



SUPPLIERS PARTNERSHIP  
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

**Suppliers Partnership for the Environment (SP)  
Technology & Innovation Work Group Proposal  
July 14, 2020**

**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**

Kellen Mahoney, SP, called the meeting to order at 10:00am EDT. He reviewed SP's antitrust guidelines and recommended that everyone indicate in their notes of the meeting that the guidelines were reviewed and that they would be complied with.

Russell Brynolf, FTS Technologies, introduced a concept for a new SP Technology & Innovation Forum. Russell discussed challenges and gaps in adoption of environmentally sustainable manufacturing process innovations, and reviewed the mission of a previous SP Technology & Networking work group that had existed earlier in SP's history. Russell noted that in the past this work group had organized multiple technology summits, facilitated an SP environmental awards program, and helped to connect smaller innovators in the SP network with OEMs and others to share innovative ideas and opportunities.

Russell suggested that with the growth in SP participation in recent years and changes in the industry overall, there may be an opportunity for SP to create a new SP Technology & Innovation Work Group to provide a platform for suppliers of all sizes within the SP network to share innovative ideas and solutions to address specific environmental sustainability challenges faced in automotive operations. It was noted this work group would not be an invitation for members to share their sales pitches, but would instead seek to provide a structured process to help bring new ideas / innovations to the table relevant to specific challenges of SP's members. David O'Ryan, Ecoclean, shared additional background on technology and innovation challenges, and noted that based on past experience it would be important to have participation from not only EHS / Sustainability, but also purchasing, design engineering and other key decision makers in this work group.

There was a discussion of the proposed work group concept including the following comments,

- Suppliers need better awareness of OEM challenges to develop effective solutions ("hammers that can hit nails") – potential value for suppliers in better understanding current industry challenges.
- Many companies have set, or are working toward setting, sustainability goals but they often don't yet have the full roadmap of how to achieve those goals – potential value for larger companies in bringing new solutions and ideas to table to help define that roadmap.
- Potential opportunity to share information on how to develop business case for new innovations, for example how to communicate with CFO and finance, how to calculate cost of carbon, etc.
- Reference to Yokoten process – transfer proven solutions across an organization.
- Would like to see an SP Awards program return in some form.

It was agreed that there was positive interest in the work group proposal moving forward and that the SP Executive Committee would meet to determine next steps for formation of the new work group.

**ACTION ITEMS**

- SP Executive Committee will meet to discuss next steps related to work group proposal and develop a set of ground rules for work group operations. SP will then share additional information on the new work group with all members and seek volunteers to participate.

The meeting adjourned at 11:00am EDT.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kellen Mahoney  
Program Director

**ATTENDEES**

|                          |   |
|--------------------------|---|
| Emil Nusbaum             | Automotive Recyclers Association                        |
| Jessica Andrews          | Automotive Recyclers Association                        |
| Lisa Dry                 | Battery Council International                           |
| Rick Comrie              | Cooper-Standard Automotive                              |
| Stephanie Valdez Streaty | Cox   |
| Troy Greiss              | East Penn Manufacturing                                 |
| David O’Ryan             | Ecoclean Group  |
| Gilberto Garcia Ruiz     | Edison Energy   |
| Gary Vegh                | ERA Environmental Management Solutions                  |
| Sandra Pelowski-Bresson  | FCA   |
| Laura Wagner             | Ford Motor Company                                      |
| Russell Brynolf          | FTS   |
| Angelica Soto            | geff  |
| Christian Goetz          | geff  |
| Breitner Marczewski      | General Motors  |
| Graciela Canales         | General Motors  |
| Mark Bauer               | General Motors  |
| Nathalie Palka           | General Motors  |
| Rae Howard               | General Motors  |
| Kris Hunter              | Global Battery Solutions                                |
| Ellington Ellis          | Global Battery Solutions                                |
| Bob Crawford             | GWT Insight   |
| Joanne Jones             | Heritage Environmental Services                         |
| Simon Mortimer           | Hitachi Automotive Electric Motor Systems America, Inc. |
| Jack Nunes               | Lear Corp   |
| Chris Babcock            | Michigan EGLE   |
| Justin Edmondson         | Mobile Fluid Recovery                                   |
| Mark Drezdron            | RSR Technologies  |
| Kellen Mahoney           | Suppliers Partnership for the Environment               |
| Shannon Hellem           | Suppliers Partnership for the Environment               |
| Steve Hellem             | Suppliers Partnership for the Environment               |
| Alison Marion            | Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Alabama                     |
| Kevin Butt               | Toyota Motor North America                              |
| Mark Yamauchi            | Toyota Motor North America                              |
| Mary Lemm                | US Ecology, Inc   |
| Vickie Lewis             | VMX International                                       |