



Alcoa wheels for buses and coaches

Alcoa Wheel Products Europe supply forged aluminium wheels for coaches, city buses and intercity buses. The wheel sizes range from 17.5 x 6.75, suitable for medium-sized buses such as the Temsa Opalin, to 22.5 x 7.50, 22.5 x 8.25 and 22.5 x 9.00.



Alcoa wheels offer many advantages compared to steel wheels:

- They are lighter, bringing down the weight of the vehicle and allowing to add an extra passenger or more luggage.
- They are stronger than steel wheels, resulting in a longer lifetime.
- They are more beautiful and shiny, giving coaches a stylish appearance and eliminating the need for expensive wheel covers.
- Dura-Bright® wheels are easy to clean, saving time and money.
- Aluminium dissipates heat better than steel, which results in a longer lifetime of the tyres and brakes.
- 5 year warranty against manufacturing defects.

Alcoa wheels are available at all major bus and coach manufacturers: Evobus, Neoplan, Volvo Bus, Scania Bus, Irisbus, Van Hool, VDL, Temsa, Alexander Dennis, Solaris and so on.

The wheels can be specified in three finishes:

- Brushed
- Mirror Polished
- Dura-Bright®

Dura-Bright® is not a coating, but a special - Alcoa patented - surface treatment. On ordinary aluminium wheels, a coating is typically a layer of baked powder that sits on top of the wheel surface. But, with Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels, the treatment actually penetrates the aluminium, forming a protective barrier that becomes an integral part of the wheel. It does not chip, crack, peel or corrode, like conventional coatings do.

Dura-Bright® wheels do not need polishing. Weekly washing with soap and water will keep them shiny, even after hundreds of washes and thousands of miles.

For additional information and cleaning instructions, please consult the Dura-Bright® Care & Maintenance page: http://www.alcoa.com/alcoawheels/europe/en/info_page/dura_maintenance.asp.

Are you looking to change the steel wheels on an older bus or coach? Please do not hesitate to contact the local Alcoa distributor. They will be happy to assist you. Names and addresses are available on the contact page of the Alcoa Wheels Europe website: <http://www.alcoa.com/alcoawheels/europe/en/home.asp>.



Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels are a must for “vip-shuttle.com”

The company “vip-shuttle.com”, formerly known under the name Holger Schnizler Busservice & Event-shuttle, based in Zell u. Aichelberg, 40 km east of Stuttgart, specializes in transport services with a touch of exclusivity.

The company was founded by Holger Schnizler in September 2000, originally providing traditional tourist travel. Early in 2004, the company purchased its first coach in the first-class- category, followed by their first VIP-coach in January 2008. The fleet now consists of three Mercedes-Benz Travego and Setra VIP coaches and eleven Mercedes-Benz Sprinters for VIP travel.

One of the “vip-shuttle.com” coaches is used by 11-time German handball champions “Frisch Auf Göppingen”, for their out-matches in Germany and Europe.

After the first coaches were delivered with steel wheels, they were soon retrofitted with Alcoa Mirror Polished wheels. Early 2009, the coaches were equipped with Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels.



“We originally had Mirror Polished wheels, which required a lot of maintenance to keep them shiny. We started retrofitting the vehicles with Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels in 2009, as these wheels can be cleaned very quickly and easily. All our coaches are cleaned on a daily basis, which is a normal procedure for VIP vehicles,” explains Holger Schnizler. “Customers expect our VIP coaches to have a perfect appearance, and with Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels, that is exactly what they get.”

Contiki Holland coaches 100% on Alcoa aluminium wheels



Whether you are looking for a complete daytrip or just transport by coach, Contiki Holland is the place to be! Contiki is a recognized “quality mark coach operator” and guarantees safety and comfort. The safety and equipment of the 90 coaches are of the highest standard. This is the reason why all 90 Contiki coaches are equipped with Alcoa forged aluminium wheels. These wheels stand for weight saving, increased driving comfort for driver and passengers and a classy, clean appearance.

Managing Director Gerco Don states:

“The reason why we specify Alcoa wheels is that we try to build our coaches in the lightest possible way. With a maximum occupancy rate of the coaches, the technical and legal maximum loads per axle play an important role. In order to be always on the safe side, the net weight of the vehicle is very important for us.

Apart from the weight saving, Alcoa wheels offer other advantages such as the appearance of our fleet and the positive influence on driving comfort, fuel consumption and maintenance. In order to hit the road with clean and shiny wheels, with a minimum of efforts, we have specified the easy-to-clean Alcoa Dura-Bright® wheels since 3 years now and we are fully satisfied with these.”

Clarkes of London use Alcoa Dura-Bright® to boost their brand image

Clarkes of London operates a fleet of over 50 vehicles and provides a fully comprehensive range of ground transport solutions, suitable for any event. The team at Clarkes offer a wealth of experience and knowledge of the industry and are dedicated to providing high quality coach travel. Image has always played an important part in the company's success.

The general manager of Clarkes, Terry Newman, explains:

"At Clarkes we use Alcoa wheels for two reasons, the first being that they are aesthetically pleasing, thus in keeping with our already reputable image, proving that we take pride in our vehicles just as much as we do our customers. The Alcoa wheels have saved time and money as they wash with soap and water and clean to a polished look in moments. The second reason is slightly more technical.



Compared to a steel wheel the weight saving on each vehicle is 20 kgs per wheel which enables us to keep within the maximum laden weight allowed as well as being able to use the weight saved for other modifications such as double glazed windows, all adding to passenger satisfaction."

Salaün, France



To De Decker – Van Riet, Alcoa wheels' beauty and cost efficiency are a winning combination



De Decker –Van Riet was founded in 1928 in Malderen, Belgium by Alfons De Decker and his wife Louise Van Riet and evolved from a small modern family business, starting with a garage and one small bus, into a thoroughly commercial enterprise, yet still keeping in touch with its family roots.

Due to the family's entrepreneurial spirit, the company was already flourishing before WWII, although it was not until after the war that the number of vehicles grew rapidly and business boomed. Today, the De Decker – Van Riet specializes in transport of industrial goods and persons and operates not only a number of trucks and tankers, but also touring cars and city buses. Their fleet consists of approximately 207 vehicles and they have a staff of around 200.

As the company is still developing and growing and a ongoing renewal of their vehicles is taking place, this demands for a intelligent fleet management, not only taking into account the profitability, but also focusing on health and safety. De Decker – Van Riet goes above and beyond what is legally required, in order to ensure optimum working conditions. Along with the growth of the business, family values of quality and safety have always persevered.

Alcoa's wheels fit in perfectly with this business view. Rudy van de Moortel, responsible for Technical Services, explains:

"To us, for trucks and trailers the advantages of Alcoa aluminium wheels are weight, appearance and strength. For buses and coaches the aesthetics of the Alcoa wheels are primary. The pristine appearance of our vehicles has always been very important to De Decker-Van Riet. In the past we used to spray the steel wheels silver grey in order to give them an aluminum-finished look. Since we learned about Alcoa's aluminum wheels, we started mounting those on all of our vehicles: trucks, trailers, coaches and city buses. We have always opted for the Mirror Polished finish, as it is the most shiny, but we may consider to do a trial with the Dura-Bright® wheels in future, as these will be much easier to maintain."

For De Decker-Van Riet, there is also the additional advantage of cost-efficiency, according to Mr. Van de Moortel:

"We no longer need to buy hub covers and the overall maintenance cost is considerably lower than with steel, since the wheels no longer need to be painted."

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