



UK Aluminium Industry Fact Sheet 8

Aluminium in Building and Construction

ALFED
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This sector is also a major consumer of aluminium, with about 24% of finished aluminium product globally being used in this way. It is extensively used in windows, curtain walls, roofing and cladding, solar shading, solar panels, temporary structures etc. There are also allied uses like scaffolding, ladders and signs.

Factors that make aluminium a preferred choice for so many applications are high strength-to-weight, forming methods which aid design flexibility, long, low-maintenance service life, attractive, durable finishes, and ultimately the certainty that at the end of the building's useful life the aluminium will be recycled to begin another useful life.

Aluminium incorporated into building design is likely to save much more energy throughout the life of the building than was consumed in its initial manufacture. This is because aluminium building systems help in maximising solar gain during winter months, and also in minimising it during summer months. The net result is a significant increase in efficiency of fuel consumption for both heating and air conditioning.

Further information about aluminium and aluminium alloys, their production, fabrication and end use can be obtained from:

- (1) European Aluminium Association in Brussels
www.eaa.net
- (2) International Aluminium Institute in London
www.world-aluminium.org

