



Frequently Asked Questions

Drive+

Drive+ was launched in 2020 as a service offered by Drive Sustainability – through CSR Europe – to automotive **suppliers** and **supplier associations**. It is a separate group with a close link to Drive Sustainability.

With Drive+, Drive Sustainability aims to systematically collaborate with suppliers to foster sustainability in the automotive supply chain.

1. Drive Sustainability

1.1. What is Drive Sustainability?

Drive Sustainability is a partnership of eleven leading automotive manufacturers (**BMW Group, Daimler AG, Stellantis, Ford, Honda, Jaguar Land Rover, Scania CV AB, Toyota Motor Europe, Volkswagen Group, Volvo Cars and Volvo Group**) working together to move beyond due diligence and lead together with their suppliers the transformation towards a circular and sustainable automotive value chain.

1.2. Drive Sustainability is a group of companies discussing their supply chain. How do you make sure that this is in compliance with competition law?

Drive Sustainability operates under strict [Anti-trust policy](#). CSR Europe, as Drive Sustainability facilitator, moderates internal communication to ensure policy enforcement, and regularly reviews compliance processes.

1.3. Is Drive Sustainability global?

The OEMs engaged in Drive Sustainability are global companies with global supply chains. The activities and reach of DS are also global.

1.4. Why is Drive Sustainability supporting the new Drive+ program for suppliers and supplier associations?

Drive Sustainability aims to set-up and promote the use of common principles, methods and tools in the automotive supply chain and to cascade those beyond Tier 1. This can only be achieved through close collaboration of automotive companies, suppliers, and other stakeholders. In this regard, with the launch of the [strategy](#) in 2020, Drive Sustainability has the goal to establish a long-term model for engagement with suppliers, especially those of the 1st tier. Preparing for the release of the strategy, we commenced a consultation with selected stakeholders to discuss how to involve suppliers in a more systematic manner. Drive+ is the outcome of this consultation process.

2. Drive+

2.1. What is Drive+?

Drive+ is a service offered by Drive Sustainability – through CSR Europe – to automotive suppliers and supplier associations. It is a separate group with a close link to Drive Sustainability. The purpose of Drive+ is to foster the dialogue between its members and the OEMs in Drive Sustainability. It also provides learning opportunities on key sustainability topics in the automotive supply chains. Drive+ members get support to work with Drive Sustainability tools and to cascade them in their supply chains.

2.2. Who can become a partner in Drive+?

Automotive suppliers, independent of their size, location or commodity, can become Drive+ Associated Partners. The same applies to automotive supplier associations.

2.3. What is the added value to become a member of Drive+?

Drive+ provides a platform to automotive suppliers where they can inspire and learn from each other and the OEMs on key sustainability areas, making sure individual efforts complement and reinforce one another in the journey towards the same common goal: sustainable and circular automotive value chain.

More specifically Drive+ offers the following:

For individual suppliers:

- **Opportunity to get first-hand information and access to Drive Sustainability:** Updates after each Drive Sustainability Steering Committee meeting; regular [consultations](#) where suppliers can share their perspective on common key topics and influence the agenda and the direction of the partnership.
- **Joint learning with OEMs and peers:** 4 x times per year open thematic workshops/ webinars with Drive+ and Drive Sustainability members.
- **Fulfilling Drive requirements and cascading in the supply chain:** Masterclasses on sustainable supply chain management; Opportunity to send suppliers to sustainability [trainings](#) organized by Drive Sustainability.

For supplier associations:

- **Dialogue:** Updates after each Drive Sustainability Steering Committee meeting; support with reaching individual members.
- **Advice:** Opportunity become a member of Drive+ advisory board and shape the program of the platform.

2.4. How can a supplier join Drive+?

Download the [application form](#), fill it out and send to the responsible staff of CSR Europe at: info@drivesustainability.org. We will get in touch with you shortly after receiving it.

2.5. How can a supplier association join Drive+?

Download the [application form](#), fill it out and send to the responsible staff of CSR Europe at: info@drivesustainability.org. We will get in touch with you shortly after receiving it.

2.6. What is the role of CSR Europe?

[CSR Europe](#) is the leading European business network for Corporate Sustainability and Responsibility. We support businesses and industry sectors in their sustainability journey with Communities of Practices, Collaborative Platforms and EU Policy Dialogue involvement. CSR Europe is a non-for profit organization.

CSR Europe is a facilitator and a coordinator of the Drive Sustainability partnership, which also acts as a service provider for the Drive+ members. CSR Europe will design and manage the Drive+ services and will facilitate the link to the Drive Sustainability group.

2.7. How much does it cost to become an Associated Partner in Drive+?

We expect your engagement and willingness to contribute to the Drive Sustainability mission and its strategic ambitions towards a sustainable automotive supply chain.

To cover the facilitation effort by CSR Europe, we ask individual supplier members for a yearly financial contribution:

1000 € if turnover < 5 million EUR
2500 € if turnover 5 – 200 million EUR
5000 € if turnover > 200 million EUR

Supplier associations can join Drive+ for free.

2.8. What is the role of the Advisory Board?

The Advisory Board helps CSR Europe to shape the annual program of Drive+, regularly reviews past activities and ensures delivery and progress.

2.9. What is the composition of the Advisory Board?

The Advisory Board consists of two Drive Sustainability OEM partners (rotation on a yearly basis), Drive+ supplier associations, and CSR Europe.

2.10. How is it decided which Association can join the Advisory Board?

Only supplier associations representing automotive industry are eligible for the membership in the Advisory Board and are invited to apply upon joining the initiative.

2.11. We are a global company with offices all around the world. Do local subsidiaries need to join separately?

No, you can be represented through any of the company locations and share the information across the subsidiaries. But we would need one central contact partner.

2.12. Will it be possible that different colleagues take part in different consultations/events?

Yes, absolutely! We welcome the participation of colleagues with different background and roles, depending on the topic. However, please make sure that no more than 2 participants per company take part in each Drive+ activity.

2.13. How long is the contract? Does it expire? How can it be cancelled?

The contract remains in force for a period of 1 year, after which it is automatically prolonged, unless a written notice is received 3 months prior to the expiration of the term.

3. Drive Sustainability Working Groups and Supplier Consultations

3.1. How many working groups exist in Drive Sustainability and what are their focus topics?

Drive Sustainability has one permanent working group focused on quality assurance and development of the common platform hosting Self-Assessment Questionnaire on CSR/Sustainability for automotive suppliers. Other working groups are established in the end of the calendar year, depending on the annual plan of activities and deliverables defined by the Drive Sustainability Partners. The working groups in 2021 are Carbon Neutrality, Raw Materials, Guiding Principles Revision, and Integrated Training Offer.

3.2. Can suppliers/supplier associations join the working groups?

No, currently the working groups are limited to the OEM partners of Drive Sustainability, as their objective is to implement Drive Sustainability roadmap. Drive+ suppliers are invited to give their feedback on specific topics (i.e. measuring carbon emissions, raw materials standards, etc.) in consultations that are run by the working groups.

3.3. What is the added value of Drive+ supplier consultations?

Supplier consultations help Drive Sustainability Partners understand supplier perspective on key topics and embed supplier feedback in decision-making. Supplier consultations are a way for suppliers to get engaged in a dialogue with OEMs and make their voice heard.

3.4. Can supplier associations participate in Drive+ supplier consultations?

Supplier consultations are open only to individual supplier members of Drive+.

4. Drive Sustainability Toolbox: Supplier Trainings

4.1. Can I invite my suppliers to sustainability trainings organised by Drive Sustainability?

Yes, Drive+ supplier members can invite their suppliers to the Drive Sustainability trainings and share the cost with the OEMs and other suppliers.

4.2. What is the format of Drive Sustainability trainings?

The trainings take a workshop style approach. Participants are asked to share their challenges and experience in group work exercises, making 'exchange' a key element of the training approach. Throughout the training day, participant groups develop improvement plans based on the identification of practical challenges, root causes and corrective and preventive actions under the guidance of local consultants. A key element of the training content are detailed case studies from the automotive industry on how to best address key local sustainability issues.

4.3. What is the content of Drive Sustainability trainings?

The training series cover topics in areas such as social and environmental sustainability, business conduct and compliance, and supplier management. The content is based on Global Automotive Sustainability Guiding Principles, but is tailored to each country where it is being held, with local legislation, best practices and real-life business examples meant to offer sustainability solutions and ideas to all participants. Please refer to [Drive Sustainability Training Report 2019](#) to learn more about how we organise the trainings.

4.4. Where do the trainings take place?

The country and location of trainings are defined in the beginning of the year by the Drive Sustainability and Drive+ members. Usually we cover different global areas: Americas, Europe, Asia, Africa.

4.5. Is there a limit of suppliers that can take part in the trainings?

To ensure that we can provide an interactive workshop-style of the training we recommend limiting the trainings to 40 people per training session. Per country we usually organise around 3 – 5 training sessions (more on demand) for 40 participants, which makes a total of 120 – 200 participants.



4.6. What is the average cost of the trainings?

In the beginning of each training year, we send you a cost estimation for approval. The cost depends on the provider and the number of Drive Sustainability/Drive + members joining a training country, as well as the number of participants you invite.