STEEL-ALIVE

Exploring Solutions for Steel-based Light Commercial Vehicles (LCVs)

About [the project]

STEEL-ALIVE aims to improve the way steel-based Light Commercial Vehicles (LCVs) are produced by optimising the manufacturing process. Instead of rigid industrial processes such as stamping or giga-casting methods, the project seeks to establish a more flexible and cost-effective production framework centred on the use of Advanced High-Strength Steel (AHSS).

To demonstrate the potential of this new approach, the project will build three vehicle components: (i) a battery casing, (ii) a rear carrier box structure, and (iii) a body-in-white frame.

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STEEL ALIVE

STEEL

Applications for Low Investment manufacturing of high Value Elements

www.steel-alive.eu

The Challenge

The transition towards a decarbonised industry in Europe, driven by policies such as the Green Deal, is increasing production costs and reducing competitiveness compared with markets with less stringent regulations. This challenge is particularly critical for the automotive and steel industries, which must invest heavily in new technologies to adapt to electric mobility and climate targets.

OBJ1. Expanded use of Advanced High-Strength Steels

Extend the use of Advanced High-Strength Steels in the production of LCV components.

OBJ2. Innovative and adaptable component design

Design and create new component solutions that can be easily adapted to different vehicle models or sizes, without needing new tooling.

OBJ3. Simplified manufacturing line for LCV production

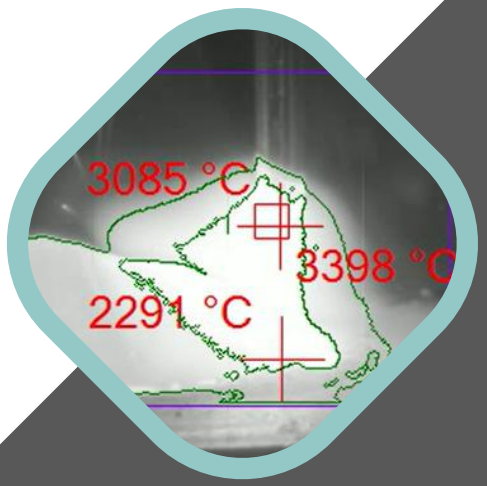
Develop a new LCV manufacturing line based mainly on laser cutting and bending of steel tubes and sheets, supported by additional bending and punching techniques.

OBJ4. Implementation of hybrid joining technologies

Introduce hybrid joining techniques, combining welding with structural adhesives, supported by advanced in-line quality control systems.

Project Mission

To strengthen the competitiveness and sustainability of the European LCV sector by promoting solutions based on Advanced High-Strength Steels (AHSS) and flexible, low-investment manufacturing processes.



Project Vision

To demonstrate that innovation in steel-based manufacturing can drive sustainable industrial growth in Europe, reconciling environmental responsibility with long-term competitiveness in the automotive sector.