Automobile Manufacturing

This sector includes facilities that assemble automobiles, light trucks, and utility vehicles to produce finished vehicles, and facilities that manufacture automotive vehicle bodies. Compared to the other industry sectors profiled, this sector is small in terms of both number of facilities reporting and in total quantities released or managed as waste. However, given this sector's high percentage of air releases and the attention on the automobile sector's production levels in recent years, the sector is included as one of the Industry Sector Profiles.

Quick Facts for 2011

Number of TRI Facilities: 49
Facilities Reporting Newly Implemented Source Reduction Activities: 4

On-site and Off-site Disposal or Other Releases: 11.2 million lbs

On-site:
- Air: 10.4 million lbs
- Water: 4,953 lbs
- Land: 29 thousand lbs
- Underground Injection: None

Off-site: 730 thousand lbs

Production-Related Waste Managed: 44.3 million lbs
- Recycled: 21.9 million lbs
- Energy Recovery: 876 thousand lbs
- Treated: 10.4 million lbs
- Disposed of or Otherwise Released: 11.2 million lbs

Figure 31. Disposal or Other Releases, 2003-2011
Automobile Manufacturing
In the automobile manufacturing sector, 9% of facilities reported having initiated practices to reduce their toxic chemical use and waste generation through source reduction activities in 2011. The most commonly reported source reduction activity for the sector was good operating practices, which includes activities such as improved maintenance procedures or production schedules. For example, one facility “implemented a reliability centered maintenance (RCM) program which identified the need for redundant pollution controls associated with the nitride coating process” for ammonia.

To learn more about this sector, visit EPA’s Automotive Compliance Assistance website at www.epa.gov/compliance/assistance/sectors/automotive.html.