



ALUMINUM NEWS

SEPTEMBER 16, 2008

Presidential Candidates Promote Fuel Economy

Despite differences, Senators [Obama](#) and [McCain](#) both promote their interest in helping move the automotive industry to achieve a more fuel-efficient future. Key themes



have emerged, including offering consumers and manufacturer's incentives for improved fuel economy, reducing dependence on foreign oil, investing in advanced technology development and utilizing

[lightweight materials in design and manufacturing](#). The aluminum industry applauds these efforts to achieve more environmentally-friendly vehicles.

Hyundai to Use Lightweight Materials To Meet CAFE Standards Early

In a recent [Wall Street Journal article](#), Hyundai Motor Company's research and development chief stated the company will meet the [proposed CAFE standard](#) in its fleet by 2015. Hyundai will accomplish this five years before the required deadline without relying heavily on hybrid vehicles. The company plans to focus on developing cars with [lighter materials](#) as well as advanced engine and powertrain technologies.

Delphi Uses Lightweight Materials to Reduce Cable—and Vehicle—Weight

Just like the vehicle manufacturers, automotive suppliers are working to reduce weight and improve fuel economy – including auto supplier [Delphi](#). By switching cable materials from copper to aluminum alloy, Delphi reduces their mass by 48 percent. The change provides manufacturers with a cost-effective, lightweight product that maintains quality and value.

Advanced Powertrains Improve With Aluminum

Automotive blog [Hybrids Tech](#) describes hybrids as not only "sleek and futuristic" but also [fuel efficient and cost effective](#).

A hybrid's most significant advantage – less fuel consumption – is achieved, in part, by the help of low weight materials like aluminum, according to the blog. The combination of [lightweight materials](#) and [advanced](#)



[powertrains](#) makes for a more fuel-efficient vehicle that will offer consumers a quicker payback at the pump.

Safety Maintained with More Aluminum

The 2008 Dodge Grand Caravan is an all-new, redesigned vehicle that makes better use of aluminum to improve fuel economy and reduce emissions. It features an aluminum engine, wheels and hood to give the vehicle high-performance dynamics and design. The Caravan earned a five-star [crash test rating](#).



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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

World Energy Engineering Congress

Association of Energy Engineers

October 1-2, 2008
Washington, DC

75 Year Anniversary Celebration

The Aluminum Association

October 19-21, 2008
White Sulphur Springs, WV

Convergence 2008

SAE International

October 20-22, 2008
Detroit, MI

3rd Annual Automotive Metals Conference

American Metal Market

October 28-30, 2008
Detroit, MI



FAST FACTS

Aluminum Helps Build Lighter, Safer Vehicles

Aluminum's high strength, yet low weight, property can extend crush space for better crash protection, while also increasing fuel economy. Additional [safety advantages](#) of using aluminum include:

- Predictable folding during a crash letting the vehicle – not its passengers – absorb more of the force
- Reducing total injuries in crashes involving SUVs and smaller vehicles by more than 40 percent by extending the SUVs front/rear crush zone while reducing overall weight

The Aluminum Association's Auto & Light Truck Group (ALTG) communicates the benefits of automotive aluminum to help accelerate its penetration through research programs and related outreach activities. Member companies include: [Alcoa Inc.](#), [Novelis Inc.](#), [Alcan Inc.](#), [Aleris International, Inc.](#), [Aluminum Precision Products](#), [Indalex Aluminum Solutions](#), [Kaiser Aluminum Corporation](#) and [Sapa Group](#).

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