

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe **NEWSLETTER**

June 2006

Alcoa WorkHorse™ wheel introduced at Transpotec, Milan

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe and DaimlerChrysler introduced the Alcoa WorkHorse™ wheel at the Transpotec show in Milan last April.

This new wheel does not have any hand holes. It has been developed to protect the construction vehicle's disc brakes from sand and gravel on the drive / front axle.

Application: inner dual wheel on the construction vehicle drive or tag axle, single on the front axle.

Available sizes: 22.5 x 8.25, 22.5 x 9.00 and 22.5 x 11.75 (inset 120mm)

32 mm bolt holes

Finish: Brushed

The wheel has the same load and mounting characteristics as a standard Alcoa 22.5 x 8.25, 22.5 x 9.00 and 22.5 x 11.75 (inset 120 mm) wheel.

This Alcoa WorkHorse™ wheel has an increased fatigue life, due to its new and stronger design.



Dura-Bright® wheels brochure and website

The March 2006 Newsletter, dedicated to the launch of Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels in Europe and South Africa, generated a lot of interest in these easy-to-clean forged aluminium wheels for trucks, trailers and buses. For those of you who want more information on this new product, Alcoa has developed a special Dura-Bright® brochure. To obtain a copy, please send an e-mail to info.wheels@alcoa.com or call +32 11 458467.

You will also find information on Dura-Bright® wheels on the website www.alcoa.com/alcoawheels/europe/en/durabright.asp.

Shows

We will be present at following events during the coming months:

HIGHWAY TRUCK TEAM, Thiene, Italy – between July 10 and 15

TRUCK GRAND-PRIX, Nürburgring, Germany – July 21-23

SCOTLAND TRUCKFEST, Edinburgh, UK - August 5-6

LASTBIL SHOW, Jönköping, Sweden - August 23-26

FinnMETKO, Jämsänkoski, Finland – Aug. 31 – Sep. 2

COAST TO COAST TRUCK TEAM, Misano, Italy – Aug. 31 – Sep. 2

IAA, Hannover, Germany - September 21-28

Alcoa's permanent stand in the new Fruehauf Tippers UK showroom at Wordsworth Holdings, Grantham, Lincolnshire

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe have installed a permanent stand at the Fruehauf Tippers UK showroom in Grantham, Lincolnshire, where Fruehauf Tippers invites their customers to look at the 4 trailers which are on constant display in the showroom.

At the same time, the customers can closely inspect the Alcoa wheels and make a choice between the three possible finishes: brushed, mirror polished or Dura-Bright®.

This is the second project of its kind. Alcoa also has a permanent stand in the Mercedes-Benz showroom of the DaimlerChrysler truck plant in Wörth, Germany.



Name change for Alcoa's "Diamond Brite" finish to "Brushed"



In order to avoid confusion with the new easy-to-clean Dura-Bright® wheels, Alcoa decided to change the name of the former Diamond Brite finish to "Brushed". The three finishes for Alcoa forged aluminium wheels now are:

- Brushed
- Mirror Polished
- Dura-Bright®

Name changes will be implemented in the new specification sheet, price lists etc...

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe increases its prices for forged aluminium wheels for commercial vehicles.

On June 15, Alcoa Wheel Products Europe informed its customers that it is raising prices for its forged aluminium wheels for commercial vehicles by 8 to 12 %, depending on the product specification.

2006 continues to be a challenging year for the commercial vehicle markets, as the industry experiences not only unprecedented growth, but also the effects of rising input costs. Costs of aluminium have escalated rapidly. In fact, over the last year aluminium has increased in cost by more than 50%. Furthermore cost of energy and transportation have also increased.

Alcoa has worked hard to minimize the impact these increased costs have had on its customers, and to a degree has absorbed a substantial portion of these cost increases.

"While we have continued to work to find ways to mitigate the impact of these cost increases and have in fact absorbed much of them, we can no longer avoid to pass through some of these costs", Alcoa's spokesman said.



1,5 million kilometres in 9 years with the original Alcoa wheels

In 1997, the transport company Heesmans in Liessel, Netherlands, purchased a DAF XF truck and aluminium trailer from Bulthuis. This vehicle, one of the first DAF Euro 2 trucks, is equipped with brushed Alcoa wheels. Even after having run for 1,5 million kilometres, the interior of the cabin is still in perfect condition and so are the Alcoa wheels!

The owner Piet Heesmans states proudly: "It is the reward of my son Carlo that the Alcoa wheels still look so great. He cleans them very regularly with the Alcoa maintenance products. We only use these special developed products from Alcoa, nothing else!"

Heesmans have 5 vehicles, 4 DAF and 1 Renault truck, all combined with a trailer unit. They are specialized in groupage transport of general cargo, primarily to Italy and Spain. On their way back to the Netherlands they load granite. Although the truck only weighs 10 ton and the trailer 3,4 ton, when transporting granite, it is obvious that every kilo counts, hence the need for Alcoa forged aluminium wheels. Piet's son Carlo drives a 3 year old DAF CF, with equally well kept mirror polished Alcoa wheels. They look as if they come right out of the box.

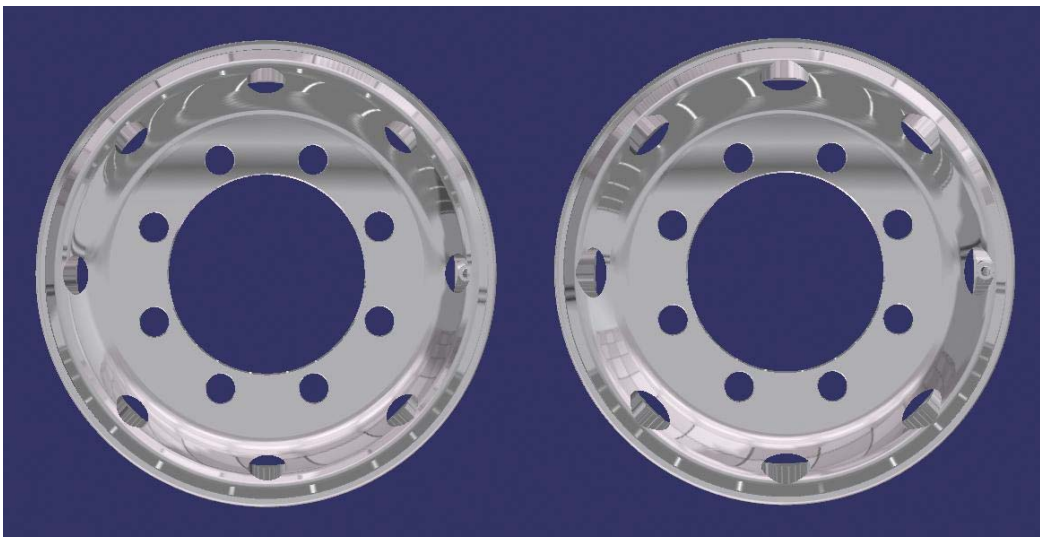
The 9 year old DAF XF is entitled to a more quite life now and will only be used for local transport in the Netherlands. However, that does not mean it is ready to retire. Piet Heesmans is not yet thinking of getting rid of his loyal 6-wheeler.

1,5 million kilometres in 9 years with the original Alcoa wheels! Who does better? If you do, please send us an e-mail and you will receive a beautiful Alcoa gift.



Wheel redesign for Alcoa's 19.5 x 7.50 and 19.5 x 8.25 wheels

Alcoa is redesigning its 19.5 x 7.50 and 19.5 x 8.25 wheels. The new wheels, which will be released this autumn, will have bigger vent holes, which improves the look of these wheels considerably. Furthermore the new wheels will be lighter than the current one, the difference being 0,68 kg. Present part numbers will remain unchanged.



19.5 x 7.50

773470 / 773473
with 24 mm bolt hole
773460 / 773463
with 30 mm bolt hole
773450 / 773453
with 32 mm bolt hole

19.5 x 8.25

783470 / 783473
with 24 mm bolt hole
783460 / 783463
with 30 mm bolt hole
783450 / 783453
with 32 mm bolt hole

Alcoa - A Family Friendly Company -



Alcoa-Köfém in Hungary was recognized as a “Family Friendly Company” by the Hungarian Ministry of Employment and Labor, and Ministry of Youth, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities for its health and environmental education efforts and community support. Social responsibility is an integral part of Alcoa’s business culture. In giving Alcoa-Köfém the award, Minister of Employment and Labor Gabor Csizmar stressed Alcoa’s sensitivity for employee work conditions, families and the community. He cited special health prevention programs for employees, Family Day events, and several Alcoa community-sponsored activities.

Alcoa ranked among top companies on climate change and governance by leading environmental group

On March 21, CERES, the largest coalition of investors, environmental and public interest organizations in North America, ranked Alcoa second among U.S. companies in its Report on Corporate Governance and Climate Change. This report is the first comprehensive measurement of how 100 leading global companies are preparing and positioning themselves to face the challenges of global warming. It is designed to be used as a benchmark tool by institutional investors and corporations.

Companies in the 10 most carbon-intensive sector industries were evaluated on how they addressed climate change through board oversight, management performance, public disclosure, emissions accounting and strategic planning. Alcoa scored 74 out of a possible 100 points, following DuPont, who had 85 points.

Alcoa was cited as a positive example in management execution. The report states that Alcoa’s CEO is among the leaders in its industry by articulating the business case for GHG controls and a supportive government regulatory framework.

“Alcoa is committed to being a leader in addressing greenhouse gas emissions and climate change. This report recognizes both our focus on the issue and the hard work over the past decade to cut GHG emissions by more than 25 percent over 1990 levels,” said Alcoa Chairman and CEO Alain Belda.

Alcoa issues 2005 sustainability report

On May 4, Alcoa released its 2005 Sustainability Highlights through a new Sustainability website - www.alcoa.com/sustainability. This new site summarizes how Alcoa lives its values while operating its businesses, making each community in which it operates a better place. A few of the sustainability accomplishments detailed in the corporate report are:

- Alcoa was named one of the most sustainable corporations in the world in 2005 and 2006 at a ceremony at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.
- Alcoa was named one of the top green companies in the world by BusinessWeek magazine and the Climate Group in recognition of its performance reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- By the end of 2005, Alcoa achieved a landfilled waste reduction of more than 50% from a 2000 baseline. This continued to exceed the short-term target of a 50% reduction by 2007.

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe

Tel. +32 (0)11 458464

Fax +32 (0)11 455630

info.wheels@alcoa.com

www.alcoawheels.com