

Frequently Asked Questions

Sustainability Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) on CSR/ Sustainability for Automotive Sector Suppliers

1. Why is there a joint Sustainability Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) on CSR/Sustainability?

Drive Sustainability believes in the benefits of a common approach. Therefore in 2014, its members developed a Sustainability Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) on CSR/ Sustainability as part of the industry's long-term aim to improve sustainability performance in the automotive supply chain. The SAQ is based on the Global Automotive Sustainability Guiding Principles and it covers topics in areas such as social and environmental sustainability, health and safety, business ethics and compliance, supplier management, and responsible sourcing of raw materials. The common SAQ is filled in by suppliers on an external service provider's platform, partly allowing suppliers to share the completed SAQ with several buyers. This solution allows to reduce the burden on suppliers (having to fill in many different questionnaires on sustainability from different buyers).

2. How is the SAQ made available to suppliers?

Members of Drive Sustainability use a platform provider to make the SAQ available to suppliers. All members (BMW Group, Daimler Truck, Ford, Geely, Honda, Jaguar Land Rover, Mercedes-Benz, Scania, Toyota, Volkswagen Group, Volvo Cars and Volvo Group) have chosen to standardise on a common technical platform provided by NQC.

3. How can a supplier receive an invitation to fill in the SAQ?

The members of Drive Sustainability invite individually their suppliers to complete the SAQ. For more information, please refer to the websites of the individual members.

4. Does a supplier have to complete a different questionnaire for each Original equipment manufacturer (OEM)?

A supplier does not have to complete a different questionnaire for each OEM. Those suppliers who receive an invitation to fill in the SAQ on the NQC Platform can complete it once and voluntarily share their results with the OEM requesting to do so.

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5. How much time does a supplier have to complete the SAQ?

The deadline for completing the SAQ is provided in your invitation email.

6. Does the supplier have to pay to fill in the SAQ?

A supplier does not have to pay to fill in the SAQ. The cost of the SAQ is borne by the OEM requesting the supplier to fill the SAQ.

7. How is the SAQ evaluated?

Each question is included in one of the SAQ performance indicators that are distributed between the three priority groups. The total score is calculated as a weighted average of the scores per each group, so that a score for a high-priority group is accounted with a higher weight than a score for a low-priority group. However, each OEM maintains its right to apply their internal requirements.

For more information on the scoring methodology, please see it [available in 13 languages](#) at the end of each questionnaire.

8. When is the SAQ revised?

The SAQ is revised by the group every 2 years. Suppliers are informed in advance when a new release is about to be published.

9. How can suppliers or any automotive company use the SAQ to assess own suppliers?

The SAQ is publicly available, but copyright protected and licensed under the Creative Commons AttributionNonCommercial-NoDerivatives 4.0 International (CC BY-NC-ND 4.0):

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- No Derivatives: If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you may not distribute the modified material. If you are interested in using the SAQ, please get in touch with us (info@drivesustainability.org)

10. What is the link between Drive Sustainability and CSR Europe?

CSR Europe is the leading European business network for Corporate Social Responsibility. The organization is based in Brussels and is the facilitator of Drive Sustainability. If you could not find an answer to your question, please contact your relevant buyer or [Drive Sustainability](#).

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