Sub-sector: Transportation

Transportation applications include cars, buses, trains, ships, and aerospace with products representing interior (carpeting, safety belts, air bags, seating), exterior (tires, belts, hose reinforcements), and infrastructure (composite reinforcements) products.

North Carolina Companies Competing in the Transportation Sub-sector

PERFORMANCE TEXTILE SECTORS

Number of companies: 69
Number of counties: 28
Cluster configuration: Guilford, Wake, Mecklenburg, and Alamance
Sales $ (estimated): $3,367,312,345
Employees: 7,482
Products (sample): Specialty tapes used in automotive industry, automotive seats, headliners, airplane seat covers, composite fibers, and nonwovens

The transportation sub-sector in North Carolina ranks sixth in the number of companies competing and second in the amount of estimated sales dollars when compared to all North Carolina performance industry sub-sectors. Although, forecasted global growth rates are low, NC State researchers believe the upward trend of automobile ownership throughout the world will lead to an increased demand of automotive textiles. Recommendations for this sub-sector include increased research and development.