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Tappet Market for Automotive ? Global Industry Size, Share, Trends, Opportunity, and Forecast, Segmented for Automotive By Type (Flat Tappets and Roller Tappets), By Engine Capacity (6 Cylinders), By End User (Economic Passenger Cars, Luxury Passenger Cars and Mid-Priced Passenger Cars), By Region & Competition, 2021-2031F

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Abstracts

The Global Tappet Market for Automotive is projected to expand from USD 9.67 Billion in 2025 to USD 11.87 Billion by 2031, registering a compound annual growth rate of 3.48%. As essential engine components, tappets transfer motion from the camshaft to the valves to manage air intake and exhaust timing in internal combustion engines. Market expansion is chiefly driven by the continued need for passenger and commercial vehicles, coupled with stringent emission standards that require sophisticated valve actuation systems to enhance fuel efficiency. Recent industry data supports this trajectory; according to the European Automobile Manufacturers? Association, global car sales hit 74.6 million units in 2024, reflecting a 2.5% rise from the prior year.

Despite these favorable trends, the market encounters a major obstacle due to the rapid shift toward electric mobility. Because battery electric vehicles operate without internal combustion engines, they do not require traditional valve train parts such as tappets. This structural change in powertrain technology presents a significant long-term risk to market growth, as automakers increasingly direct investments toward electrification to satisfy environmental objectives and government regulations.

Market Driver

A renewed surge in global automotive manufacturing serves as a key driver for the tappet market, as increased vehicle production directly raises the need for valve train components. This trend is especially visible in major production centers where supply chains are expanding to satisfy domestic and export demands for internal combustion engine platforms. High-volume manufacturing guarantees a steady baseline requirement for both mechanical and hydraulic tappets, which are vital for assembling gasoline and diesel engines. For instance, data from the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers in January 2024 indicated that China?s automobile production hit a record 30.161 million units in 2023, an 11.6% increase year-on-year, which helps stabilize the supply chain and supports investment in traditional component manufacturing.

Simultaneously, strict emission regulations and fuel efficiency requirements compel manufacturers to enhance internal combustion engine performance using advanced technologies. Automakers are widely implementing hybrid powertrains and variable valve timing systems that depend on precision-engineered tappets to control valve lift and duration for efficient combustion. This regulatory environment maintains the relevance of tappets despite the EV trend, as hybrid systems still employ thermal engines. According to the U.S. Energy Information Administration's May 2024 report, hybrid electric vehicle sales in the United States rose by 53% in 2023. This move toward efficient hybridization is reinforced by strong component sector growth, with the Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India reporting a 9.8% increase in industry turnover to USD 74.1 billion in 2024.

Market Challenge

The primary challenge hindering the Global Tappet Market for Automotive is the fast-paced shift toward electric mobility. Tappets are mechanical parts essential for the valve trains of internal combustion engines to manage air and exhaust flow, but battery electric vehicles utilize electric motors that function without conventional valve actuation systems, thereby removing the need for tappets. This technological substitution creates a fundamental threat to the industry, as the growing adoption of zero-emission platforms directly reduces the total addressable market for combustion-engine components.

This change in powertrain preference is confirmed by recent adoption data showing a decreased reliance on traditional engines. According to the International Energy Agency, global electric car sales were expected to reach 17 million units in 2024. As automotive manufacturers shift capital and production capacity to accommodate this increasing demand for electrified transport, the production volume of internal combustion engines is negatively affected. Consequently, tappet suppliers encounter declining procurement orders and a contracting revenue stream, caused by the structural replacement of fuel-powered engines with electric alternatives.

Market Trends

The development of high-strength tappets for downsized powertrains has become critical as automakers strive to maximize the thermal efficiency of internal combustion platforms. Because engine displacements are being reduced while power output is maintained, valve train components must endure significantly greater mechanical loads, requiring the use of reinforced materials and robust designs. This shift toward premium, durable components enables suppliers to protect themselves from broader volume decreases; for example, Schaeffler AG reported in November 2024 that its Automotive Technologies division revenue outperformed global passenger car and light commercial vehicle production by 1.8 percentage points in the first nine months of the year, highlighting the ongoing need for advanced tappet solutions.

In parallel, the integration of switchable tappets for variable valve actuation reflects a move toward multifunctional components engineered to satisfy strict emission standards like Euro 7. These complex tappet assemblies facilitate cylinder deactivation and variable lift strategies, allowing engines to dynamically optimize fuel consumption during operation. The adoption of such high-value technologies has enhanced supplier profitability even as overall unit sales face pressure. According to Eaton Corporation?s October 2024 earnings release, its Vehicle segment attained record operating margins of 19.4%, a rise of 200 basis points from the previous year, demonstrating the premium pricing power commanded by sophisticated valve actuation systems.

Key Market Players

- Schaeffler AG
- Eaton Corporation
- NSK Ltd
- Federal-Mogul LLC
- Rane Engine Valve Limited

Wuxi Xizhou Machinery Co Ltd

ACDelco

TRW Automotive

Competition Cams Inc

SKF Group

Report Scope

In this report, the Global Tappet Market for Automotive has been segmented into the following categories, in addition to the industry trends which have also been detailed below:

Tappet Market for Automotive, By Type

Flat Tappets and Roller Tappets

Tappet Market for Automotive, By Engine Capacity

6 Cylinders

Tappet Market for Automotive, By End User

Economic Passenger Cars

Luxury Passenger Cars and Mid-Priced Passenger Cars

Tappet Market for Automotive, By Region

North America

United States

Canada

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Mexico

Europe

France

United Kingdom

Italy

Germany

Spain

Asia Pacific

China

India

Japan

Australia

South Korea

South America

Brazil

Argentina

Colombia

Middle East & Africa

South Africa

Saudi Arabia

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UAE

Competitive Landscape

Company Profiles: Detailed analysis of the major companies present in the Global Tappet Market for Automotive.

Available Customizations:

Global Tappet Market for Automotive report with the given market data, TechSci Research offers customizations according to a company's specific needs. The following customization options are available for the report:

Company Information

Detailed analysis and profiling of additional market players (up to five).

Contents

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