# Enjeux et opportunités du développement durable dans la transformation de l'alumnium

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24 janvier 2023

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- Constellium et son domaine d'intervention
- Enjeux majeurs du développement durable dans la transformation de l'aluminium
- Comment réduire notre empreinte carbone
- Conclusions et perspectives



### **Constellium:** a global leader in high value-added aluminum products



🜲 Constellium

Our contribution to the aluminum value chain: transformation but also recycling and some product design/manufacturing



Enjeux et opportunités du développement durable dans la transformation de l'aluminium, 24 janvier 2023 4

### Our core markets are all industries for which lightweighting and/or recycling are key

Battery Enclosures

Chassis and mechanical parts

Decorative parts and equipment



- Car body closures
- Body-in-White
- Structural Components
- Crash Management Systems

#### Some of our customers

Heat exchangers

#### Audi, BMW Group, Daimler, Fiat Chrysler Automobiles, Ford, General Motors, Honda, Porsche, Stellantis, Subaru, Volkswagen



- Outer wind
- Center wing box

Engine (incl. gear boxes) Landing gear

Fuselage and nose fuselage

#### Some of our customers

Airbus, ATR, Boeing, Bombardier, Dassault Aviation, Embraer, Gulfstream, Lockheed Martin, Pilatus, SpaceX



- Beverage cans
- Food cans
- Closures

Aerosols Cosmetics packaging Foil stock

#### Some of our customers

AB InBev, Amcor, Ardagh Group, Ball, Can-Pack, Crown. Coke

But also ....

#### Defense

Constellium's lightweight alloys offer outstanding impact resistance for armored vehicles and military bridges.

#### Transportation

We offer a wide range of lightweight and high performance solutions for vehicles such as commercial trucks and trailers, boats and ships, trains and buses.

#### Industry

We have more than 100 years of experience in industrial applications, from precision plates to semiconductor equipment to architecture.



# Constellium's Technology Centers are the heart of our product and process development capability







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Constellium's overall greenhouse gas footprint is dominated by the embedded content of upstream metal, with a lesser but significant contribution of our own processes





Data from Constellium's annual sustainability report

# Constellium's energy consumption is dominated by casting and reheating furnaces, which are mostly gas fired





Energy 2021



Products and-of-ide recycling\* -2.1 Mt CO, eq\*



- Recycling
- Rolling, extrusion, finishing



Metal input

Energy Scope 1 & 2 1.1 Mi CO;eq

Avoided emissions<sup>1</sup> -1.8 Mt CO<sub>2</sub>vg

# Metal sourcing has a strong impact on both overall energy consumption and GHG emission





- GHG emissions vary significantly depending on the metal source
- Recycled material requires approximately 5% of the energy required for primary aluminium, and enables similar reductions in GHG emissions



### High recycling rates are already a reality in some markets...

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#### An aluminum atom will be part of 3 different cans a year on average

Recycling rate of Al cans: > 95% in multiple countries



Recycling rate in transportation and building industries: > 90-95%



But larger impurity concentrations associated with higher recycling are increasingly detrimental to ductility, i.e. to dimensioning properties for some major Constellium applications





D. Raabe et al., Making sustainable aluminum by recycling scrap: The science of "dirty" alloys, Progress in Materials Science,(2022)

Metal input

-2.1 Mt CD, sq



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## **Context: different types of recycled content**



Other names exist, but need to be defined (new scrap, process scrap...)

## **Context: remelting end of life scrap within existing aluminium alloys**

- Aluminium alloys contain defined contents of "hardening" elements, grain controlling elements, but also maximum impurity levels
- Within an Aluminium Association range, suppliers have tighter targets reflecting plant equipment and/or customer requirements
- Compared with other metal sources, end of life scrap compositions are:

Iron concentration

- Not consistent with an existing alloy composition
- More variable
- Lower purity





Silicon concentration

Open challenges: reducing/managing the variability of EOL scrap, accepting higher impurity levels, living with wider chemistry windows.



## **Selected GHG reduction initiatives: impact vs technology readiness**

- Ranking different between overall Constellium assessment, impact for specific products
- Impurity tolerance, scrap preparation/sorting and Carbon neutral melting are high impact in both views



16

Impurity tolerance: effect of intermetallic phase (IMP) distribution on elongation of an aluminum 6xxx alloy

- At <u>identical alloy composition</u> (IMP volume fraction, rolling, heat treatment) elongation depends on IMP size / distribution
- Finer IMP result in higher elongation in both T4 (quenched and naturally aged) or T6 (peak aged) tempers
- No effect on strength (not shown)

Constellium

Open challenge: how to refine IMP distributions sufficiently at an industrial scale



## **Scrap sorting and preparation: status in France**

Current re-use of "French" aluminium scrap → "Downcycling »



Used as oxygen getter in iron casting process → lost for aluminium cycle



Used in cast engine part → decrease of Al alloy purity & decrease of cast alloy demand



Open challenges: increasing can recycling rates in France, anticipating the end of cast engine parts, increasing pre-consumer scrap retrieval in aero



## Scrap preparation and sorting: steps from end-of-life to new part





# Low/zero-carbon casting: the cast house of the future

Constellium has launched a major initiative at Voreppe (DAFNE 2), with the help of the Plan de Relance, to develop the cast house of the future

3-year project to build a demonstrator at C-TEC of the Casthouse of the Future (2030 horizon) to:

- Determine best option to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from gas-fired reverb furnaces, through evaluation of several combustion alternatives. Prove the concept of CO<sub>2</sub> capture on oxyfuel combustion on reverb furnaces.
- Enable higher recycled content through:
  - Improved process monitoring, especially liquid metal quality
  - Controlling intermetallic size and distribution to allow for higher impurity levels (e.g. Fe).
- Develop breakthrough casting technology to improve head and butt sawing recovery, scalping recovery both in conventional and electromagnetic, waste heat recovery from casting cooling water. Its development will be enabled by the implementation of the casting digital twin.



## **Overall DAFNE 2 program content**



**Opportunities: alternative burner / heating technologies? Waste heat recovery and storage technololgies?** 



### A combination of approaches tailored to each major application will be required to minimize the requirement for primary metal in Constellium's products





## Conclusions

- Sustainability, and in particular reduction of GHG emissions, is a key driver for the materials industry
- Aluminum presents a unique set of opportunities and challenges:
  - An already well developed recycling culture due to:
    - Excellent intrinsic recyclability
    - A high economic benefit to recycling
  - Which needs to be extended into all markets
    - With the challenge of meeting high performance requirements while accepting less controlled metal input
- Constellium is active in addressing these challenges
  - Industrially: committed to -30% GHG emissions by 2030
  - In our R&T: creating new solutions further improving both our own footprint and that of our customers
- There are multiple outstanding challenges, including:
  - Developing impurity and/or variability tolerant alloys
  - Developing recyclable parts (e.g. mono-alloy)
  - Optimizing the scrap recuperation, treatment, sorting strategies.
  - Identifying cost-efficient and low emission alternatives to current gas-fired furnaces



# Thank you!

STREET, STREET

# **Questions?**

