

## **Copper to remain material of choice for EV wire harnesses over the next decade**

New research commissioned by the International Copper Association (ICA) reveals the demand for copper in the wire harness in the light-duty automotive industry is expected to grow to more than 1.7 million annual tonnes of copper, with EVs growing in contribution to that figure by 36%, through 2032. Continued popularity of Sports Utility Vehicles (SUVs) will drive the majority of copper demand, averaging 1.1 million tonnes per year between 2022 and 2032.

The research, conducted by Martec Group, found that while some original equipment manufacturers and suppliers are testing aluminum in place of copper in the wire harness, the overall level of substitution will remain minimal. Furthermore, trends toward fuel economy regulation, weight reduction and miniaturization are expected to drive demand for copper in favor of aluminum.

Keith Miller, Director, Martec, explained, “Our global research, which included quantitative research and more than 50 key stakeholder interviews, indicates that copper remains the preferred choice for wire harnesses in EVs. In fact, we expect demand to increase in the next decade as the industry shifts to electrification and automation.”

Additionally, the shift to autonomous driving is expected to increase a vehicle’s copper content. Copper, thanks to its conductivity, is the ideal material for the high-speed data wires needed in vision systems and sensors. The Martec team predicts between one – two kg of copper will be needed for an L3 autonomous vehicle.

Colin Bennett, Market Intelligence Director at ICA, said, “With its valuable weight reduction and miniaturization qualities, copper remains the material of choice in an electric vehicle’s wire harness. Importantly, this growth shows no signs of slowing down over the next decade as industry pursues decarbonization goals.”

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For more information please following this link -

<https://copperalliance.org/resource/automotive-wire-harness-study-presentation/>

### **About the International Copper Association (ICA)**

The International Copper Association (ICA) brings together the global copper industry to develop and defend markets for copper and make a positive contribution to the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals. Headquartered in Washington, D.C., ICA has offices in three primary regions: Asia, Europe and North America. ICA and its Copper Alliance® partners are active in more than 60 countries worldwide. For additional information, please visit [copperalliance.org](http://copperalliance.org).

### **About Martec Group**

The Martec Group is a global market research firm headquartered in North America with offices in Chicago, Detroit, Frankfurt (Germany), and Shanghai (China). For nearly 40 years, Martec has been providing unparalleled quantitative and qualitative research to top companies worldwide. Learn more at [martecgroup.com](http://martecgroup.com).

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