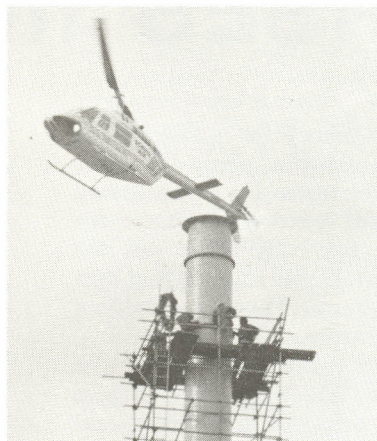




Steady



That's it



Let her go



Good Work

estimated time of two months for breaking up the old hearth and building a new one in situ.

At the ISF the installation of the hearth was closely followed by the positioning of new lower furnace casing with revised tuyere angle, i.e. from 10 to 25 degrees, which it is hoped will lead to a more efficient operation of the furnace. This revised tuyere angle also resulted in the installation of new tuyere leads and platforming around the furnace base.

The redesign of the Imperial Smelting Furnace off-take was another major job undertaken during the shutdown. The modifications included a change in profile, which it is hoped will reduce accretion growth, and provide better access whenever build-up does occur in the off-take area.

One change at D Acid Plant, which could have far reaching significance, was the installation of a new 2,000 kW (2680 hp) compressor. This unit replaces the two series compressors previously used and, besides being cheaper to operate, has the potential for future increases in acid production. This will, when the occasion arises, enable higher sinter throughput and thus increase our overall production.

The replacement of the mild steel tops of No's. 2 and 3 absorption towers, and also the gas main leading to the mist eliminator with stainless steel sections will reduce the possibility of corrosion and build up due to the passage of droplets of dilute sulphuric acid.

Not quite as dramatic as the ISF hearth change, but utilising the same basic roll out

the old—roll in the new principle, was the replacement of the Acid Plant's 1A heat exchanger. After 19 years of operation, and 17 campaigns, we were running out of space to put patches on the old heat exchanger so it was replaced with a new and more efficient unit.

All Plants had their critical jobs which required constant supervision, however, the Sinter Plant's machine overhaul was possibly the one which required the most detailed planning and scheduling. With 132 pallets to remove, strip, clean, weld, before sending to Goninans for machining, a production line was set up on the ground floor. Rail tracks were laid for the pallets to run on, and stations set up for carrying out specific tasks. A shuttle service operated between Sulphide and Goninans carrying the one tonne pallets back and forth. On return each pallet was again positioned on the production line rebuilt and transferred to the machine floor.

Whilst pallets were being repaired other work on the sinter machine was progressing. A new and larger lubricating system was installed, new modified slide bars were fitted, 14, 15, and 16 windboxes were removed, and a mini surge bin with 64A vibratory conveyor, was installed to even out the flow of sinter fines from 63 schenk to 65 cooling table.

A heavy maintenance commitment was made to the mixing and cooling tables. The mixing table (42) was completely rebuilt and the cooling table had the drive uprated and a second retention screw installed to improve the moisture control in the sinter return circuit.

See Page 6 for other Campaign photos.



Rigger, Dave Oughton, L/H Boilermaker, John Neilson, and Rigger, Keith Wells, from contractors A. B. Rea, attaching stack extension after it was positioned by the helicopter.

