

Mo Growing Use Worldwide

Molybdenum is increasingly being used in automobiles and various industrial products. Adding molybdenum to steel gives added strength and improves the strength-to-weight ratio – meaning less metal is needed.

Over the past two decades, automotive engineers have included molybdenum-bearing, high-strength steel in their designs in order to produce lighter-weight, more fuel-efficient vehicles, which also resist corrosion and yield higher crash-test ratings than older models.



2008 General Motors “body-in-white” showing use of molybdenum-bearing high-strength steel

■ High Strength Steel ■ Ultra High Strength Steel
 ■ Extra High Strength Steel



Pipes inside a nuclear power plant

Growing use of molybdenum is also a factor in the chemical and petroleum industries. For example, project managers are favoring molybdenum-bearing duplex stainless steel grades for their strength and lower cost in the construction of large storage tanks.

The need for stronger steel alloys to handle higher pressures, as well as to resist corrosion, explains why molybdenum is being used more frequently and more intensely in oil and gas pipelines.

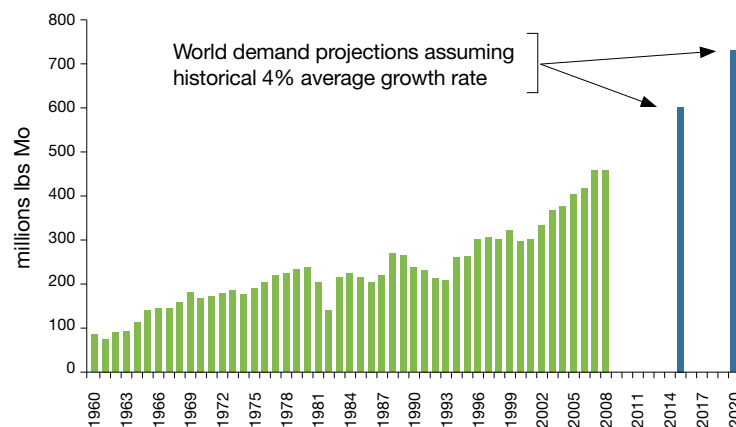
Steel alloys containing molybdenum perform better than ordinary steel in high-heat and corrosive situations, such as in jet engines, power generating turbines, desalination plants and nuclear power facilities.

Increasing numbers of nuclear power stations are being planned and constructed, especially in China and India, and each nuclear facility requires approximately half a million pounds of molybdenum.

As the world population continues to grow, as industrialization takes hold in Asia and other mainly rural parts of the world, and as consumers demand less-polluted environments, molybdenum will continue to be a popular metal.

World demand for molybdenum has grown at a 4% average annual rate over the past 50 years.

Molybdenum World Demand



World demand for molybdenum has grown at a 4% average annual rate over the past 50 years. This growth was interrupted in late 2008 by economic recession. But, as it did after past recessions, demand growth is likely to resume again when economic conditions improve.