



Wheel Products Europe

NEWSLETTER

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Alcoa Partner for the new Renault Truck Premium Lander 8x4 Concrete Mixer

Alcoa Wheels and Renault Trucks have underlined their long time partnership with a new collaboration presented at the recent Intermat show in Paris. Renault's new Premium Lander 8x4 extra-light concrete mixer is presented in exclusivity with Alcoa's wide base single wheels for drive axles, contributing to a significant reduction of the overall vehicle weight.

By converting this vehicle from twelve 22.5 x 9.00 aluminium wheels and corresponding tyres on all axles to four 22.5 x 9.00 wheels and four 22.5 x 17.00 Alcoa wheels and corresponding Super Single tyres on the drive axles, a total weight of 261 kg is saved, of which Alcoa wheels alone account for 196 kg.

Compared to a 4-axle vehicle on steel wheels in size 22.5 x 9.00, the weight saving by switching to aluminium wheels, including the four 22.5 x 17.00 wheels and corresponding tyres on the drive axles, is as much as 475 kg!

The choice of Alcoa aluminium wheels on this concrete mixer is a necessity, as the concrete suppliers want to load 8 m³ of concrete instead of 7 m³, without exceeding the European legislation of 32 tons for a 4-axle vehicle.

This increase in payload on every trip results in a significant higher revenue, at the same time decreasing the environmental impact.

Along with weight saving, Alcoa wheels offer many other advantages. Compared to steel wheels they are also stronger (4 times as strong as steel) which makes them most suitable for construction vehicles.



Other economic advantages provided by Alcoa wheels are a better heat dissipation, reduced fuel consumption, less tire wear and an increased life duration of brakes and suspension. Alcoa wheels are forged from a high strength aluminium alloy and therefore 100% recyclable, which makes them very environmentally friendly.

But the most important reason to specify them on this particular Renault Premium Lander is weight saving. Weight saving means increased payload, which results in less trips for the same amount of concrete, and therefore less fuel consumption and less CO₂ emissions.

Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels for great looks and a clean image

The German transport company Sturm in Viersen, close to the Dutch border, is a family business. They started their operations in 1961 with just one vehicle, as was common in those days. Today they operate 80 trucks and 80 trailers. Brothers, children, nieces and nephews work together in this transport company and in their own Scania authorised repair shop.

Over the past years, the company has specialised increasingly in refrigerated transport and in logistics in their refrigerated warehouse. "People will always eat," says Günther Sturm, one of the business managers, and refers to today's Europe-wide deployment of his fleet.



The company's fleet has always been its flagship, and due to its clean looks also good advertising for a foodstuff logistics expert.

The clean appearance was complemented by matching wheels: in the early days with wheel covers, later with Mirror Polished Alcoa wheels. The first Dura-Bright® wheels were introduced in the fleet two years ago. "Dura-Bright® is ideal from the point of view of wheel maintenance," confirms Mr Sturm, and proudly points to the show truck of the house, also fitted with Dura-Bright® wheels. "The lower weight of Alcoa wheels is obviously also important to us for frozen food transport. The weight saved compared to steel wheels allows us to carry more freight on every trip."

100% on Alcoa for reasons of weight, looks and reliability

The Dutch company Van der Heijden Internationale Transporten in Wahlwiller-Wittem, founded in 1923, has specialized in transport to and from Switzerland since 1965. Every week they have 30-35 vehicles leaving for Switzerland. As the maximum allowed weight is 40 tons in Switzerland, Van der Heijden is always looking for the lightest possible truck/trailer combination, to stay below the tare weight of 13.500 kg, allowing them to carry 26.5 tons of payload.

According to owner Rene Van der Heijden: "Weight saving has always been the key reason to specify Alcoa wheels. The fact that Alcoa Mirror Polished and Brushed wheels stayed much better looking than steel wheels, with a reasonable effort in maintenance, also played a role in our decision to mount Alcoa wheels. Now that some of our vehicles are equipped with Dura-Bright® wheels, we get the best possible looks with a minimal in maintenance efforts. An additional advantage is that the balancing of Alcoa wheels is easy and that we never have a runout with Alcoa wheels, so no precious time is lost. These are the reasons why our fleet is 100% on Alcoa. When new vehicles are ordered, we specify only Dura-Bright® wheels from now on."



Alcoa wheels for fuel saving and increased life time of tyres on Turkish HAS buses

HAS Turizm was founded in the early 1950's when Mehmet Selim Kara and his brother Ismail Kaya started to carry passengers from Hatay to Istanbul with a bus, constructed on a truck chassis. The size of their fleet grew gradually and in the 1970's they crossed the Turkish borders, arranging bus services to Lebanon. They took the first Turkish pilgrims to Saudi Arabia and organized the pilgrims' transport for 17 years.

Today HAS have more than 300 buses of which 150 in Turkey. The others are running in Russia, Yemen, Saudi Arabia and Bulgaria. They also have 40 fully-owned service points.



A couple of years ago, following a visit of Alcoa's Turkish distributor Otomotiv Lastikleri Tevzi AS (Oltas), who explained the benefits of Alcoa forged aluminium wheels, HAS decided to test the wheels.

"After several months, we realized that the buses, equipped with Alcoa wheels, use around 1% less fuel compared to buses on steel wheels. Another advantage we discovered is the longer life time of the tyres. Today almost all of our vehicles operating in Turkey are equipped with Alcoa wheels. All new vehicles are specified on Alcoa wheels as well."

New Alcoa 17.5" x 6.75" wheel available for low deck trailers

At Alcoa we listen to our customers' needs and the market demand. Therefore we are pleased to announce the introduction of a new 17.5 x 6.75 trailer wheel with 10 bolt holes on a 225 mm PCD. This wheel hosts tyre sizes 245/70 R 17.5 and 235/75 R 17.5. It is available in Europe from mid August and is suitable for

- low deck trailers for transport of heavy and oversized vehicles and loads
- trailers and semi-trailers for volume transport
- special trailers for transport of passenger cars

This new wheel is compatible with drum brakes only. It is suitable for dual mounting and the maximum load is 3000 kg per wheel, equal to load index 146. It is available in Mirror Polished finish, part number 663823.

More technical details can be found on the 2009 specification sheet on www.alcoawheels.com.

Compared to steel wheels in this size, Alcoa wheels offer many advantages:

- lower weight (13.7 kg only)
- better heat dissipation, resulting in less tyre wear
- great looks for these special vehicles



For additional information, contact your Alcoa Sales Representative or local distributor.

Alcoa aluminium wheels also available at certain European car brands

Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels for Audi A6



The Alcoa Dura-Bright® surface treatment technology, which has already proven its durability in heavy conditions on Alcoa truck and trailer wheels, is now also used on Alcoa forged auto wheels. Disc brake dirt can easily be removed with soap and water. The wheels have a polished surface that does not peel, fade or become yellowish, as is often the case with standard aluminium car wheels.

On top of this, Alcoa forged aluminium wheels are twice as strong as standard aluminium car wheels and last longer. They are also lighter, which reduces the un-sprung mass.

Mike Parnell of Alcoa Auto Wheels: *"It was obvious that Audi A6 customers were looking for a high quality and an innovative look. Because the Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels are easy to clean and stay clean for a long time, the Audi A6 drivers who choose these wheels, enjoy their car more and spend less time keeping the wheels shiny. Black spots and a yellowish surface can damage the image of the vehicle, which makes it more difficult to get a high resale value. Market research has revealed this is an important factor to buyers."*

Alcoa forged aluminium wheels for the new Lamborghini Murciélago SV

Alcoa Auto Wheels has been selected by Automobili Lamborghini to supply lightweight wheels for the Murciélago LP 670-4 SuperVeloce (SV). The forged aluminium wheels reduce un-sprung weight and contribute to the SV's 100 kg mass reduction over the standard Murciélago.

"The new Murciélago SV is the product of a substantial cross-car weight reduction program and forged wheels are vital to meeting this goal," explains David Yates, marketing manager for Alcoa Auto Wheels – Europe. *"The engineering behind Alcoa's forged aluminium wheels enables 20 % weight savings over a comparable cast aluminium wheel, benefiting handling and ride."*

The exclusive five twin-spoke design results in a superior metal structure that improves strength and durability, offering the opportunity to create very strong and lightweight wheels. Lowering the un-sprung mass at each corner of the car results in more responsive steering, braking and suspension input, while optimizing performance and efficiency for drivers.



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