

# The ConMet Connection

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## Selecting wheel end components to keep fuels costs down and payload up

With fuel prices at record highs and new emission standards coming in 2007 that require heavier exhaust equipment, saving weight on today's trucks, tractors and trailers is critical in keeping costs down and payload up.

Lightweight wheel end components have proven to be a cost effective way of reducing overall vehicle weight without sacrificing reliability and long life. Aluminum wheel hubs, for instance, have become the industry standard in the Class 8 truck market. Aluminum hubs, including ConMet's PreSet® and standard hub assemblies, weigh as much as 28

pounds less than comparable iron versions. This can really add up on a tractor and/or trailer. See an example of the weight savings below:



Aluminum PreSet® Hub Assembly

Type of Hub	PreSet Iron Hub	PreSet Aluminum Hub	Weight Savings per Hub
Drive	78 lbs.	50 lbs.	<b>28 lbs.</b>
Front	53 lbs.	36 lbs.	<b>17 lbs.</b>
Trailer	58 lbs.	40 lbs.	<b>18 lbs.</b>

New brake drum designs also provide weight savings without sacrificing strength and durability. ConMet's patented CastLite® drum, for example, weighs as much as 15% less than standard cast drums. Therefore, CastLite brake drums offer the best value in terms of cost per pound of weight saved when compared to other lightweight drum options. The weight comparison between standard cast drums and the CastLite drum is outlined in the following chart.

Drum Size	Standard Cast Brake Drum	CastLite Brake Drum	Weight Savings per Drum
16.5 x 7 (Drive)	112 lbs.	100 lbs.	<b>12 lbs.</b>
15 x 4 (Front)	80 lbs.	69 lbs.	<b>11 lbs.</b>

Combining aluminum hub assemblies, like PreSet, with specially designed brake drums, like CastLite, creates even more significant weights savings. The combined savings is outlined below:

Hub and Drum Assembly	PreSet Iron Hub and Standard Cast Brake Drum	PreSet Aluminum Hub and CastLite Brake Drum	Weight Savings per Hub and Drum Assembly
Drive	190 lbs.	150 lbs.	<b>40 lbs.</b>
Front	133 lbs.	105 lbs.	<b>28 lbs.</b>

Multiply that weight savings over the entire vehicle and you've created a combination of improved fuel economy, increased payload and, best of all, lower costs.



CastLite® Brake Drum

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