

SmartMelt

Increase process efficiency for aluminum melting furnaces, by our unique AI-based digital twin



Aluminium melting furnaces face various inefficiencies



High variability

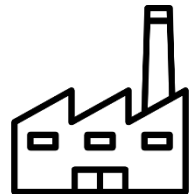
Deep dive follows

- Driven by human based decisions
- Difficult to identify drifts



Energy inefficient

- 5% energy efficiency loss caused by 1 door opening
- Typically 700 – 1400 kWh/t consumed for melting, while theoretically 325 kWh/t is needed



Complicated process

- Difficult to standardize and have global guidelines for operators due to numerous potential input variations (e.g., scrap, burner, operational conditions)

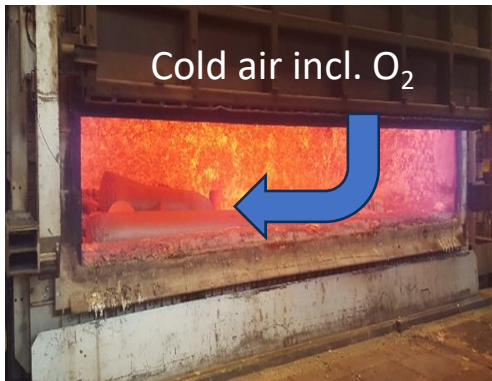
High variability - Dependence on operator decisions can cause variations and inefficiencies

Example of problems driven by operator decisions

Decision Unnecessary furnace door opening

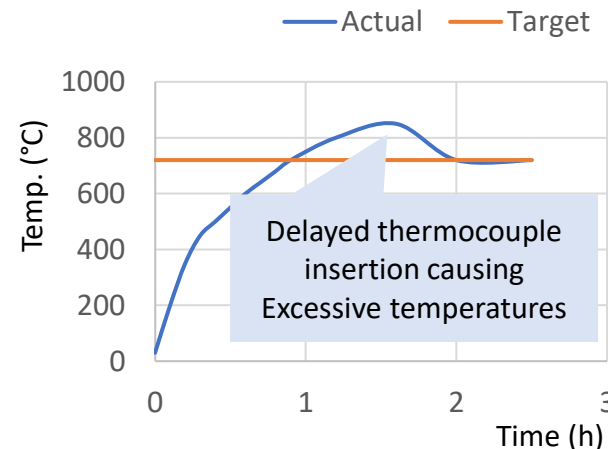
Impact

- Metal oxidation
- Energy loss



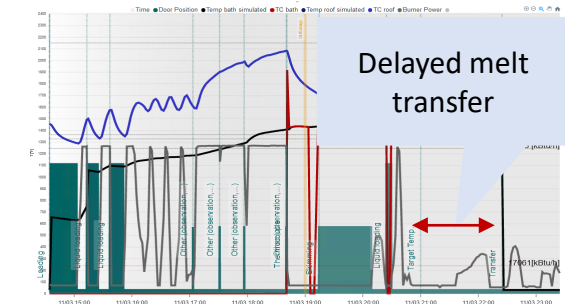
Suboptimal timing for operations (e.g., thermocouple insertion, skimming, ...)

- Temperature overshoots
- Inadequate measurement
- Process variation



Delayed loading or melt transfer

- Energy loss
- Process variation



SmartMelt
has achieved
~10% process
efficiency after
+100'000 h of
service at 12
furnaces



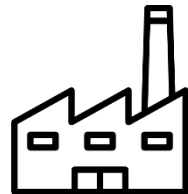
~10% productivity increase

- Proposes optimal next steps to the operator, reducing variability
- Provides visibility on process deviations, enabling continuous improvements



~10% energy savings and CO₂ emission

- Reduces unnecessary manipulations (e.g., door opening)
- Avoids unnecessary waiting time by predicting end of cycle



12 furnaces equipped so far

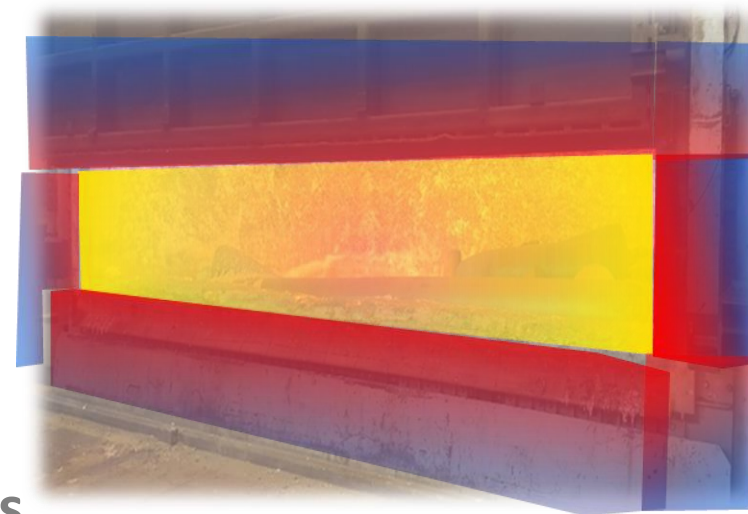
- Our installed base, spreads across EU and US on furnace sizes ranging from 24t to 110t capacity
- Operating since 2019, we have developed a deep experience

In few seconds, SmartMelt builds/updates the digital twin, one step ahead of the operator

Physical asset,
4-5 hours cycle length



Digital Twin,
Predicts the full cycle in a few seconds



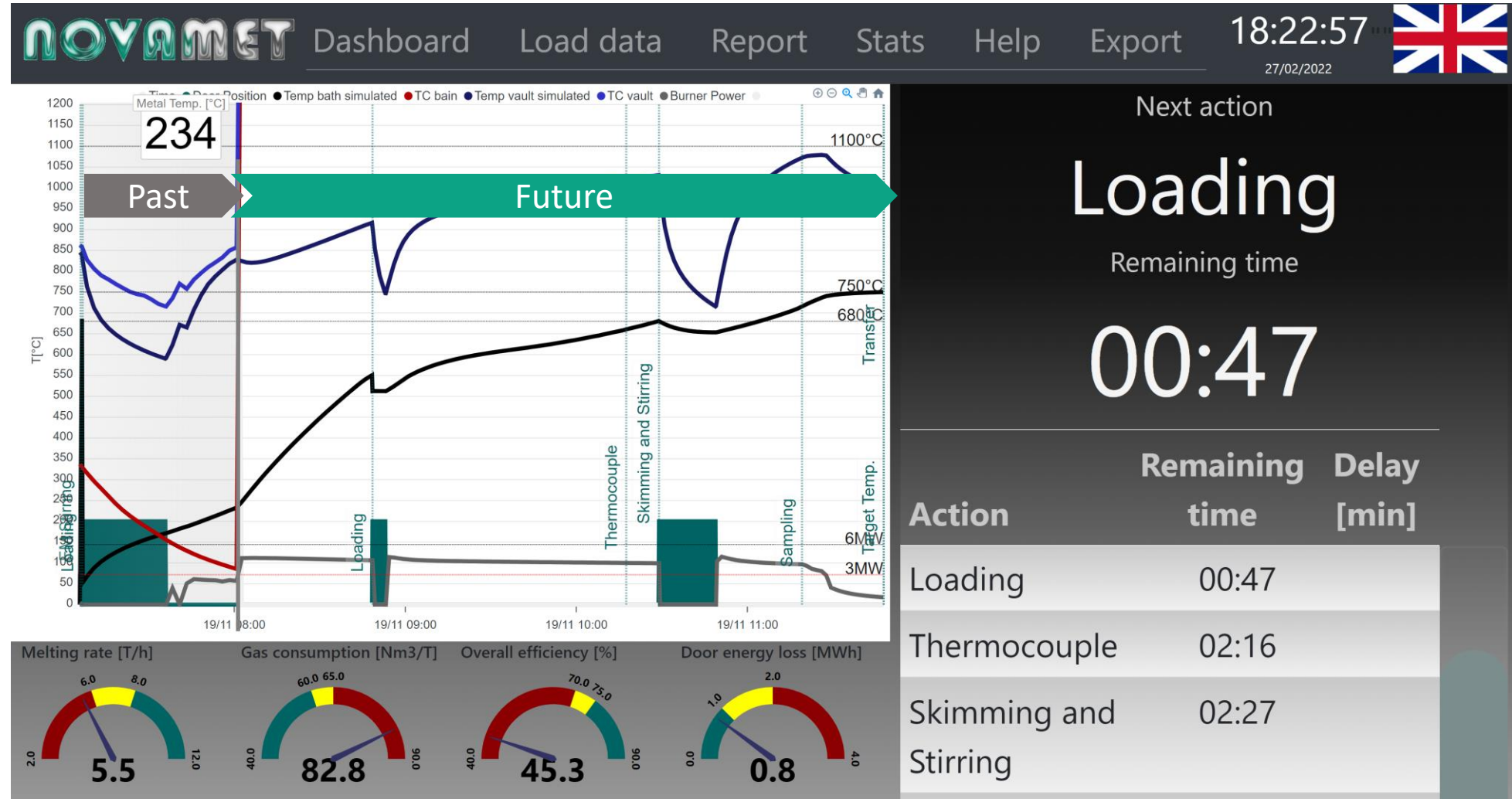
Like a GPS, SmartMelt guides the operator throughout the process

How SmartMelt works and what it brings to your business

- 1 Intuitive and easy to use dashboard**
 - guides the operator on optimal process steps, and their timing
 - tracks KPIs, enabling benchmarking across different plants and furnaces
- 2 Reduce variability by minimizing human impact**
- 3 Simplify reporting for added visibility while supporting continuous improvements**
 - facilitates communication across organization
 - Helps root cause analysis and generates insights for continuous improvement
 - Supports identification of process inefficiencies and development of best practices
- 4 Rapid implementation and return on investment**
 - Flexible modular design simplifies implementation
 - Rapid return on investment thanks to low CAPEX and OPEX

1. Intuitive dashboard, with KPIs

Graphical
process
overview

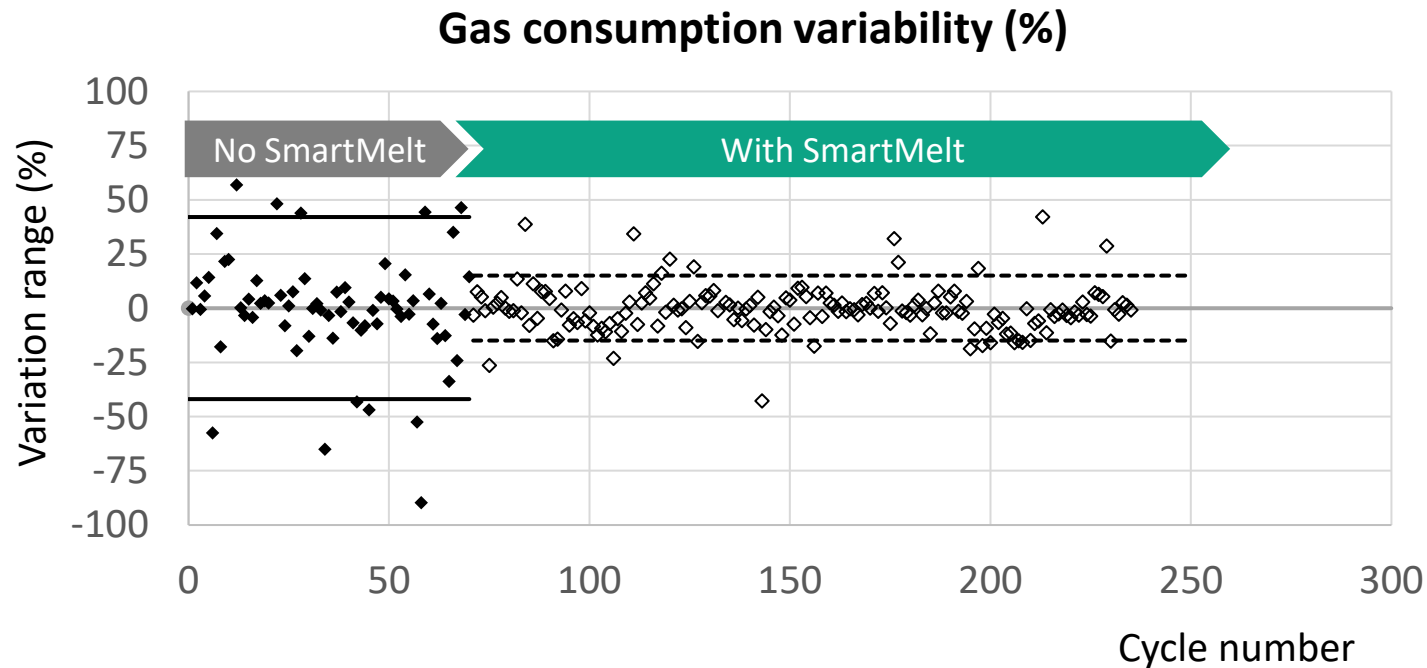


KPI view

Recommendations:
What to do, and when to do

2. SmartMelt helps to reduce variability by limiting human-based impact

Example of SmartMelt impact on gas consumption variability

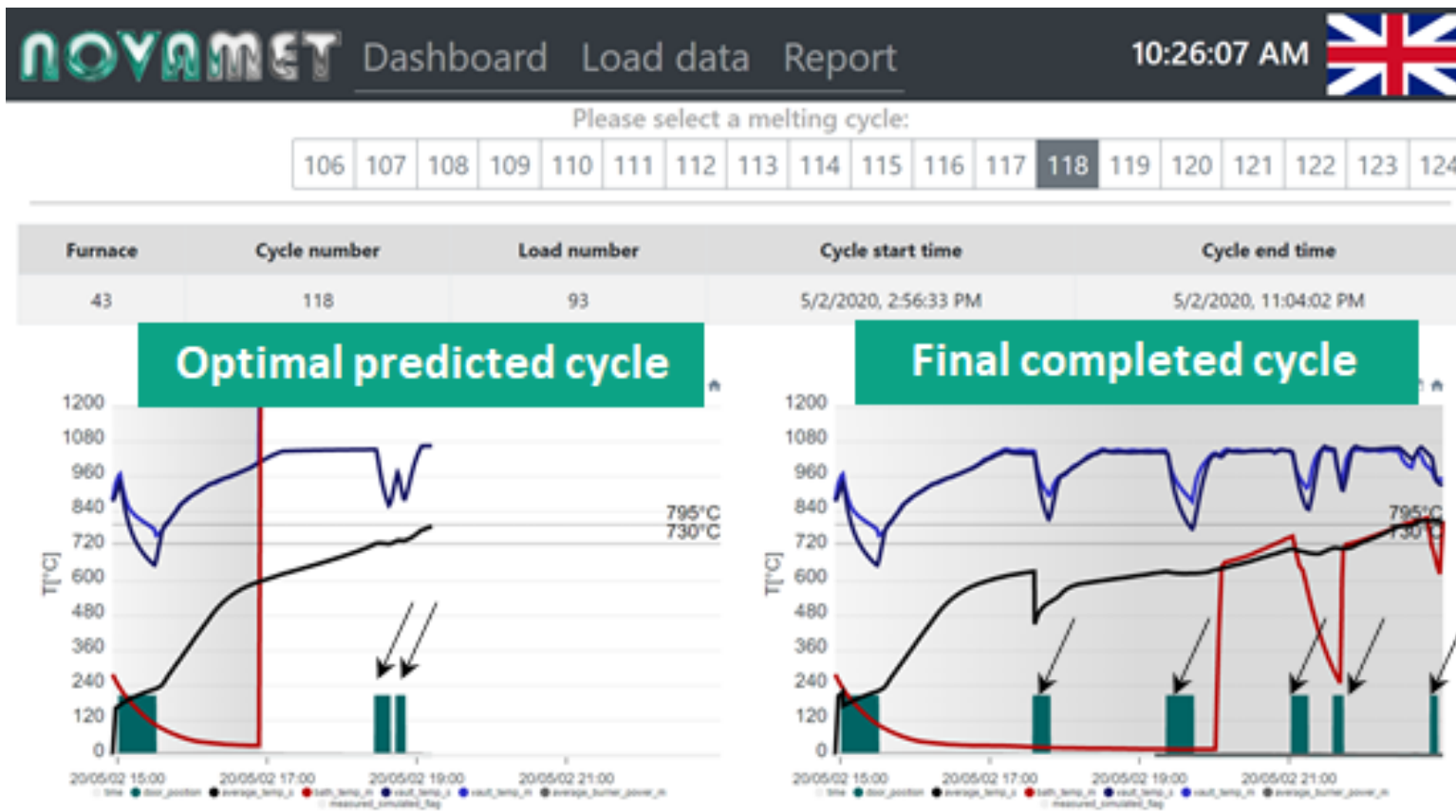


- ✓ Reduction in variability Cycle-to-Cycle
- ✓ Transparency on Performance
- ✓ Augmented Operational Intelligence

Note: this graphs shows % of variability. The average values are not absolute. Consider first an improvement of 10% reduction of average energy consumption before and after implementing SmartMelt.

3. Simplified reporting facilitates insight generation to drive continuous improvement

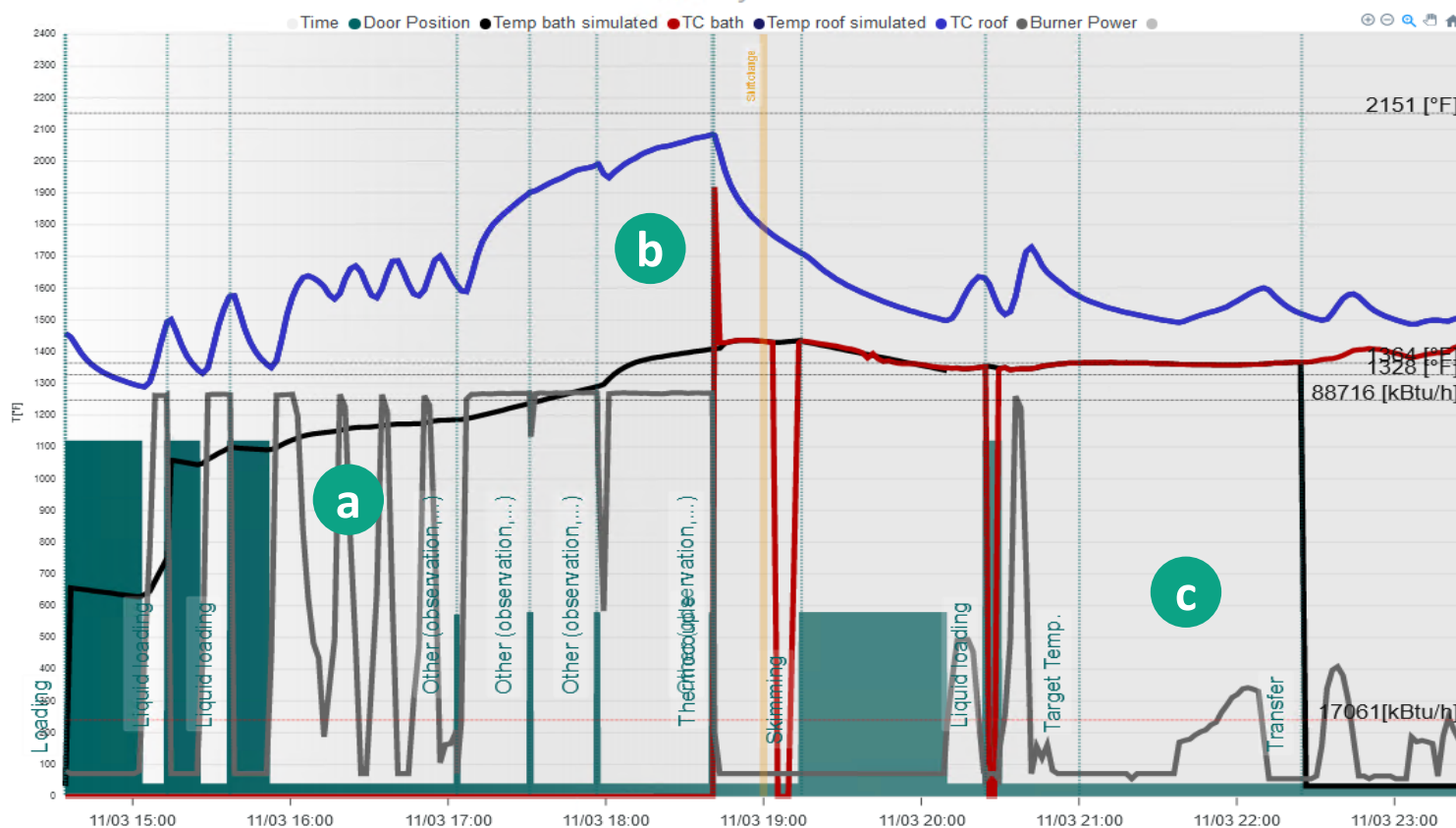
Example of SmartMelt reporting and predictions



- ✓ High accuracy predictions
- ✓ On-site and remote evaluation of precedent cycles
- ✓ Generation of historical data-base of cycles performance
- ✓ Potential for specific improvement actions

3. SmartMelt has helped clients to identify process inefficiencies

Example of process inefficiencies



Problems detected

- a** Burner power oscillation extending melting time
- b** Delay in thermocouple insertion causing temperature overshoot
- c** Delayed melt transfer causing energy losses

4. Rapid implementation of our unique solution, developed during 5 years of indus. collaborations

Rapid installation and training

- First installation could be realized in 2 months and around 2 weeks for the following furnaces
- Operators can be trained under 1h



Continuous support to sustain the impact

- Intuitive Human Machine Interface (HMI) facilitates transformation
- We reinforce the implementation via long term support and coaching to take the most of SmartMelt in the long term



Rapid return on investment

- Low CAPEX and OPEX
- Energy savings
- Variability reduction
- Simplified and standardized reporting to streamline daily operations



Contacts



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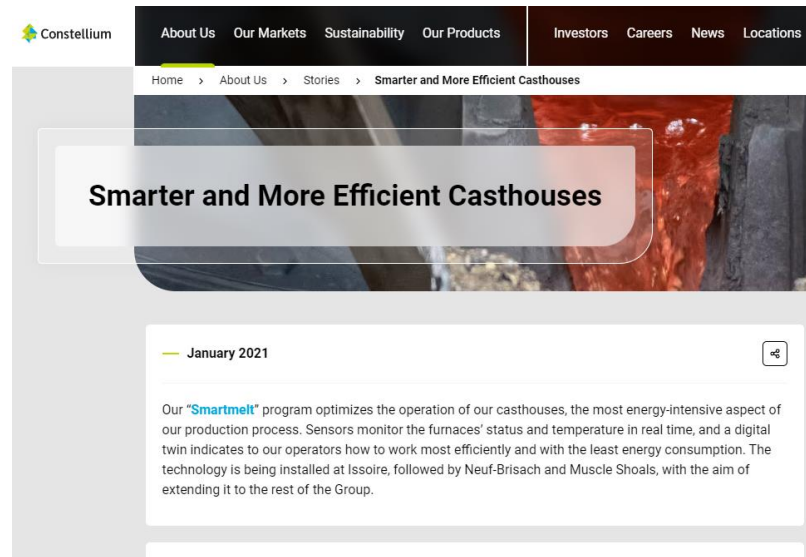
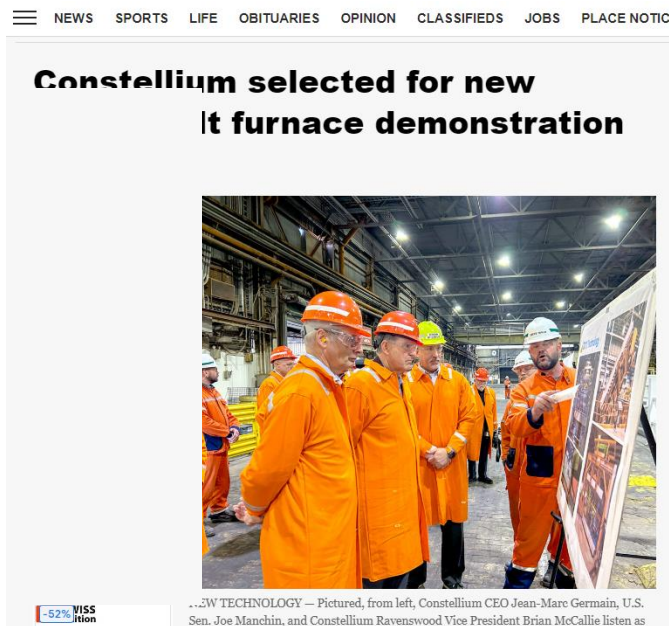
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backup



SmartMelt in the news

Example news articles



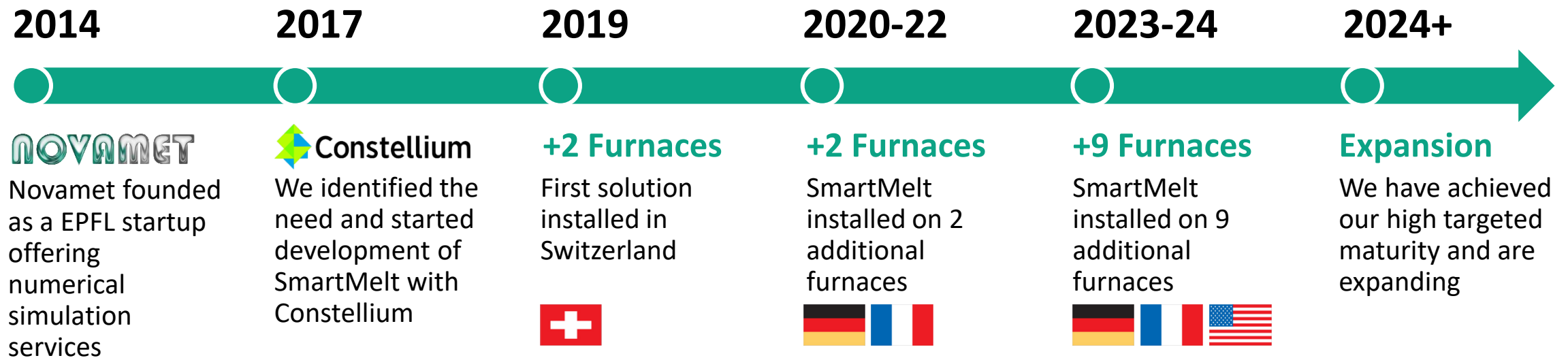
Example testimonials

"since February 2019, SmartMelt is running very smoothly at our Chippis plant. It is helping us to achieve safer loading practices, energy consumption reduction and overall more efficient melting cycles. We are eager to implement it in other casthouses of the group!"

Marc Bertherat, Casting Technical Assistance Manager

We have been growing and maturing Smart melt since 2017

Development timeline



We have successfully raised about 2MCHF of fundings



Aim higher
EUROSTARS
APPLICATION FORM



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Innosuisse – Swiss Innovation Agency

