## DRIVING INNOVATION WITH **AUTOMOTIVE ALUMINUM**





















## JIM DICKSON

Technical Committee Representative

THE ALUMINUM ASSOCIATION'S ALUMINUM TRANSPORTATION GROUP

Director – Global Automotive Strategy **RIO TINTO** 



## ALUMINUM TRANSPORTATION GROUP (ATG)























## DISCUSSION OUTLINE

- Why Automotive Aluminum?
- 50 Years of Growth
- Aluminum Materials
- Advances in Automotive Aluminum
- Corrosion
- Repair Industry Issues





## THE ALUMINUM ADVANTAGE



## **ALUMINUM ADVANTAGES**

### What Automotive Customers Need...

Weight Reduction

(Multi-Material Vehicles)

- Fuel Economy/CO2 (CAFE)
- Performance:

Safety, 0-60, handling, ride, NVH, braking, etc.

Payload, towing capacity

Cost Effective



#### Aluminum Products

**Body Sheet** 

**Extrusions** 

**Structural castings** 

- Properties
  - Strong
  - Tough
  - Energy absorbing
  - Corrosion resistant
  - Formable



## ALUMINUM AUTO BODY SHEET AND EXTRUSIONS

1.0 lb. of aluminum replaces

1.7 lbs. of MS/HS/AHSS

Body: - 40% mass (BIW, Closures)

Curb mass: -12%

Jaguar, F-150, Aachen, FEV/EDAG ...

- Secondary mass reductionsUp to 0.5 lbs.
- 10% vehicle mass reduction "achievable"

6.5% FE improvement (+ 2.7 MPG)

 Cost advantage over other fuel economy technologies

Diesel, hybrid, electric, ...

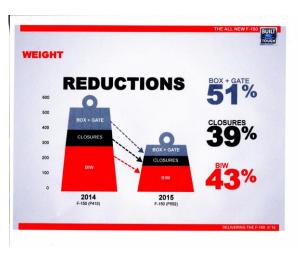


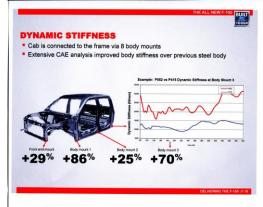


## FORD F-150 ACCOMPLISHMENTS











## 50 YEARS OF GROWTH



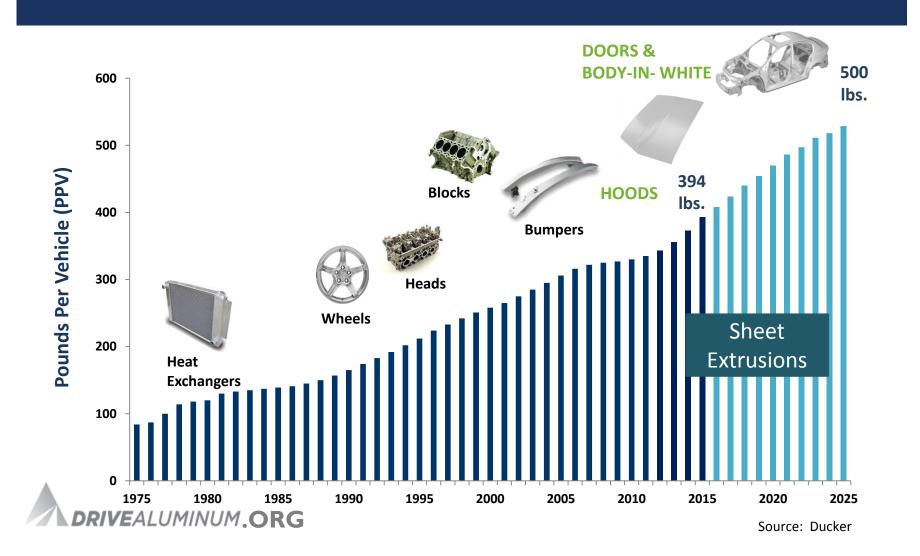
## 2015 DUCKER WORLDWIDE AUTOMAKER SURVEY

- 40 year growth trend continues
- Highest growth = 2015
  - First high-volume automotive body and structures –
     F-150 pickup truck all-aluminum body
  - Sheet and extrusions body, closures
- Continued growth
  - Non-body applications: castings and extrusions

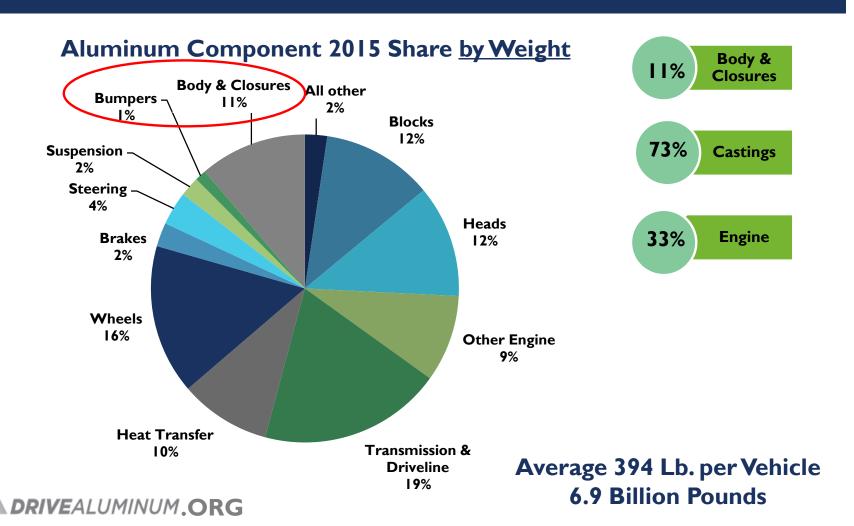




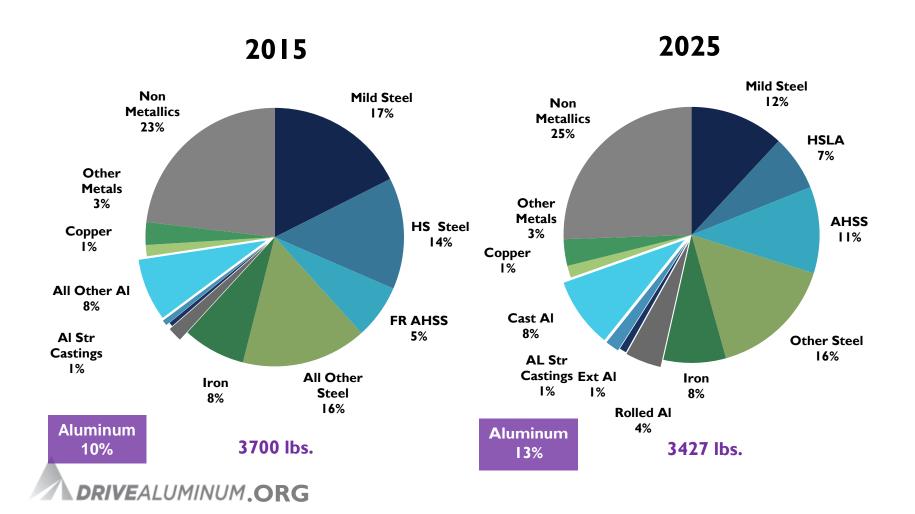
## 50 YEARS OF ALUMINUM GROWTH



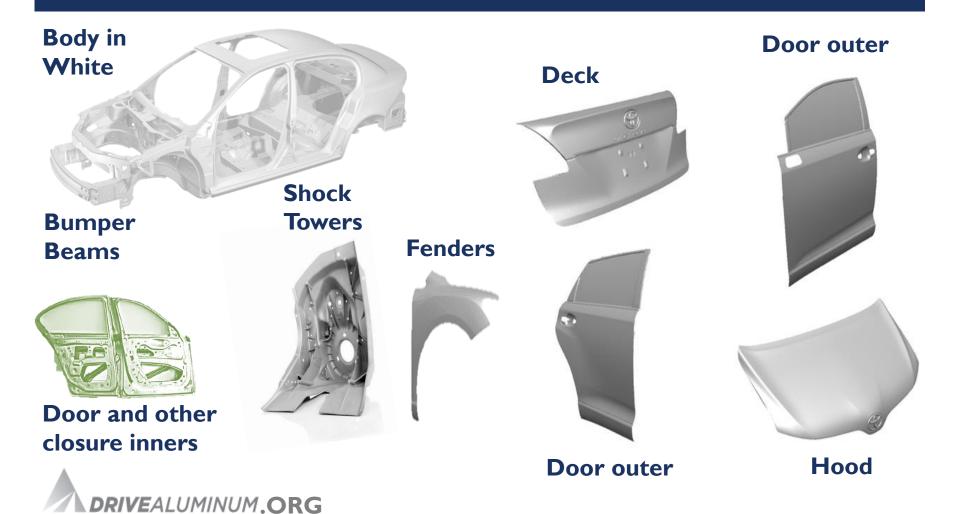
## 50 YEARS OF ALUMINUM GROWTH



## AUTOMOTIVE MATERIAL MIX SHIFT - LIGHTER



## **ALUMINUM BODY COMPONENTS**



## ALUMINUM-INTENSIVE VEHICLES TODAY















## ALUMINUM DRIVES CREATION OF NEW SEGMENT: ULTRA-LUXURY SUV



**Bentley Bentayga** 



**Maserati Levante** 



Lamborghini Urus



**Rolls Royce Cullinan** 

## MULTI-MATERIAL VEHICLES: THE NEW NORMAL















## AUTOMOTIVE ALUMINUM MATERIALS



## **ALUMINUM AUTO BODY MATERIALS**

All aluminum materials are <u>NOT</u> the same

Can not easily identify specific material in the field Repair practices varies by material

Automotive alloy selection

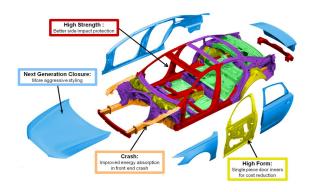
Strength

**Ductility** 

**Corrosion resistance** 

Cost (material, processing)

**Energy absorption** 





## **ALUMINUM AUTO BODY MATERIALS**

Different Automotive Aluminum Materials

**Product form** 

sheet, extrusion, casting

**Alloys** 

composition, mechanical properties, strengthening process

**Tempers** (strengthening)

mechanical properties, formability

Heat Treatable: Typically: body exterior, loaded structure

F, T4,T4PB,: High Formability

T6: Maximum Strength (+50% over T4 Typ.)

Non-heat treatable: Typically: under-body structure

HXX Work hardening

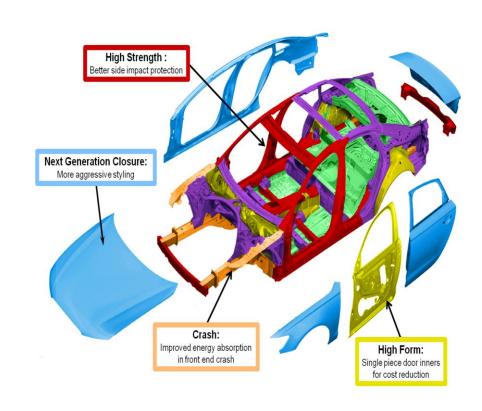




## ADVANCES IN AUTOMOTIVE ALUMINUM

## **ADVANCED ALLOYS MEET AUTOMOTIVE NEEDS**

- Continuous ProductImprovement
  - High Strength
  - Energy Absorption
  - Advanced Formability
  - Value
  - Sustainability





Graphic: Alcoa R&D

## HIGH STRENGTH ALUMINUM GRADES

#### "High Strength" Alloy/Temper Variants

**Applications – body structure, bumper** 

#### **Sheet:**

Variants: 6022, 6111, 6451, 7021

UTS: 400 + MPa

#### **Extrusions:**

Variants: 6082, 7003, 7046

UTS: 400+ MPa







## **ALUMINUM ENERGY ABSORPTION**

### "Crush Grade" Alloy/Temper Variants

**Excellent energy absorption** 

Applications – body structure, bumper, frame rails, crash cans

**Sheet:** 

Variants: 6022, 5454, 5754

**UTS:** 300 + MPa

**Extrusions:** 

Variants: 6005, 6061, 6082, 7046

**UTS**: 300 + MPa

Aluminum: Highest energy absorption automotive material, pound for pound

**S**heet



#### **Extrusions**







# ALUMINUM COLLISION REPAIR AND CORROSION

## ALUMINUM AUTOMOTIVE BODY REPAIR

#### **Aluminum Repair Considerations**

- Shop SafetyDust Management (Combustion)
- Corrosion
- I-CAR / Aluminum Association Joint Studies
   Industry open issues / concerns
   Information
   Develop "Best Practices" Bulletins



## **ALUMINUM DUST MANAGEMENT**

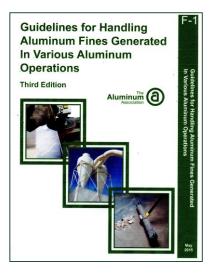
- Fines
  - Dust or powder
  - Grinding, sanding, polishing
- Can be combustible when:
  - Small particles < 500 micron</p>
  - Suspended in air
  - Concentration
  - Ignition source
  - Incidences are rare

Re: Nat Fire Protection Assoc. Std. No. 484

DRIVEALUMINUM.ORG

#### Control

- Dust collection system
- Electrically grounded
- Spark resistant
- No smoking



## **ALUMINUM – NATURAL CORROSION RESISTANCE**

Natural Oxide Film (The Key Attribute)

Forms instantaneously

increasing thickness over time

**Transparent** 

**Tenacious** 

Hard

Chemically stable in "normal" environments (pH 4.5-8.0)

exposed raw metal does not corrode engine, transmission, suspension

Corrosion can Occur if Damaged

Scratch

**S**tone chip

**Mechanical abrasion** 

Sanding, Grinding

Chemical attack (Ph: <4, >8)

Corrosion Typically Cosmetic

**Un-painted - White powder** on surface



## GALVANIC CORROSION - ALUMINUM

Galvanic Corrosion - Conditions

**Dis-similar Metals** (or Materials)

and

**Electrical Contact** 

and

**Electrolyte** (NaCl)

- Corrosion Rate typically "very slow"
- Prevention

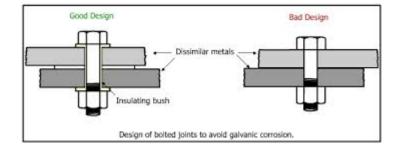
**Protective coatings** 

fasteners - common coatings

sheet or extrusion

Seal interface crevice (exclude electrolyte)

flexible sealer











## **CREVICE CORROSION - ALUMINUM**

#### Crevice Corrosion

Chemical action between surfaces

#### Required conditions

Crevice - fraying surfaces and Electrolyte (NaCl)

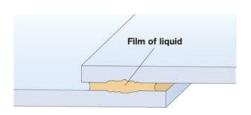
#### Locations

lap joints
spot welded joints
or, surface mud accumulation
(similar to steel, less aggressive in aluminum)

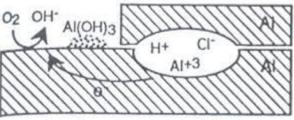
#### Prevention

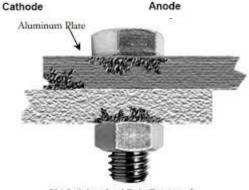
Protective coatings
sheet or extrusion

Seal interface crevice – exclude electrolyte
Flexible sealer













## FILIFORM CORROSION – ALUMINUM

Filiform Corrosion (Form of crevice corrosion)

Chemical attack under coatings

Required conditions

Damaged coating (scratches, stone chips, sheet edges)

and

**Electrolyte** intrusion (NaCl)

(similar to steel, less aggressive in aluminum)

Corrosion Rate

Accelerated by surface marks from grinding, sanding

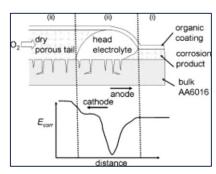
Prevention (or Mitigation)

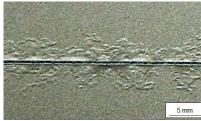
**Surface - Alloy selection (mitigation)** 

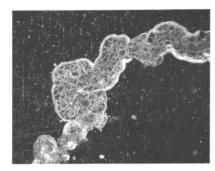
**Surface conversion treatments** 

**Coating durability** 

**Edge - Seal crevices** 





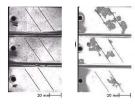




## FILIFORM CORROSION – GRINDING, SANDING

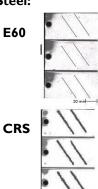
#### **Vehicle Test Results**



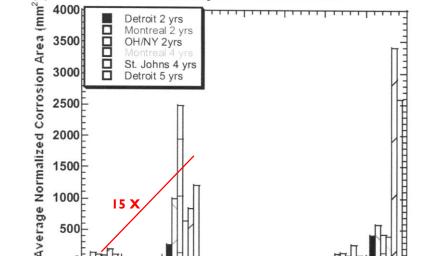


Mill Finish Sanded

#### Steel:



Laboratory Test: ASTM G85-A2
(Acidified Salt Fog)
5% NaCl
Ph 2.8-3.0 acetic acid
120 F.
500 Hrs. (6 Hr. cycle)
:45 - spray
2:00 - dry
3:15 - soak



Sanded

Summary of On-Vehicle Results

Steel:

E60

**CRS** 

Impact: grinding, sanding, factory coatings

Mill Finish

6111 T4:



## **SUMMARY**



## **SUMMARY**

- ✓ Multi-material vehicle designs the new norm
   Aluminum and steel <u>Co-exist</u>, important auto materials
- ✓ Aluminum 2025 OEM production Closures - 24 % by 2025 Body - 12 % by 2025
- ✓ Aluminum Repair <u>Different not Difficult</u>
   Training OEM, I-Car, ...
   Equipment
   Many different aluminum grades
   OEM repair procedures should be followed
- ✓ Keep Shops SAFE!

  No Dust incidences























## THANK YOU

