

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe **NEWSLETTER**

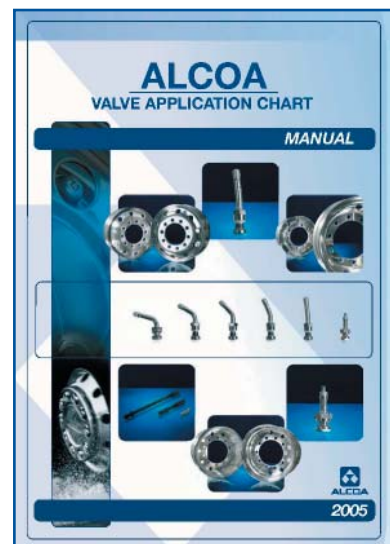
June 2005

New Alcoa Accessories catalogue

The 2005 Alcoa Accessories catalogue is now available. This catalogue gives a complete overview of all Alcoa's cleaning- and maintenance products for forged aluminium wheels, accessories and parts, such as sleeved cap nuts and valves.

Valve application chart

Also available is a new valve application chart, which gives a detailed overview which valves to use for the Alcoa wheels, old and new generation.



For a copy of these brochures, please contact Alcoa Wheel Products in Belgium or your local distributor.

TRUCKSHOWS

We will be present at following truckshows during the summer:

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| - SouthWest Truckfest, Shepton Mallet, UK | - July 2 & 3 |
| - Truck Grand-Prix, Nürburgring, Germany | - July 8-10 |
| - Mittia, Ljusdal, Sweden | - August 19-20 |
| - Trailer Trucking Festival, Karlskrune, Sweden | - August 26-28 |



Alcoa Foundation supports Belgian organisations

Alcoa granted 10.000 US\$ to the Forrest Museum of Tessenderlo, which is located in the Gerhagen forrest, at 15 km from the Paal location of Alcoa Wheel Products Europe. The money will be used for the exhibition "From Myth to Mycology" on regionally found fungi. The Forrest Museum plays an important role in the education of children from 6 to 12, as it is frequently visited by groups of school children from the neighbouring villages.

Another 5.000 US\$ grant was donated to the Nature Help Centre in Opglabbeek. This grant was used to develop and print a "Kids-booklet", an informative leaflet on wild animals in distress. This Kids-booklet was made because it is primarily children who come to the Centre with an animal in distress.

OVERWEIGHT?



Alcoa forged aluminium wheels are up to 50% lighter than steel wheels.

Due to their lower weight, they offer significant advantages such as more loading capacity, increased efficiency in fuel consumption and less wear on suspension and shock absorbers.

Moreover, Alcoa forged aluminium wheels are exceptionally strong and durable! During deformation tests, they prove to be 5 times stronger than steel wheels.

Reducing truck overloading

In order to reduce truck overloading, the Dutch Ministry of Transport has instituted the “**Weigh in Motion with ViDeo**” or WIM-Vid system. This system contributes to efficient, safe and sustainable road transport of goods.

When is a truck overloaded?

- when the total weight of the truck is too high and/or
- when the pressure on one or more axles is too high

How does WIM-Vid work?

On several locations in the Netherlands, sensors have been installed into the roadways. These sensors measure the pressure exerted on the axles of passing trucks. When an overloading has been recorded, a video camera takes a photo of the license plate and the truck. This data is processed immediately by a computer. Further along the route, the truck may be ordered off the road by the police or by Transport Inspectors to be weighed again, using special measuring instruments. If the truck is indeed found to be overloaded, a report and fine will be issued against the truck's owner. If the pressure on the axles exceeds 20% of the norm or the total weight is in excess of 10% of the norm, the report will be accompanied by a corrective measure. This implies that the truck will be unloaded on site or that the load will be transferred. In extreme instances, or in cases of reoccurrence of a violation, the truck may even be impounded.

Follow-up of the WIM-Vid

The Inspection Department of Transport receives all data on the overloaded trucks and uses this information to contact the transport companies caught in any overloading violations. An inspector of the IVW visits these enterprises and discusses how such overloading incidents can be avoided in the future. Should subsequent results be judged unsatisfactory, appropriate measures will be taken if deemed necessary. For the implementation of these actions, the IVW operates three mobile weighing units and four motorcycles, which are used to check on notorious violators. These mobile weighing units are also employed to check trucks that are deliberately avoiding the roadside weigh scale stations and for the control on secondary roads. The future goal is to skip the manual labour involved in the roadside re-weighing and send the fine automatically to the violators.

Implementation policy

The Office of the Public Prosecutor has issued the following directives:

Axle pressure exceeding the norm by
less than 10% warning
more than 10% fine
more than 20% fine + corrective measures

Total weight exceeding the norm by
less than 5% warning
more than 5% fine
more than 10% fine + corrective measures

Fines vary between 220 and 3500 Euro.

Currently, 8 measuring systems are operating in the Netherlands. This system is also being tested in Antwerp/Belgium, Berlin/Germany, and Paris/France. It is generally believed that this system will in the future be implemented in many other European countries, in order to counter overloading violations.

How to prevent overloading?

Various methods exist to prevent overloading, some are listed below:

- When loading the truck, take into account the maximum axle pressures, and not only the total weight of the vehicle.
- Load the truck in such a way that, after partly unloading it at several destinations, no overloading is generated in specific areas inside the vehicle.
- Use the right kind of vehicle for the load to be carried.
- Invest in electronic equipment to measure the axle pressures during loading and unloading.

Did you know that

...you can reduce the total weight of your vehicle by up to 300 kg, by replacing the steel wheels with Alcoa forged aluminium wheels?

News from other Alcoa business units

Airbus A380 made successful first flight

The Airbus A380 - the most significant commercial airliner introduced in the last 50 years - took its first successful flight on April 27, with more new Alcoa products and solutions than any other aircraft in Alcoa's 100+ years of aviation history, including:

- new alloys that add strength and durability to wings and fuselage;
- the largest, high-strength, fatigue-resistant upper and lower wing skins ever produced;
- the largest, most damage-tolerant fuselage sheet ever made;
- the largest ever wing spar and new landing gear forgings;
- new multi-material lockbolts for the assembly of the plane's center wing box.



Alcoa products touch the A380 in more than a million places and have set new standards in the performance of advanced aerospace aluminium, super alloys and fastening systems. Products for the A380 are made at Alcoa's worldwide operating locations and are researched and developed at the Alcoa Technical Center near Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

Alcoa participates in the world's first carton packaging recycling plant, using innovative PLASMA technology. The plasma process separates aluminium and plastic components of the aseptic package.

Alcoa Alumínio Brazil has joined Tetra Pak, Klabin and TSL Ambiental to inaugurate the world's first carton packaging recycling facility located in Piracicaba, Brazil.

The plant uses groundbreaking plasma technology, which enables the total separation of aluminum and plastic components from the cartons. This innovative process constitutes a significant enhancement to the current recycling process for carton packaging, which

up until now, separated paper, but kept plastic and aluminum together. The plasma process provides another option for recycling, allowing for the return of all three components of the package to the productive chain as raw material.

Alcoa, which supplies thin-gauge aluminum foil to Tetra Pak for aseptic packaging, uses the recycled aluminum to manufacture new foils.



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