



BACKGROUNDER

Contact: **Alcoa**
Jasper van Zon
+ 31 416 386051 / + 31 653600563
jaspervan.zon@alcoa.com

Alcoa and Corporate Social Responsibility

Alcoa's Vision, Values, and Principles, available on www.alcoa.com, are the foundation of our Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts. Our goal is to achieve financial success, environmental excellence, and social responsibility in order to ensure long term benefits for our shareowners, employees, customers, suppliers, and the communities in which we operate. This vision is translated into our 2020 Strategic Framework for Sustainability, which provides clear and ambitious objectives.

To succeed and reach our sustainability and CSR targets, we build partnerships with our key stakeholders and seek better understanding of our economic, social and environmental effects within the communities where we operate. Since we are active around the globe, with a strong presence in Europe, it's imperative that our sustainability strategy is implemented within Europe's evolving legislative and regulatory environment. We respond to growing customer needs in a sustainable manner, looking at product life cycles, including final disposal. In addition we are constantly contending with rising raw material and energy costs.

Our benefit, however, is that we produce a very sustainable material, with about two-thirds of the aluminium ever produced still in use today. In our quest for improved environmental, social, and financial performance, we will continue our work to help increase the use and reuse of aluminium throughout the world.

About Alcoa

Alcoa is the world's leading producer and manager of primary aluminum, fabricated aluminum and alumina facilities, and is active in all major aspects of the industry. Alcoa serves the aerospace, automotive, packaging, building and construction, commercial transportation and industrial markets, bringing design, engineering, production and other capabilities of Alcoa's businesses to customers. In addition to aluminum products and components, Alcoa also markets consumer brands including Reynolds Wrap(R) foils and plastic wraps, Alcoa(R) wheels, and Baco(R) household wraps. Among its other businesses are closures, fastening systems, precision castings, and electrical distribution systems for cars and trucks. The company has 123,000 employees in 44 countries and has been named one of the top sustainable corporations in the world at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Alcoa CSR in Europe

In Europe Alcoa employs approximately 36,000 employees at around 100 locations. As in all countries and regions where Alcoa has a presence, each European location has its own CSR program in place. A program that is based on the global Alcoa CSR strategy and consists of structural and ad hoc projects and actions connects the activities of the plant and its employees to the local community and its various stakeholder groups. These programs touch all aspects of CSR, covering people, the environment and profitability.

Aluminium

Looking at the product side of CSR, aluminium is a truly sustainable material. Whilst the production of primary aluminium is energy intensive, currently a little over 45% of the energy used to produce primary aluminium in Europe, is renewable energy. Furthermore aluminium itself will act as an 'energy bank' through all of its life

time. It helps reduce the weight [and thus power consumed] of cars, trucks, trains, ships and planes. And it helps make vehicles more efficient, and allows for more cargo to be loaded, requiring less trips. Aluminium car bumpers and structures like lightpoles are strong but flexible, and help absorb the energy of impact in a crash. Aluminium is durable, needs no or little paint and does not rust. During its "lifetime" it saves energy and thus lowers pollution. At the end of its lifetime, it can easily be recycled, without losing its quality and using only 5% of the energy needed to produce new aluminium. Alcoa's locations are adding to all of these sustainable uses of our products on a daily basis.

Alcoa Foundation

A strong and valuable tool in Alcoa's CSR strategy, not only in Europe but all over the world, is the Alcoa Foundation. Founded in 1952, today the Alcoa Foundation is a global resource that actively invests in the quality of life in Alcoa communities worldwide. With nearly \$437 million invested since its first donation, the Alcoa Foundation has positioned itself as a source of positive community change and enhancement. Clear areas of excellence guide the Foundation's global and local grantmaking and marshal the expertise and energies of Alcoa and Alcoa Foundation together.

In 2006, the Alcoa Foundation donated nearly \$3 million in grants in Europe. Communities where Alcoa has a presence are the primary focus of our grantmaking programs. Through disaster relief grants and employee engagement initiatives like ACTION and Bravo!, additional resources are made available to our communities. The Alcoa Foundation also supports a range of national, international and policy organizations that underscore our key interests and areas of excellence.

Company Recognition

We measure our sustainability progress in many ways, including the awards and recognition we receive from external organizations and those which we grant internally to recognize outstanding performance at individual, team, and organizational levels.

Some examples of global recognition we have received:

- one of the top most sustainable corporations in the world at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland;
- Top Ten Company—2005 Covalence Ethical Ranking;
(Also #8 in the best ethical score; #3 in the best ethical progress; and #1 in the mining/metals sector)
- Top Company on Climate Change and Governance—CERES
- Second Ranked American Company in the Metals, Mining, and Crude-Oil Sectors for Environmental and Sustainability Reporting—The Roberts Environmental Center
- "Best of the Best" Blue-Ribbon Company—Fortune Magazine
- Top Green Company—BusinessWeek Magazine and the Climate Group

For more information on Alcoa's CSR and Sustainability programs, please visit:

http://www.alcoa.com/global/en/about_alcoa/sustainability/home.asp