

Endowed Research Unit for Non-ferrous Metals Resource Recovery Engineering (JX Metals Endowed Unit)

[Towards Highly Sustainable Society]

Institute of Industrial Science, Endowed Chairs

Non-ferrous Metals Resource Recovery Engineering

<http://www.metals-recycling.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp/>

Industry–University Collaboration Center for Developing New Metal Recycling Processes

Sponsor: JX Nippon Mining & Metals Corporation

[Period] 1st period: January 2012 to December 2017 (5 years)

2nd period: January 2017 to December 2021 (5 years)

Recycling valuable materials is crucial for sustainable development. High-quality natural resources are being depleted, and resource nationalism is rising in countries with abundant natural resources. Therefore, it is imperative for Japanese society to promote the recycling of rare metals and base metals.

This unit develops environmentally friendly processes for recycling based on smelting and refining technologies for non-ferrous metals. Furthermore, in collaboration with industrial sectors, it aims to train young researchers and engineers in this field.

To further expand the activities of the unit after its first term of five years, the second term commenced in January 2017 with the inclusion of Prof. Chiharu Tokoro as a new member. In the second term, this unit will not only advance the activities undertaken in the first term but also strengthen the activities to raise awareness of the significance of this field to the general public, especially young children (below high-school age) and their parents.

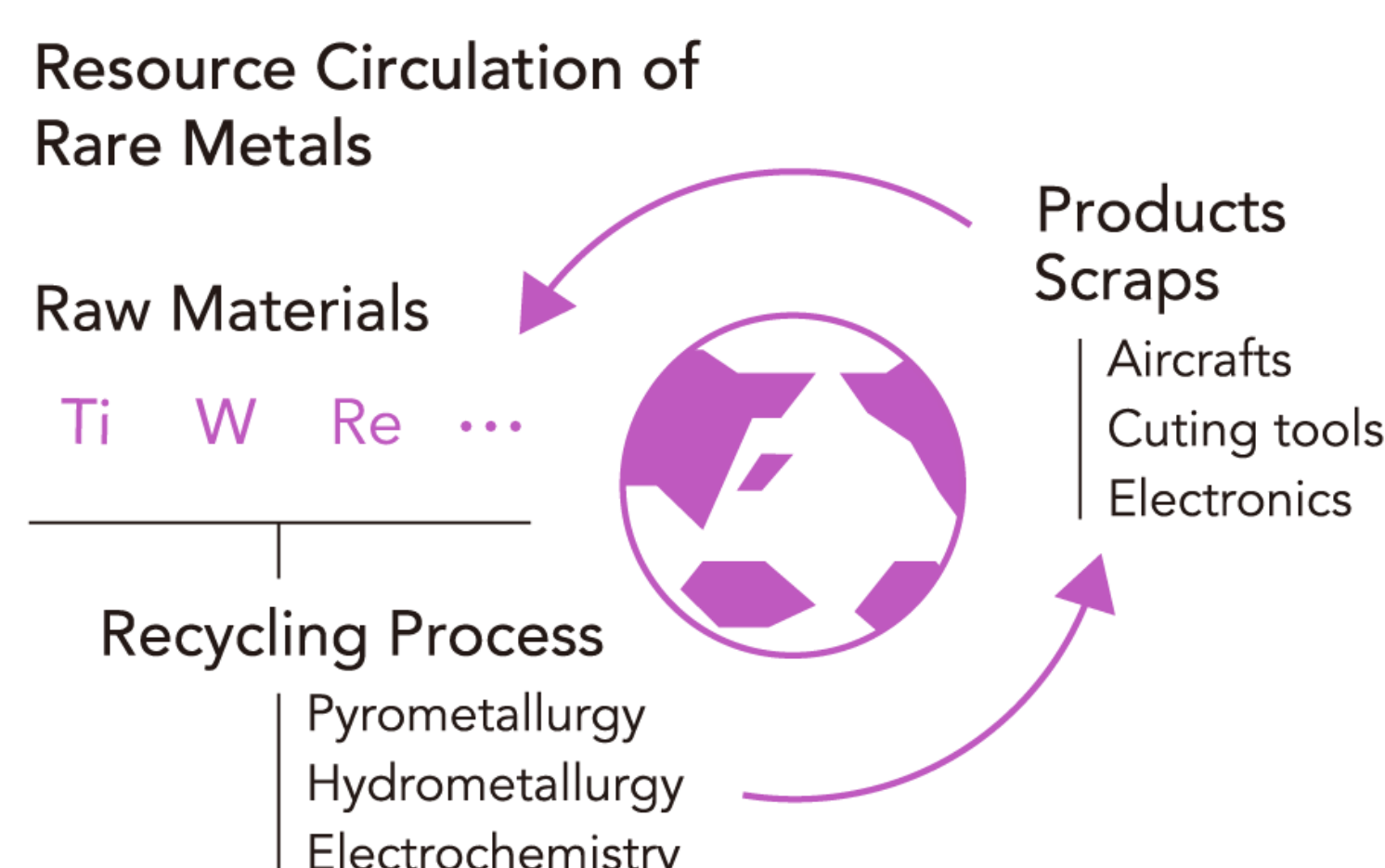
Research Group



Project Prof. Toru H. Okabe

Director Professor,
Integrated Research Center for
Sustainable Energy and Materials,
Institute of Industrial Science,
The University of Tokyo

Development of Efficient Recycling Technologies for Rare Metals



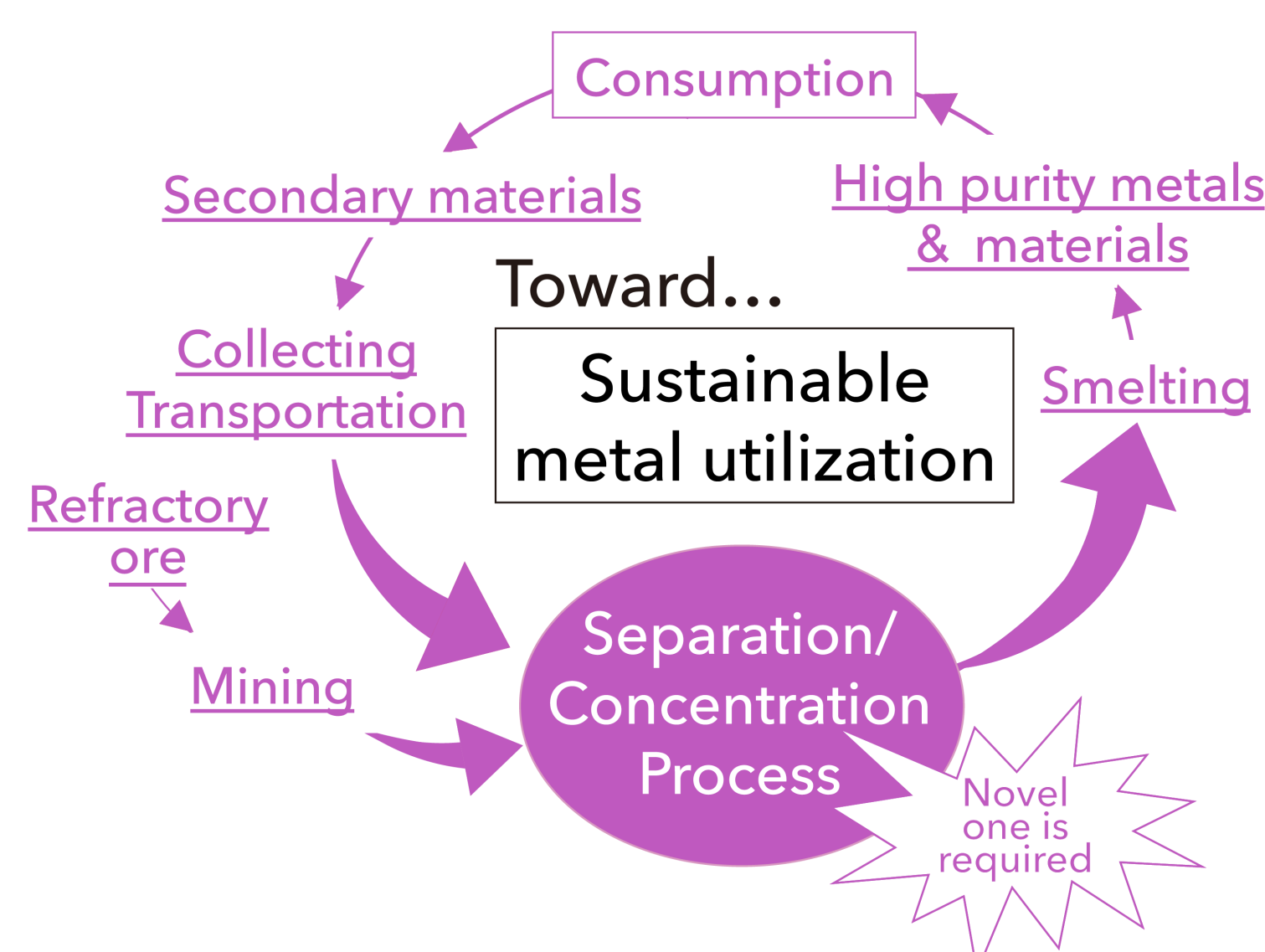
Our laboratory is developing new, efficient, and environmentally sound processes to recycle rare metals such as titanium, tungsten, cobalt, rhenium, and platinum group metals, for which an increase in demand is expected.



Project Prof. Chiharu Tokoro

Professor,
Faculty of Science and Engineering,
Waseda University

Development of Separation and Concentration Technology to Utilize Waste/Refractory Ore as “Resource”



Our laboratory explores solid–solid separation and concentration technology without heating or dissolving the waste or refractory ore to achieve an energy-efficient process. This process is considered “pre-treatment” or “middle treatment” before the metallurgical/hydrometallurgical process that produces high-purity metals.

Support Members

Tohoku University
The University of Tokyo
Waseda University
Akita University



Professor Emeritus
Takashi Nakamura,
Tohoku University



Professor Emeritus
Masafumi Maeda,
The University of Tokyo



Visiting Professor
Shuji Owada
(Professor, Waseda University)



Visiting Professor
Katsunori Yamaguchi
(Professor, Waseda University)



Visiting Professor
Atsushi Shibayama
(Professor, Akita University)



Professor
Kazuki Morita,
The University of Tokyo



Project Professor
Takeo Hoshino,
The University of Tokyo