

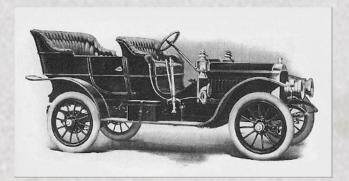
Shanghai Interior Automotive Door System: Running a Manufacturing Operation in China

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Focus Question

"What is the impact of Global Competition on the American Automotive Industry today?"

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Background Information

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The nation's Motor City, also known as Detroit, Michigan, is most famous for its record breaking motor developments. Yet, as automobile popularity began to grow, the U.S. was soon only a small part of the industry. Globalization lead to an increase in automobile manufacturers around the world. This was the start of the competition in the industry that we know today.

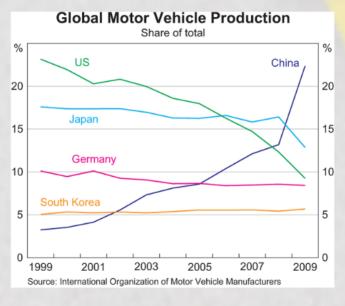




New Markets

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People all over the world are buying automobiles. New markets for automobile sales have increasingly grown since the creation of the car. China is currently the largest car market in the world. Not only does China produce the most cars yearly, but this country also holds the number one spot for car sales worldwide. Last year, it sold around 17.4 million vehicles. This is unfortunate for United States considering it being the founding country of the automobile.



The graph at the left shows China taking the lead in motor vehicle production.



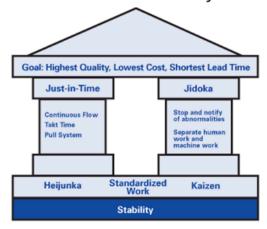
NEW MARKETS

New Methods of Production: The Toyota Production System

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What is it?

The Toyota Production System is an automobile manufacturing process that believes in "daily improvements." This is vital for the company's global evolution. The company uses tactics that minimize waste in between operations. The elimination of waste resulted in the Just-In-Time concept that the company swears by.



Toyota Production System "House."

New Methods of Production (Cont.) Thecasesolutions.com Why should the auto monufactures in the United States switch to new methods of production? The United States is always looking for ways to advance in the mass production of quality products. Automobile manufactures in the U.S. waste numerous amounts of materials while developing new velocies. If companies were to switch to rew methods of production, such as the TPS, the companies would have much loss would nave production. Such as the TPS, the companies would have much loss would product and an all narrand heter voliticle. By having less such as the tensor of the country would be able to produce more white sawing more.

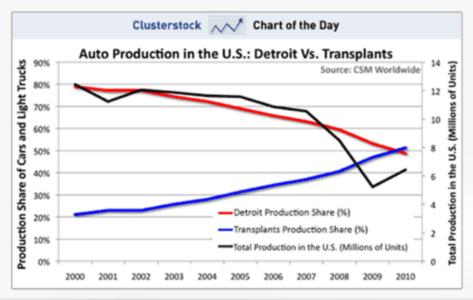
This image depicts the TPS's methods to creating an efficient manufacturing process.

New Methods of Production (Cont.)

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Why should the auto manufactures in the United States switch to new methods of production?

The United States is always looking for ways to advance in the mass production of quality products. Automobile manufactures in the U.S. waste numerous amounts of materials while developing new vehicles. If companies were to switch to new methods of production, such as the TPS, the companies would have much less wasted product and an all around better vehicle. By having less waste, the country would save money. With using a different method, the country would be able to produce more while saving more.



Oil and Energy Issues

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Hybrid: A hybrid vehicle is a vehicle that uses two or more distinct power sources to move the vehicle.

Electric Vehicle: An electric car is an automobile that is propelled by one or more electric motors, using electrical energy stored in rechargeable batteries or another energy storage device.

Vehicles that run on CNG: Compressed Natural Gas is a readily available alternative to gasoline that's made by compressing natural gas to less than 1% of its volume at standard atmospheric pressure. Consisting mostly of methane, CNG is odorless, colorless and tasteless. It's drawn from domestically drilled natural gas wells or in conjunction with crude oil production.

High Gasoline Prices Impact The Global Automobile Industry.

The higher the gasoline prices, the lower the car sales. If gas prices are high, the person planning on buying a car will be less likely to do so because of the costs. If the world had lower gasoline prices, car sales would drastically increase.



Oil and Energy Issues (Cont.)

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The United States has fairly low gasoline prices in comparison to the rest of the world.

This chart is a comparison with U.S. currency.

City, Country	Price per gallon regular (in U.S. currency)	City, Country	Price per gallon regular (in U.S. currency)
Istanbul, Turkey	\$9.63	Caracas, Venezuela	\$0.06
Asmara, Eritrea	\$9.59	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia	\$0.45
Oslo, Norway	\$9.27	Tripoli, Libya	\$0.54
Athens, Greece	\$8.50	Ashgabat, Turkmenistan	\$0.72
Monte Carlo, Monaco	\$8.45	Manama, Bahrain	\$0.80
Copenhagen, Denmark	\$8.42	Kuwait City, Kuwait	\$0.81
Stockholm, Sweden	\$8.18	Doha, Qatar	\$0.88
Brussels, Belgium	\$8.17	Cairo, Egypt	\$1.13
London, U.K.	\$8.17	Muscat, Oman	\$1.18
Amsterdam, Netherlands	\$8.01	Algiers, Algeria	\$1.19

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