

# Aluminum-Intensive Vehicles: Fuel Efficient, Safe and Affordable

Randall Scheps



Aluminum Association's Auto and Light Truck Group



The Aluminum Association, Inc.



# Aluminum-Intensive Vehicles: Fuel Efficient, Safe and Affordable

## Topics:

Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions

Performance Advantages

Impact On Fuel Efficiency

Building Safer Vehicles

# Aluminum's Performance Advantages

**Mass Reduction**



**Better Fuel Economy**



**Reduced Emissions**



**Improved Safety**

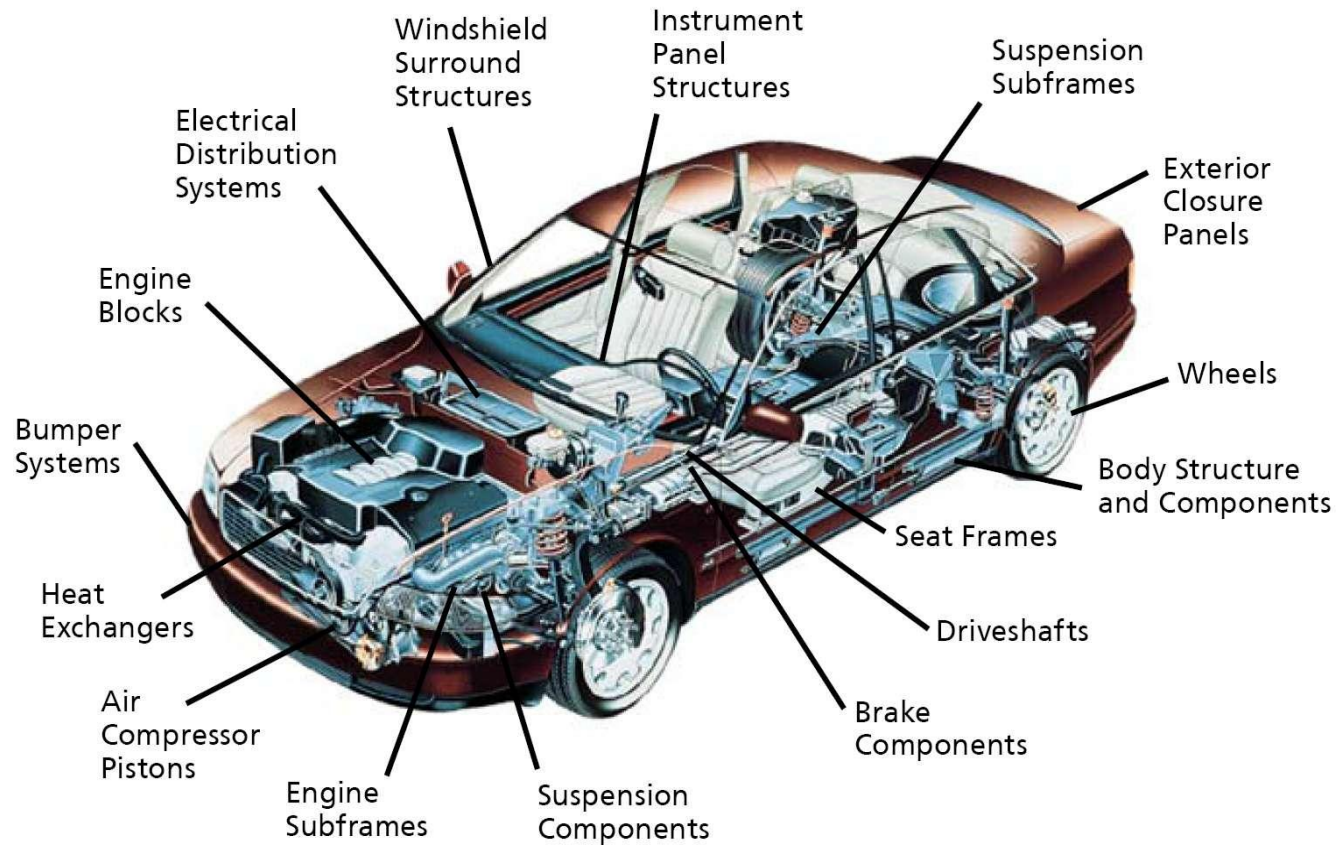


**Enhanced Performance**



**Infinitely Recyclable**

# Automotive Aluminum Is Everywhere



Aluminum growth has risen for nearly four decades.  
Average vehicle today contains over 320 pounds of aluminum.

# Global Megatrends

1 billion global LV population by 2020

Emerging markets growth

Urbanization

Growing fuel consumption

CO<sub>2</sub> concern

Efficiency of transport must improve

*Stock of Light -Duty Vehicles*

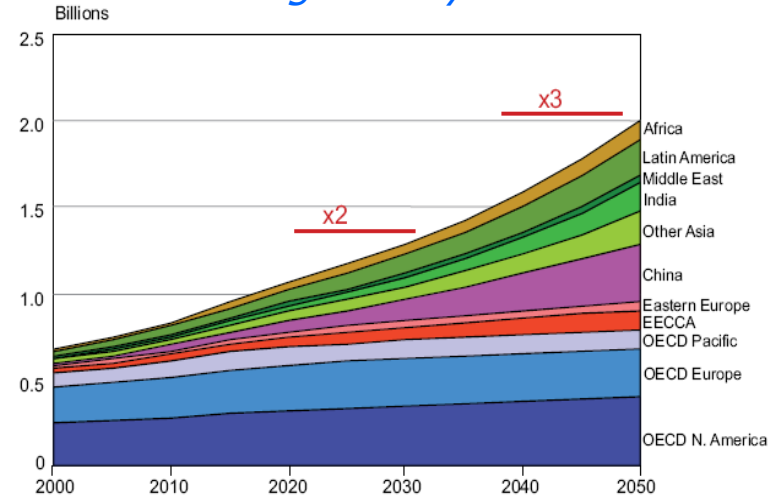
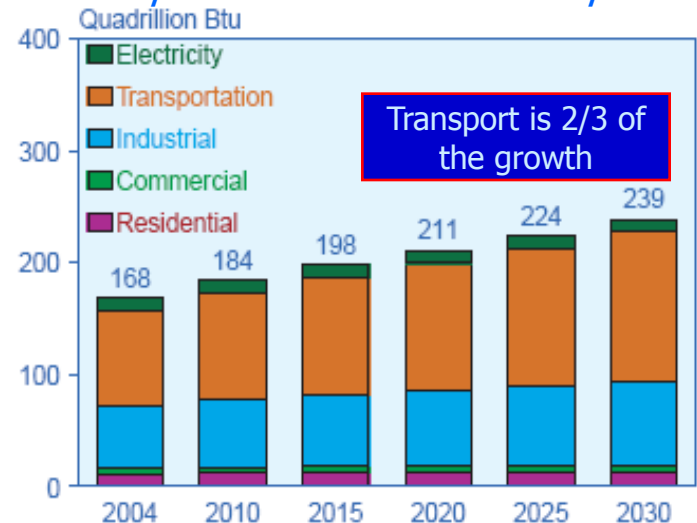


Figure 5.5: Total stock of light-duty vehicles by region  
Source: WBCSD, 2004a.

*Liquid Fossil Fuel Consumption*



# Lightweighting With Aluminum Is Part Of Solution

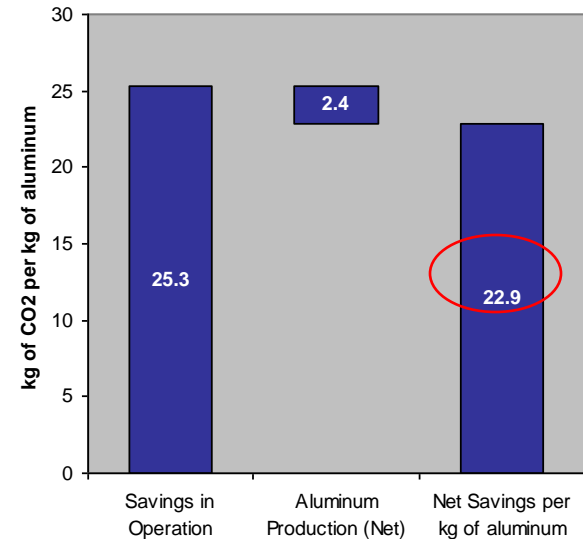
Aluminum saves CO<sub>2</sub> net of its production energy vs. steel

Huge CO<sub>2</sub> and fuel reduction potential

Highly complimentary with advanced drivetrains

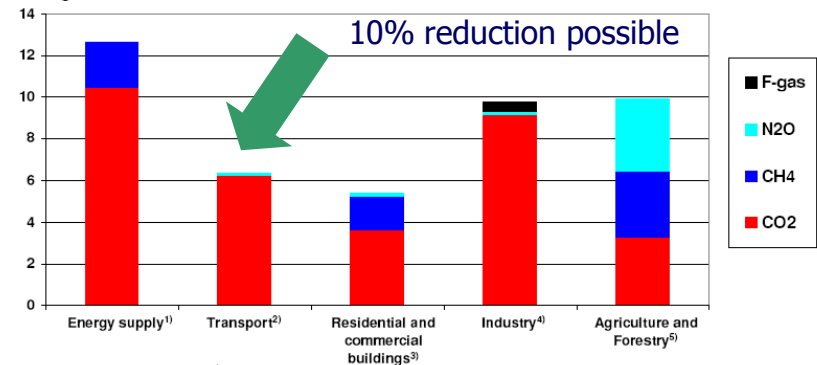
Improves safety

Cost effective



Sectoral breakdown of global greenhouse gas emissions in 2004

PgCO<sub>2</sub> eq = Billions of Metric Tons



Source: EDGAR (3.2/FT2000) / IEA (2006)

# 5-7% Fuel Savings For 10% Weight Reduction

## Ricardo Inc. Study Objectives:

- Quantify impact of vehicle weight reduction (5%, 10%, 20%)
  - Fuel economy
  - Performance
- Quantify impact of weight reduction with engine downsizing
  - Maintain vehicle performance level
- Evaluate weight reduction with different engine types
  - Gasoline
  - Diesel

# Vehicle Selection

- From five vehicle classes
  - Representative range of vehicle weights and engines
  - Passenger and light-duty truck
- Vehicle class / comparator vehicle



**Small Car/Mini Cooper**



**Mid-Size Car/Ford Fusion**



**Small SUV/Saturn Vue**

**Large SUV/Ford Explorer**



**Truck/Toyota Tundra**



# Simulation Model

- Physics-based for each configuration
  - Vehicle
  - Engine
  - Driving schedule
- Simulates accelerator and/or braking to achieve driving schedule
- Runs on a millisecond-by-millisecond basis
- Simulates speed and fuel usage
- Industry standard drive cycles (EPA & ECE)

# Vehicle Performance Matching

- Matched Wide Open Throttle (WOT) performance
- All fuel economy simulations were performed at ETW
- Accounted for additional cargo weight
- Engines were downsized to give equivalent performance

# Model Validation

- Simulation results compared to published data for comparator vehicle
  - No attempt to “calibrate” models

VEHICLE	Simulation Roadload Force	Simulated Fuel Economy vs. Comparator (% diff)		
	Maximum Variation vs. Comparator	EPA City	EPA Highway	Combined
Small Car	0.2%	2.5%	-0.6%	1.3%
Mid-Size Car	2.5%	0.2%	-1.4%	-0.4%
Small SUV	1.1%	1.8%	-4.4%	-0.4%
Large SUV	1.7%	5.9%	-1.1%	3.5%
Truck	-1.3%	2.2%	-1.9%	0.7%

# Equivalent Performance With Less Horsepower

			0 - 10 MPH	0 - 60 MPH	30 - 50 MPH	50 - 70 MPH
			(sec)	(sec)	(sec)	(sec)
		Baseline	1.49	9.7	3.2	4.6
Weight Reduction	5%	Baseline Engine	1.45	9.4	3.1	4.4
	10%		1.41	9.0	2.9	4.2
	20%		1.34	8.4	2.7	3.8
	5%	Engine Downsized to Baseline Performance	1.51	9.7	3.2	4.6
	10%		1.51	9.7	3.2	4.5
	20%		1.54	9.6	3.1	4.5

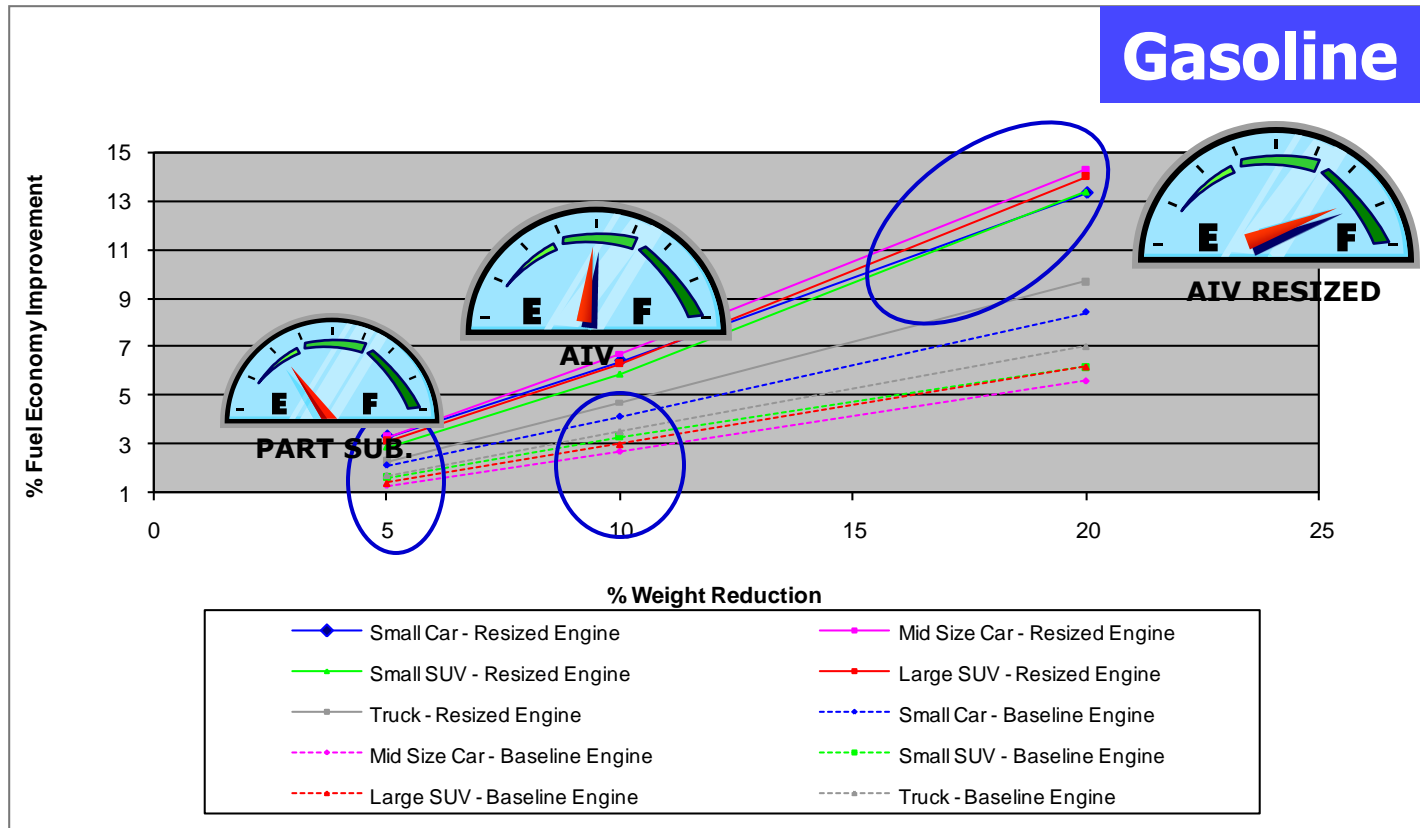
Mid-Size Car 3.0L-4V Gas Engine with Variable Intake Cam Timing

# 20% Weight Reduction Gives 14.3% MPG Improvement

DRIVE CYCLE		EPA							European			
		City FTP75 (mpg)	Highway HWFET (mpg)	Combined (mpg)	FUEL ECONOMY BENEFIT			City Label (mpg)	Highway Label (mpg)	ECE (mpg)	FE BENEFIT	
					City FTP75 %	Highway HWFET %	Combined %				%	
	Baseline	22.9	36.9	27.6				18.3	26.4	17.6		
Weight Reduction	5%	Baseline Engine	23.3	37.3	28.0	1.4%	1.2%	1.3%	18.5	26.7	17.8	1.0%
	10%		23.6	37.8	28.4	2.9%	2.4%	2.7%	18.8	27.0	18.0	2.1%
	20%		24.3	38.7	29.2	5.8%	5.0%	5.6%	19.3	27.7	18.3	4.1%
	5%	Engine Downsized to Baseline Performance	23.8	37.9	28.6	3.6%	2.7%	3.3%	18.9	27.1	18.3	4.0%
	10%		24.6	38.9	29.5	7.4%	5.4%	6.7%	19.5	27.8	19.0	7.9%
	20%		26.6	41.0	31.6	15.9%	11.3%	14.3%	21.0	29.3	20.6	16.9%

Mid-Size Car 3.0L-4V Gas Engine with Variable Intake Cam Timing

# Fuel Economy Universally Improved



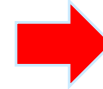
# Weight Saving Potential With Aluminum



Baseline Vehicle  
3500 lbs.



10% Weight Reduction  
3150 lbs.



20% Weight Reduction  
2800 lbs.

	Aluminum	Steel	Delta (lbs)
Hood	17	31	14
Deck	13.2	24	10.8
Fenders	4.8	9.6	4.8
Fr Doors	40.4	62.2	21.8
Rr Doors	38.4	59.1	20.7
Sum			<b>72.1</b>
Cradle	46.2	77	<b>30.8</b>
Bumper	13.2	19.8	<b>6.6</b>
Wheels	167.2	180.4	<b>13.2</b>
Suspension	88	103.4	<b>15.4</b>

# Possible Fuel Economy Savings Up To 14.3%

- Fuel economy improvement of 5-7% is expected with 10% reduction in weight
- Excellent correlation between simulation and actual vehicle
- Similar results for gasoline and diesel engine vehicles
- What about hybrids and advanced powertrains?

# Weight And Alternative Powertrain Equation

Future offers lighter, cleaner vehicles for all consumers.



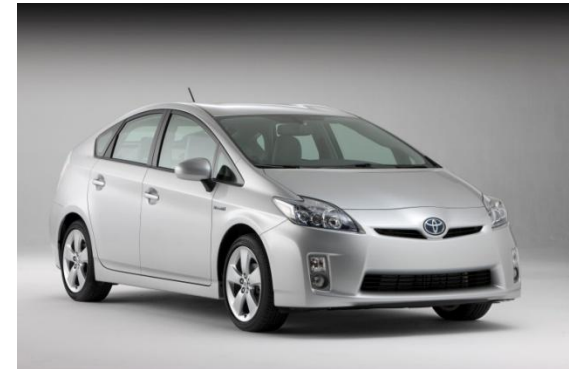
Chevy Tahoe (Hybrid Electric)



Chevy Volt  
(Plug-In Hybrid)



Honda FCX Clarity  
(Fuel Cell)

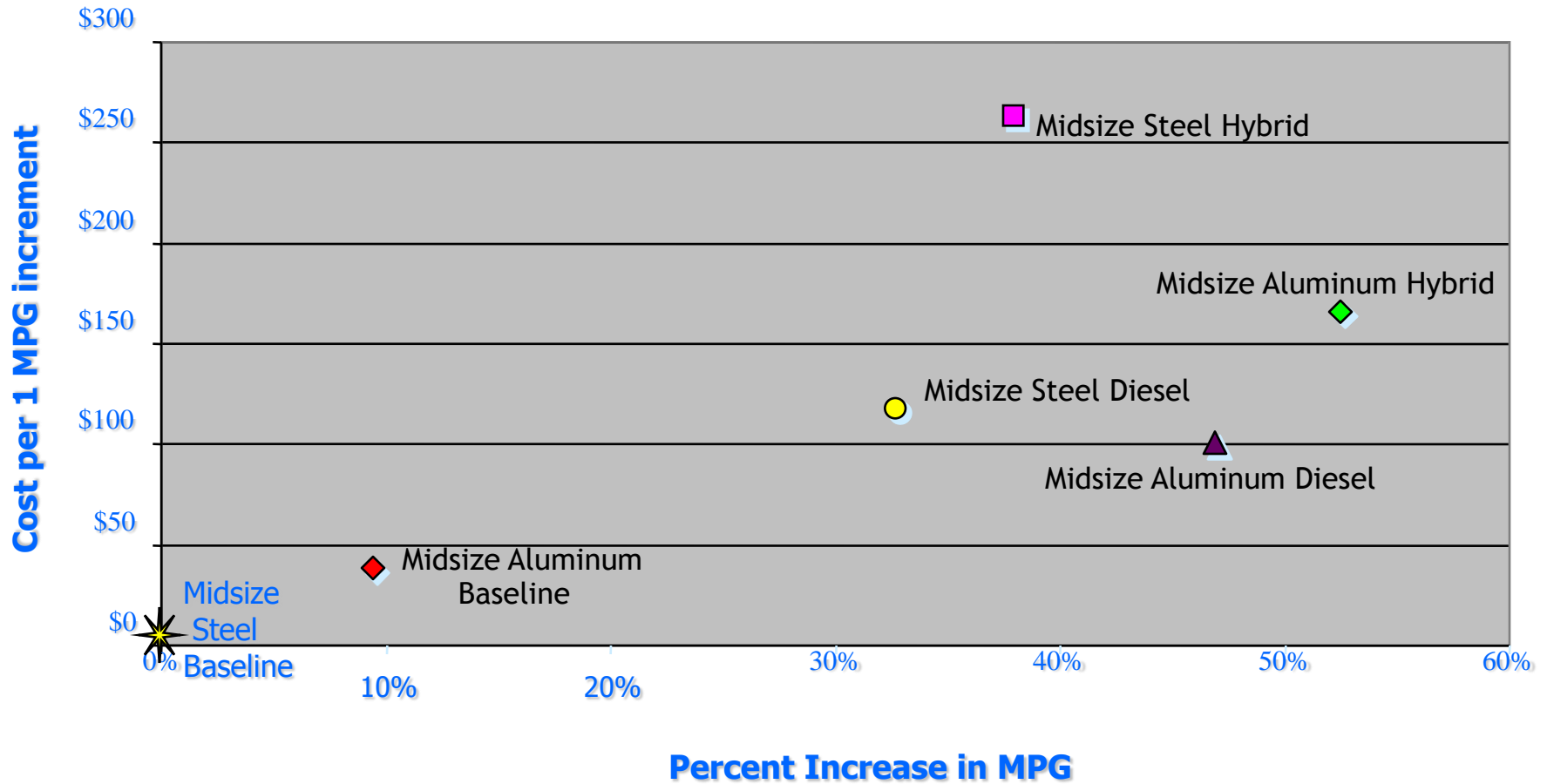


Toyota Prius  
(Hybrid)

# More Cost Effective To Reduce Mass

	<b>Steel Baseline</b>	<b>Aluminum Baseline</b>	<b>Steel Hybrid</b>	<b>Aluminum Hybrid</b>	<b>Steel Diesel</b>	<b>Aluminum Diesel</b>
<b>Cost \$ (BIW+Panels+PowerTrain)</b>	5532	5642	8016	7787	6629	6737
<b>Combined Mileage MPG</b>	25.2	27.7	34.8	38.2	33.5	36.8
<b>Mileage Improvement Over Steel Baseline MPG (%)</b>		2.5 (9.9%)	9.6 (38.1%)	13 (51.6%)	8.3 (32.9%)	11.6 (46.0%)
<b>Delta Cost per 1MPG improvement \$/MPG</b>		44	259	173	132	104

# Maximizing Powertrains In Cost-Effective Manner



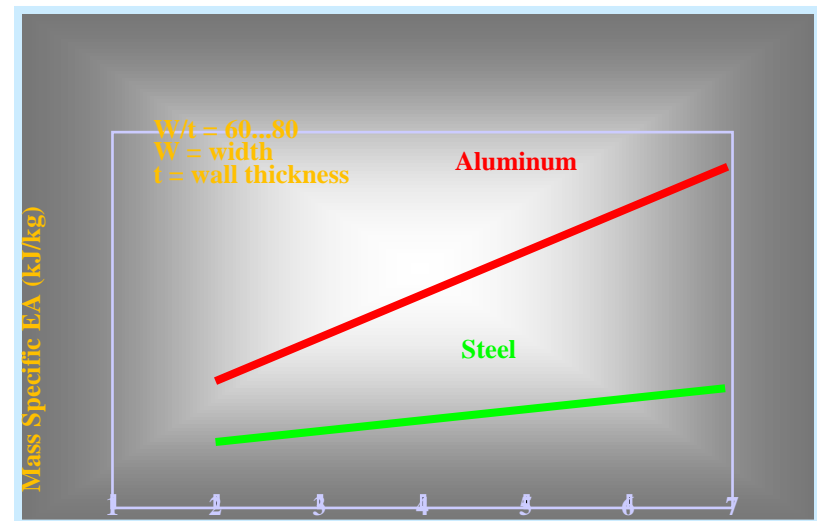
# Key Takeaway: Aluminum Is Fuel-Efficient Solution

- Use of aluminum boosts fuel economy
  - 5 % to 7% fuel saving can be realized for every 10% weight reduction
- Provides even greater benefits – including cost savings – when used as a complement to advanced powertrains
  - Quicker payback period for consumer

# Reduce Weight, Not Size

- Direct benefits:
  - Absorbs more energy, pound for pound, than steel
  - Predictable deformation
  - Not strain-rate sensitive
  - Extruded structures – design flexibility

***Better crash compatibility –  
reduce weight, not size***



# Building Safer Vehicles With Aluminum

- Secondary benefits:
  - Handling (accident avoidance) advantages
  - Braking distance reduction
- We believe aluminum can build a safer car than steel



**Jaguar XJ**



**Audi A8**

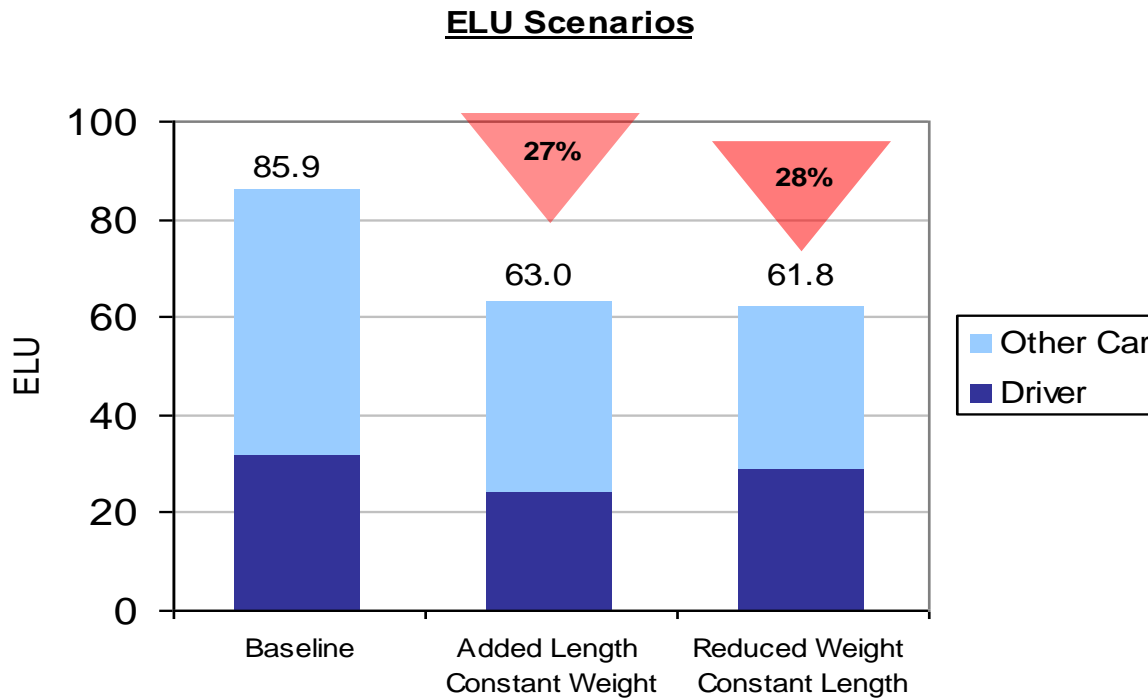
# Studying Affect Of Weight On Safety

- Objective of the DRI (Dynamic Research Inc.) Study:
  - - Interplay of vehicle weight vs. size in occupant protection
- Methodology:
  - - Real-world crash data from 3500 collisions
  - - Car to SUV, SUV to SUV, and SUV to fixed obstacle
  - - NCAP pulse and NASS/CDS descriptors
  - - ELU (Injury Index) as proxy for occupant safety
- Scenarios:
  - - 20% weight reduction – no length reduction
  - - 4 inch length increase – no weight increase



# Improving Occupant Safety

- Adding crush space without adding weight improves ELU 27%
- Reducing weight further improves fleet safety



*SUV to Car Crashes*

# Improving Occupant Safety

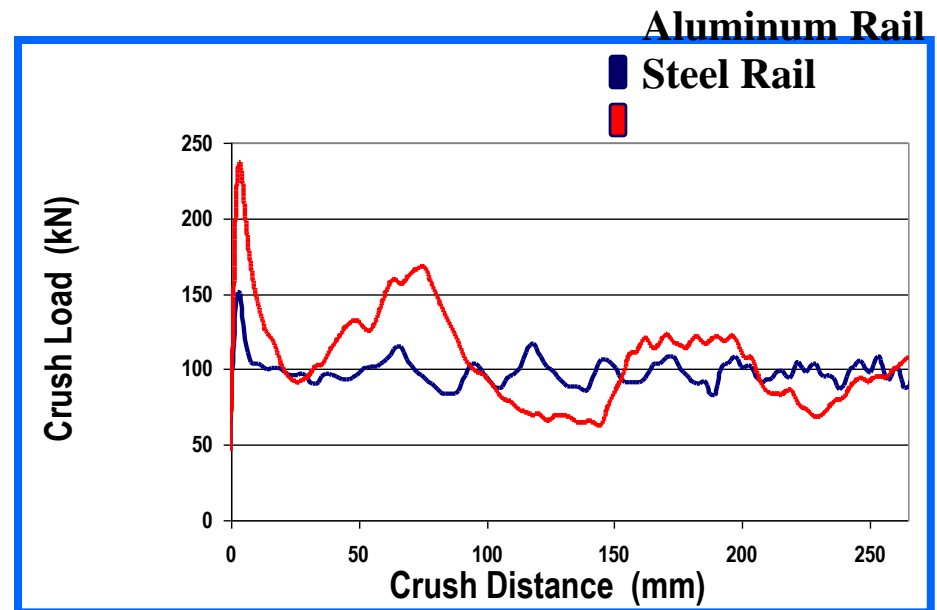
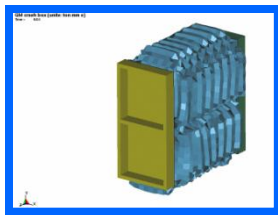
	Crash Type	Number of Cases	Total ELU's			Net Benefit (%)	
			Baseline Case SUV	Reduced Weight Case SUV	Increased Length Case SUV	Reduced Weight Case SUV	Increased Length Case SUV
SUV Driver	Rollover	175	2.23	2.48	0.53	-11.2	76.2
	Hit Object	420	2.54	1.74	0.81	31.5	68.1
	Hit PC	1750	1.21	2.47	1.19	-104.1	1.7
	Hit LTV	1155	25.97	22.03	21.61	15.2	16.8
	Subtotal	3500	31.95	28.72	24.14	10.1	24.4
OV Driver	In PC	1750	28.00	9.70	16.79	65.4	40.0
	In LTV	1155	25.99	23.40	22.09	10.0	15.0
	Subtotal	2905	53.99	33.10	38.88	38.7	28.0
	Overall Total	3500 SUV + 2905 OV	85.94	61.82	63.02	28.1	26.7

*20% Reduced Weight SUV and Conventional Cars*

# Aluminum Safety In Action

## Crush Rail:

- 56% mass savings vs. mild steel – ( 38% vs. HSS )
- Lower peak loads
- Consistent crush performance at all speeds

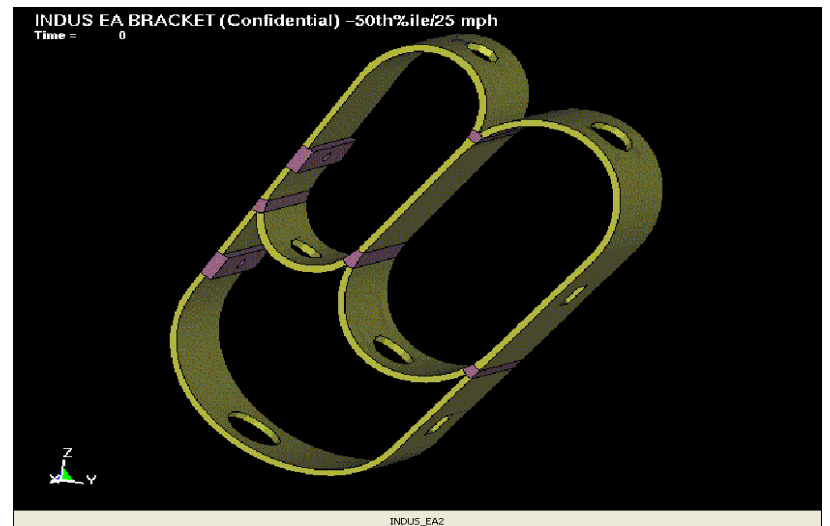
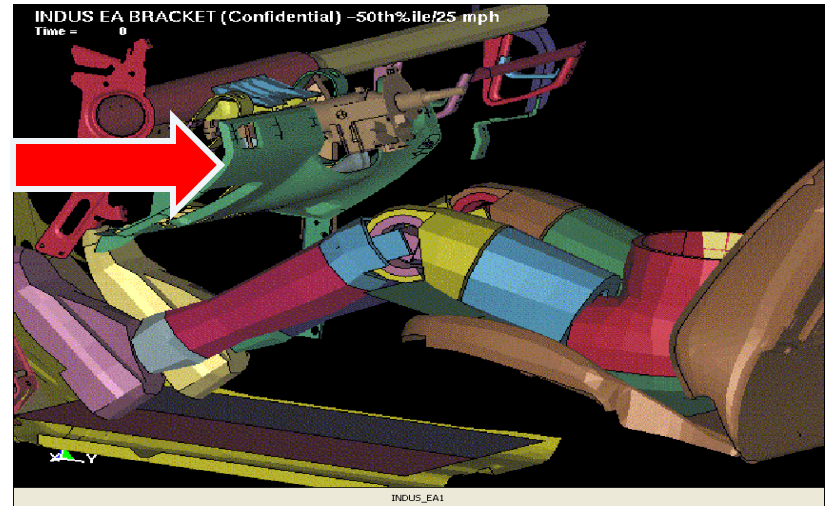


# Aluminum Safety In Action

## Knee Bolster:

Aluminum can play a key role in energy management in vehicle interiors

- Example:
  - Extruded knee bolster consolidates three parts into one
  - 48% weight reduction vs. steel
  - 50<sup>th</sup> percentile male unbelted sled test passed for a N. American OEM



# Key Takeaways: Weight Reduction Proves Beneficial To Safety

Size – not weight – is best determinant of vehicle safety

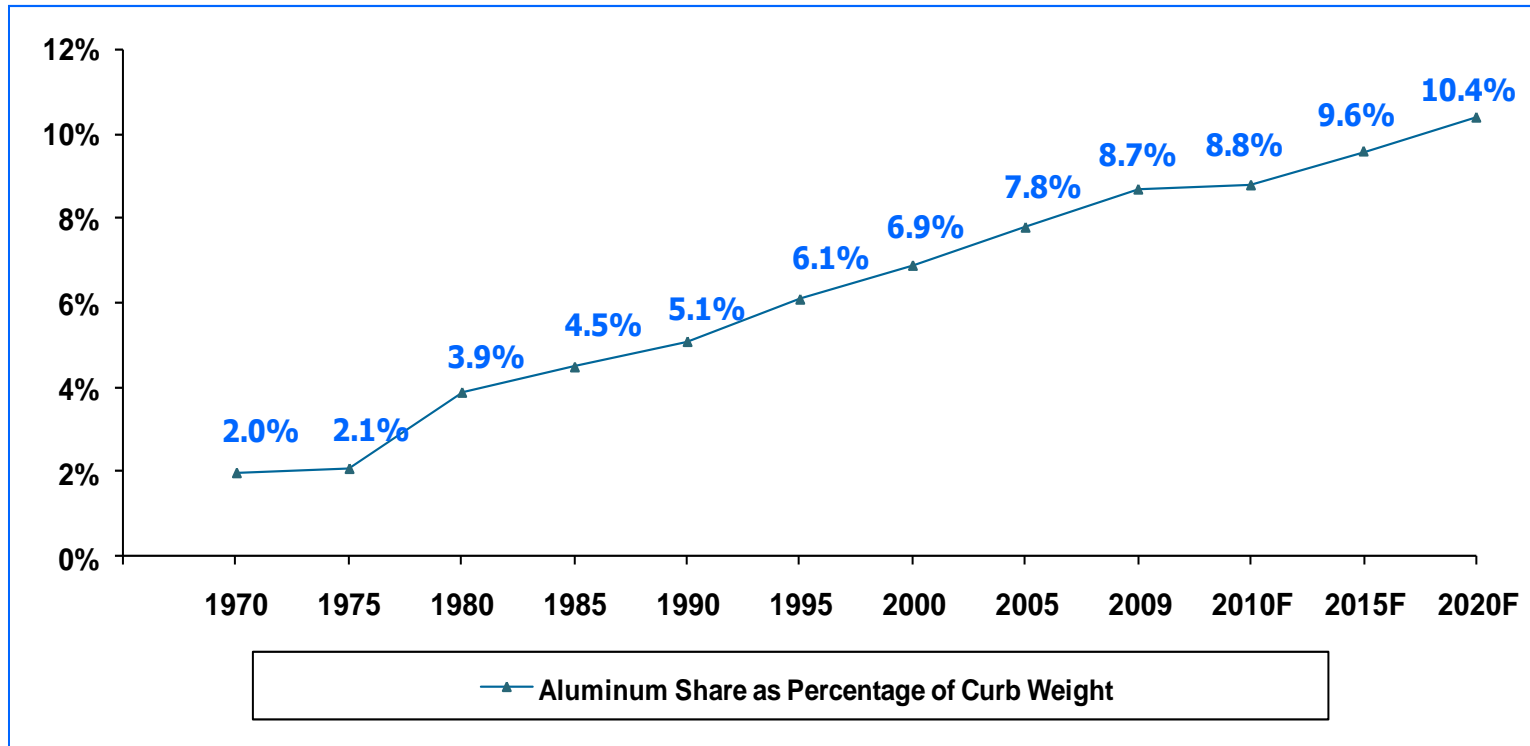
Aluminum can safely take weight out

Aluminum performs as well, if not better than steel in crash

Aluminum offers design flexibility and innovative solutions for energy management

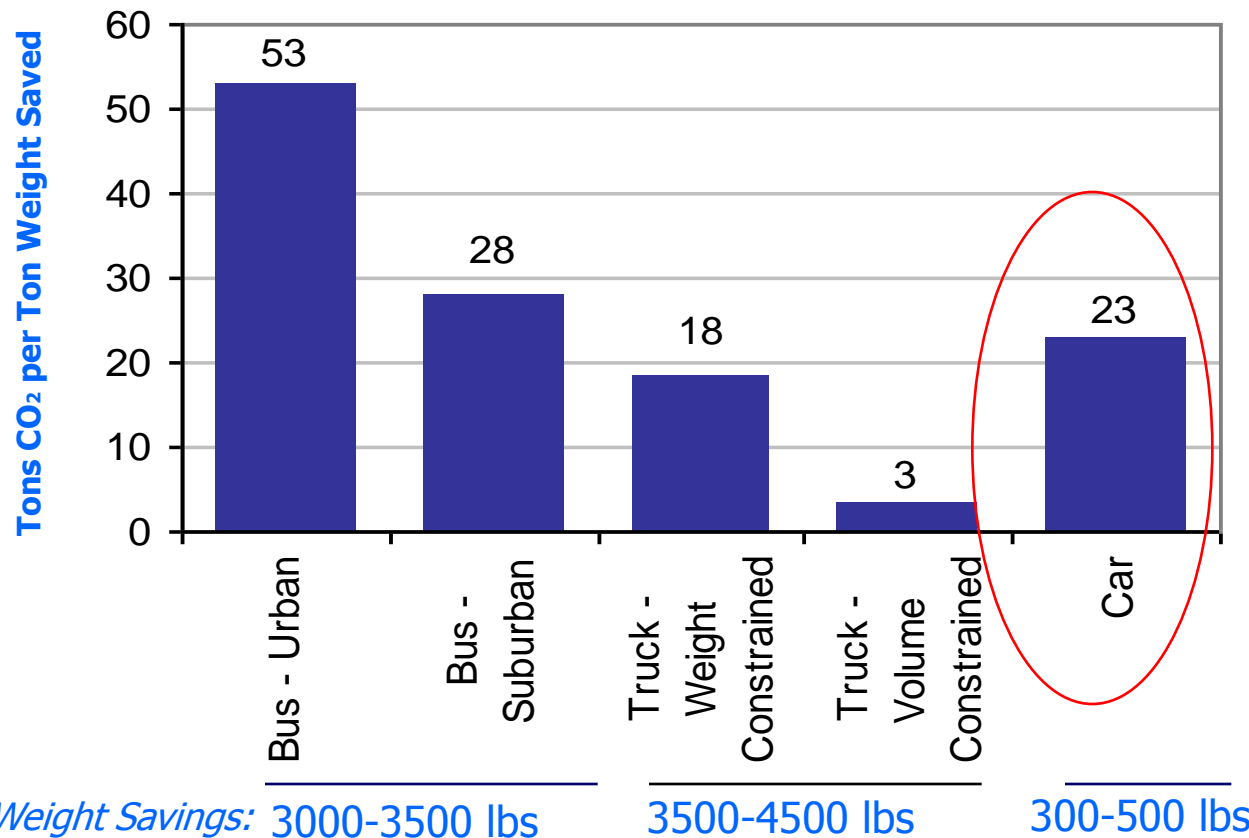
# Auto Aluminum Use Climbs

## North American Light Vehicle Aluminum Content

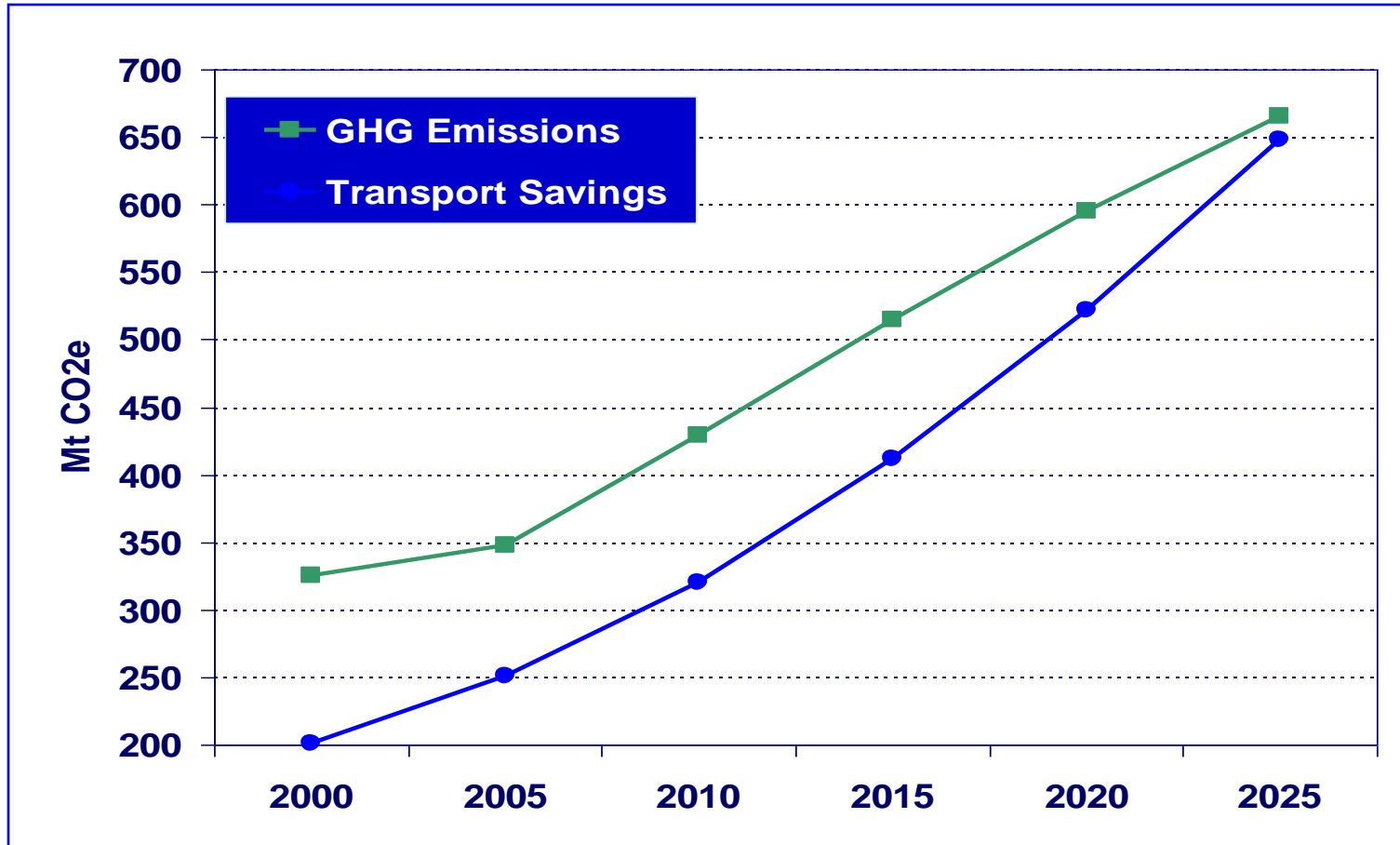


# All Modes of Transport Benefit

Specific Savings \*\*  
(Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per ton of weight save)



# Aluminum Potential To Be GHG-Neutral



Potential emissions savings from transport growing faster than emissions from aluminum production

# Aluminum-Intensive Vehicles: Fuel Efficient, Safe and Affordable

Randall Scheps



Aluminum Association's Auto and Light Truck Group



The Aluminum Association, Inc.

