



**Development Partnership**  
**STAS-ALCOA**  
**Smelter Technologies**

Marc-André Thibault





# Introduction

- In 2001, ALCOA and STAS signed a joint agreement to develop new technologies.
- Under the terms of this agreement:
  - STAS' and ALCOA's personnel work on various R&D projects related to smelter technologies.
  - Technologies are implemented in ALCOA plants.
  - ALCOA owns the intellectual property.
  - STAS is granted licences to commercialise.



# Introduction

- Four (4) patents have been granted.
- Five (5) new technologies are commercially available:
  - STARprobe
  - Anode Butt Inspection System (ABIS)
  - Anode Stub Inspection System (ASIS)
  - Anode Pallet Covers (APC)
  - Automatic Anode Positioning System (AAPS)
- Other technologies are under development
  - Crust Collapsing Detection
  - Anode Rod Tracking
  - Optimized Anode Replacement