

# **Introduction to Aluminum Use in Automotive**

The Aluminum Transportation Group

# Presenter

**Andreas Afseth**

Constellium

*Technical Director*



# Day 1 Agenda – Introduction

- Overview of workshop content
- Aluminum use in North American Light Vehicles
- Aluminum use in ICE vs Battery Electric Vehicles
- Sustainability and Recycling
- Historic and recent BIW and closure applications
- Alloy and temper designations

# Day 1 Agenda –

- 10:00 AM: Automotive Aluminum Sheet:  
Production Flow Path and General Metallurgy, Debdutta Roy
- 11:00 AM Aluminum Stamping and Forming Part I, Zhi Deng
- 12:00AM Networking lunch
- 12:45AM Aluminum Stamping and Forming Part II, Zhi Deng
- 1:00PM: Joining Aluminum and other Materials, Tamer Girgis
- 2:00PM: Introduction to Aluminum Extrusion, Jeff Victor
- 3:00PM: Guided Tour of Munro
- 5:00PM Happy hour networking 5 p.m.



# Day 2 Agenda –

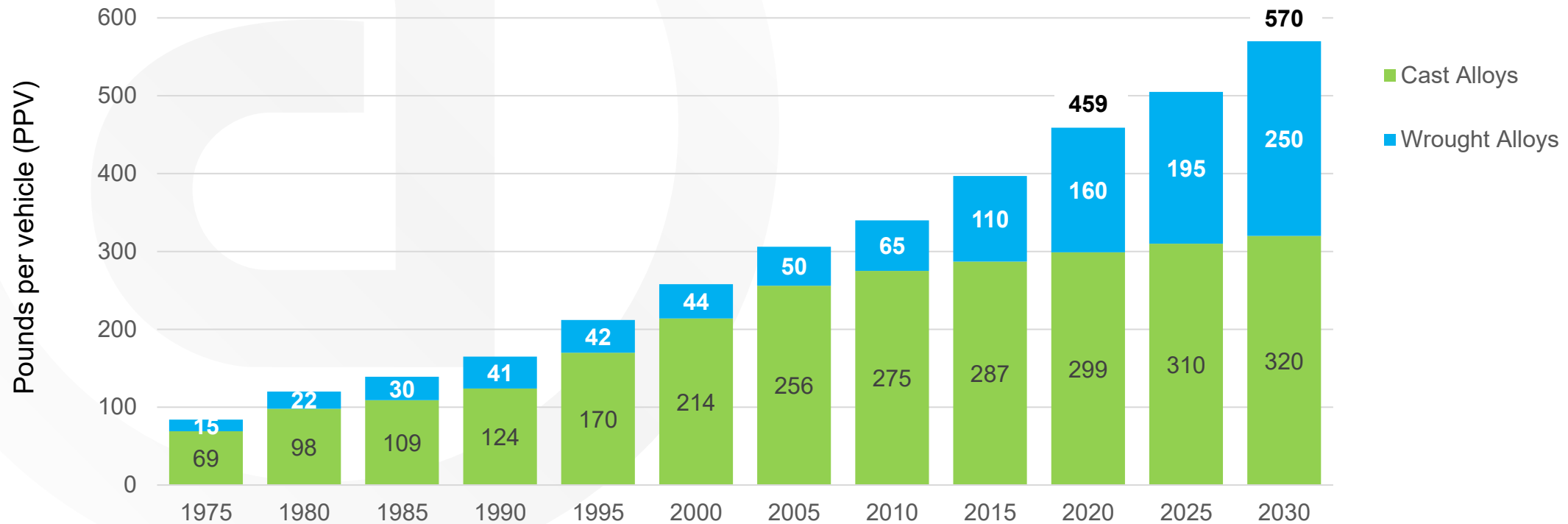
- 8:45 AM: Post-Extrusion Processing, Jeff Victor
- 9:30 AM Casting processes and metallurgy, Francis Breton & Ray Peterson
- 12:00AM Networking lunch
- 12:30AM Casting alloys, Francis Breton & Ray Peterson
- 1:00PM: Joining Aluminum and other Materials, Tamer Girgis
- 2:00PM: Corrosion and Repair, Tamer Girgis
- 2:45PM: Closing remarks
- 3:00PM Guided Tour of Munro

# Day 1 Agenda – Introduction

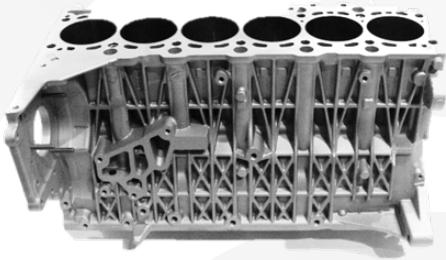
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# Aluminum Use in Light Vehicles

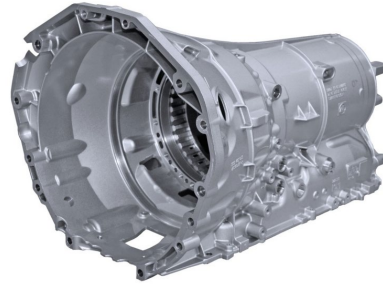
Aluminum has been the fastest growing material in light vehicles now for more than 50 years. The first wave of aluminum growth was mainly for castings in powertrain and wheels. Since 2015 growth has been mainly in wrought alloys – sheet and extrusions in body structure and closures.



# Common Uses of Aluminum - Components



**Engine Blocks**



**Transmissions**



**Wheels**



**Cylinder Heads**



**Heat Exchangers**



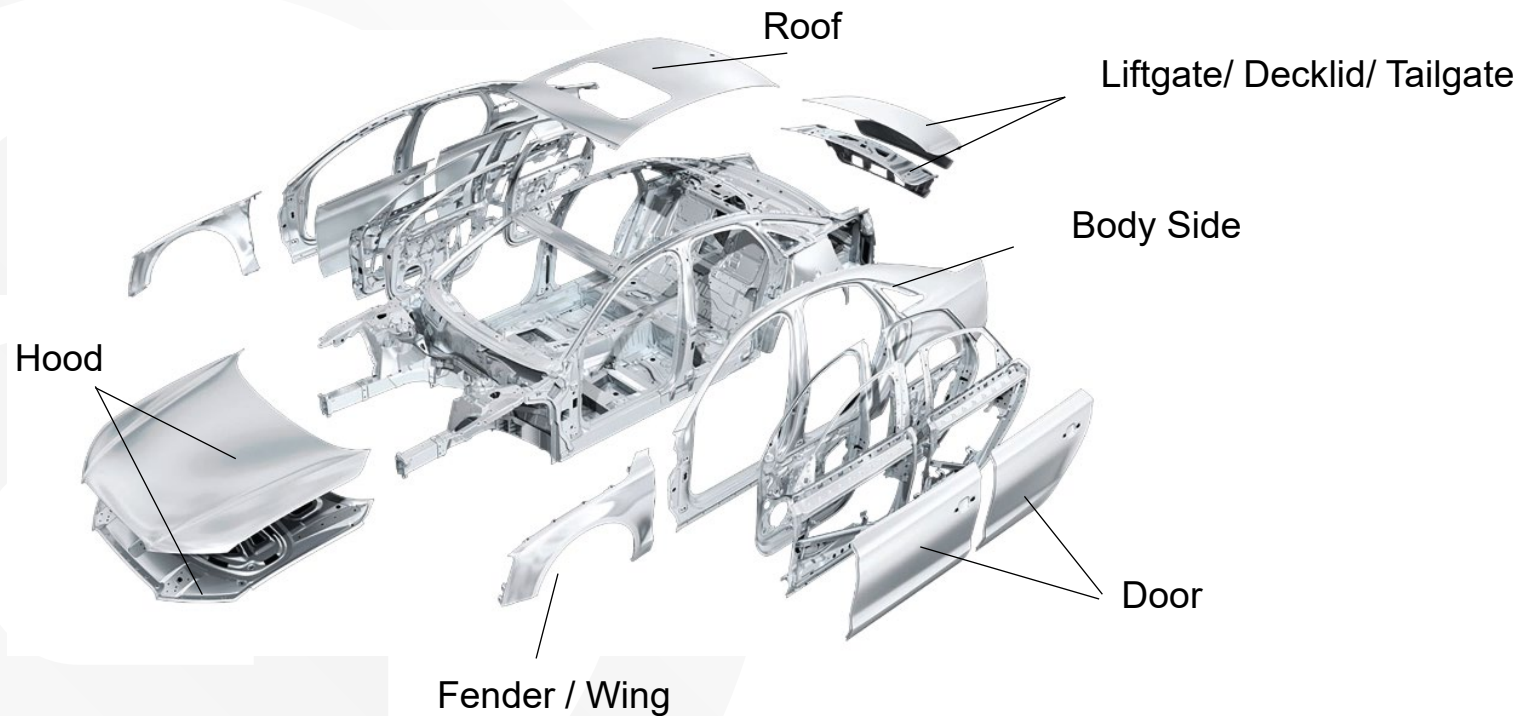
**Pistons**



**Suspension components**

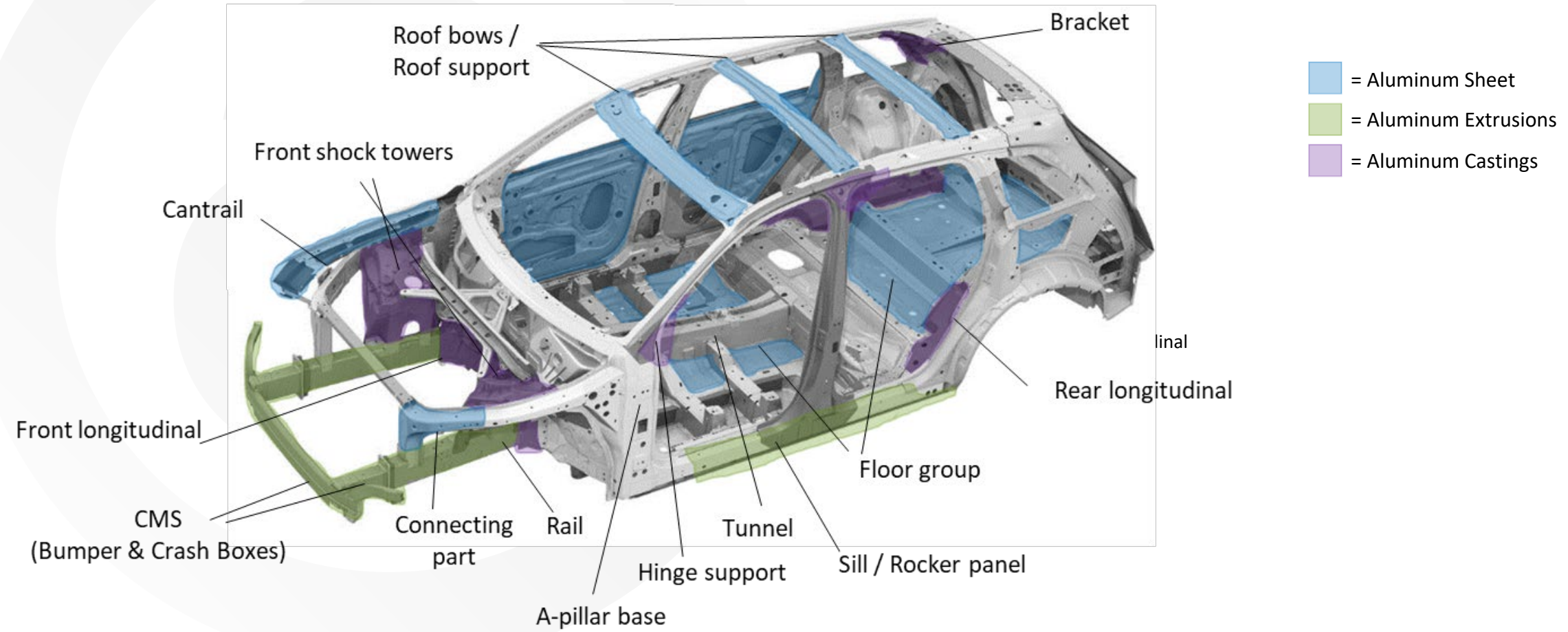


# Common Uses of Aluminum - Closures

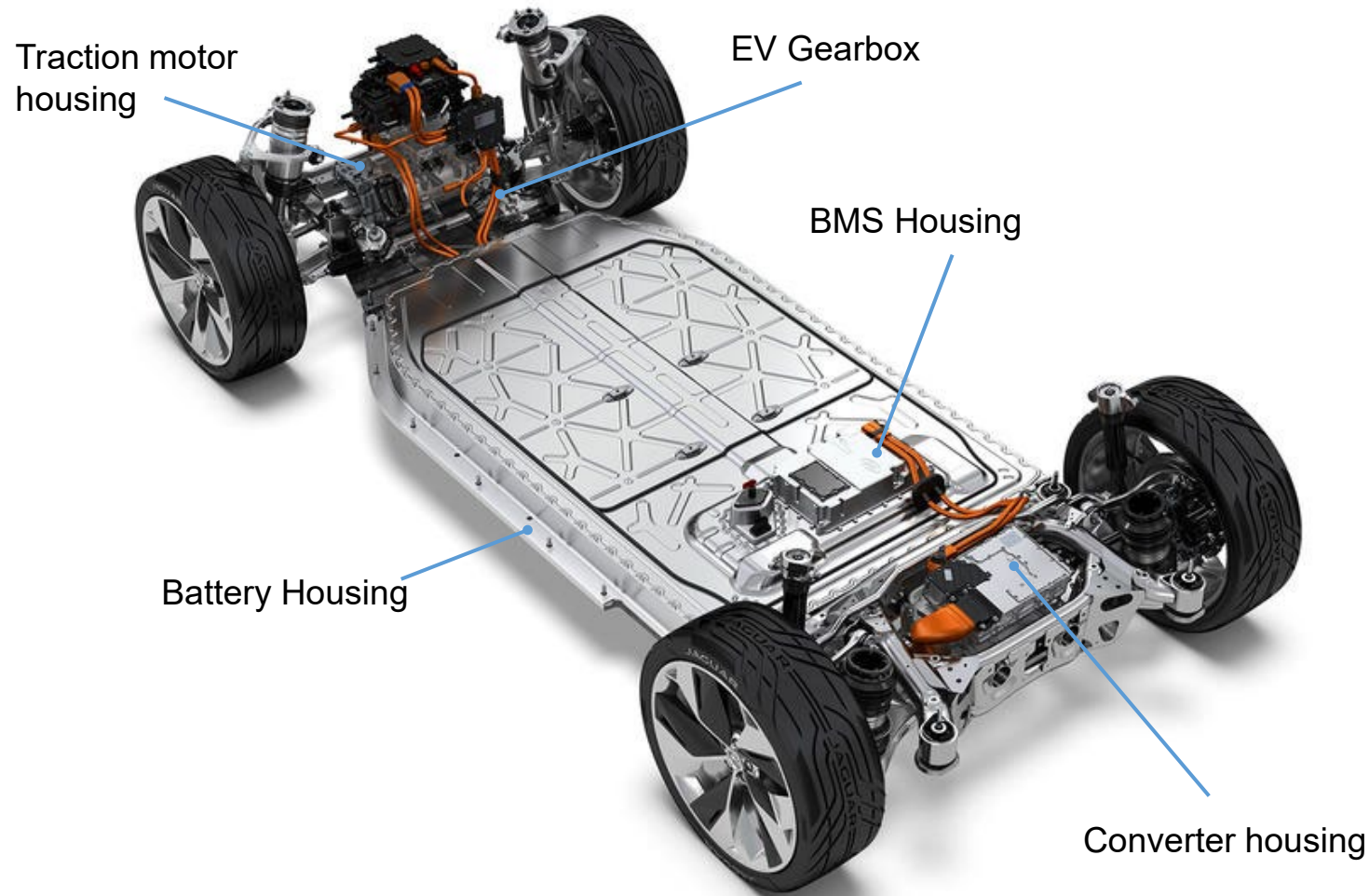


Part	Hood	Liftgate / decklid	Fenders	Doors	Roof	Body side
2010 Penetration	<10%	<1%	<5%	~0	~0	~0
<b>2020 Penetration</b>	<b>63%</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>19%</b>	<b>21%</b>	<b>~7%</b>	<b>~7%</b>
<b>2026 Forecast</b>	<b>81%</b>	<b>46%</b>	<b>36%</b>	<b>30%</b>	<b>~7%</b>	<b>~7%</b>
Typical weight save	4-7 kg	4-9 kg	4-8 kg (x2)	20-35 kg (x4)	4-8 kg	5-8 kg

# Common Uses of Aluminum – Body Structure



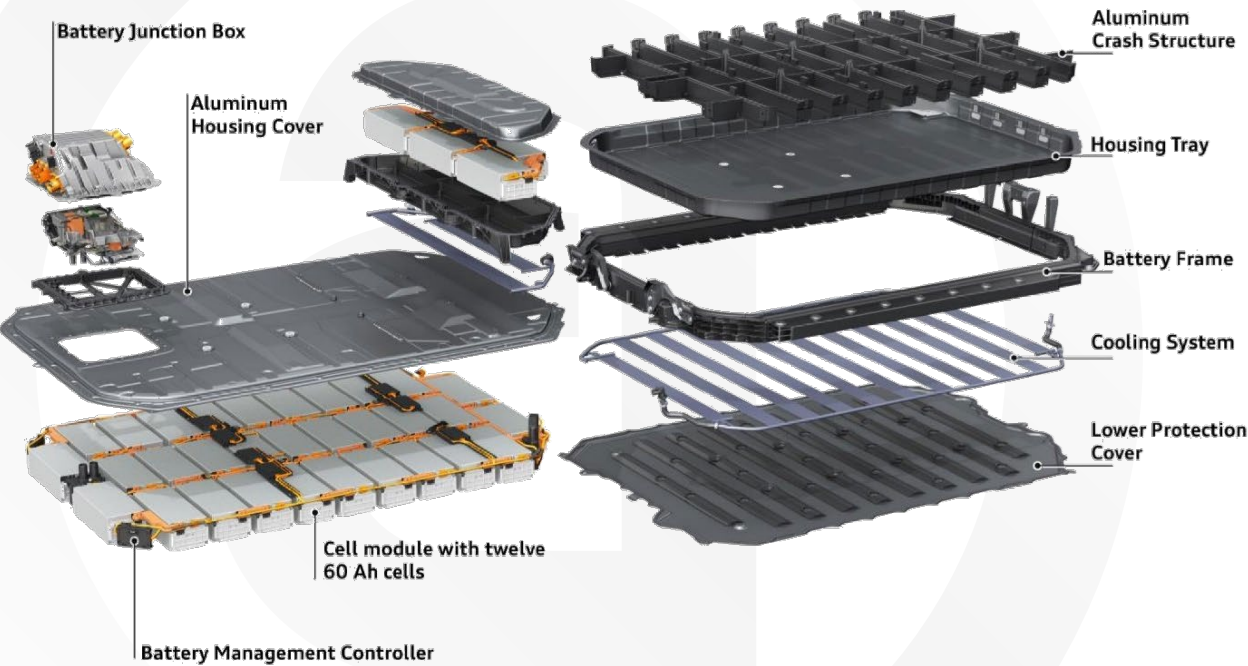
# Common Uses of Aluminum – BEV specific





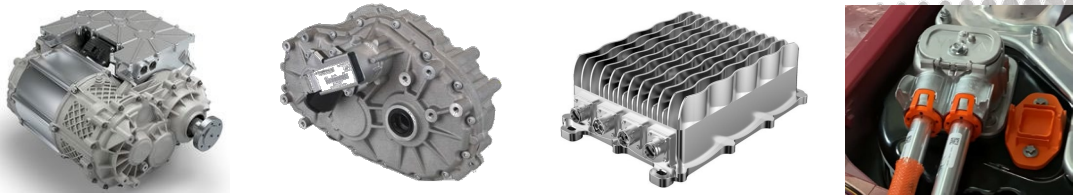
# Common Uses of Aluminum – BEV specific

## Battery Pack Structure



Component	Typical Product Type	Typical Weight
Frame	Extrusion	100 Lbs. - 250 Lbs.
Cooling System	Extrusion	5 Lbs. - 20 Lbs.
Cover	Sheet	10 Lbs. - 20 Lbs.
Tray	Sheet, Casting	10 Lbs. - 30 Lbs.
Reinforcement	Extrusion, Casting	5 Lbs. - 10 Lbs.

## Traction & Electrical System



Component	Typical Product Type	Typical Weight
Traction Motor Housing	Casting, Extrusion	30 Lbs. - 50 Lbs.
Reduction Gearbox	Casting	20 Lbs. - 40 Lbs.
Inverter/Converter Housing	Casting	5 Lbs. - 7 Lbs.
BMS Housing	Casting	3 Lbs. - 6 Lbs.
Wiring Tube/Connecter	Extrusion, Casting	3 Lbs. - 5 Lbs.

## Body and Closure



Component	Typical Product Type	Typical Weight
Longitudinal	Casting, Extrusion, Sheet	40 Lbs. - 80 Lbs.
Closures (hood, doors, etc.)	Sheet	100 Lbs. - 200 Lbs.
Reinforcement Beams	Extrusion, Casting	20 Lbs. - 60 Lbs.



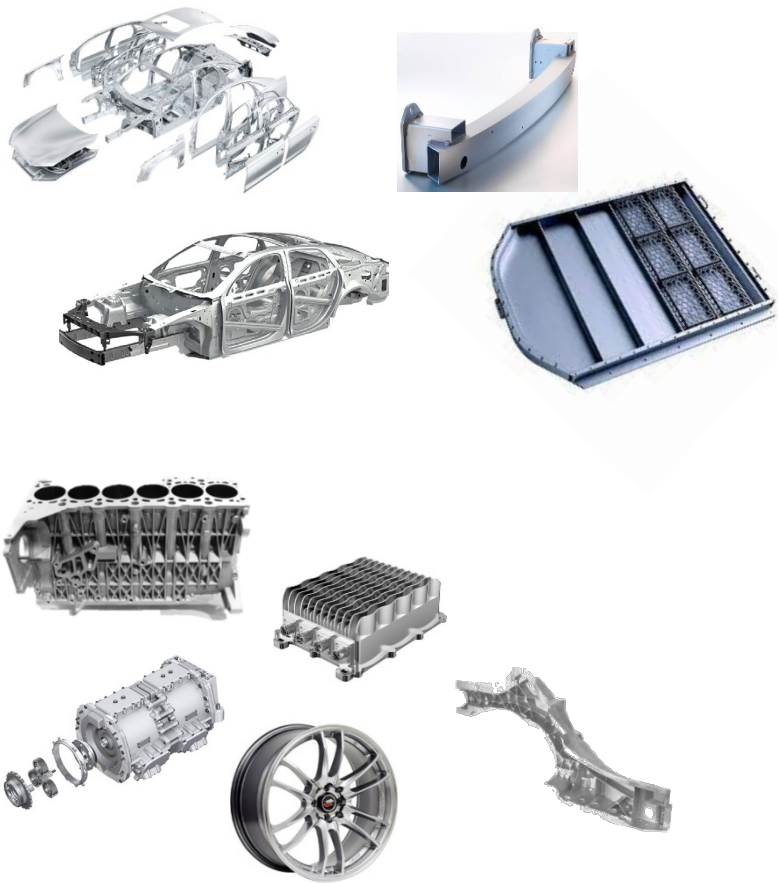
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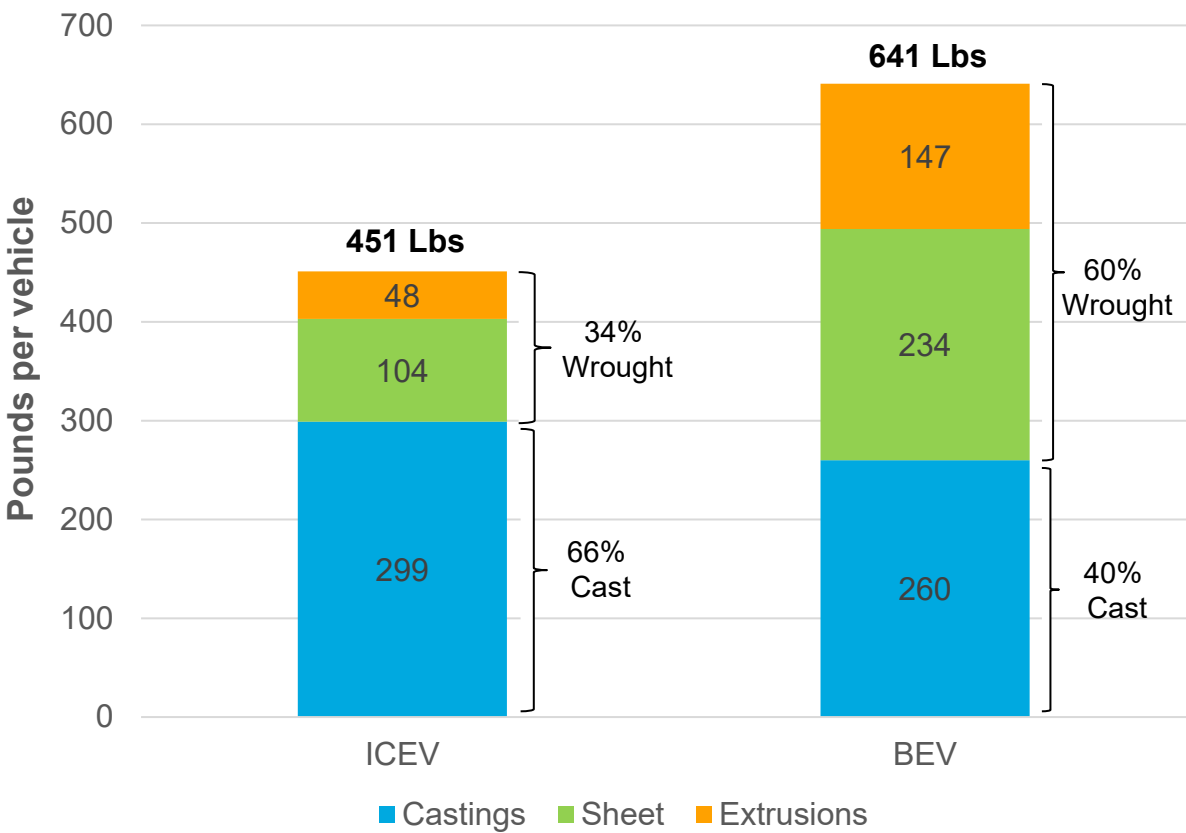
# Battery Electric Vehicle Aluminum Content

Wrought Alloys

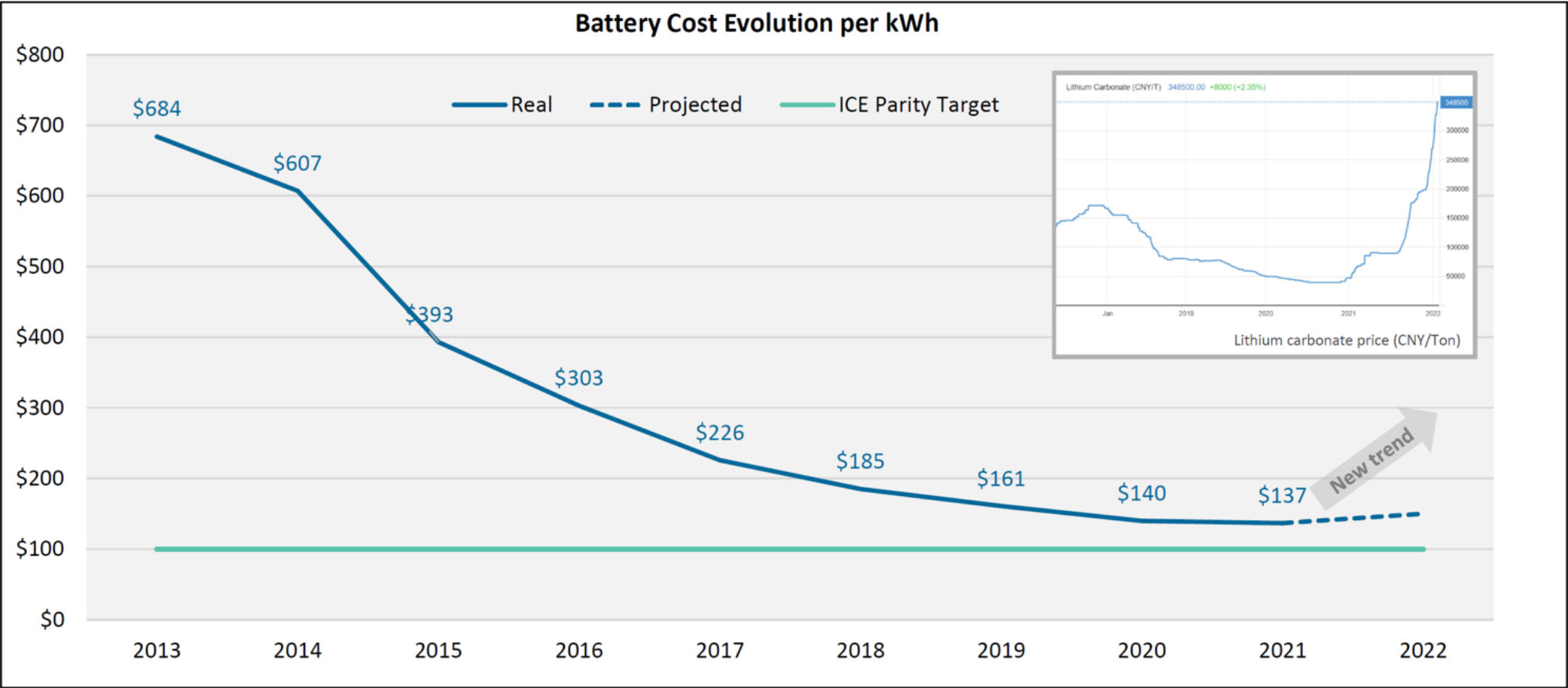
Cast Alloys



Aluminium content ICEV vs BEV 2020



# Battery Electric Vehicle Aluminum Content



Source: Ducker + BNEF

# Battery Electric Vehicle Aluminum Content



City vehicle



Family crossover



Pickup truck

Range	300 miles / 480 km		400 miles / 640 km		500 miles / 800 km	
Scenario	Status Quo	Optimized	Status Quo	Optimized	Status Quo	Optimized
Battery / Motor	67 kWh / 121 kW	63 kWh / 110 kW	105 kWh / 200 kW	96 kWh / 180 kW	186 kWh / 287 kW	172 kWh / 256 kW
Curb Weight	1,394 kg	1,265 kg	1,656 kg	1,480 kg	2,214 kg	1,982 kg
Al. Content	167 kg = 12%	348 kg = 20%	331 kg = 20%	618 kg = 42%	598 kg = 27%	1,038 kg = 52%
Savings	- 310 kg steel + 181 kg Al <b>+\$383</b>	Resize battery & electric motor <b>-\$459</b>	- 445 kg steel +273 kg Al <b>+\$849</b>	Resize battery & electric motor <b>-\$948</b>	704 kg steel +440 kg Al <b>+\$1,402</b>	Resize battery & electric motor <b>-\$1,478</b>
	Net: <b>\$76 / BEV</b>		Net: <b>\$99 / BEV</b>		Net: <b>\$76 / BEV</b>	

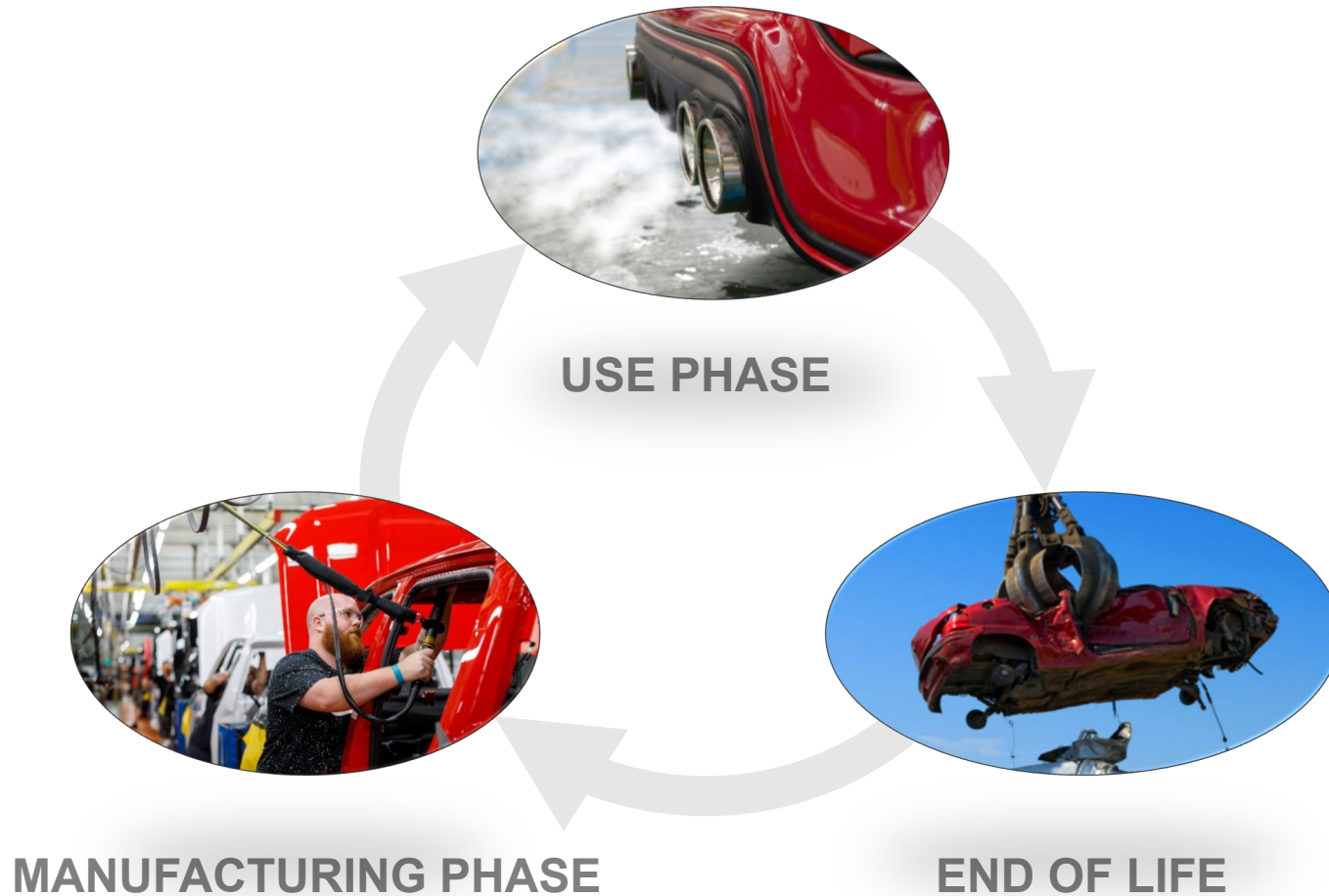
ATG / FEV study concludes that there is and will remain a strong business case for light-weighting BEVs by using aluminum in place of steel. In addition, larger / heavier vehicles with long range will continue to use more aluminum



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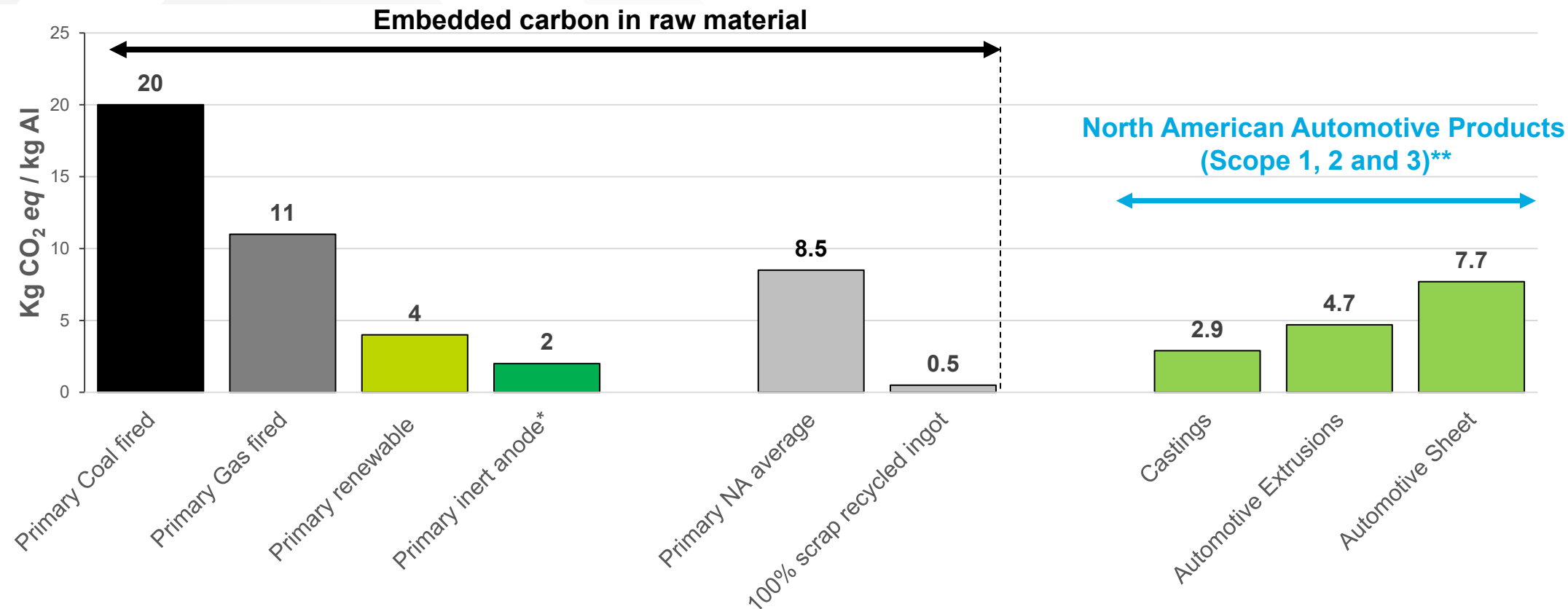
# Life Cycle Analysis vs Tailpipe emissions



- Until now fuel economy legislation and public focus has been on **use-phase tailpipe** emissions.
- Increasing share of zero emission vehicles – shift towards full **LCA impact on greenhouse gas emissions = CO<sub>2</sub> eq**
- Emissions in **manufacturing phase, fuel cycle** and **end-of-life recycling** becomes increasingly important.

# Sustainability – Carbon footprint

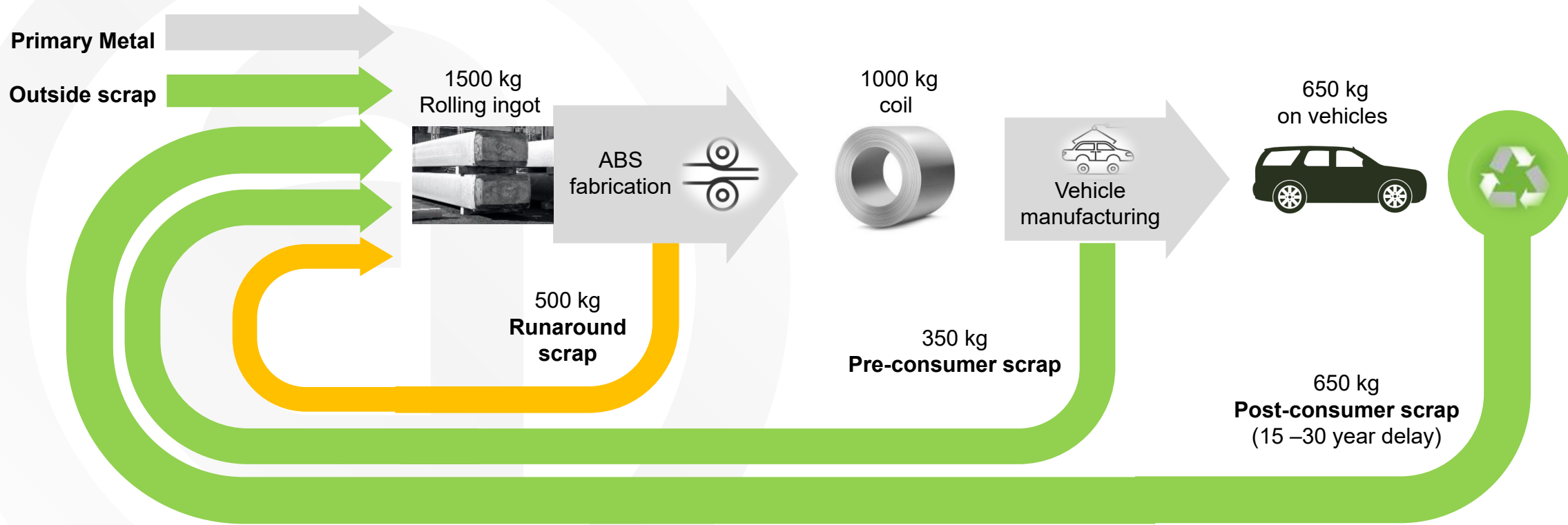
Due to the high energy need (electricity) for producing primary aluminum – the carbon footprint of aluminum vary hugely depending on the source. Recycling aluminum requires only a fraction of this energy.



\* Estimated as products are under development

\*\* AA LCA report 2022

# Recycling of Aluminum ABS - Material flow



**Pre-consumer =** Blanking and stamping scrap. Current recycling rate very close to 100%, but used in a mix of “closed loop” where alloys are sorted and returned to mill to be recycled into same product and “open loop” where scrap is mixed with other scrap sources and used mainly in casting alloys.

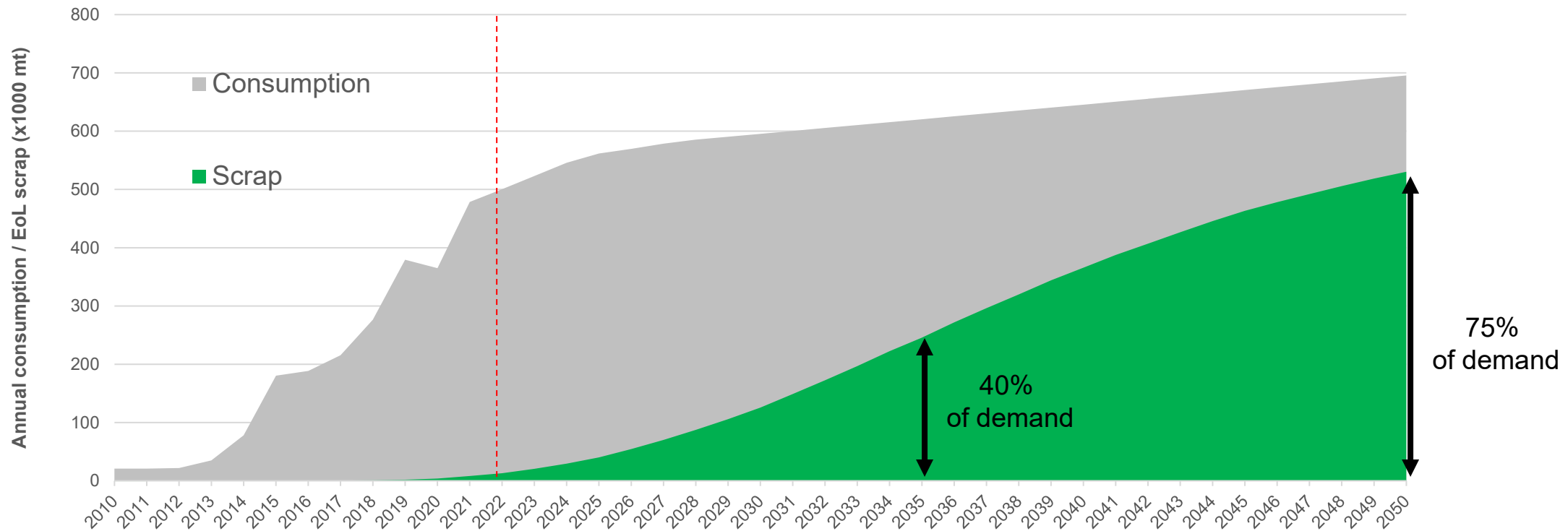
**Post-consumer =** End-of-Life vehicle scrap. Current recycling rate also >95%, but low share of wrought alloy content due to vehicle life. Scrap is almost exclusively used in secondary castings for ICE powertrain.



# The coming Wave of Aluminum Sheet Scrap

Aluminum ABS from the 1<sup>st</sup> gen vehicles are just starting coming back as scrap.

By 2035 the EoL scrap will meet **40%** of the NA auto industry demand and this share will rise to **75%** by 2050.



Adapted from UoM, Ford, LMC study: "The coming wave of aluminum sheet scrap from vehicle recycling in the United States" Resources, Conservation & Recycling 164 (2021)

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# Aluminum BIW are Not New



1922 Ford Model T



# Grumman LLV

US Postal delivery trucks began production in 1987

Vehicle design life was 24 years and was extended to 30 years in 2009

Next generation is also AIV design





# Acura NSX



All aluminum – 1990-2005



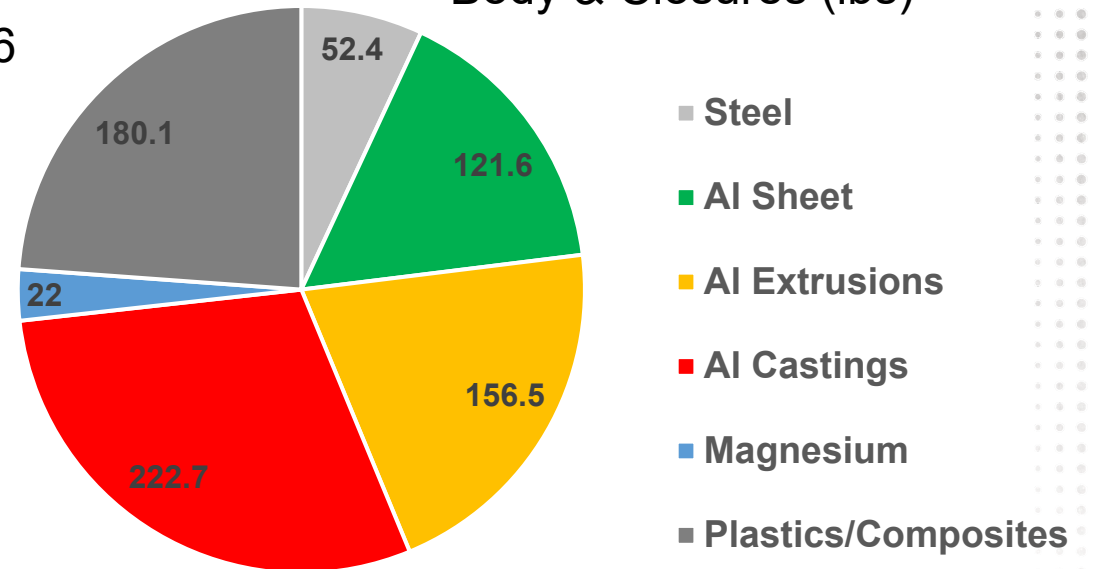
2016 – present  
Multi-Material Space frame

# Corvette



**C8 Materials Composition  
Body & Closures (lbs)**

Aluminum / Multi Material Body Structure since 2006

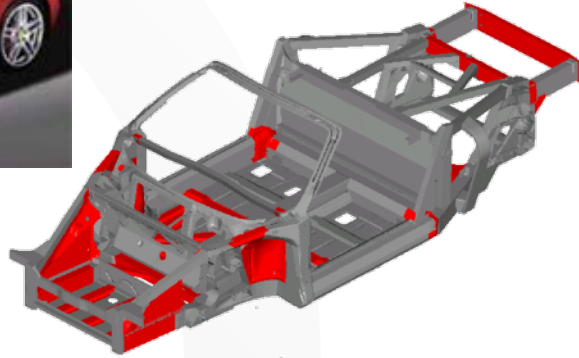




# Ferrari/Lamborghini Aluminum Vehicles



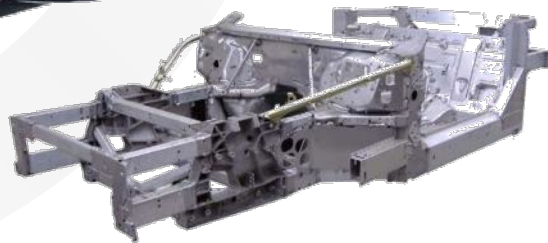
Ferrari 430  
Aluminum since 1998



Lamborghini Gallardo  
Aluminum since 2003



Ferrari 599  
Aluminum since 2003



# Audi Mixed-Material Vehicles



Audi A8  
Aluminum since 1994



Audi A2  
Aluminum 2000 - 2005



Audi TT  
Aluminum since 2008 (hybrid steel/alum)



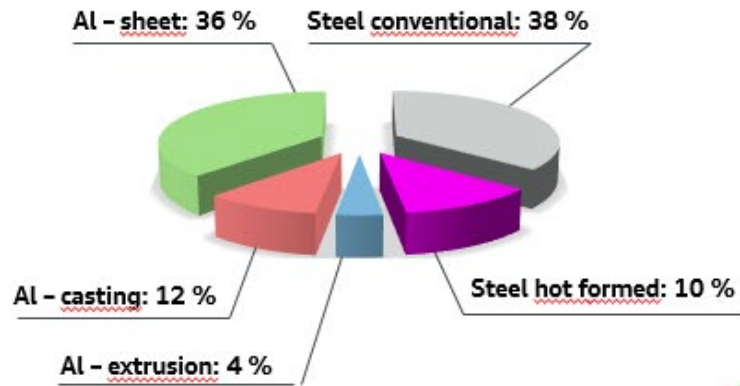
Audi R8  
Aluminum since 2006



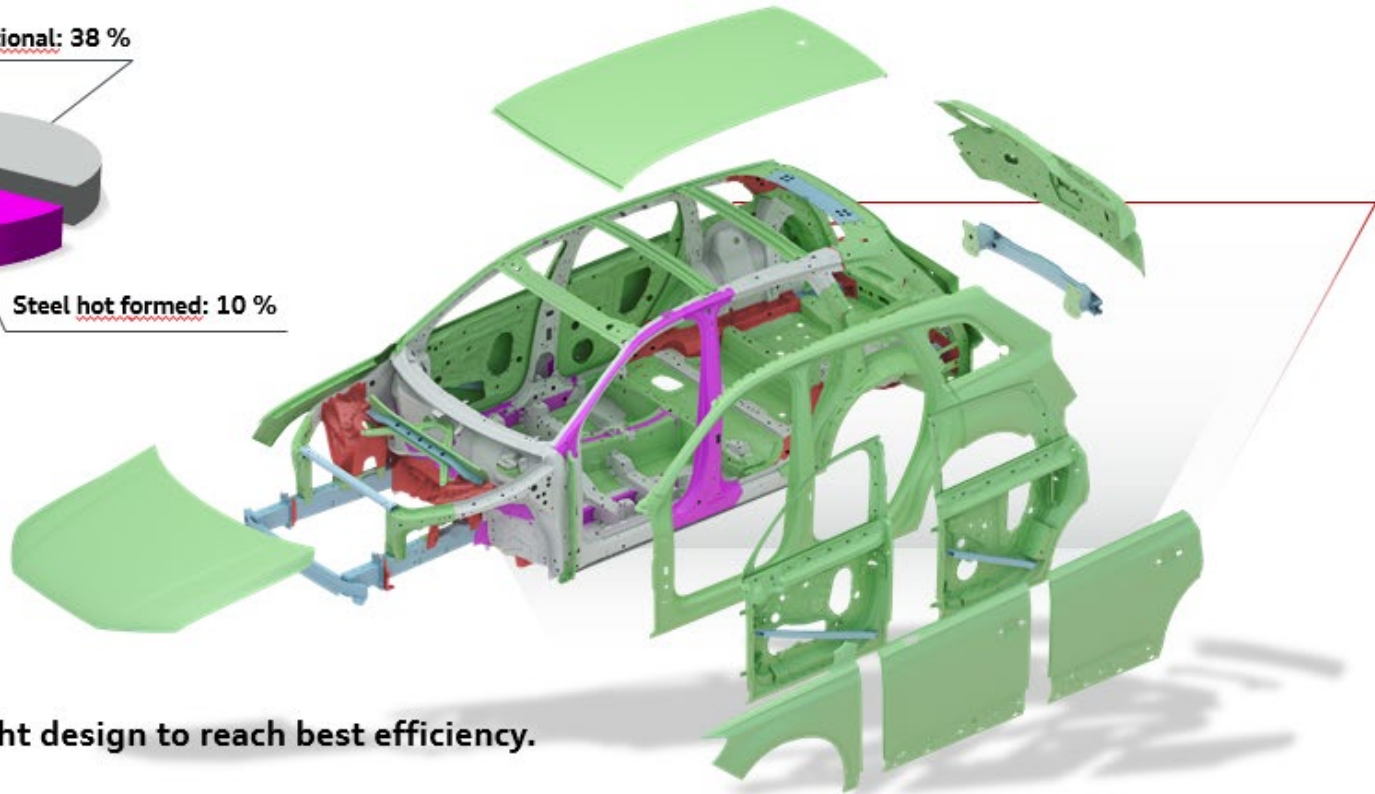
# Audi Q7 – Hybrid Steel/Aluminum

## Body development – Lightweight design

### Material mix details



**48% steel / 52% aluminum**



Part based lightweight design to reach best efficiency.

# Jaguar/Land Rover Aluminum Vehicles

All Jaguar vehicles have aluminum BIW



Jaguar XJ  
Aluminum since 2003



Jaguar XF  
Aluminum since 2008



Jaguar F-Pace  
Hybrid steel/aluminum



Jaguar XE  
Aluminum since 2015



Jaguar F-Type  
Aluminum since 2013



Jaguar I-Pace – Aluminum  
2019 European Car of the Year



# Range Rover



The aluminum-bodied Range Rover has a reduced weight that is equivalent to the weight of five average adults.

# 2014 Steel F-150 and 2015 Aluminum F-150 Comparison



- **Ford F-Series is the best-selling vehicle in America**
- **Super Duty trucks (F-250, F-350, F-450) also in aluminum**

**Supercrew with 5.5 ft box  
Length = 5890 mm  
Wheelbase = 3670 mm**

	<b>Steel 2014 F150 (kg)</b>	<b>Aluminum 2015 F150 (kg)</b>	<b>Wt. Savings (kg)</b>	<b>% Savings</b>
Hood	10.9 (Alum)	10.6	0.3	3
Fenders	20	7.5	12.5	60
Tailgate	20	9.8	10.2	51
Doors (4)	85	47.6	37.4	44
Cab	283	158	125	43
Cargo Box	105	60	45	43
Total	524	294	231	44

*Reference: EuroCarBody 2015, October 21-22, 2015, Bad Nauheim, Germany.*



# Aluminum Intensive Ford F-150 since 2015

2019 fuel economy (20/26 mpg) – 2WD 2.7 L Ecoboost (10 speed)

2019 fuel economy (22/30 mpg) – 2WD 3.0 L Diesel (10 speed)

Best in class cargo  
performance

700-890lbs lighter  
than 2014 steel  
model



America's best-selling  
vehicle for over 40 years

Upgraded to five-star safety rating:

2014 Steel F150



2015 Aluminum F150



Contributed to  
CAFE improvement  
for first time

# Ford Super Duty, Expedition, Lincoln Navigator – All Aluminum





# 2019 Silverado



Aluminum hood, doors and tailgate

# 2022 Toyota Tundra



Aluminum hood, fenders, front doors, bodyside and tailgate



# Jeep Wrangler and Gladiator



Aluminum hood and doors





# Tesla Aluminum Vehicles

**Model S**



**Model X**



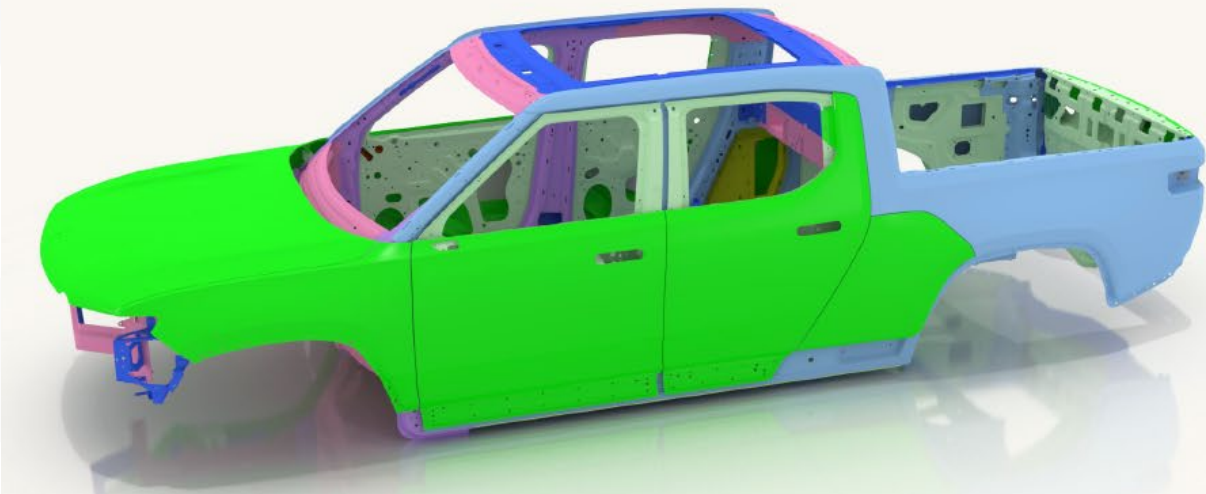
**Model Y**



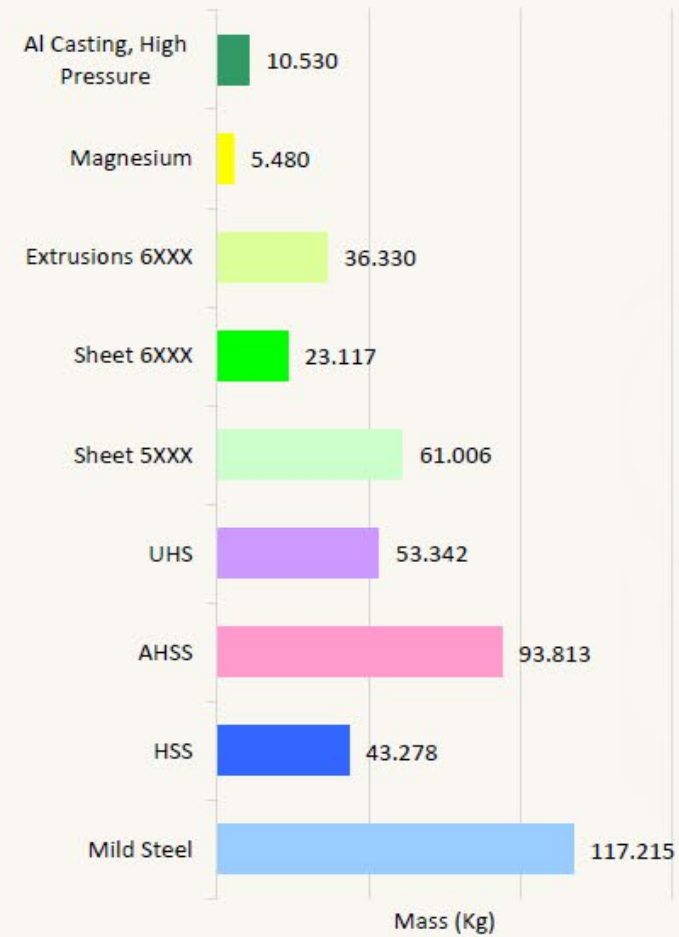
**Model 3**



# Rivian R1T



## Body complete



Source: IABC 2022



# Commercial Vehicles - LMDV





# Daimler Truck



Class 8 Cascadia cab  
Aluminum since 1992



Business Class – M2 cab  
Aluminum since 2001

# Kenworth and Peterbilt Trucks



Class 8 Kenworth T680



Class 8 Peterbilt 579



# Weight-Sensitive Trailers

Gasoline tankers



Dry bulk trailers



# Weight-Sensitive Trailers



All aluminum flatbeds

Dry van and refrigerated trailers



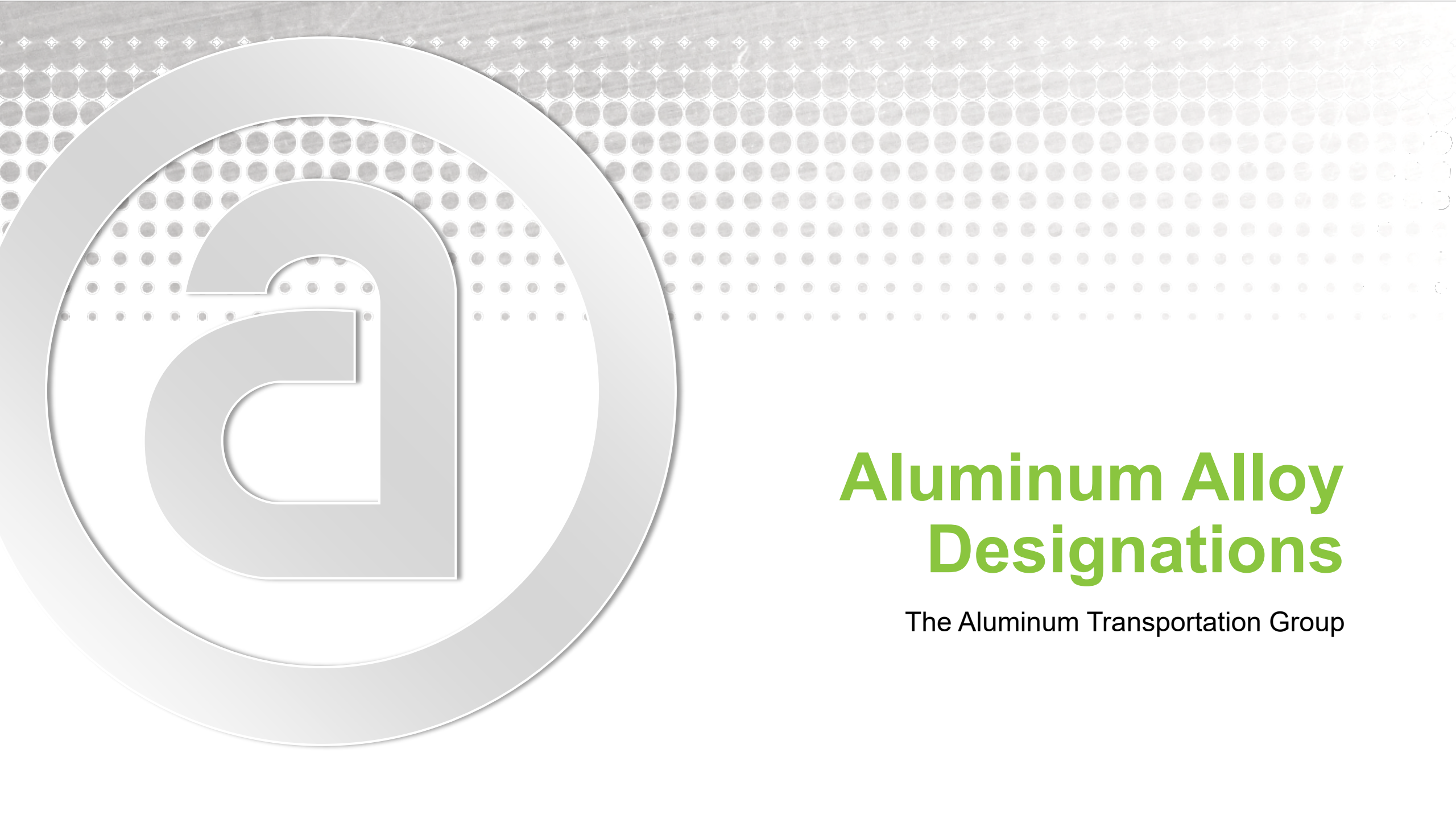
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# Questions?

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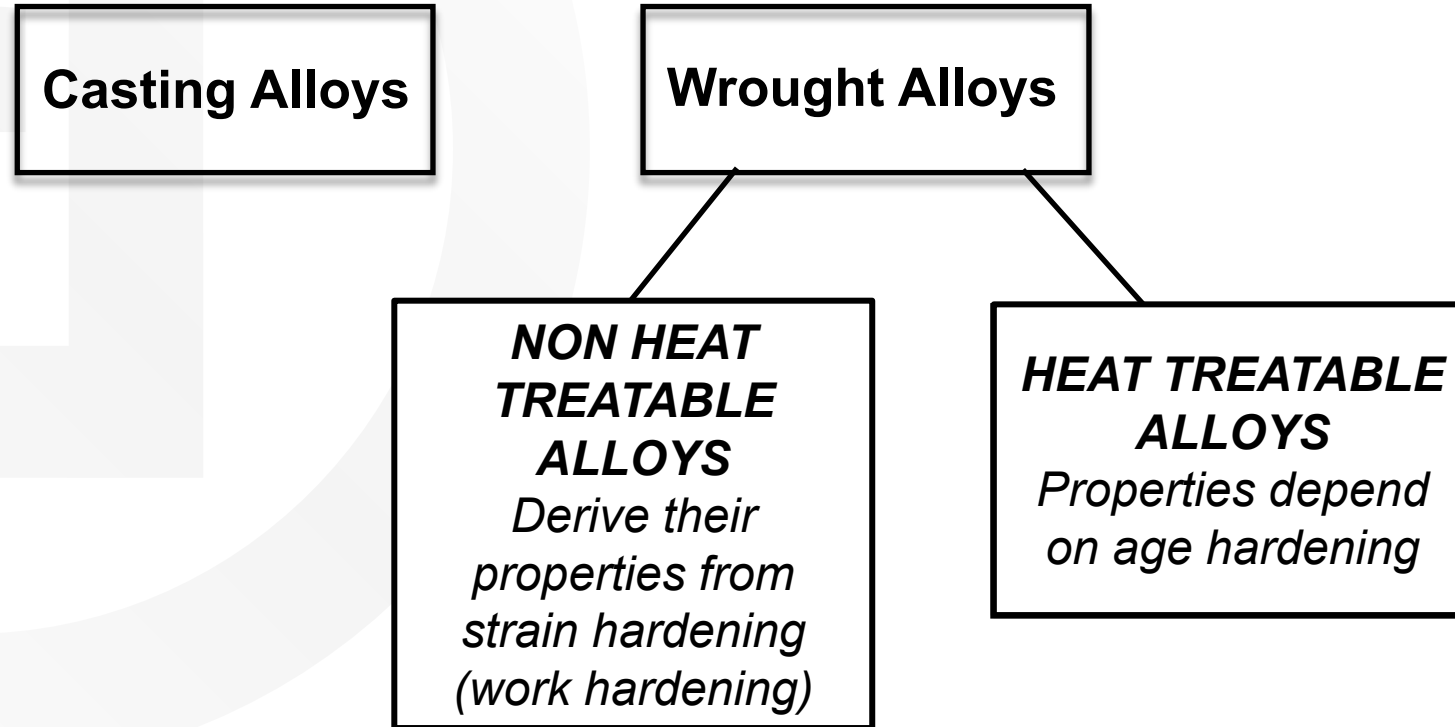


# **Aluminum Alloy Designations**

The Aluminum Transportation Group

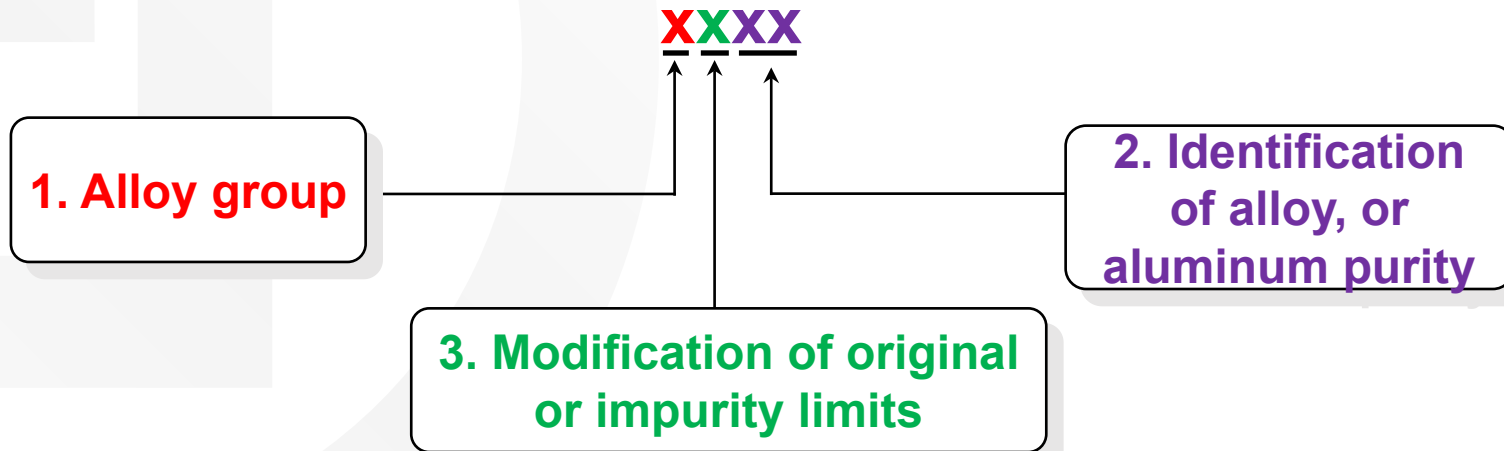
# Aluminum Alloy Classifications

- Aluminum alloys are categorized by two main groups
- Wrought alloys are further divided into two subgroups



# Aluminum Alloy Designation and Nomenclature

- The Aluminum Association system was adopted in 1954





# Aluminum Alloy Designation and Nomenclature

## 1. Alloy group

**Xxxx**



1xxx at least 99.00% aluminum (Al)

2xxx main alloying element is copper (Cu)

3xxx main alloying element is manganese (Mn)

4xxx main alloying element is silicon (Si)

5xxx main alloying element is magnesium (Mg)

6xxx main alloying elements are magnesium AND silicon (Mg and Si)

7xxx main alloying element is zinc, Zn (usually also magnesium, Mg)

8xxx alloyed with other elements (e.g. Fe, Li)

Non-heat treatable alloys

Heat-treatable alloys

The 'catch all' (mainly NHT, but some HT alloys also)

# Why So Many Alloys?

- Aluminum Alloy Development
- Answer: “Suitability for use”
  - Strength
  - Formability
  - Corrosion resistance
  - Toughness
  - Etc...
- Pure/commercially pure aluminum (1xxx) has many attractive properties and is used in many applications, but we add elements (alloying) to enhance properties, especially strength
- Blending the mixture of added elements (‘alloying’) can furnish the optimum combination of properties for the application (further enhanced by processing)

# AA Temper Definitions

**1050-O**

**3003-H24**

**6111-T4**

**5052-H32**

**7075-T6**

Temper



# AA Temper Definitions

## Heat Treatable Alloy: “T” - tempers

“An alloy which may be strengthened by a suitable thermal treatment” 2xxx, 6xxx, 7xxx are heat-treatable. Examples: 2024-T3, 6061-T6

## Non-Heat Treatable Alloy: “H” - tempers

“An alloy which can be strengthened only by cold work” 1xxx, 3xxx, 5xxx, and some 8xxx are non-heat-treatable. Examples: 3003-H19, 5052-H32

# Basic Temper Designations

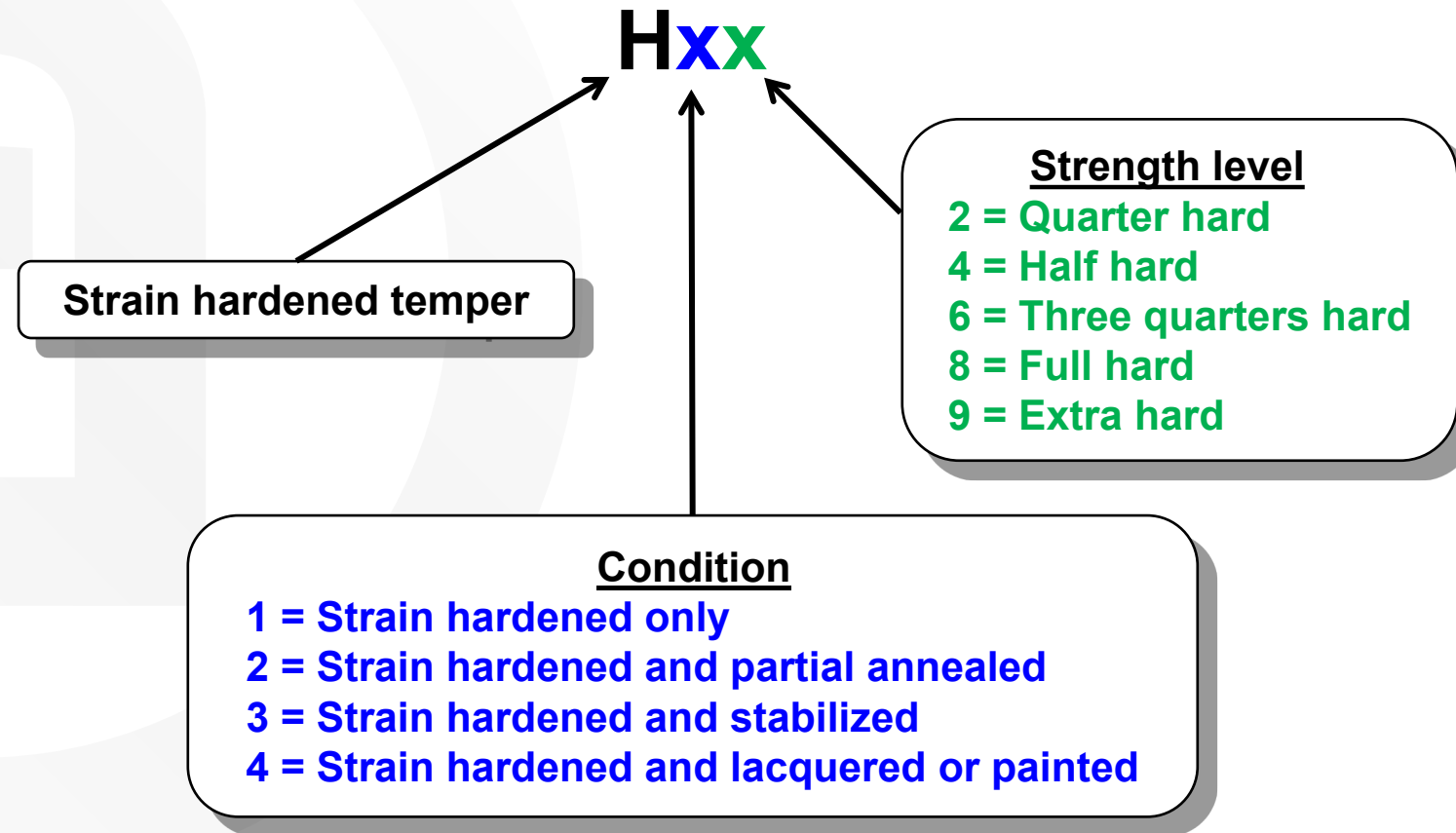
F	As-Fabricated (e.g. as-hot rolled, as-cold rolled)
O	Fully Annealed
H <sub>xx</sub>	Strain-Hardened (NHT wrought products only)
W	Solution Heat-Treated (HT) and quenched (unstable)
T <sub>x</sub>	Thermal Treatment (HT)

F, O, and W are single digit temper designations, e.g. 6061-O, 7075-W, 3004-F

The H and T tempers have two or three further digits (and sometimes more) to describe the temper

# Aluminum Alloy Temper Nomenclature: Non-Heat-Treatable Alloys

Most of these temper designations are in the form:





# The 'T' Tempers

- T1 cooled from an elevated temperature shaping process and naturally aged to a substantially stable condition.
- T2 cooled from an elevated temperature shaping process, cold worked, and naturally aged to a substantially stable condition.
- T3 solution heat-treated, cold worked, and naturally aged to a substantially stable condition.
- T4 solution heat-treated and naturally aged to a substantially stable condition.
- T5 cooled from an elevated temperature shaping process and then artificially aged.
- T6 solution heat-treated and then artificially aged.
- T7 solution heat-treated and overaged/stabilized.
- T8 solution heat-treated, cold worked, and then artificially aged.
- T9 solution heat-treated, artificially aged, and then cold worked.
- T10 cooled from an elevated temperature shaping process, cold worked, and then artificially aged.

**Other digits may be added to signify additional processing:**  
e.g. Tx51      Stress-relieved by stretching

# OEM Specific Designations

- Most Auto OEMs purchase to one of their internal specifications
- For example: Ford

Ford Spec	Typical Application	AA Designation
6EH	6xxx outer panel with enhanced hemming	6022, 6014, 6005
6DR1	6xxx exterior or interior	6022, 6451, 6005
6HS2	6xxx high strength	6111
6ST1	Alternative high strength	6061
5HF	5xxx High form	5182
5ST	5xxx standard	5754

# OEM Specific Designations

- Most Auto OEMs purchase to one of their internal specifications
- For example: GM

GM Spec	Typical Application	AA Designation
Al-S-6000-S-90	6xxx exterior or interior	6022, 6014, 6016
Al-S-6000-IBR-100	6xxx exterior or interior– improved paint bake	6022, 6016, 6451
Al-S-6000-IH-90	6xxx exterior enhanced hemming	6014, 6016, 6022
Al-S-6000-HS-115	Alternative high strength	6111
Al-S-6000-R-110-U	6xxx reinforcement	6022-T4, 6016-T4
Al-S-5000-S-110	5xxx High form	5182
Al-S-5000-RSS-100	5xxx High form – reduced stretcher strain	5182
Al-S-5000-ST-90-90	5xxx Standard	5754, 5454



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