

# Advancing Sustainable Manufacturing

## Producing Environmentally Friendly Products

Demand for aluminum is growing around the world as people recognize its usefulness as an alternative to plastic and as a lightweight material for automobile parts amid increasingly strict environmental regulations. Transport tractors and trailers, for example, can be made lighter by using lightweight aluminum materials for body panels and components. That contributes to both higher fuel efficiency and lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

To make use of aluminum in products, however, the performance of the materials must be improved. Therefore, the UACJ Group makes aluminum sheet, parts, and other items according to the required performance specifications of the end-products. For example, it improves the strength of aluminum components used in automobiles.

In the same way, the Group strives to make aluminum products that enhance user-friendliness and help reduce environmental burdens, specifically by saving resources, combating global warming, facilitating a circular economy, and eliminating substances that are harmful to the environment.

This approach is reflected in the Group's corporate philosophy, which was revised in February 2020. The Our Vision section of the philosophy states the following: "Aluminum is our passion. It inspires our work in building a better world and a healthier environment." Accordingly, while working to expand its operations, the Group will pursue solutions for global environmental issues through its businesses with a view to ensure not only its own sustainable growth but also that of society.

Increasing production volume, however, will lead to a greater environmental load from manufacturing processes. Therefore, the Group strives to reduce the total amount of energy it consumes and waste it disposes in line with targets set every year in an effort to lower the environmental load of its manufacturing processes.

In addition, UACJ Corporation has joined the Aluminium



Stewardship Initiative (ASI), a global non-profit standards setting and certification organization that aims to "maximize the contribution of aluminum to a sustainable society" by promoting improvements in environmental, social and governance impacts of aluminum production and measures to reduce environmental burdens across the industry and supply chain as a whole. UACJ was the first rolled aluminum product manufacturer in Japan to join the ASI. As a member, the Company is actively contributing to global standards-setting in the aluminum industry while supporting the ASI's activities and objectives.

## Project launched to promote aluminum as a solution for environmental problems

UACJ has launched a group-wide project for promoting the adoption of aluminum by demonstrating how it can be used in potential solutions for environmental problems. For instance, using aluminum instead of plastic to make beverage containers can help slow down ocean plastic pollution. Through the project, group companies provide information on aluminum's benefits and recent trends to beverage manufacturers in Japan and other countries, and to consumers in general, including children. As a way of showing the feasibility of switching from plastic containers, the Company offers drinking water bottled in aluminum cans to people visiting its head offices in Japan and Thailand. Now that awareness of ocean plastic pollution is on the rise, UACJ is cooperating with the Japan Aluminium Association and the Japan Aluminium Can Recycling Association to educate the public about the benefits of aluminum cans.



All beverages in vending machines at the Company's factories in Japan are bottled in aluminum cans.