

Under Mexico's domestic content regulations, the parts companies enjoy a degree of protection from foreign competition, although this is diminishing under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Because these companies must meet the international quality standards of the major vehicle manufacturers, they are under pressure to adopt state-of-the art automation technologies.

AUTO PARTS MANUFACTURERS USING ROBOTS

Parts company	Number of robots	Principal products
Autotek	2	Metal parts for Volkswagen
Benteler	16	Tin and metal parts for Volkswagen
Cellulite	2	Automobile bearings
Egussa	1	Integrator for Fanuc Robotics
Ejes Tractivos	1	Shock absorber supports, and automobile and light truck transmissions
Fisher Guide	34	Instrument panels and parts for General Motors
Kantus Mexicana	1	Instrument panels for Nissan
Kelsey Hayes	2	Aluminum hubcaps
Kostal	4	Electric accessories
Metalsa	1	Manufacture of pick-up chassis
Pemsa	6	Pick-up bodies
RR Donnelly	2	Loading and unloading glass
Spicer	2	Auto parts
Tremec	5	Transmissions
TRW	12	Air bags
Velcon	15	Automobile drive shafts
Others	1	Automotive parts
TOTAL	107	

Sources: Asociación Mexicana de la Industria Automotriz (AMIA), Mexican Association of the Automobile Industry; Industria Nacional de Autopartes (INA), National Auto Parts Industry; and Asociación Mexicana de Distribuidores de Maquinaria (AMDIMA), Mexican Association of Machinery Distributors.