



## AUTO ALUMINUM ALERT



### ALUMINUM NEWS

#### [Automotive News: "Automakers are scrambling to strip hundreds of pounds"](#)

[Automotive News](#) recently reported on challenges automakers face as they strive to meet tougher fuel economy rules. The article highlights GM's recent decision to trim 500 pounds from its light trucks by 2016, and by the early 2020s, they may cut as much as 1,000 pounds per truck. This announcement comes on the heels of [Nissan's 15 percent vehicle weight reduction](#) announcement. Automakers continue to recognize that [lightweight design](#) is a necessity in the holistic approach to meeting new regulations without sacrificing vehicle safety or functionality.

#### [Lightweight Champs: NAIAS Car and Truck of the Year Winners](#)



The [2011 Chevrolet Volt](#) and [2011 Ford Explorer](#) illustrate the advantages of aluminum to vehicle weight reduction, and improved vehicle fuel economy and emissions. [The winners](#) of the prestigious North American Car and Truck of the Year award at this year's North American International Auto Show. The

Chevrolet Volt features several aluminum components including the front and rear bumpers, hood and wheels. The Ford Explorer also uses more lightweight materials – including an aluminum hood, engine and wheels – to achieve 20 percent better fuel economy over the previous model.

#### [ATG Chairman Shares "Good Reasons to Lighten Up"](#)

Recently, contributing to the Society of Manufacturing Engineers publication, *Motorized Vehicle Manufacturing*, ATG Chairman, Randall Scheps, highlights the benefits of [aluminum's role in automotive applications](#) as the federal government explore future emissions and fuel economy regulations. "Today's vehicles can be made significantly lighter (not smaller) and provide superior life cycle emissions reductions and energy savings benefits, all while improving safety and performance," said Scheps.

#### [Tesla Turns to Aluminum](#)

At this year's North American International Auto Show, Tesla unveiled the all-aluminum body shell and running gear of the [Model S](#). Tesla stated that weight reduction is critical with [electric vehicles](#), so for this vehicle (slated to go on sale in 2012) aluminum made more sense than steel. Aluminum's use in this vehicle is anticipated to keep the vehicle's weight down to around 4,000 pounds.



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Aluminum Advantages:  
The Commercial Vehicle Alert

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### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

#### [North American International Auto Show](#)

January 10-23, 2011  
Detroit, MI

#### [Platts Aluminum Symposium](#)

January 16-18, 2011  
Coronado, CA

#### [SAE Government/Industry Meeting](#)

January 26-28, 2011  
Washington, D.C.

#### [Washington Auto Show](#)

January 28-February 6, 2011  
Washington, D.C.

#### [Chicago Auto Show](#)

January 28-February 9-20, 2011  
Chicago, IL



### FAST FACTS

#### [Environmentally-Friendly Aluminum](#)

Aluminum appeals to automakers in their efforts to not only increase vehicle fuel economy, but also to improve their environmental impact. Consider:

- For every pound of automotive aluminum that replaces two pounds of iron or steel in a car, a net of 20 pounds of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions can be saved over the typical lifecycle of a vehicle.
- The aluminum industry cut CO<sub>2</sub> factory emissions by 86 percent from 1990 to 2006.

The Aluminum Association's Aluminum Transportation Group (ATG) communicates the benefits of aluminum in ground transportation to help accelerate its penetration through research programs and related outreach activities. Member companies include: [Alcoa Inc.](#), [Novelis Inc.](#), [Rio Tinto Alcan Inc.](#), [Aluminum Precision Products](#), [Kaiser Aluminum Corporation](#), [Hydro](#) and [Sapa Group](#).

2600 S. Telegraph \* Suite 204 \* Bloomfield Hills, MI 48302

[www.aluminumintransportation.org](http://www.aluminumintransportation.org)