

BUSINESS NEWS

Ford Supplier Restarts Key Plant

Fires at a Novelis aluminum plant were very disruptive to the auto industry

By Bob Tita

An aluminum-rolling plant in upstate New York that supplies Ford Motor and other automakers was slated to restart production on Wednesday, nine months after a fire caused a supply crisis for the car industry, the plant's owner said.

The Novelis plant in Oswego, N.Y., is the largest domestic supplier of aluminum sheet for the U.S. automotive industry. It serves about a dozen companies, including Ford, General Motors, Jeep and Ram parent Stellantis, as well as foreign automakers with U.S. production facilities.

A fire at the plant in September idled the rolling line where aluminum sheet is produced. Another fire in November caused additional damage to the rolling equipment and plant building. The thin aluminum sheets produced at the plant are later stamped into



The plant is the largest domestic supplier of aluminum sheet for U.S. automakers.

fenders, hoods and other exterior vehicle parts.

The outage was particularly disruptive for Ford, which uses aluminum for the body of the F-150 pickup truck, America's bestselling vehicle for decades. The subsequent shortage of aluminum reduced Ford's inventories of trucks at

its dealers going into summer, typically a busy time for new auto sales.

Novelis said it mobilized its plants in Europe and South Korea to supply U.S. customers during the outage in New York. But the contingencies cost automakers billions of dollars.

"While this is positive

progress, the disruption is a clear reminder of the distress facing many automotive suppliers today," a Ford spokesman said. "Ford is committed to finding new and enhanced ways to work with our partners to prioritize long-term supply chain resilience." The U.S.'s 50% tariff on im-

ported aluminum and the war with Iran have driven up the price of aluminum and tightened the global supply of the metal. The Middle East is a major aluminum-producing region.

Automakers in recent years have increased their use of the lightweight metal. The auto industry in North America consumed 3.7 million metric tons of aluminum last year, nearly 30% more than in 2020, according to metals-market consulting firm CRU.

Novelis said it expected the Oswego plant to operate at less than full capacity in the coming weeks.

"We are deeply grateful for the flexibility and partnership our customers have shown, as well as the extraordinary efforts of our employees," Novelis President Steve Fisher said.

Atlanta-based Novelis, a unit of India's Hindalco Industries, is in the process of adding more production capacity for automotive sheet at a new rolling plant under construction in Alabama. The company expects the full plant to be close to starting by the end of the year.

UAW Sets Pact at GM Truck Supplier

By Christopher Otts

Unionized workers at a Michigan plant producing a key component for General Motors trucks have reached a tentative agreement for a new labor contract following a 10-day strike.

"After 18 years of sacrifice, these workers are finally winning back a big chunk of what was taken from them," United Auto Workers union President Shawn Fain said.

The deal between the UAW and Dauch, formerly known as American Axle, means workers could soon return to the Three Rivers, Mich., factory where they produce axles for GM's heavy-duty pickups, the Chevrolet Silverado and GMC Sierra.

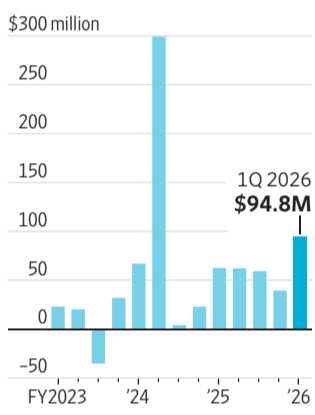
The deal must still be ratified in a vote of the plant's roughly 970 hourly workers, which isn't guaranteed to succeed. The plant's axles also go into GM's midsize trucks, the Chevrolet Colorado and GMC Canyon, and it makes an axle component for the company's light-duty Silverado and Sierra.

"We are pleased to have reached a tentative agreement with UAW Local 2093 at our Three Rivers Manufacturing Facility with a four-year contract," a Dauch spokesman said.

GM has kept pickup production on schedule since the walkout began June 1, but analysts have said the company's operations wouldn't last long without a fresh supply of axles. The UAW workers were pushing for wages closer to the \$29 an hour they used to earn in 2008 before agreeing to a 50% wage reduction to keep the plant open during the recession. The plant's top wage rate for regular production workers is about \$22 an hour.

Chewy Cuts Outlook Despite Higher Results

Chewy's quarterly net profit/loss



Note: Latest fiscal quarter ended May 3
Source: S&P Capital IQ

By Connor Hart

Chewy cut its sales outlook for the year, up against a more dynamic consumer backdrop.

The online pet-supplies retailer said it expected net sales to come in between \$13.4 billion and \$13.55 billion this year, down from a prior forecast of \$13.6 billion to \$13.75 billion. Analysts polled by FactSet expected sales of \$13.65 billion. The lower view came as Chewy issued an outlook for the current quarter, guiding for adjusted earnings of approximately 36 cents a share on sales of \$3.3 billion to \$3.33 billion. Analysts were looking for

adjusted earnings of 40 cents a share on sales of \$3.36 billion.

Chief Executive Sumit Singh said that despite a challenging environment, Chewy continues to gain market share, expand profitability and add customers.

For its first quarter ended May 3, Chewy posted a profit of \$94.8 million, or 23 cents a share. That compares with a profit of \$62.4 million, or 15 cents a share, a year earlier. Stripping out one-time items, adjusted earnings were 43 cents a share, in line with analysts' expectations. Net sales climbed 7.7% to \$3.36 billion, just inching out Wall Street models for \$3.35 billion.



The online pet-supplies retailer posted a profit of \$94.8 million and issued an underwhelming outlook for its current quarter.

DOW JONES RISK & COMPLIANCE

Revolutionizing Due Diligence

Reduce the time and cost of due diligence with Dow Jones Integrity Check, an AI-powered due diligence solution built for today's compliance teams.

Integrity Check goes beyond basic screening to deliver deep, automated analysis on individuals and organizations. Powered by advanced AI and Natural Language Processing from Xapien, the platform analyzes thousands of structured and unstructured data sources and transforms complex risk information into clear, intuitive reports.

Generate comprehensive due diligence reports in minutes, not days, while significantly reducing false positives and manual review.

Scan the QR code to learn more or visit: dowjones.com/integrity-check

© 2026 Dow Jones & Co., Inc. All Rights Reserved.

Who's Who of Distinguished Leaders

MARQUIS Who's Who®
www.marquiswhoswho.com

2026
DL
Distinguished Leaders
HONOREE

HSIEN-LUNG "JIM" YANG
FORMER DIRECTOR OF PROCESS ENGINEERING APPLIED MATERIALS

Across 25 years and noteworthy roles in the United States and China, Hsien-Lung "Jim" Yang has made a significant impact on the technology world. Born in Taiwan, he immigrated to the United States for the first time in 1999 to continue his education. Following the completion of his master's degree, Mr. Yang joined Applied Materials as a product development engineer. Over the course of 12 years with the company during his initial tenure, he was promoted to key account technologist and business manager, establishing his skill and ambition early in his career.

After leaving Applied Materials in 2014, Mr. Yang moved back to Taiwan to become a technical manager with Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company (TSMC), the world's largest contract chipmaker. Further building his expertise in chip manufacturing over the next decade, he served as a division head at Wavetek Microelectronics Corporation, a senior manager at Yangtze Memory Technologies, a director of process and application engineering at Woniks IPS, and a key product unit and key account technology senior manager at Advanced Semiconductor Materials (ASM).

During his final months with ASM in 2023, Mr. Yang returned to the United States, and soon after, his career came full circle when he accepted a new role with Applied Materials. He reconnected with the company as the director of process engineering, primarily focusing on products related to physical vapor deposition (PVD) technology. Until recently, Mr. Yang held a more prominent position at Applied Materials as the organization's head of technology development. The promotion placed him at the forefront of major technological developments, reflecting his years of hard work and professional growth.

Among his many accomplishments as an engineer, Mr. Yang is renowned for developing hundreds of chip-manufacturing processes, many of which have been used to produce chips in Apple's phones since 2016's iPhone 7. Having invented numerous industry-related processes, he holds five patents and has filed four additional patent applications.

Beyond his primary achievements in the engineering field, Mr. Yang has been a prolific writer throughout his career, publishing articles in such professional journals as the Nanochip Technology Journal. He has presented papers at the Materials Research Society Conference and the Applied Materials Internal Technology Conference, among others.

Mr. Yang's performance in the field is born of his education. He obtained a Bachelor of Science in computer science and information engineering from National Taiwan University in 1997. Upon his arrival in the United States, Mr. Yang earned a Master of Science in electrical engineering and computer science from Cornell University in 2001. He also served in Taiwan's army for two years, retiring with the rank of lieutenant.

Since 1898, Marquis Who's Who has remained the standard for reliable and comprehensive biographical reference material. We are proud to highlight hand-selected listees who have been recognized as Distinguished Leaders in their fields of endeavor. Of 1.6 million listees, only a small percentage are recognized with the Distinguished Leaders honor. We laud these individuals for their ambition, professional fortitude, industry contributions, and career accomplishments.