

**Table 3.4.2 J: Wheel Weights – Zinc**

	Financial Parameter	Measure/Metric	Source of Information
<i>Required Data</i>			
	Initial purchase price for chemical/alternative	<p>Zinc raw material price: \$0.88 per pound, Platts Metals Week North American Special High Grade, December 2005</p> <p>Lead raw material price: \$0.65 per pound, Platts Metals Week North American producer price, December 2005</p>	<p>Gabby, 2006b</p> <p>Gabby, 2006a</p>
	Initial purchase cost for end-product/component	Coated zinc clip-on weights are comparable in price to coated lead clip-on weights. The average price for zinc weights (0.25 – 2 oz.) from a N. American manufacturer was approximately \$0.24 for P style weights and \$0.26 for MC style weights.	Ecology Center, 2005b
	Availability of chemical/alternative	<p>U.S. mine production in 2005 was 837,800 tons. Domestic zinc metal production capacity accounts for less than one-third of quantity consumed domestically. Canada and Mexico are leading sources of zinc. In 2005, there was a 200,000 ton production deficit worldwide.</p> <p>It is estimated that 70,000 tons of lead are used per year to manufacture wheel weights worldwide.</p>	<p>Gabby, 2006b</p> <p>Ecology Center, 2006</p>

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	Availability of component/end-product	<p>Many of the leading manufacturers of wheel weights, including at least two in N. America, produce zinc weights. Zinc weights are available in a variety of sizes and types but the manufacturers zinc product offerings are typically not as extensive as their lead product offerings. Zinc weights are used extensively in Europe. U.S. auto manufacturers are equipping new vehicles exported to Europe with zinc weights.</p> <p>In the U.S., the aftermarket, which accounts for 80% of wheel weight usage, continues to use lead weights almost exclusively.</p>	<p>Ecology, 2006</p> <p>Gearhart, 2006a</p>
<i>Additional Data if Available</i>			
	Key operating costs during use of end-product	Operation costs for zinc weights are expected to be the same as for the equivalent lead weights since zinc weights are installed in the same manor as lead weights.	
	Key end-of-product life costs	Used zinc wheel weights are not subject to state and federal hazardous waste rules and therefore waste management and recycling costs may be reduced. Zinc is widely used in automobiles so weights made from this material is not likely to become a contaminant in the automobile recycling process since it is recovered during the recycling process.	