Lighter and Safer Cars by Design

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The Aluminum Association's Transportation Group (ATG)

NHTSA Mass/Size/Safety Workshop
May 13, 2013
Washington, D.C.

DRI Compatibility Study (2008)

Modern vehicle designs - generally good into fixed barriers

irrespective of vehicle type or material

Safety discussion is really about vehicle compatibility

- How much energy must be dissipated
- How each vehicle decelerates

Compatibility study - Dynamic Research Inc. (DRI)

- SUV in moderately severe collisions
  - Cars, other SUVs, fixed obstacles
- 3,500 collisions, using NCAP “pulses” and NASS/CDS descriptors
- Investigate injury index (ELU)
  - SUV lighter or larger
  - Reduce ELU

DRI Compatibility Study

Baseline: Conventional SUV with
Conventional Passenger Car and LTV

	Crash Type	Number of Cases	Total ELU's: Baseline Case SUV	Total ELU's: Reduced Weight Case SUV	Total ELU's: Increased Length Case SUV	Net Benefit (%): Reduced Weight Case SUV	Net Benefit (%): Increased Length Case SUV
SUV Driver	Rollover	175	2.23	2.48	0.53	-11.2	76.2
	Hit Object	420	2.54	1.74	0.81	31.5	68.1
	Hit PC	1750	1.21	2.47	1.19	-104.1	1.7
	Hit LTV	1155	25.97	34.02	26.27	-31.0	-1.2
	Subtotal	3500	31.95	40.71	28.80	-27.4	9.9
OV Driver	In PC	1750	28.00	9.70	16.79	65.4	40.0
	In LTV	1155	25.99	11.28	19.59	56.6	24.6
	Subtotal	2905	53.99	20.98	36.38	61.1	32.6
	Overall Total	3500 SUV + 2905 OV	85.94	61.69	65.18	28.2	24.2

DRI Compatibility Study

20% Reduced Weight SUV (Single Vehicle) into Conventional Fleet

	Crash Type	Number of Cases	Total ELU's			Net Benefit (%)	
			Baseline Case SUV	Reduced Weight Case SUV	Increased Length Case SUV	Reduced Weight Case SUV	Increased Length Case SUV
SUV Driver	Rollover	175	2.23	2.48	0.53	-11.2	76.2
	Hit Object	420	2.54	1.74	0.81	31.5	68.1
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	Overall Total	3500 SUV + 2905 OV	85.94	61.69	65.18	28.2	24.2

DRI Compatibility Study

Increased Length (4.5") SUV (Single Vehicle) into Conventional Fleet

	Crash Type	Number of Cases	Total ELU's: Baseline Case SUV	Total ELU's: Reduced Weight Case SUV	Total ELU's: Increased Length Case SUV	Net Benefit (%): Reduced Weight Case SUV	Net Benefit (%): Increased Length Case SUV
SUV Driver	Rollover	175	2.23	2.48	0.53	-11.2	76.2
	Hit Object	420	2.54	1.74	0.81	31.5	68.1
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	Overall Total	3500 SUV + 2905 OV	85.94	61.69	65.18	28.2	24.2

Lighter and Safety Cars by Design

DRI Compatibility Study Findings:

- Reduced mass or Length
  - Reduced fleet ELU's
- Mass (-20%)
  - Fleet ELU's reduced 28%
  - Reduced struck vehicle ECU's 61%
  - Some increase in Lt. vehicle ELU's
- Length (Design) (+4 inch)
  - Fleet ELU's reduced 24%
  - Reduced longer vehicle driver ECU's by 10%
  - Reduced struck vehicle ECU's 33%

Note: Observations are directional not absolute

Source: *EDAG*

STIFFNESS RELEVANCE AND STRENGTH RELEVANCE IN CRASH OF CAR BODY COMPONENTS

Official report 83440 by ika
May 2010

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Light-weighting Potential of High-Strength Steel &Aluminum

University of Aachen ika (Germany)

Mid-size European Sedan

Objective

Maximum auto body weight saving potential

Steel

Aluminum

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Analytical Analysis

Methodology

Model body - classify components (strength or stiffness limited)

NVH

Collision performance (index: intrusion)

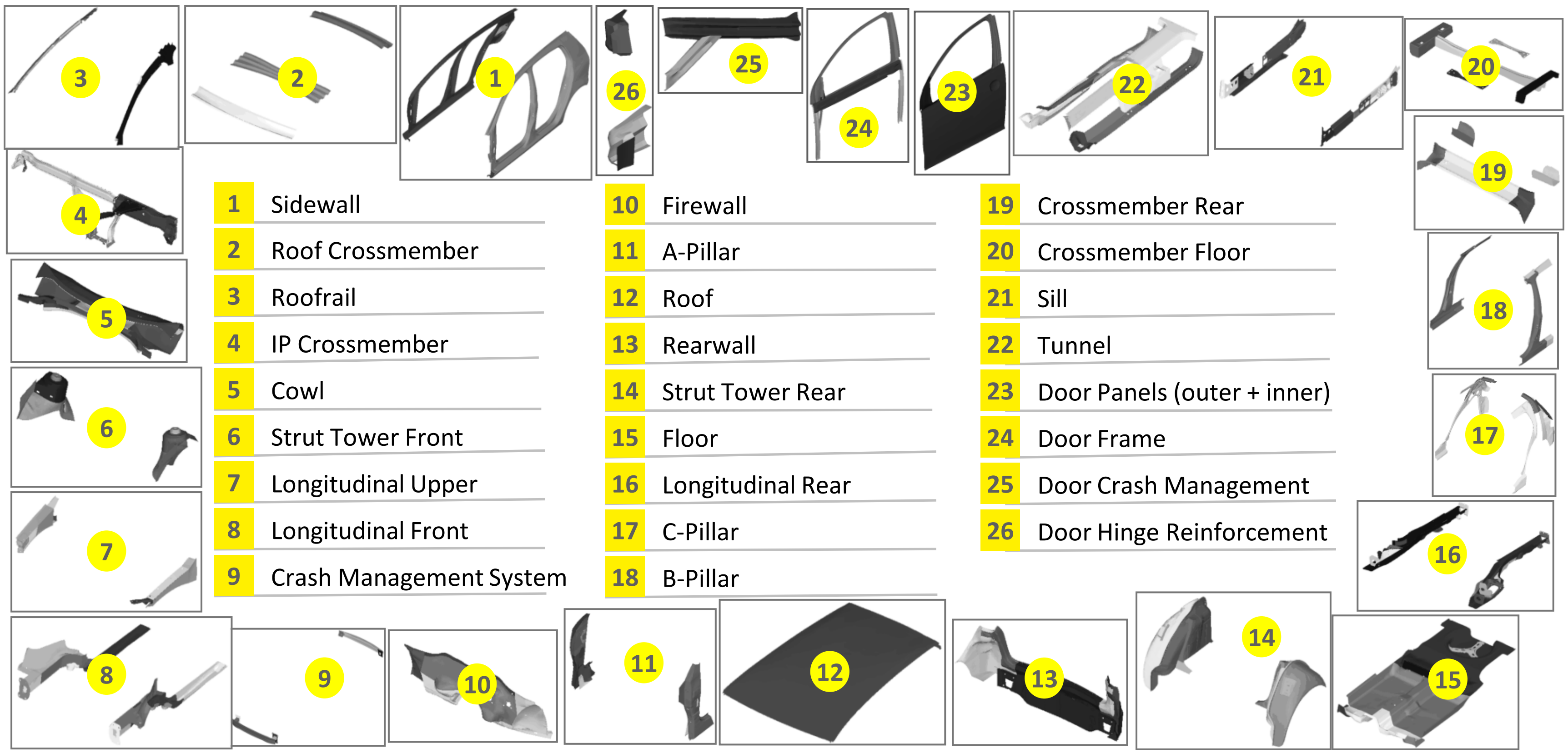
Optimize body components – material, grade, gauge

High-strength steel grades (including ultra high-strength steel)

Aluminum alloys

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

26 Components for Quantitative Evaluation

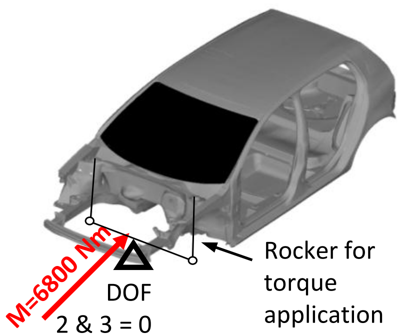


1 Sidewall
2 Roof Crossmember
3 Roofrail
4 IP Crossmember
5 Cowl
6 Strut Tower Front
7 Longitudinal Upper
8 Longitudinal Front
9 Crash Management System
10 Firewall
11 A-Pillar
12 Roof
13 Rearwall
14 Strut Tower Rear
15 Floor
16 Longitudinal Rear
17 C-Pillar
18 B-Pillar
19 Crossmember Rear
20 Crossmember Floor
21 Sill
22 Tunnel
23 Door Panels (outer + inner)
24 Door Frame
25 Door Crash Management
26 Door Hinge Reinforcement

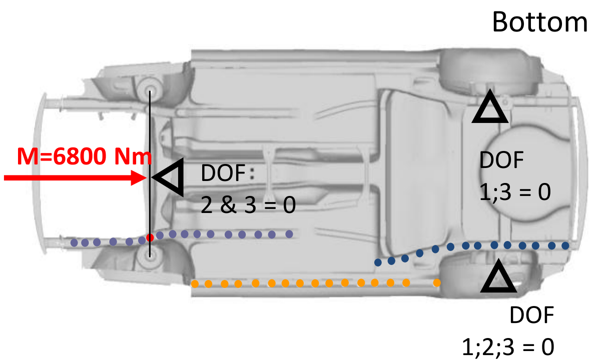
Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Stiffness Load Cases

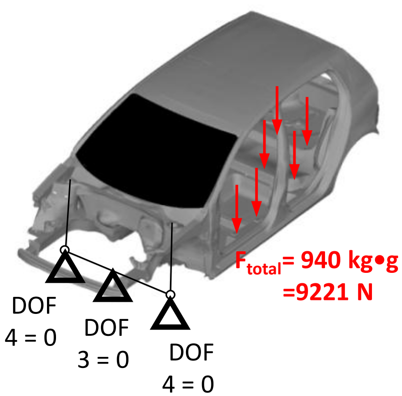
Static Torsional Stiffness



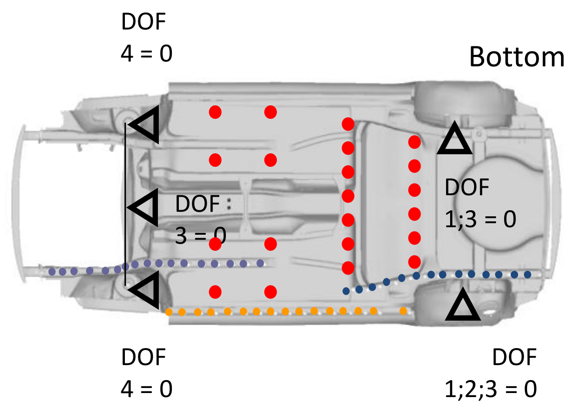
Evaluation:
Torsional stiffness calculated from deflection of evaluation point on front longitudinal



Static Bending Stiffness



Evaluation:
Bending stiffness calculated from maximum deflection of bending lines (generally sill)

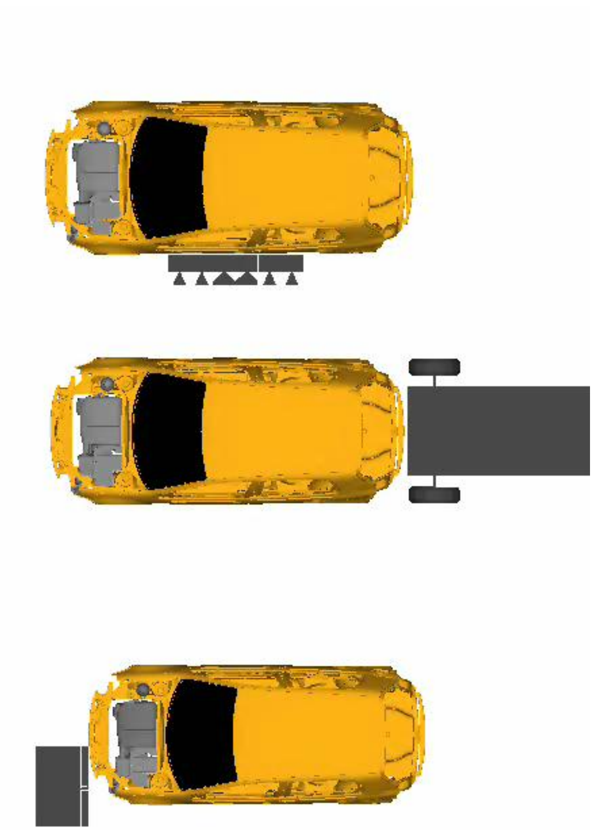


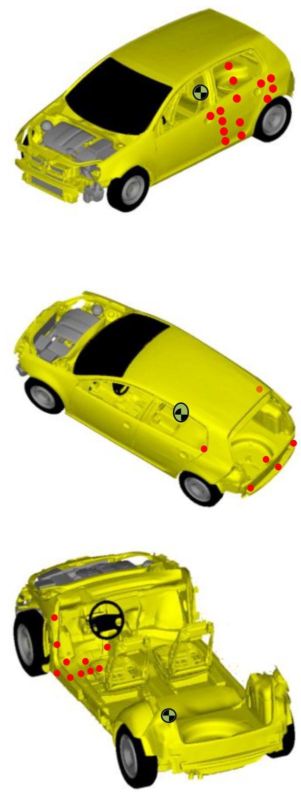
Red dots = Load/force application
Black dots = Deflection measured
Orange dots = Deflection measured
Blue dots = Deflection measured

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Strength Load Cases

Evaluated Using European and U.S. Crash Standards





Euro NCAP Side Crash

- Velocity 50 km/h
- EEVC moving deformable barrier

FMVSS 301 Rear Crash

- Velocity 48 km/h
- Rigid moving barrier
- 0% offset

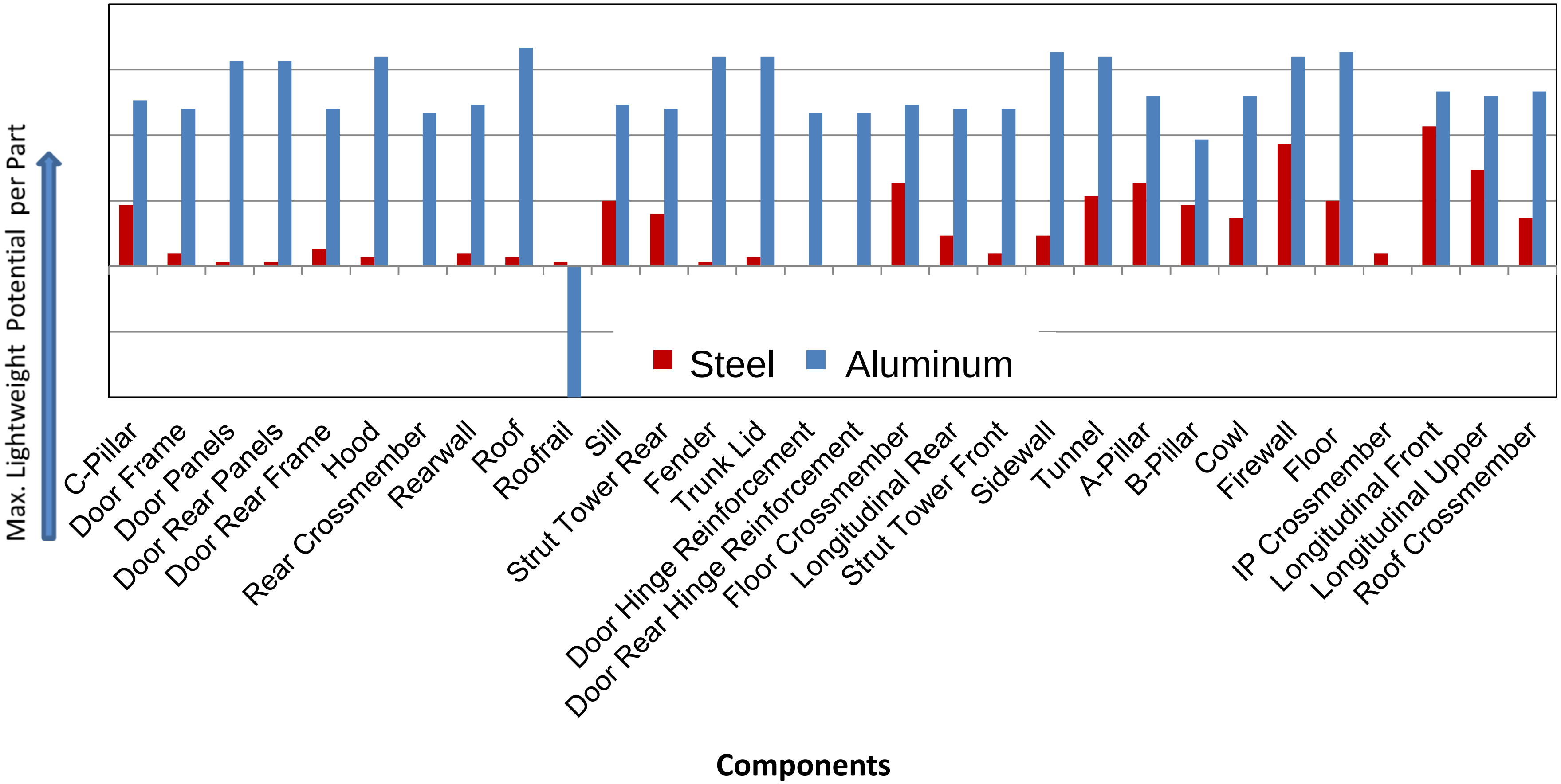
Euro NCAP Front Crash

- Velocity 64 km/h
- EEVC deformable barrier
- 40% offset

Intrusion Evaluation Point   Acceleration Evaluation Point

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Light-weighting | Potential by Material



Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

Key Findings

- NVH and Safety performance objectives appear achievable with reduced mass designs
- Strength not the limiting factor for a majority of body components (Mass)
- **Weight reduction potential**
  - **High-strength steel** (YS to 1,200 MPa) = **~11%**
  - **Aluminum** (YS to 400 MPa) = **~40%**

http://www.eaa.net/en/applications/automotive/studies/

Source: ika - University of Aachen and the European Aluminium Association (EAA)

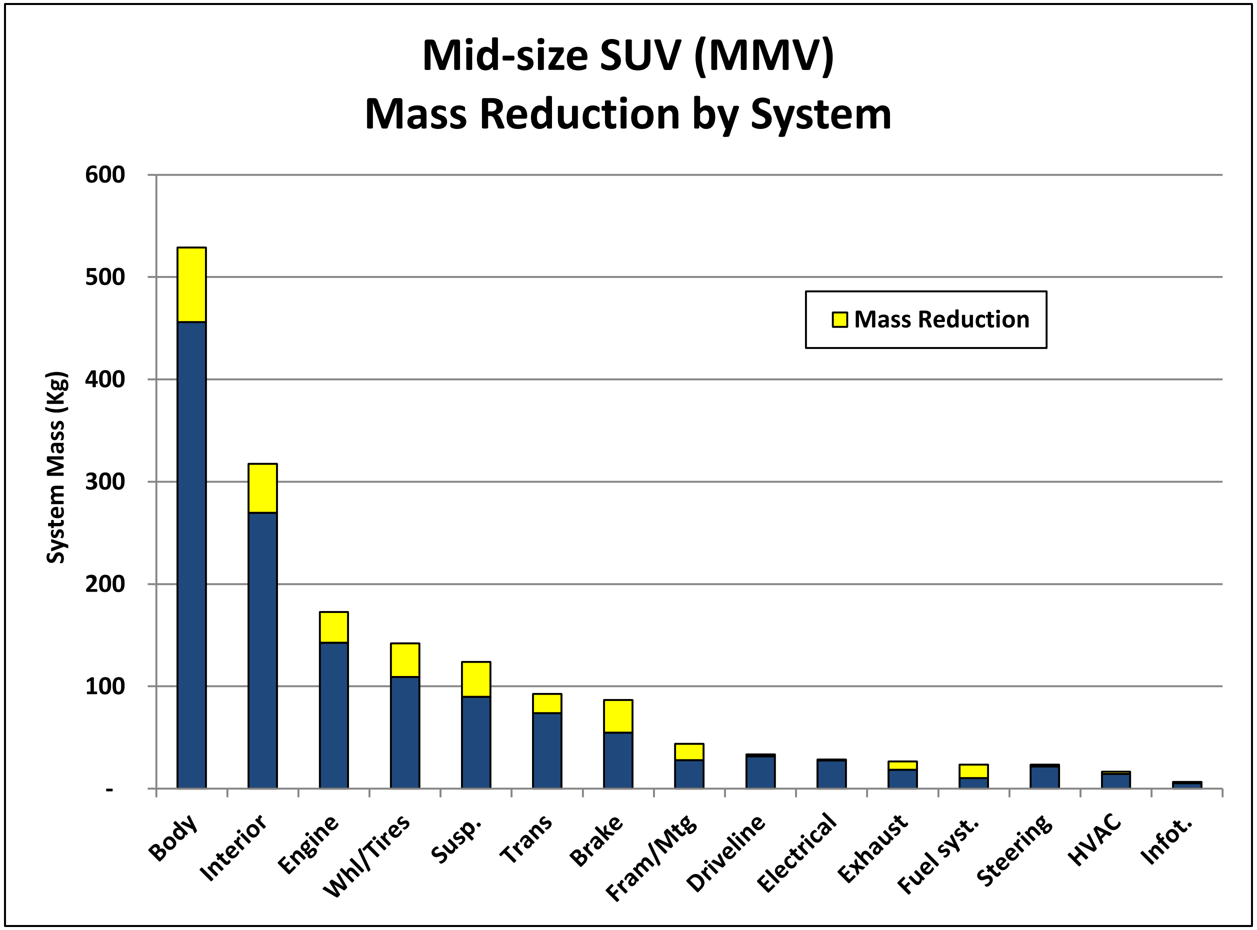
“Light-Duty Vehicle Mass Reduction and Cost Analysis – Midsize Crossover Utility Vehicle”c

Objectives:

- Mass Reduction – 20%
- Retain: Size
  Functionality
  Safety (5 Star)
  NVH
  Performance
- Use proven body structure
- Cost increase < 10%
- Materials and process available and practical 2017

Source: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/documents/420r12026.pdf

Body is Key to Vehicle Mass Reduction



Source: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/documents/420r12026.pdf

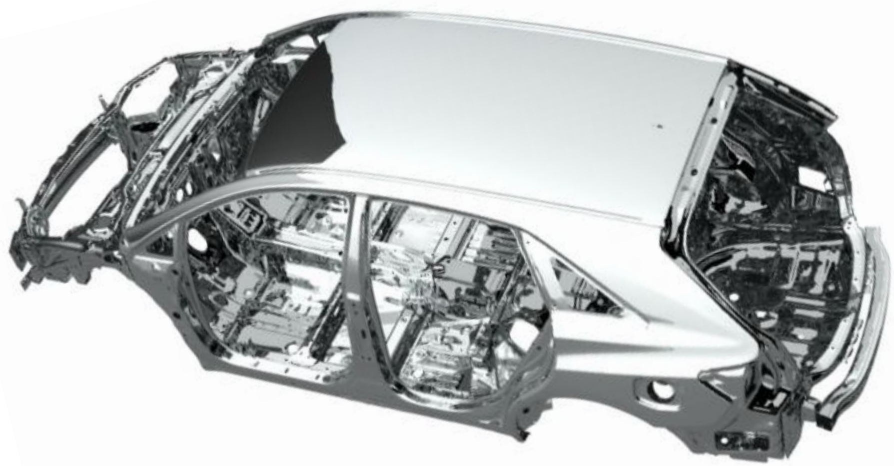
"Light-Duty Vehicle Mass Reduction and Cost Analysis – Midsize Crossover Utility Vehicle"

Findings:

- **Reduced mass mid-size cross-over SUV appears capable of meeting all design objectives**
  size, functionality, safety, NVH, performance
- **18% (313 Kg) vehicle mass reduction – (MMV)**
  - **advanced steel – BIW reduction 14%**
  - **total body mass reduction 14%**
  - **aluminum – closures, chassis, suspension, brakes**
- **Estimated cost impact: - $148 (reduction)**

Source: http://www.epa.gov/otaq/climate/documents/420r12026.pdf

Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study



January 2013

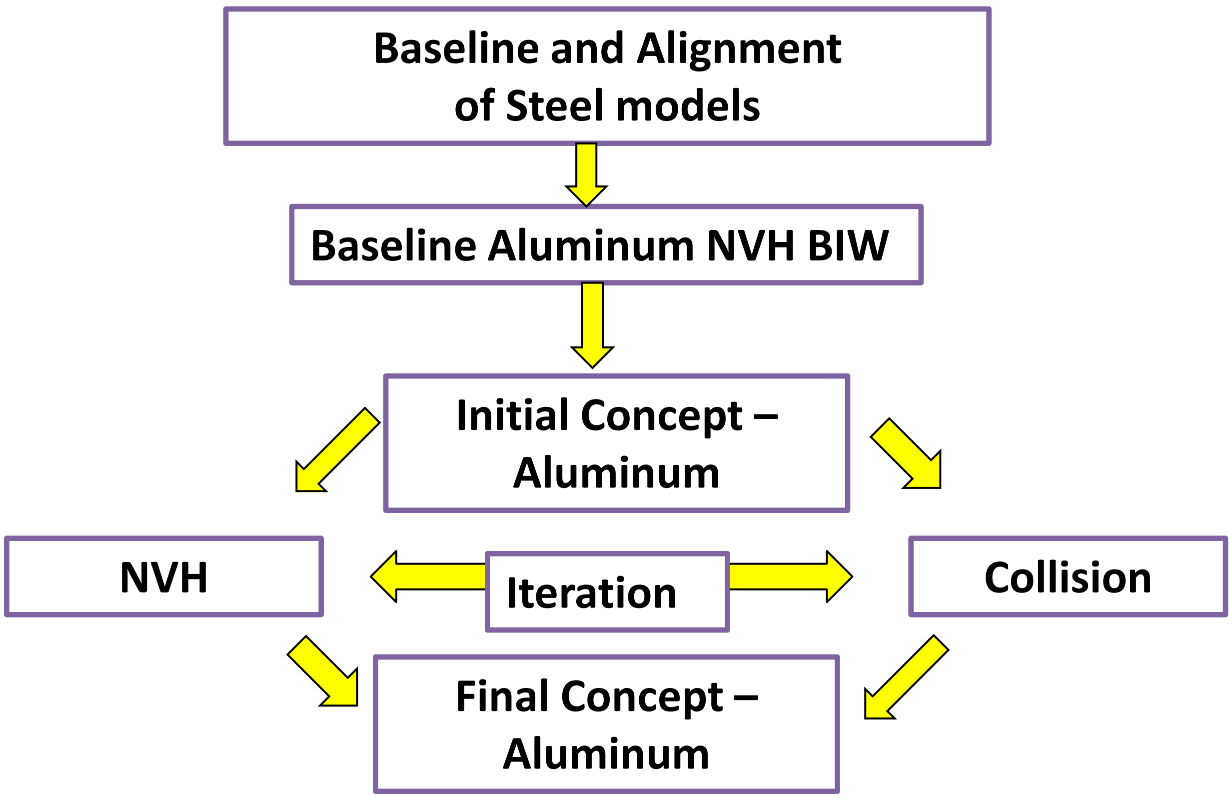
Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study

Objectives:

- Maximum Mass Reduction – Aluminum Intensive Body
- Retain: Size
  Functionality
  Safety (5 Star)
  NVH
  Performance

- Use proven body structure
- Cost increase: TBD
- Materials and process available and practical 2017

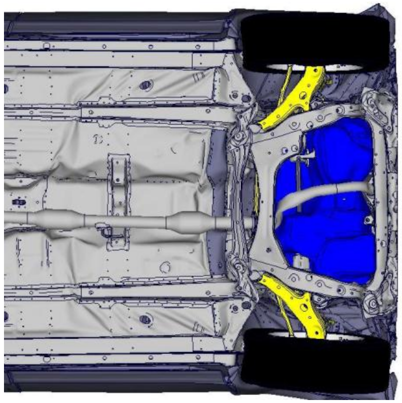
AIV Body Design Process| (NVH and Crash)



Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study

Study Description	Overall Torsion Mode (Hz)	Overall Lateral Bending Mode (Hz)	Rear End Match Boxing Mode (Hz)	Overall Vertical Bending Rear End Breathing Mode (Hz)	Torsion Stiffness (KN.m/rad)	Bending Stiffness (KN/m)	Test Weight BIW (Kg)
Baseline Model	54.6	34.3	32.4	41.0	1334.0	18204.5	407.7
Aluminum BIW	**64.5**	**39.3**	**40.7**	**49.1**	**1469.6**	**19855.0**	**243.0**
Percentage Change (%)	+18.1%	+14.6%	+25.6%	+19.8%	+10.2%	+9.1%	-40.4%

Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study

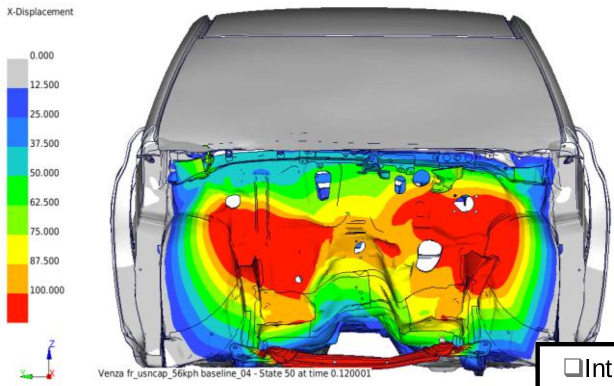


Deformation Mode Comparison: Front Area @80 msec.

FMVSS208 - 35mph Frontal Rigid Barrier (FRB) Impact (USNCAP)

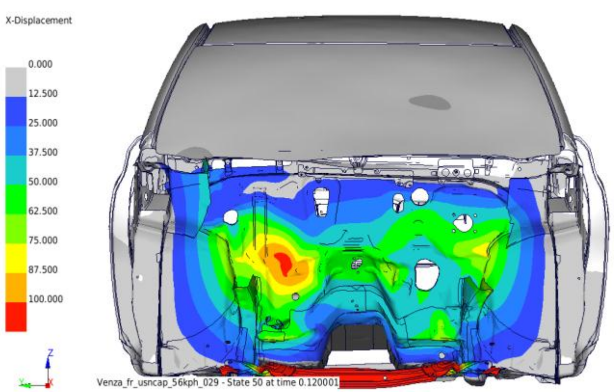
Dash Panel Intrusion Comparison

Model 001 (Steel BIW)



❑Intrusion is severe on all dash panel area.

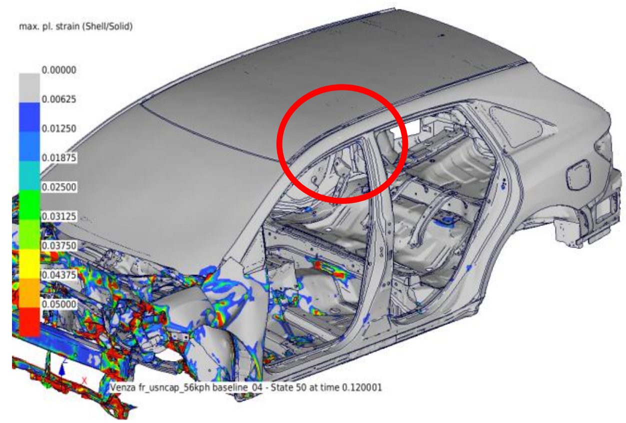
Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)



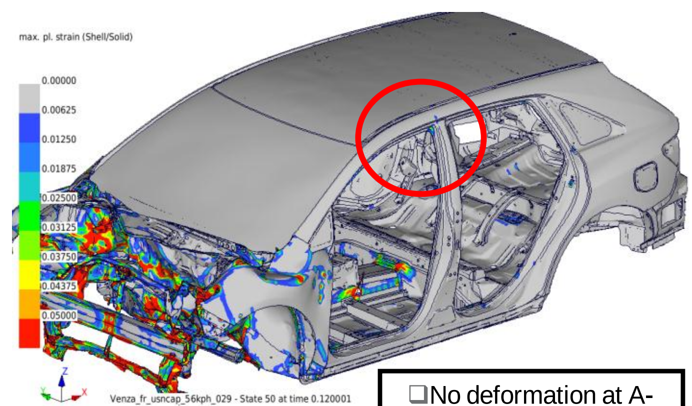
❑Dash panel intrusion is lower compared to the baseline

A-Pillar Deformation Comparison

Model 001 (Steel BIW)



Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)



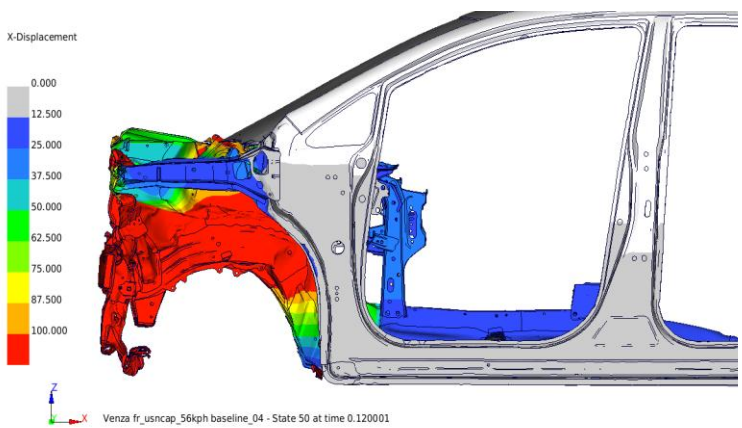
❑No deformation at A-Pillar is observed in both model.

Mid-size SUV Aluminum BIW Concept Study

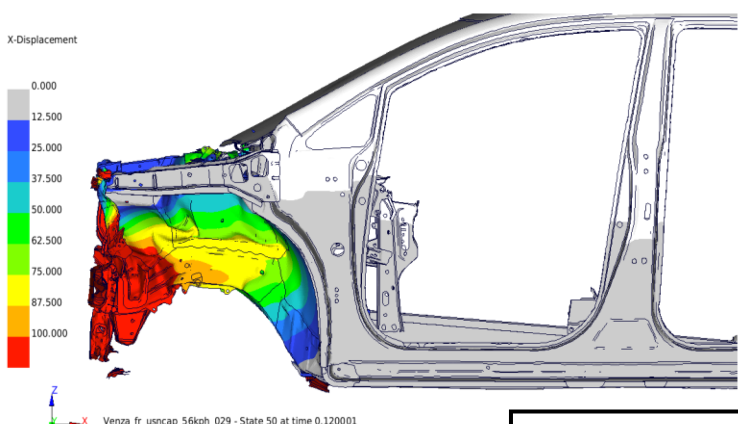
FMVSS208 - 35mph Frontal Rigid Barrier (FRB) Impact (USNCAP)

Dynamic Crush

Model 001 (Steel BIW)



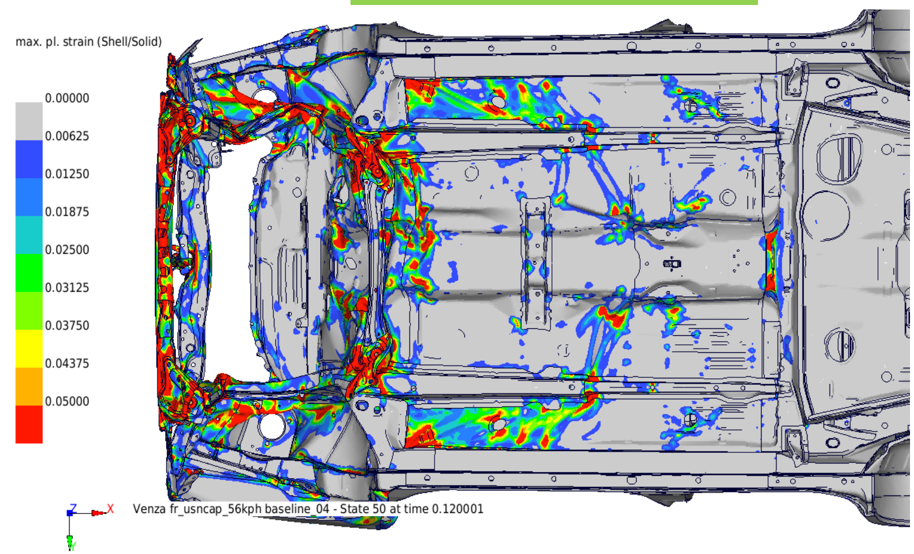
Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)



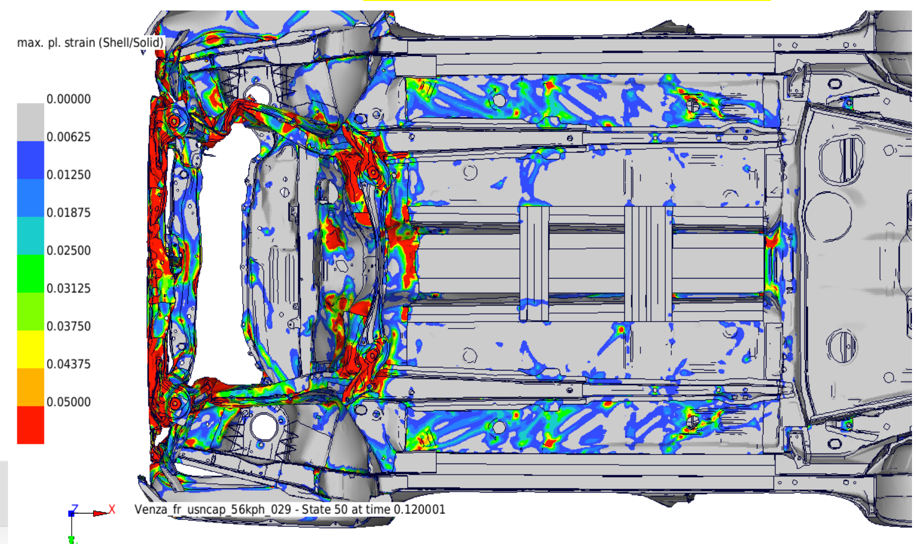
- Dynamic crush is lower than the baseline

Bottom View :Plastic Strain

Model 001 (Steel BIW)



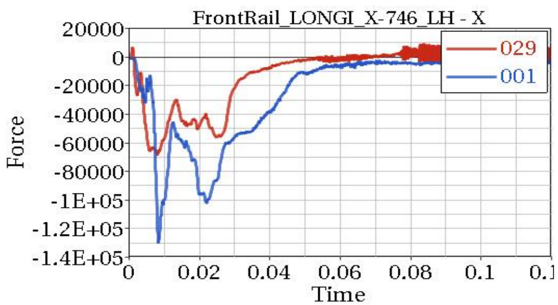
Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)

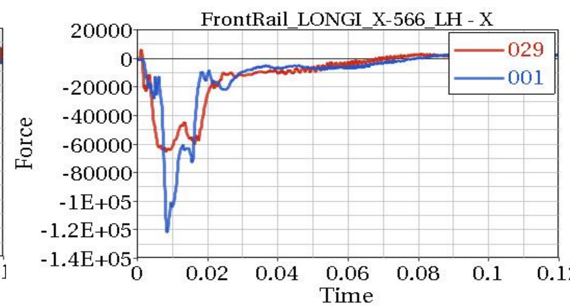


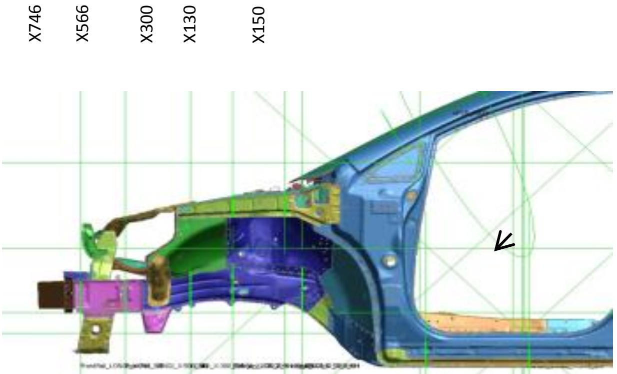
Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study

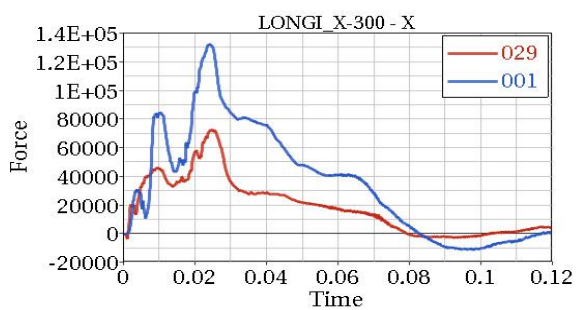
FMVSS208 – 35 mph Frontal Rigid Barrier Impact

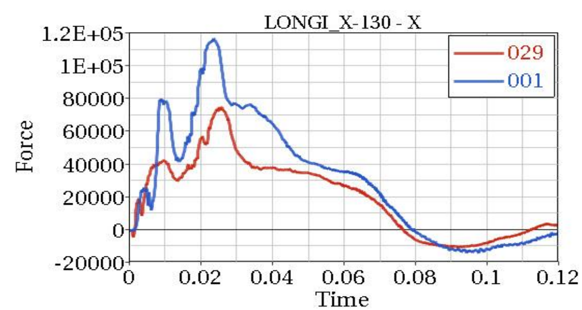
Driver Side (LH)

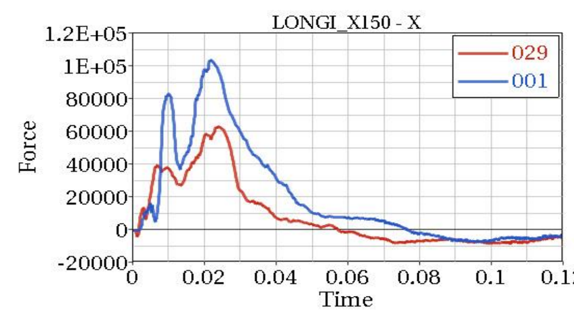










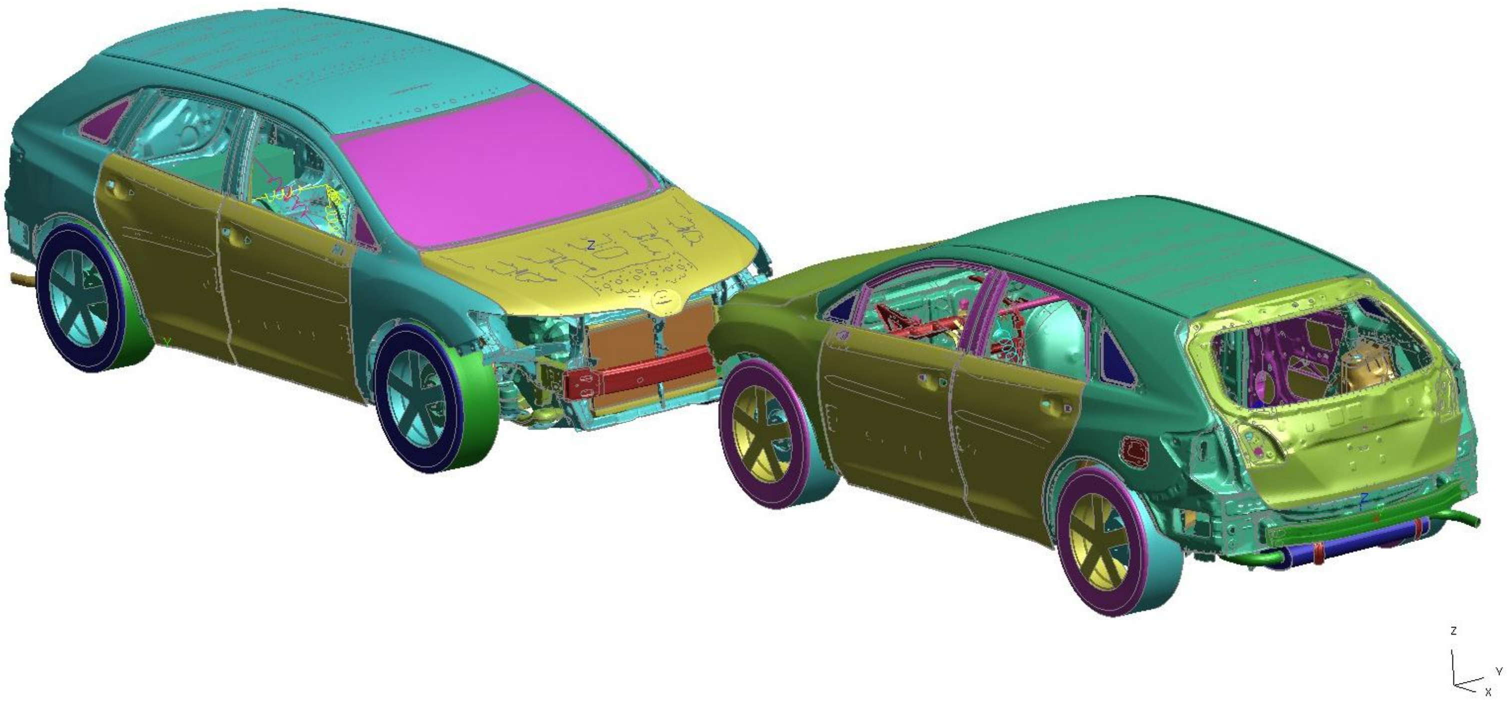


Mid-size SUV | Aluminum BIW Concept Study

Findings:

- Aluminum intensive mid-size cross-over SUV appears capable of meeting all design objectives
  - size, functionality, safety, NVH, performance
- 28% (476 Kg) total vehicle mass reduction
  - aluminum – BIW, closures, chassis, suspension, brakes
  - Body mass reduction 39%
- Estimated cost impact: + $534 ($1.12/Kg)
  - Net of secondary mass reductions

Compatibility Simulation

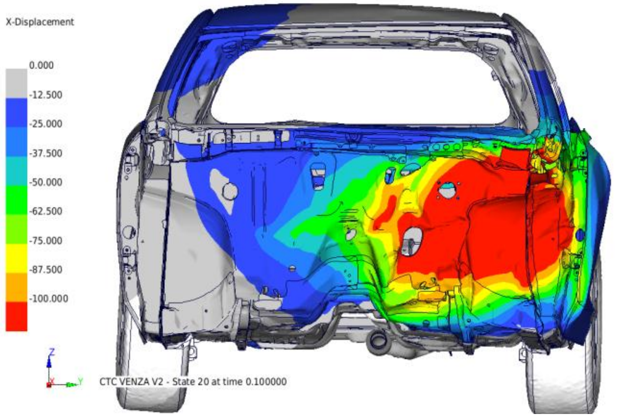


• **56km/h Car to Car with 40% Overlap**

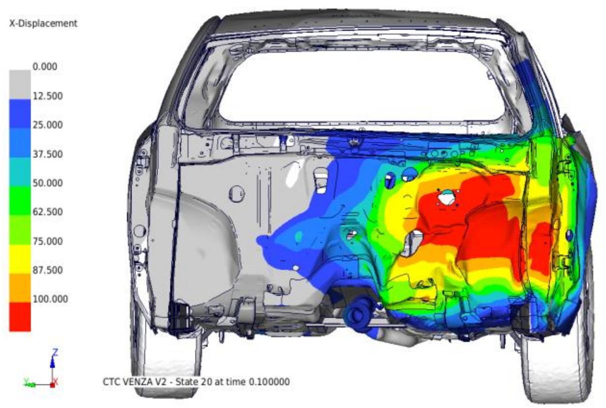
8.0 Car to Car Simulation

Dash Panel Intrusion Comparison

Model 001 (Steel BIW)

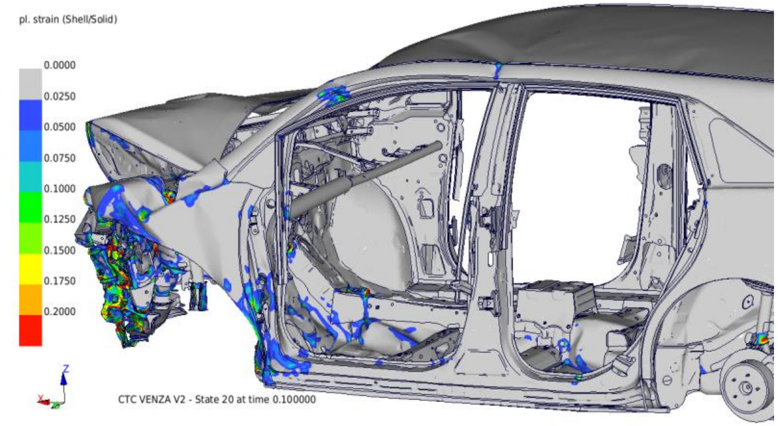


Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)

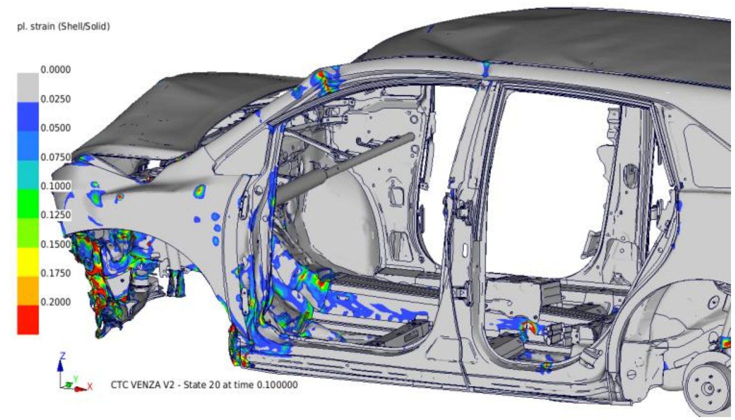


A-Pillar Deformation Comparison

Model 001 (Steel BIW)

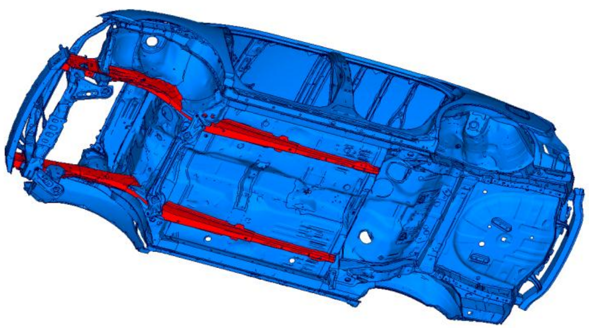


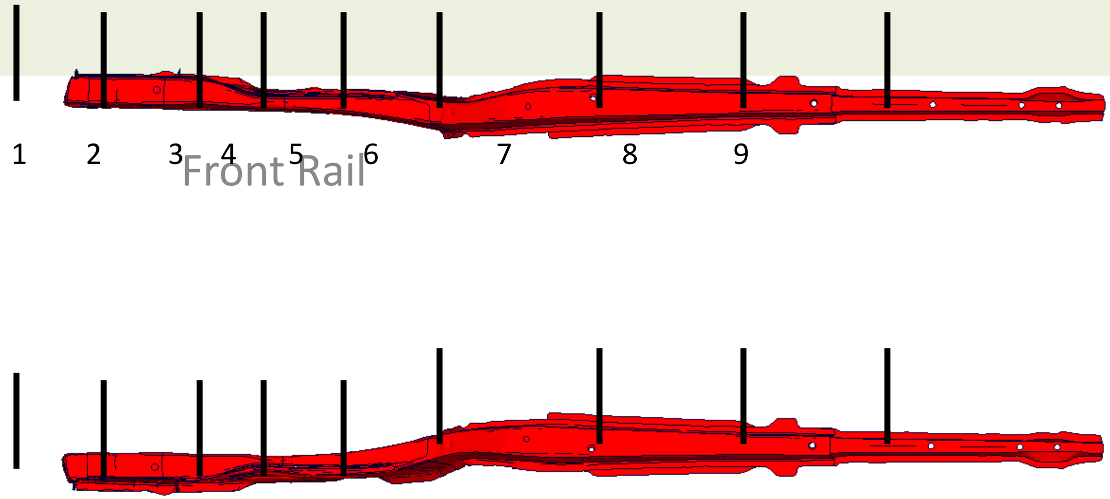
Model 029 (Aluminum BIW)



Car-to-Car Collision Simulation

Max Section Forces





LHS		
No	Base (kN)	Alloy (kN)
1	90.7	67.0
2	99.4	64.2
3	94.4	80.2
4	95.9	76.3
5	93.9	58.9
6	77.2	75.1
7	95.4	95.4
8	68.0	64.7
9	47.4	45.7

RHS		
No	Base (kN)	Alloy (kN)
1	19.3	19.1
2	27.2	32.4
3	26.5	41.2
4	29.1	42.1
5	32.3	40.9
6	23.7	29.8
7	48.1	55.7
8	43.6	43.3
9	37.4	36.9

Aluminum Mid-size SUV | Car-to-Car Collision Simulation

Key Findings

Safety Implications

Intrusions

AIV floor pan intrusions reduced

Global Velocity / Acceleration

AIV concept more severe deceleration

Potentially higher occupant loading (with the same restraints system)

Conclusions

AIV Structure design changes to accommodate

Increased structure stiffness

Higher energy absorption capacity

Lighter and Safer Cars by Design

Conclusions:

- Vehicle <u>design</u>, not mass, Key to Collision Performance

- Reduced mass body structures with equal or superior collision performance appear feasible

- Potential Body mass reduction

AHSS	(10-12 % reduction)
MMV Optimization Steel, AHSS, Al, Mg	(12-16 % reduction)
Aluminum (AIV) Aluminum, AHSS	(24-28 % reduction)

- Mix of BIW solutions <u>likely</u>

  AHSS – price critical market segment: Downsizing

  MMV (body) – size-cost optimization: MODERATE downsizing

  AIV (body) – size critical market segment: LIMITED downsizing

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Thank You!

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