



Gesamtverband Autoteile-Handel



ACTING FOR COMPETITION!

The GVA and the business of the independent automotive aftermarket ensure affordable mobility in Germany.

www.gva.de

ACTING TOGETHER FOR COMPETITION!

ABOUT THE GVA

Motorists should be able to choose where and with which parts their vehicles are repaired and serviced. Freedom of choice and affordable mobility can only be guaranteed if there is fair competition on the automotive aftermarket between the companies authorised by the vehicle manufacturers and the players on the independent aftermarket, such as independent parts distributors and repair shops. As the German Association of Independent Automotive Aftermarket Distributors (GVA), we act as the voice of the independent vehicle parts distributors, the automotive parts industry and the providers of technical information in Germany to advocate fair competition on the automotive aftermarket. Our association's work thus focuses on ensuring equal opportunities between the mainly small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) on the independent aftermarket and vehicle manufacturers.

Consumers want affordable mobility, and our members contribute significantly to this with their products and services.



THE AUTOMOTIVE AFTERMARKET IN GERMANY

There are about 55 million motor vehicles in Germany, and these must be serviced and repaired. The **parts manufacturers**, which develops and produces about 80 percent of a vehicle's parts, distributes its aftermarket products in two

ways: On the one hand, via the vehicle manufacturers, and on the other via the independent aftermarket. Competition on the automotive aftermarket can only be achieved through these two distribution channels! Most of the renowned companies from the automotive parts industry are classified as associate members of the GVA, playing a major role in Germany's automotive industry.

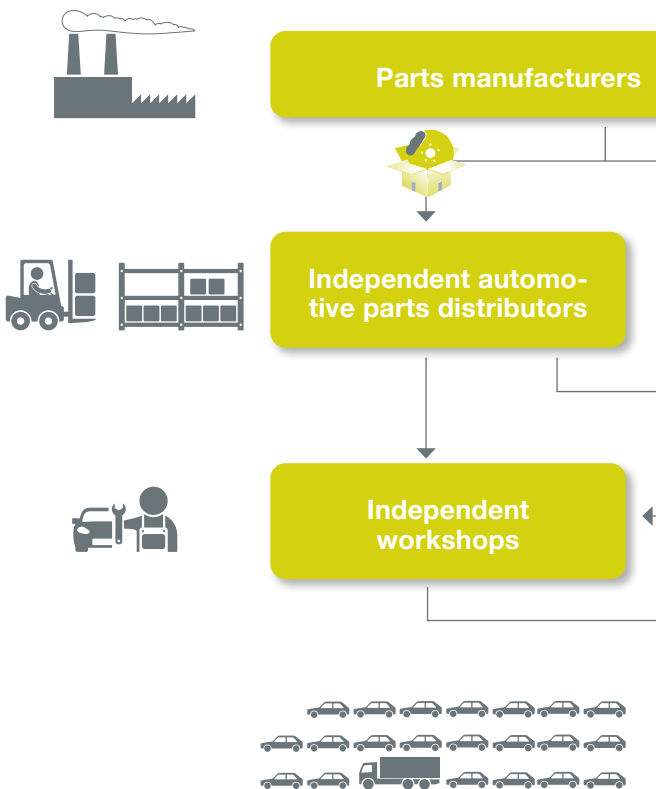
The **independent parts distributors on the automotive** aftermarket are competent partners for all repair shops, whether independent or affiliated. They offer a multibrand range of original spare parts and equivalent-quality spare parts from renowned parts manufacturers. The workshops are often supplied several times a day via a close-knit distribution network. Consistent customer orientation and attractive training services are further elements of the range of services offered by independent aftermarket distributors.

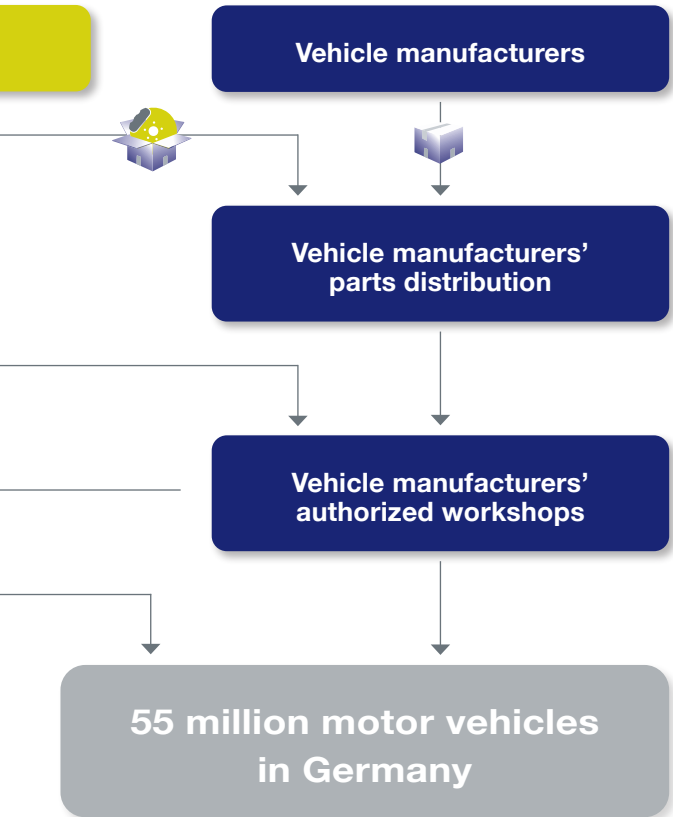
The independent aftermarket distributors are also competent partners when it comes to tools and workshop equipment. In the GVA are distributors with more than 1000 operating units organised and they represent around 80 percent of the turnover in the independent automotive wholesale.

There are 36,000 **workshops** in Germany. These are divided in about 22.000 independent workshops and about 14.000 vehicle manufacturers' authorised workshops. In terms of repairs, the independent service workshops have a market share about 40 percent. Due to the competition between the different parts distribution channels, all workshops are able to choose from whom they purchase their spare parts. The consumers are the winners, because they are paying prices for vehicle maintenance and repair which are determined by competition.



THE SPARE PARTS MARKET IN GERMANY





OUR REQUIREMENTS

To ensure competition for the benefit of consumers, the mostly small and medium-sized companies of the independent automotive aftermarket need an appropriate legal framework in order to participate in this market. For the independent aftermarket distributors, fair competition particularly means:

- Access to all parts.
- Access to technical information for repairs and servicing.
- No deliberate restriction of competition through the use of intellectual property rights on the aftermarket to the detriment of consumers (design protection).
- No competition-restricting measures when distributing spare parts.
- Telematic systems in vehicles which do not restrict the consumers' freedom of choice.
- Open standards for electronics, diagnosis and communication.
- Technological openness.

OUR TASKS

The GVA's main tasks include:

- Lobbying at a national, European and international level.
- Representing the industry in matters of competition law.
- Public relations to further develop the image of the independent automotive aftermarket.
- Monitoring of relevant political and economical developments, and informing GVA members.
- Offering a comprehensive industry-specific advanced training programme (GVA College).

We are member of the following trade associations:



BGA

Bundesverband
Großhandel, Außenhandel,
Dienstleistungen e.V.

At a national level, GVA is member of the Federation of German Wholesale, Foreign trade and Services e.V. (BGA).

www.bga.de



At a European level, GVA is member of the International Federation of Independent Automotive Spare Parts Distributors (FIGIEFA).

www.figiefa.eu



Gesamtverband Autoteile-Handel e.V. (GVA)

Gothaer Straße 17, D-40880 Ratingen

T +49 (0) 21 02 / 77 0 77-0

F +49 (0) 21 02 / 77 0 77-17

Hauptstadtbüro:

Am Weidendamm 1A, D-10117 Berlin

T +49 (0) 30 / 59 00 99-43 9

Mail info@gva.de

www.gva.de