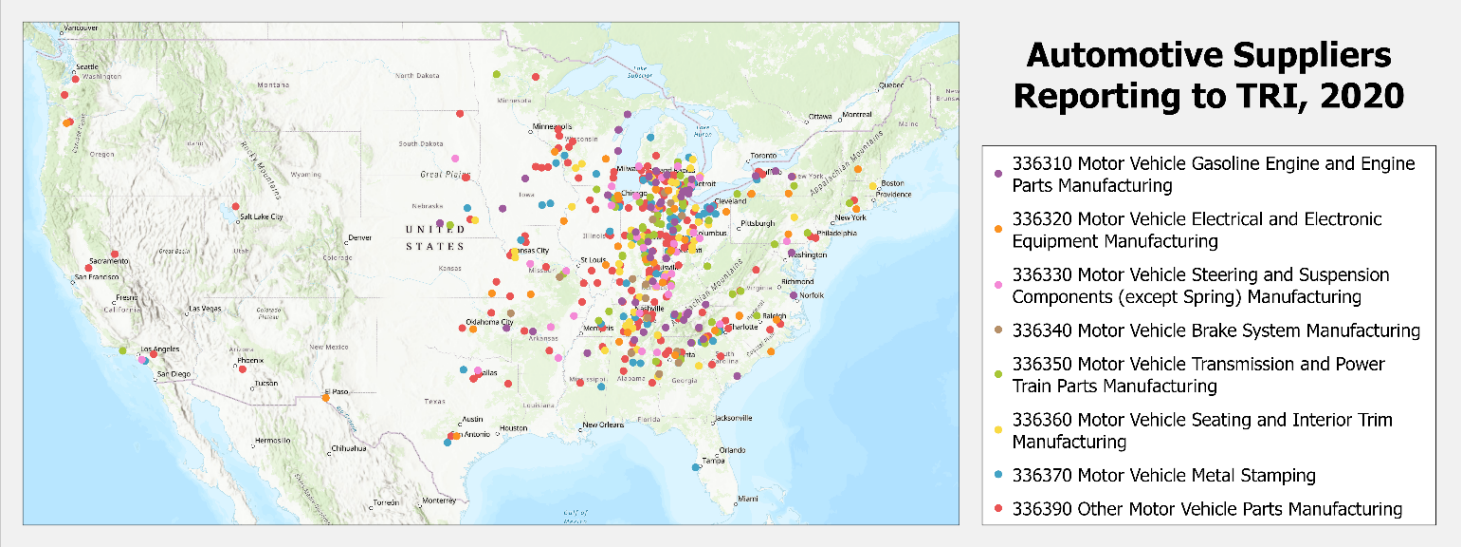
Pollution Prevention & Automotive Suppliers

Use TRI P2 data to help green supply chains

When looking for opportunities for environmental improvement in industrial processes, it is essential to look at the entire supply chain. As reflected in the *2021 Green Chemistry GC3 Report*, industry leaders are committed to working with suppliers to improve the use of green chemistry and reduce the supply chain footprint.[1]

Facilities throughout manufacturing supply chains report information on their chemical releases and pollution prevention (P2) activities to EPA'S Toxics Release Inventory (TRI), including motor vehicle manufacturing suppliers. A map of the facilities in this sector that reported to TRI for 2020 is below, with each subsector's NAICS code in the legend.



TRI's Pollution Prevention (P2) Search Tool is one resource for accessing P2-related information, including examples of how facilities and suppliers work to achieve environmental improvement. Facilities that report to TRI can choose to describe any P2 activities implemented during the year. Within the P2 Tool, you can find these text entries and gain insights into how suppliers work with facilities to make effective P2 advancements or how their activities may be influenced by their customers' specifications.

To identify supply-chain related entries in the P2 Search Tool, use keyword search terms such as "vendor," "customer," or "supplier." Instructions for conducting a supply-chain related search are shown below.

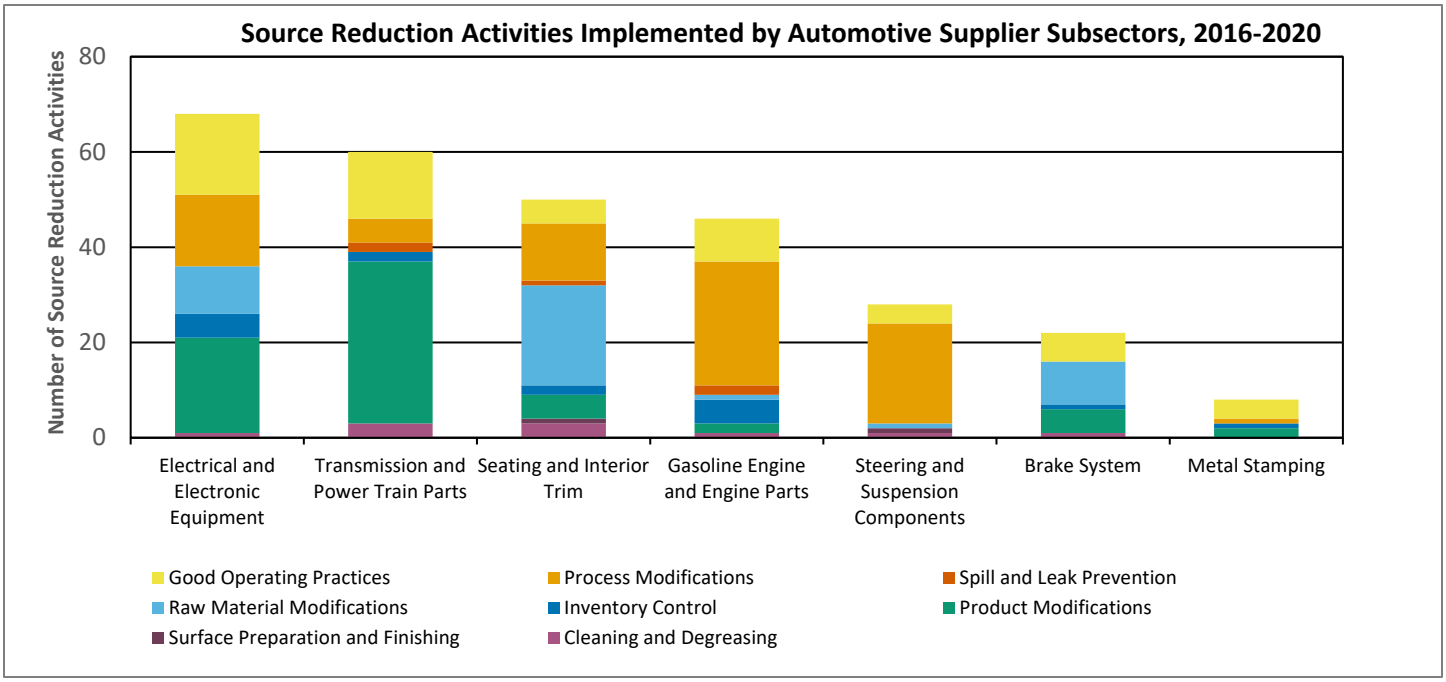
How To Find Automotive Supplier-Related Activities in the TRI P2 Search Tool

1. **Go to** the TRI Pollution Prevention (P2) Search tool: https://enviro.epa.gov/facts/tri/p2.html
2. **Select** motor vehicle parts subsector(s) (e.g., NAICS starting with 3363) and/or chemical(s) of interest
3. **Click** *Show P2 Activities*
4. **Filter** the results table by entering a supplier-related search term in the *Search Results* box such as "vendor", "supplier", or "customer"
5. **View** the text entries in the *Pollution Prevention Information* column of the table
6. **Export** the table to view results more easily by clicking on the *Excel* button. 

7. **Learn** more about any facility by clicking on the *P2 Details* button to view its P2 Profile 

Examples of Pollution Prevention in the Automotive Supply Chain

The following graph shows the source reduction activities reported to TRI by automotive suppliers. These subsectors and the "Other Motor Vehicle Parts" subsector reported implementing over 500 new source reduction activities from 2016 to 2020. Many of these facilities also provided additional details about these efforts. Samples of the types of details reported are listed below.



Not shown: Other Motor Vehicle Parts Manufacturing

Examples of Pollution Prevention Activities Initiated by Automotive Suppliers

- A motor vehicle seating and interior trim manufacturing facility reduced its use of cyclohexane by reprogramming its robotic adhesive application system to reduce the spray width and increase spray accuracy. TS Trim Industries Inc
- A facility that manufactures other motor vehicle parts used Lean manufacturing principles to reduce on-site copper storage, implemented quality improvement procedures to reduce quality defects, and changed the plant layout for a more efficient process. Denso Manufacturing North Carolina Inc

Example of Supplier-Customer Collaboration to Find Greener Solutions

- A motor vehicle electronic equipment manufacturer is working with customers to substitute leaded solder with lead-free solder. HELLA Electronics Corp

Example of Suppliers' Dependency on Customer Specifications

- In response to changing customer demand, a motor vehicle trim manufacturing facility is moving away from polyvinyl chloride (PVC) materials that use antimony oxide as a fire retardant. Haartz Corp.

Ideas for using TRI P2 data to increase supply chain sustainability

- Work with your suppliers to develop greener products or processes;
- Request green products from your suppliers;
- Test new parts or chemicals;
- Research and benchmark your suppliers; or
- Learn about what other suppliers are doing.

1 https://greenchemistryandcommerce.org/documents/GC3GreenChemReport-ES-Nov2021.pdf