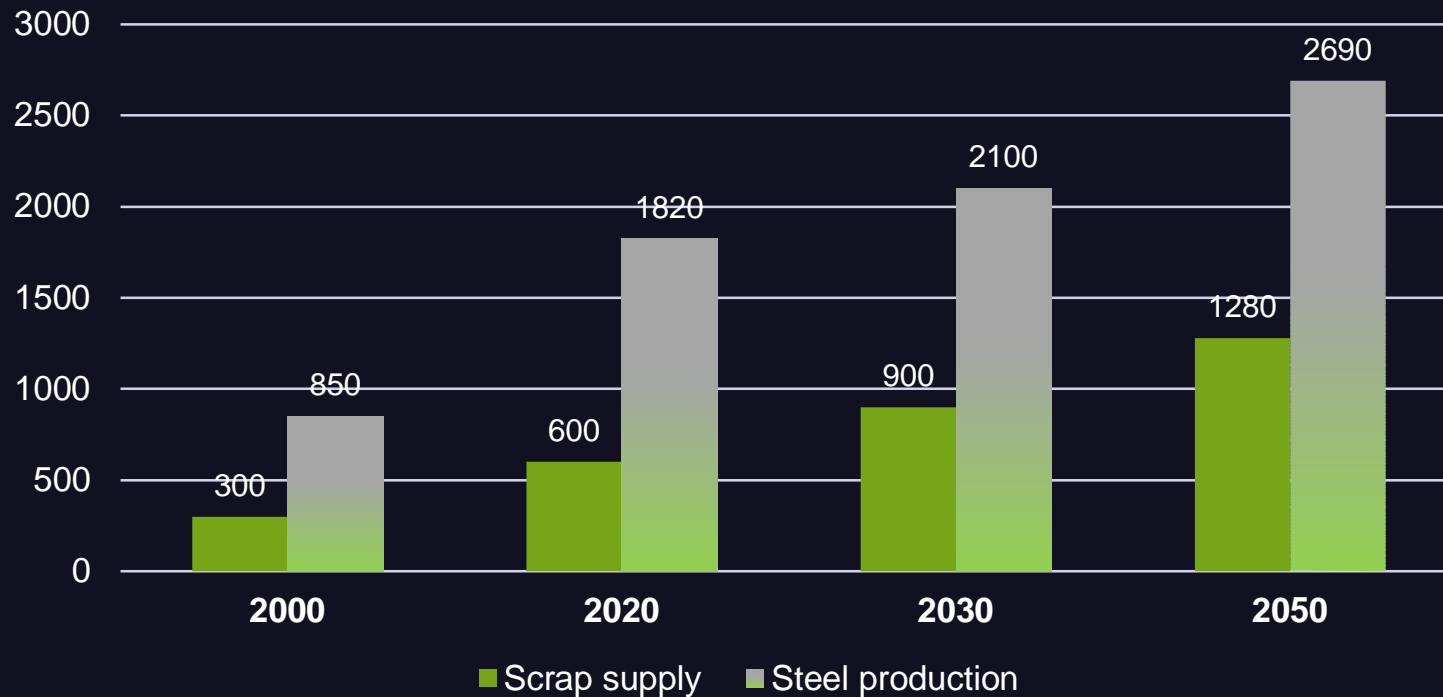
EU production share 2023

[www.eurofer.eu](http://www.eurofer.eu)  
"European Steel in Figures"

# Scrap is not enough!

## Scrap / Steel Production [Mt/y]

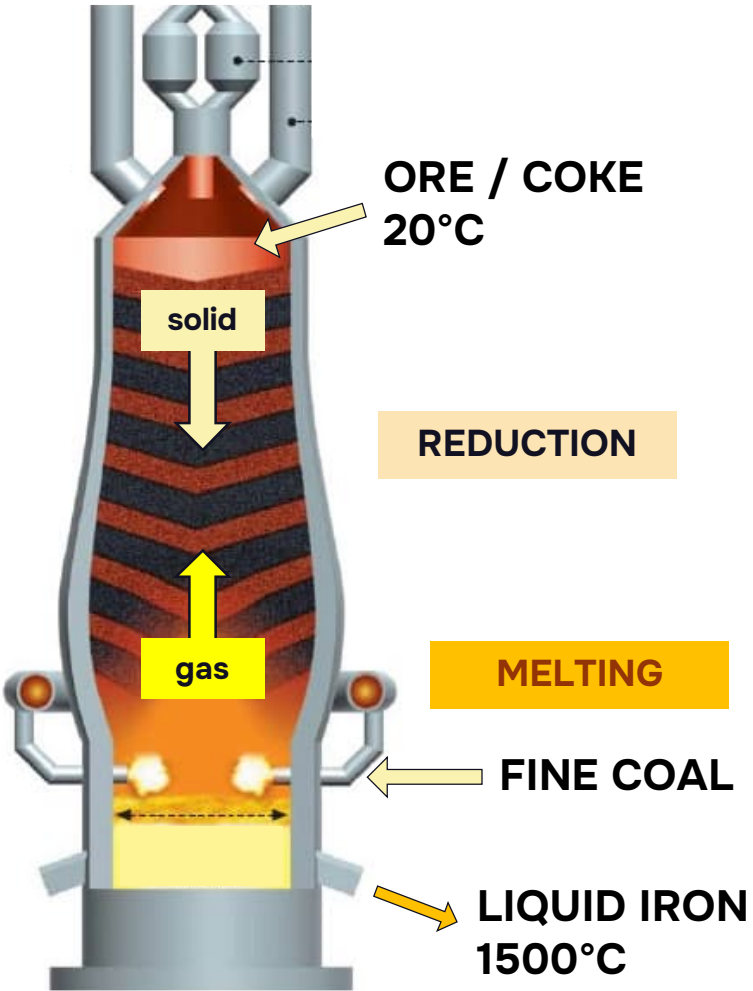
Sources: worldsteel, *Weighing regional scrap availability in global pathways for steel production processes*  
<https://link.springer.com/article/10.1007/s12053-017-9583-7#Sec2>



## We need OBM!

- Steel demand is higher than scrap supply!
- Scrap contains impurities!

# Blast Furnace Process



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OBM: lump ore



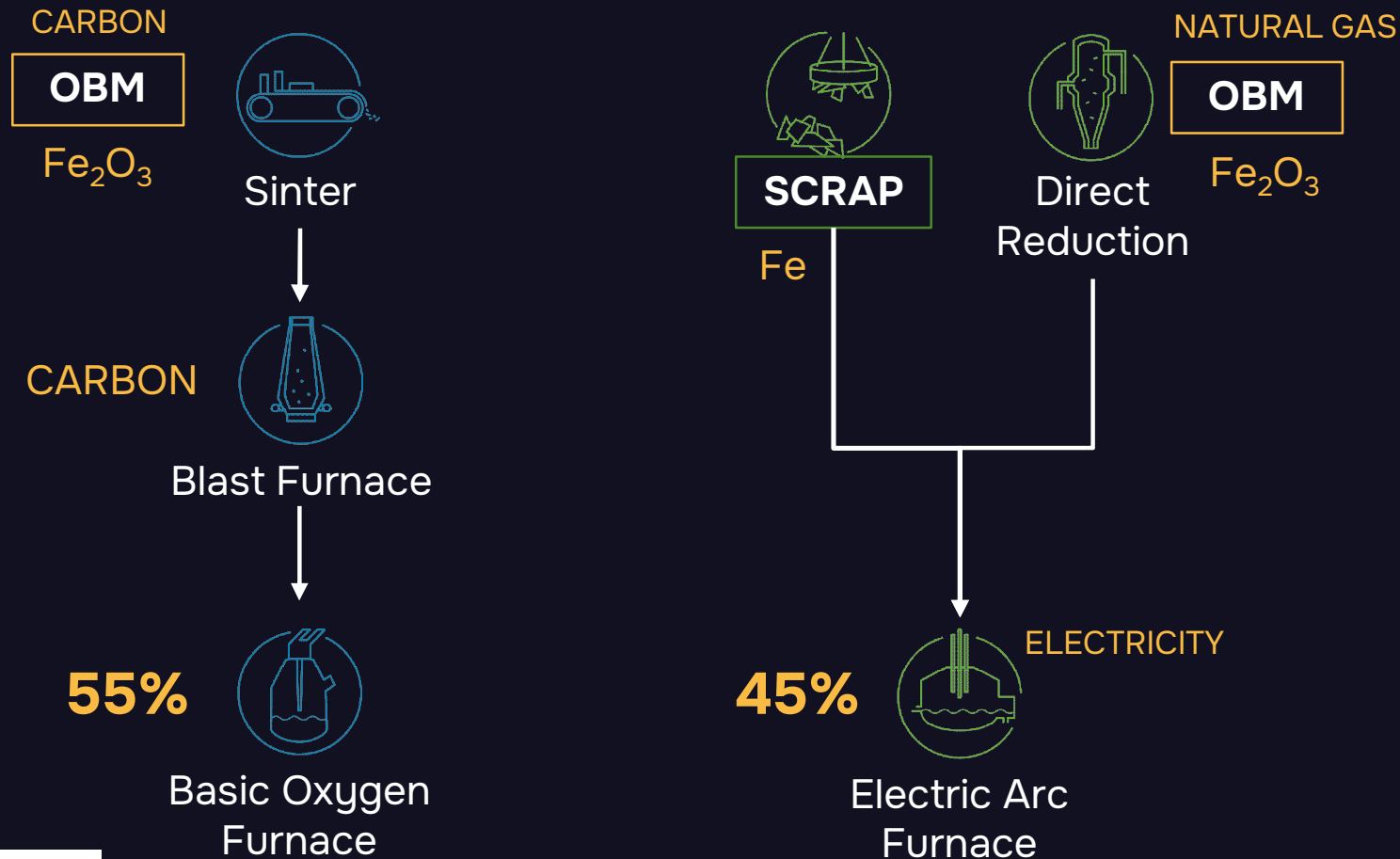
coke



pulverized coal (PCI)

Material	kg/t iron	Carbon	Replaceable
Ore	1.600 kg	0%	0%
Coke	300 kg	88%	0%
PCI	150 kg	80%	100%

# Existing Steelmaking Routes: BF-BOF, DR-EAF

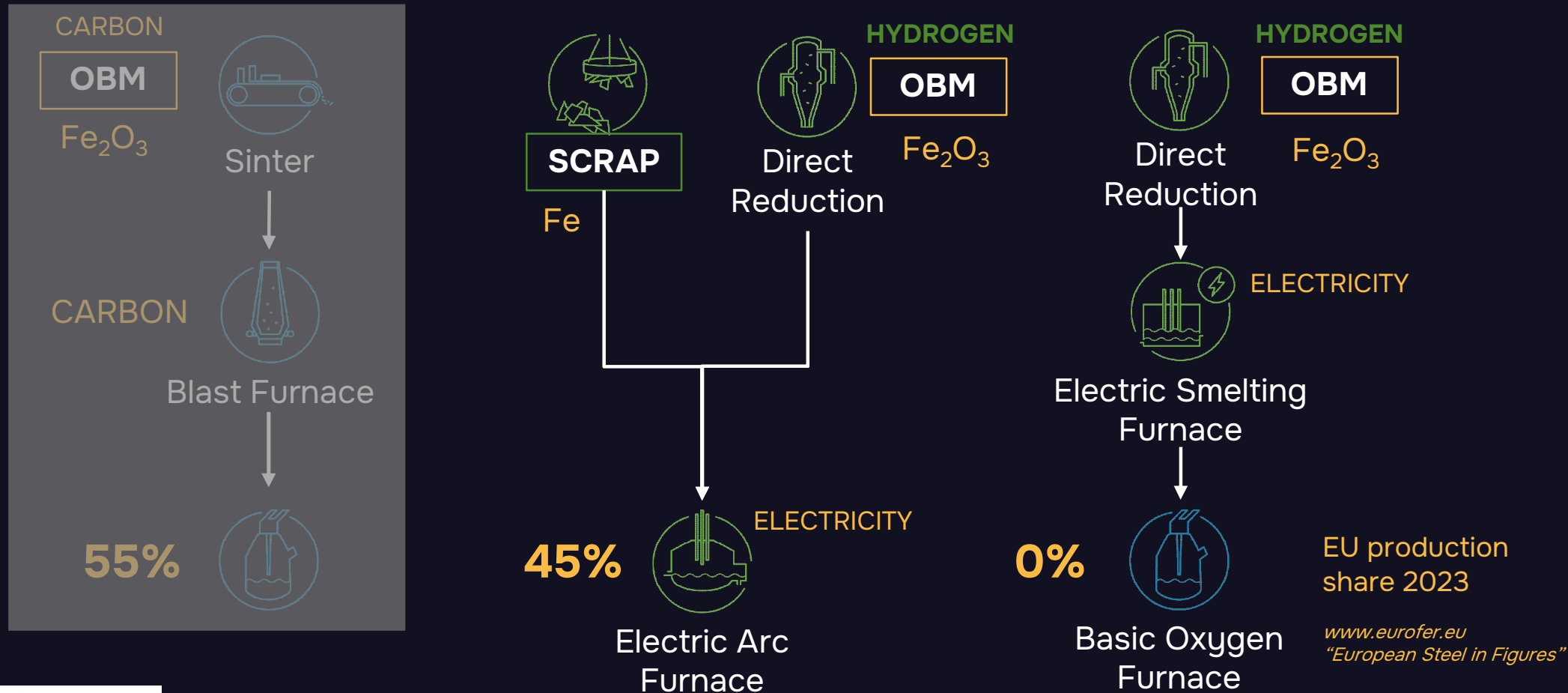


OBM: ore based material

EU production share 2023

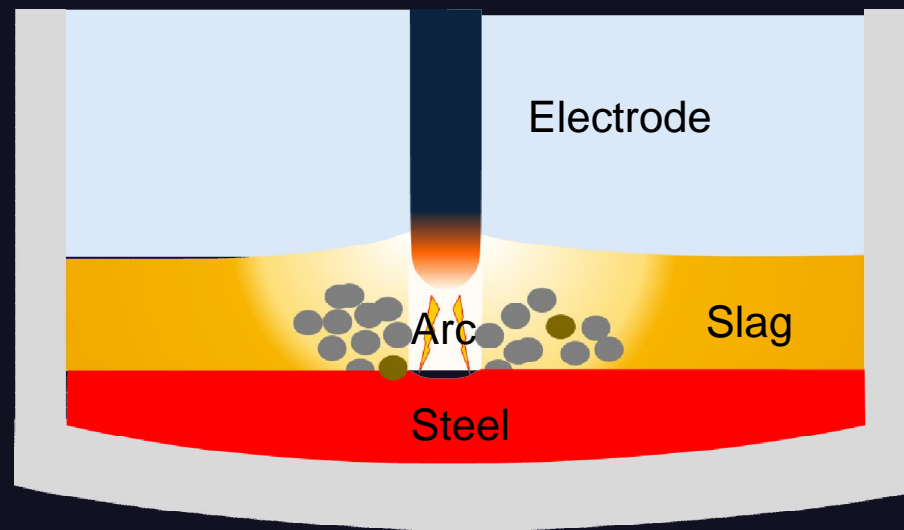
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# Transformation of steelmaking: DR-EAF, DR-ESF-BOF



## How does an Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) work?

- Energy input through arc between electrode and metal bath
- Main input materials are **scrap** or **direct reduced iron** from **high grade ore**
- Open vessel resulting in **oxidising atmosphere**
- Batch operation



# CARBON in an EAF

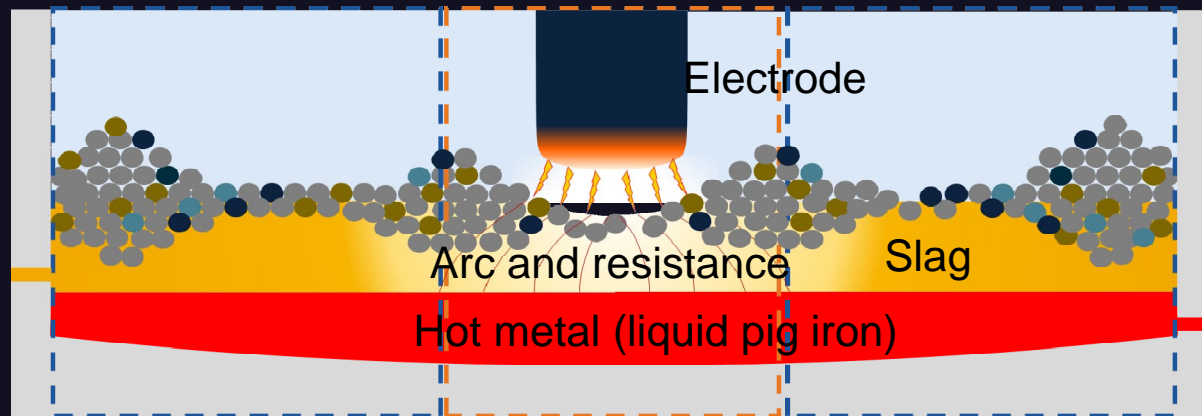
- Carbon can be **charged** (lump) and **injected** (fine)
- Relatively low **carbon** demand of **12 - 25 kg/t of crude steel** due to high grade input materials
- Purpose of carbon:
  - Slag foaming (insulation)
  - Reduction, around 30 % FeO in slag
  - Lower melting point of DRI
  - Chemical energy input



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## How does an Electric Smelting Furnace work?

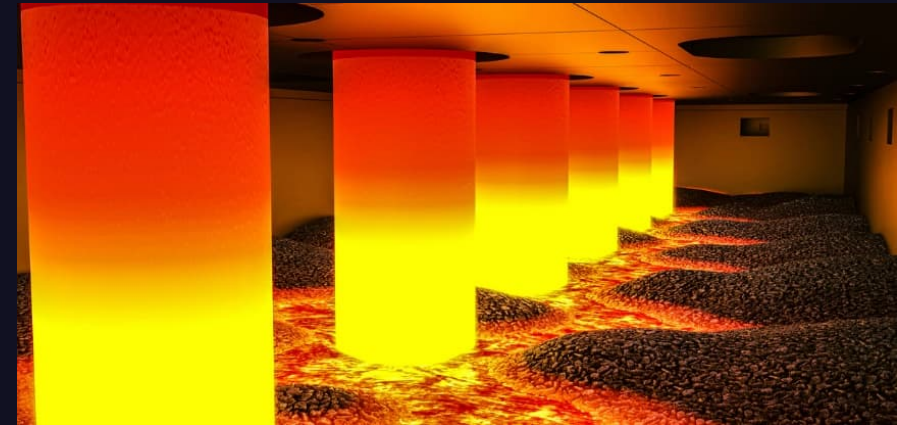
- Power through **resistance heating** of slag and some arc formation
- Continuous operation
- Sealed vessel → **reducing atmosphere** through addition of carbon
- Products similar to blast furnace: hot metal



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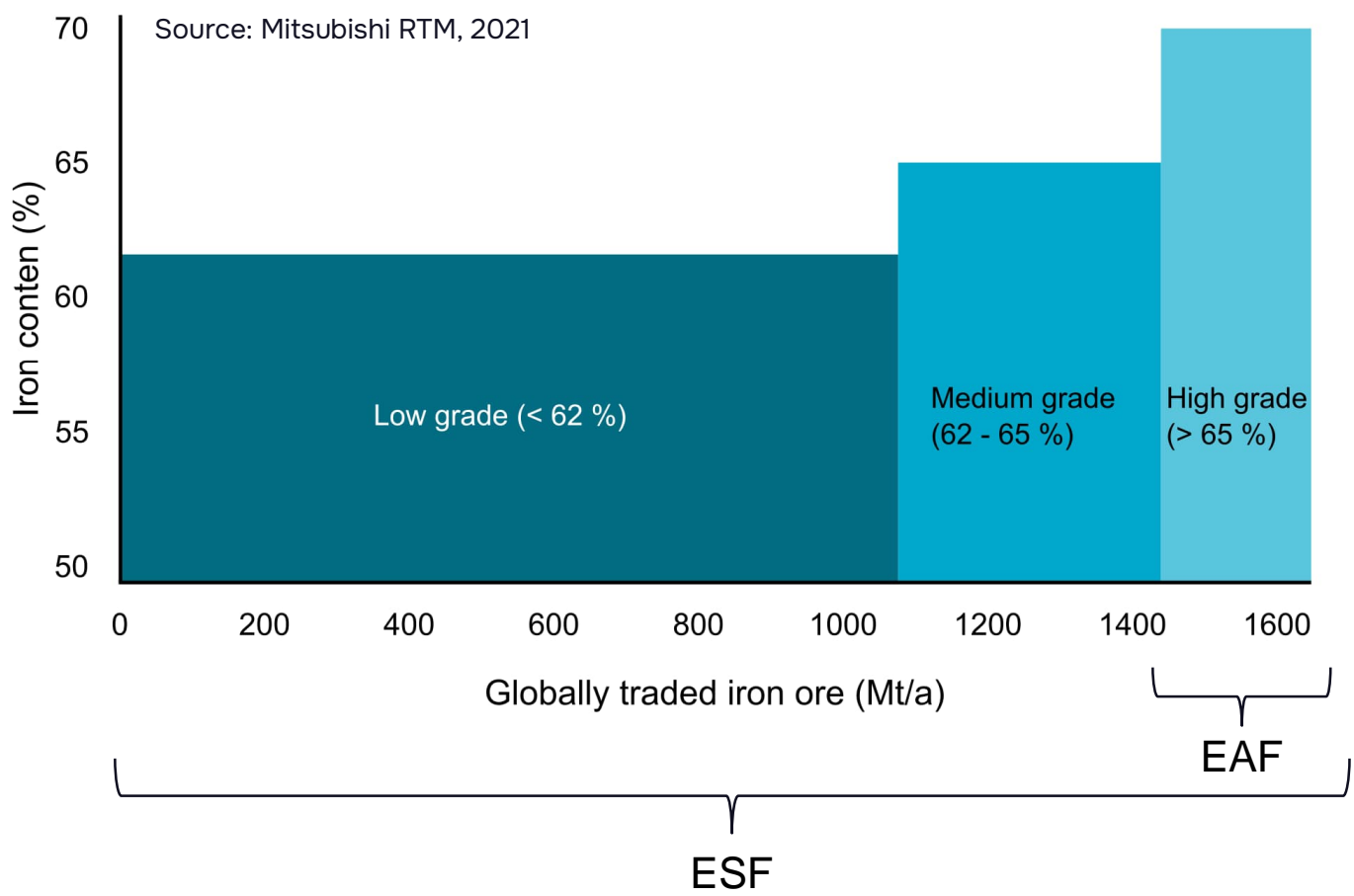
# CARBON in an ESF

- Carbon can be **charged** (lump) or **injected** (fine)
- Using H<sub>2</sub>-DRI results in **50 - 100 kg C/t of hot metal**
- Main purposes are:
  - Full reduction of FeO (< 1% in slag)
  - Lowering of melting point of metal
  - Carburisation of iron
  - Chemical energy








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# Why are ESF and EAF required for OBM?



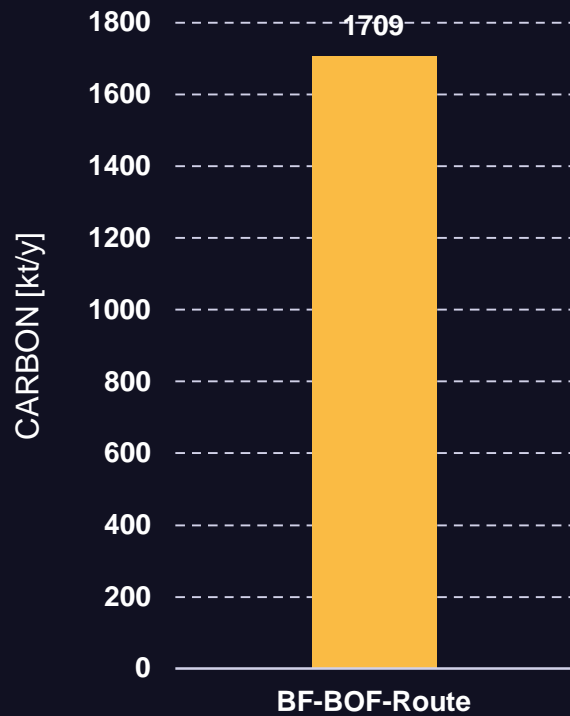
## SUMMARY - example case for 5 Mta steel production

Route	Carbon carrier kg/t product	Carbon in %	Carbon kt/y	Replacement with biochar (equivalent C) in %	Replaceable carbon kt/y	Process product
<b>BF-BOF</b>	400	85 %	<b>1709</b>	32 %	<b>542</b>	Steel
 Sinter	45	80 %	96	40 %	38	Sinter
 BF coke	300	88 %	1109	0 %	0	hot metal
 BF PCI	150	80 %	504	100 %	504	hot metal
 <b>EAF</b>	12-25	80 %	<b>48 - 100</b>	100 %	<b>48 - 100</b>	Steel
 <b>ESF-BOF*</b>	50-100	80 %	<b>200 - 400</b>	100 %	<b>200 - 400</b>	Steel

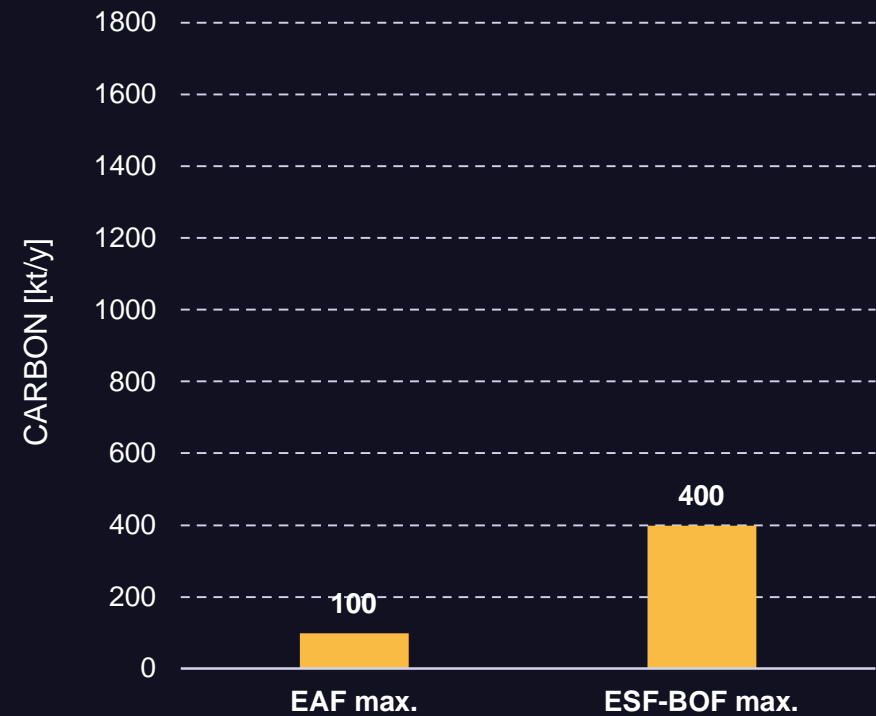
\*based on H2-DRI

# NEED FOR CARBON – for 5 Mta Steel

Classical Route



... after TRANSFORMATION



# Thank you!

Christoph Feilmayr