

Corporate Sustainability Offers Increased Commitment to Product Quality and Safety

As raised by the recent anti-counterfeiting campaign organized by the National Electrical Manufacturers Association (NEMA), there has been increased concern over some products entering the electrical products marketplace from around the world that do not meet the safety and performance standards established for the North American market. Consequently, many questions have been raised regarding product quality and safety. It is more important than ever to know where products are being produced and who is producing them.

By selecting a reliable aluminum building wire manufacturer, contractors and distributors can be assured that they are purchasing and installing safe, trusted products. At Alcan Cable, we believe in the importance of corporate citizenship that strives to incorporate environmental, social and economic considerations into all of our business systems and processes. This investment in sustainability sets us apart from other companies and provides our customers with peace of mind.

The following information is intended to help answer questions about our corporate philosophy on sustainability, which directly impacts the way we do business and how our products are manufactured.

1. What does it mean to be a sustainable company?

It means responsible management, commitment to employees, customers and stakeholders, as well as continuous improvement to company and product performance. We do this by making a significant contribution through the way we do business and the products we make, to the economic, social and environmental well-being of the communities in which we operate.

Our corporate philosophy is to play a vital role in developing and providing beneficial products and combating environmental degradation, conserving natural resources and ensuring safe workplaces. Alcan Cable is determined to grow in ways that ensure a sustainable future for generations to come, so our customers can be certain of the quality, reliability and dependability of our company and products.

2. Why should contractors and distributors look for a sustainable company when purchasing aluminum building wire?

Contractors and distributors should look for safe, high quality, reliable products that meet stringent safety standards. All Alcan Cable products are produced to the highest quality standards. We take quality and safety seriously from product inception, production and installation, to the product's final disposal. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said of the supply chain for non-conforming products sold in the North American market.

3. How does Alcan Cable incorporate sustainability into their products?

Alcan Cable takes a comprehensive approach to product stewardship, which enables us to address the complete life cycle of our building wire products, including all environmental, social and economic implications. The broad range of dimensions we consider over the entire product life cycle includes: social impacts, resource availability, climate change, recycling/disposal and consumer behavior. We work diligently with our customers to promote the responsible use of our products and to minimize the environmental impact during the entire product life cycle.



At Alcan Cable, we believe in providing technically advanced products with long-term sustainability benefits and outstanding quality at the best price. We adhere to diverse principles, approaches and guidelines to help us achieve this level of excellence.

Each and every foot of Alcan Cable is stringently tested to ensure it meets the highest safety standards. In addition, our product quality is backed by our guarantee.

4. How does Alcan Cable practice environmental stewardship?

We actively strive to minimize our impact on the environment. For well over a decade, Alcan Cable has accelerated its commitment to practicing environmental responsibility.

Alcan Cable products are manufactured in an environmentally responsible manner and do not contain harmful materials, unlike some non-conforming products that may contain harmful components and hazardous content such as lead. For example, our PVC jackets are free of the harmful components lead and cadmium stabilizers and provide outstanding performance. Our polyethylene insulation is environmentally sustainable while offering excellent long-term performance. We prevent or minimize adverse environmental impacts including waste, emissions and discharges from our operations. Future product development will maintain Alcan Cable’s commitment and dedication to preserving and protecting the environment.

Alcan Cable’s Savings Through Alcan Recovery (STAR®) program involves the collection, recycling and metal recovery of scrap conductors and the recycling of wood reels, which result in revenue generation for the customer. This program clearly demonstrates the importance Alcan Cable places on environmental stewardship.

5. Specifically, how is Alcan Cable contributing to a sustainable environment?

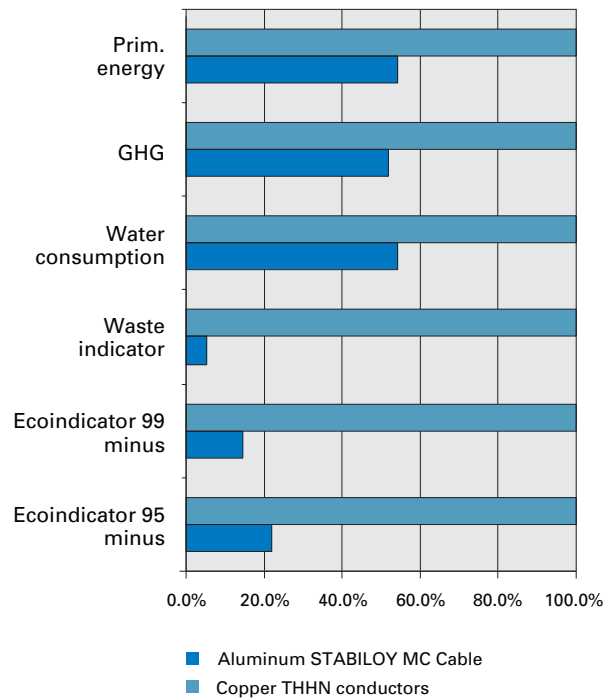
Alcan Cable plays a vital role in the protection of our environment and the conservation of natural resources. By implementing responsible business practices, we can assist in providing a prosperous and sustainable environment for future generations.

The MASTERPAK® system allows us to produce and ship insulated aluminum low voltage cable without the wooden reel. MASTERPAK is an excellent example of a simple, yet innovative concept that combats environmental degradation, conserves natural resources and ensures safe workplaces. As part of Alcan Cable’s STAR program to recover and recycle materials from remnant and scrap conductors and packaging, MASTERPAK is a cost effective solution that demonstrates Alcan Cable’s commitment to the environment.

The MASTERPAK coil of cable is secured by stretch wrap PVC and plastic strips, and a cardboard liner is provided for its storage. The MASTERPAK coil can be assembled on a plastic breakdown reel or stempak coil spear for easy dispersal and cable installation. This minimizes cable waste and material scrap, reduces the number of wood reels sent to landfills and the costs associated with it. Eliminating wooden reels saves millions of trees each year, all of which contribute to the sustainability of our environment. Alcan Cable was the first cable manufacturer to develop this innovative packaging solution through strategic alliances and partnerships with our customers.

A study of the overall performance of the environmental life cycle of cable systems based on aluminum and copper was conducted by Alcan Cable. The results, summarized in the chart below, show that significant improvements in the six eco indicators can be made in energy consumption, greenhouse gas emissions and other environmental criteria when using STABILOY® MC Cable versus copper THHN building wire.¹

Figure 1: Average difference in impact for ratings between 200 – 4000 Amp



¹ “Implications of Building Wire Design Alternatives on Development of Sustainable Buildings”, Alcan Cable White Paper, August 2007.

6. How does Alcan Cable demonstrate sustainability internally to its employees?

At Alcan Cable, our goal is to protect and promote the environment and the health and safety of our employees and the communities in which we operate. Our vision of Environment, Health and Safety (EHS) excellence is shaped by our core values of integrity, accountability, trust and transparency, as well as teamwork. Similar to sustainability, *EHS FIRST* is an essential part of our management and decision making process.

7. What is *EHS FIRST*?

EHS FIRST represents an ironclad commitment from each Alcan Cable employee in all levels of the organization to improve through increased awareness, knowledge sharing and by applying best practices.

EHS FIRST is more than a management system; it also promotes a proactive attitude and an acceptance of responsibility and accountability. It also ensures that Alcan Cable complies with increasingly strict government regulations around the world regarding transparency, responsibility and accountability. *EHS FIRST* incorporates ISO 14001, a globally recognized environmental registration, and OHSAS 18001, an international occupational health and safety registration.

Conclusion

Alcan Cable has been delivering quality aluminum building wire to the North American electrical industry for over 100 years. We offer comprehensive service and support to all our customers, and most importantly, we stand behind our products. Our environmental, health and safety philosophies extend back to the marketplace and our customers through dedication to product quality, our conscientiousness in how products are manufactured and used, and the overall safety and security of our product portfolio.

Alcan Cable's strategic focus is supported by our corporate values of integrity, accountability, trust, transparency and teamwork. These fundamental principles, along with our customer focus and management systems, set us apart as an industry leader dedicated to delivering quality products.