

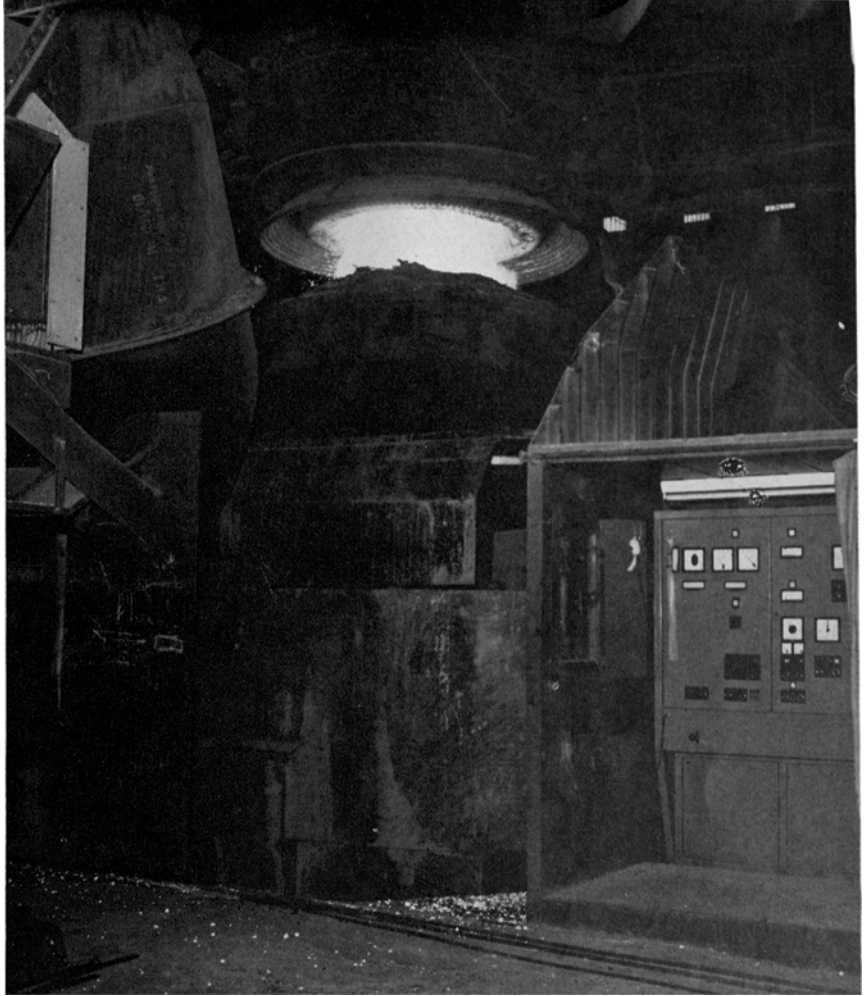
# Single Process Combines LD & Kaldo Steelmaking Techniques

Development work is being conducted by the Centre National de Recherches Metallurgiques, and the S.A. des Forges de la Providence, at Marchienne-au-Pont (Belgium), on a new 35 metric ton converter that has been specifically designed to combine in one refining process both LD and Kaldo techniques. This single installation can operate on either process with equal facility. (See JOURNAL OF METALS, June, pp 581).

The research is being sponsored by a group composed of S.A. des Forges de la Providence, the Centre National de Recherches Metallurgiques, and six firms in West Germany. The group also has the support of Brassert Oxygen Technik (BOT, Zurich). Agreements have been made with BOT and with Stora Kopparbergs Aktiebolag (Sweden) regarding use of the process in so far as the relevant patents are concerned.

The object of the combined LD/Kaldo technique is to derive the advantages of both processes in one process. This combination consists essentially of using the vertical process (LD) for the first part of the blow, making use of its high-speed refining. This is followed by the second phase in which the vessel is inclined (Kaldo), allowing precise control for the second part of the blow.

Plans for the future include research with low, medium, and high strength steels, and with low-alloy steels.



Above, vessel is blown in vertical LD fashion for high-speed refining, Then, below, vessel is inclined and rotated for the second part of the blow, allowing precise control of the process.

