

Scandium is a chemical element with symbol Sc and atomic number 21. It's period 4. Scandium metal is soft metal with a silvery appearance. It develops a slightly yellowish or pinkish cast when oxidized by air. Scandium tarnished in air and burn easily, once it has been ignited. It reacts with water to form hydrogen gas and will dissolve in many acids.



Fig.1 Scandium



Fig.2 baseball bats

Uses of Scandium

Alloys of scandium and aluminum are used in some kinds of athletic equipment, such as aluminum baseball bats, bicycle frames and lacrosse sticks. It is expected that scandium-aluminum alloys will be important in the manufacture of fuel cells.

Effects of scandium on the environment

Scandium is dumped in the environment in many different places, mainly by petrol-producing industries. It can also enter the environment when household equipment is thrown away.

Scandium is mostly dangerous in the working environment, due to the fact that fumes and gasses can be inhaled with air.

This can cause lung embolisms, especially during long-term exposure.



Fig.3 Sc Compound