

Making manufacturers greener

DXC International Material Data System (IMDS)

Insights

- Tracking materials in end-of-life vehicles is an environmental concern.
- IMDS helps auto makers record and track material usage.
- It is used by 40 name-brand manufacturers, representing more than 60 brands of vehicles.

Environmental concerns are a global priority. Many countries now require automobile manufacturers to track all the materials in a vehicle at the end of its life, for recycling purposes.

However, lack of standards, regulation monitoring, substance identification, secure data communication, supplier/customer part number association and data security made information exchange difficult. DXC Technology (at that time EDS) stepped up to the problem, creating a secure cloud-based material information management system, which is available to the supply chain around the globe.

Addressing a critical need

The DXC International Material Data System (IMDS) is designed to act as an easily accessible system to help manufacturers record and track material usage. The system supports recyclability and recoverability of materials in a vehicle and addresses the disposal of substances of concern.

System users span the globe and include:

- Forty name-brand manufacturers, representing more than 60 different brands of vehicles
- More than 120,000 Tier 1 to Tier n automotive suppliers of materials and components — virtually everyone in the automotive supply chain who has access to the Internet

Complying with new legislation

Evolving legal restrictions related to environmental issues require automotive manufacturing companies to track the substances in the finished product and report on them to various legal entities. The European Union (EU) is one of the pioneers of such legislation. In 1997, German car manufacturers realized the benefits they could reap by implementing a standardized format for exchanging material information along the supply chain.

DXC was asked to identify the most cost-efficient data exchange environment and determined a centralized, IT-based approach was the most economical and productive solution. In 2000, EU legislation went a step further than simply reporting on substances of concern.

It included the End-of-Life Vehicle Directive, requiring car manufacturers that sell vehicles in Europe to take back the vehicle at the end of its life and recycle a high percentage of the materials in the car. German car manufacturers volunteered to recycle 85% of each vehicle's mass by 2002 and committed to recycling 95% by 2015.

By 1999, manufacturers in other EU countries joined Germany in realizing the need for a standards-based system they could all use — and one with the potential to be extended globally. To reach their goal, they adopted a sophisticated materials information exchange system that would reach throughout the supply chain: DXC IMDS.

Connecting the supply chain

The DXC system provides a venue for information exchange amongst car manufacturers and their suppliers — and their suppliers' suppliers — about the materials used in all vehicle components. DXC released the first version of the system in 2000 to support the new EU legislative directive. Today, we operate it on behalf of the leading automobile manufacturers.

The system is designed so each supplier can easily enter information. The standardized cloud solution enables anyone with a computer and internet access to use the system with highest data security standards.

Becoming the industry standard

What began as an efficiency exercise for six companies has developed into the gold standard for material reporting against which other solutions are compared.

During more than 17 years of operation, 400,000-plus users in more than 150,000 companies have registered in the system. They have generated more than 65 million data sheets — with the system growing hourly.

To support the system, DXC maintains five geographically distributed help desks (IMDS Service Centers) — in China, Hungary, Japan, Korea, and the United States. The IMDS user interface is provided in nine languages: Chinese, English, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, and Spanish.

OEM funding of standard IMDS use for their suppliers is made possible by the IMDS cloud architecture, and additional at-cost options are available for suppliers looking for enhanced capabilities. Using the same environment also means high efficiency, low operating costs, and changes that can be rolled out to all participants concurrently.

At the request of major Tier 1 suppliers, DXC began supporting their data reporting productivity efforts with additional services and tools. Other industries have shown interest in the technology, and there have been ongoing discussions that have led to applying the concept and standards to other industries around the world and developing the DXC Compliance Data Exchange System (CDX) for manufacturing.

IMDS and additional services

- DXC IMDS and DXC CDX cloud solutions
- DXC Applications Development Services
- DXC Web-hosting Services

Learn more at
public.mdsystem.com

About DXC Technology

DXC Technology (DXC: NYSE) is the world's leading independent, end-to-end IT services company, helping clients harness the power of innovation to thrive on change. Created by the merger of CSC and the Enterprise Services business of Hewlett Packard Enterprise, DXC Technology serves nearly 6,000 private and public sector clients across 70 countries. The company's technology independence, global talent, and extensive partner network combine to deliver powerful next-generation IT services and solutions. DXC Technology is recognized among the best corporate citizens globally. For more information, visit www.dxc.technology.