



Seating Systems Report

This new report takes an in-depth look at the global seating market including the key changes currently underway in the industry and what the future holds for this key sector. The report considers in-house seat manufacture and supply chain developments along with advances in safety, comfort and convenience. An inside industry view is provided by an interview with Johnson Controls and the study also considers trends in seat comfort and material developments in foam, plastics and metal structures. This research is complemented by case studies, along with profiles of all the major industry players.

Background to this Research

The global seating market is clearly led at the tier 1 level by two US companies, JCI and Lear; Faurecia, which is the second ranked supplier in Europe, is much smaller than the two larger players on a global basis. Lear and JCI are also very strong in China owing to their having been early entrants into this market, following General Motors and Volkswagen there in the early days of Chinese market development.

The individual pictures for the major regions show how Faurecia, JCI, Magna and Faurecia have over two-thirds of the North American and European markets; by contrast the data for Japan/Korea shows how these regions are supplied almost entirely by Japanese/Korean companies.

The Japanese supplier Toyota Boshoku is ranked fourth globally owing to its presence in North America and a rapid rise in its business in China in recent years. JCI is unique among the European/North American companies in having a significant presence in Japan; this is a result of its acquisition of the Ikeda seat company some years ago.

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