

ONTARIO BOLSTERS TOOLING AND AUTO PARTS INDUSTRIES

McGuinty Government Supporting Success In Competitive Market

NEWS

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Two sectors that underpin Ontario's auto industry – machine, tool, die and mold makers and auto parts makers – have received a major boost from the Ontario government.

The tooling and auto parts industries will use \$1.2 million in provincial funding to increase their competitiveness and strengthen Ontario's manufacturing base.

The funding will be split evenly between the [Canadian Tooling and Machining Association \(CTMA\)](#) and the [Automotive Parts Manufacturers' Association \(APMA\)](#).

The CTMA will assess shortfalls in software skills across the industry and work with suppliers to identify solutions. This will include testing and evaluating software and developing new training programs.

The APMA will pilot cost reduction projects at a number of auto parts companies and share the results across the industry. The association will also engage consultants with expertise in manufacturing cost reduction and develop new business with Japanese and European auto makers building vehicles in North America.

QUOTES

"This is about strengthening Ontario's auto supply chain from beginning to end. We're investing strategically to get car companies building in Ontario, sourcing from Ontario parts makers, who in turn get their tooling designed and built here too. It's our long-term, integrated plan for the industry," said [Sandra Pupatello, Minister of Economic Development and Trade](#).

"To advance their competitiveness, our members need leading-edge design software and technology. Keep in mind that many tooling companies are small operations servicing the broad-based Canadian manufacturing sector, so this kind of industry-government partnership is exactly what's needed," said CTMA President Horst Schmidt.

"This project is going to deliver targeted, tailored advice to help our member companies boost competitiveness and diversify their customer base. It's an important step for our industry to adjust to the new realities of our business climate," said Gerry Fedchun, APMA President.

QUICK FACTS

- The [auto industry](#) represents about 20 per cent of Ontario's manufacturing base and is essential to the broader economy.
- Auto parts and assembly plants employ more than 130,000 people and support thousands more spin-off jobs in communities across Ontario.

- The tooling industry provides the equipment and services that other companies need to make their products. This includes the design, manufacture and assembly of tools, dies, moulds, models, patterns, jigs, and automation equipment.
- There are about 250 auto parts companies and about 250 tooling companies in Ontario.
- For four years running Ontario has built more vehicles than any other jurisdiction in North America.

LEARN MORE

Read the announcement backgrounder for more information about the projects.

Find out more about the Ontario government's support for a strong economy at www.ontariocanada.com.

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