

Automotive Industry Group

Related Industries

Automotive Finance

Related Practices

Antitrust & Trade Regulation

Bankruptcy, Insolvency & Creditors' Rights

Business Services

Class Action Defense

Discovery Management & E-Discovery

Dykema Litigation Institute Webinar Series

Employee Benefits and Executive Compensation

Financial Services Litigation – Consumer

Government Investigations and Corporate Compliance

Labor & Employment

Litigation

Mergers & Acquisitions

Mergers & Acquisitions Annual Survey

National/Regional Coordinating, Trial and/or Discovery Counsel

Privacy and Data Security

Private Equity, Venture Capital & Mezzanine Finance

Product Liability

Product Safety

Overview

Detroit-born Dykema has been partnering with our automotive industry clients since the first automobiles rolled off the Motor City's assembly lines. "Best known for its strong reputation and depth of experience in the automotive industry," (*Legal 500 US 2020*) and recognized as *Law360's* 2019 Transportation Practice Group of the Year, Dykema fields one of the most extensive and innovative automotive-related legal practices in the United States. The attorneys in our coast-to-coast network of offices lead the way, guiding our international roster of automotive industry clients through the many legal hurdles they face and, ultimately, to business success. Clients note Dykema is "dedicated to its automotive practice; it is a core competency and not just a "check box" among other disciplines" (*Legal 500 US 2020*).

With more than 140 professionals with industry-related experience, Dykema's Automotive Industry Group anticipates legal issues and meets client challenges long before they have grown into full-blown problems. Faced with the unique industry challenges created by the complexity of conducting business in a global marketplace, new and innovative supply chain structures, ever increasing regulatory restrictions, and pressure for "ever-greener" automobiles, our automotive industry clients get a true advantage from having our industry savvy lawyers on their side.

We regularly provide education and training to our clients on emerging legal issues critical to the automotive industry. Our presentations involve leading industry insiders, from both legal and business perspectives, in brainstorming sessions focused on forecasts, trends, and future challenges. Presentations have covered such topics as data privacy and security matters; recall and cost recovery actions, including consumer class actions, current legislative and regulatory issues impacting the automotive industry such as the "whistleblower" rules under the new FAST Act; and the changing applications of technology and mobility. Our Automotive Industry Group provides real value to both our lawyers and our clients by keeping them ahead of the competition.

Mobility and Advanced Transportation Team

Dykema's nationally recognized Mobility and Advanced Transportation Team understands the growing complexities of advanced automotive technologies. Our lawyers are at the forefront of these emerging technologies, helping clients navigate the legal challenges and opportunities that automated vehicles and advanced mobility services present. Read more.

Automotive Antitrust and Trade Regulation

Dykema's antitrust and trade regulation lawyers team with our automotive industry lawyers and clients to solve the complex issues relating to the regulation of competition and trade. Our broad wealth of experience includes structuring transactions, business relationships, sales practices, and internal processes to avoid antitrust and trade regulation problems. We have also successfully represented clients in regulatory, arbitration, and investigatory proceedings, as well as state and federal court litigation throughout the United States. Read more.

Automotive Corporate and Compliance

Dykema professionals assist automotive clients in a broad range of corporate and commercial legal matters. Whether counseling clients on acquisitions, divestitures, dealer terminations, joint venture formation or commercial contract negotiation and compliance programs, clients rely on us to accurately gauge automotive trends and assess risk as they consider expanding, retooling, or simply refueling their core business operations. [Read more.](#)

Automotive Government Policy and Practice

Dykema's automotive government policy practice consists of regulatory specialists and government relations professionals who serve our clients on federal and state agency and legislative matters. Our long-standing relationships with federal and state legislators and regulators assure our clients that their voices are heard in a range of forums on the policy matters most critical to their businesses—including import and export issues, legislation and lobbying, and regulation and compliance. [Read more.](#)

Automotive Intellectual Property

Dykema helps its automotive clients survive and thrive in our fast-paced global marketplace using both our in-depth industry and strong technical knowledge. Considered a “go-to law firm” for intellectual property by general counsel, Dykema IP attorneys deliver solutions that safeguard or enforce the intellectual property rights of our automotive industry clients, as well as assisting them in unearthing value in their patent portfolios through valuations and other strategies. [Read more.](#)

Automotive Environmental Issues

Dykema's automotive and environmental lawyers understand the environmental challenges faced by the automotive sector. We work alongside our automotive clients to help them resolve their environmental issues—whether managing waste, decommissioning a plant, responding to an accidental discharge or achieving sustainability goals. [Read more.](#)

Automotive Supplier and Supply Chain Issues

By understanding the pressures exerted on every link in the supply chain—from increases in material and transportation costs to problems with single source inventory suppliers, accommodating volume swings and technological impacts on product architecture—Dykema attorneys help develop timely and cost-effective solutions for the full spectrum of supply chain management, supplier dispute, and troubled supplier issues. [Read more.](#)

Automotive, OEM and Supplier Business Services

Dykema provides automotive industry, OEM and supplier clients—public and private—with a full range of business services. By combining our intimate knowledge of the industry with our sharp legal focus, we help clients reduce risk, create opportunity, and partake in innovative and strategic business structures and relationships. [Read more.](#)

Automotive, OEM and Supplier Litigation

Ranked among the top seven firms nationwide in transportation litigation and top three firms nationwide in automotive product liability by *The Legal 500 US 2019*, Dykema is a firm of choice in automotive sector-related disputes. Dykema lawyers represent the Firm's automotive industry clients in state and federal courts nationwide, in bench and jury trials and on appeals of right and discretionary appeals to even the highest courts of the land, and in every conceivable alternative dispute resolution forum. For decades our litigators have represented automotive manufacturers and suppliers in a broad range of significant, high-profile cases, class actions and all manner of commercial disputes. We have appeared on behalf of automotive clients before the U.S. Department of Transportation and other federal and state departments and agencies, to advocate for our clients' causes for over 95 years. [Read more.](#)

Automotive Product Liability

Recognized among top firms nationwide as a “well-regarded automotive product liability firm” by *Chambers USA 2020*, Dykema understands the complex competing considerations involved in product design and development, testing, integration, and manufacturing, and we know how to win cases by explaining difficult scientific principles to judges and juries. We have defended thousands of product liability claims for a wide range of automotive products, systems and components including wheels, tires, brakes, suspension systems, airbags, seat belts, fuel systems, vehicle control and stability systems, roof structures, window glass, transmissions, seats, seat heaters, electrical switches and systems, and an entire spectrum of crashworthiness claims. We defend and try personal injury, wrongful death cases, property damage claims, and product recall and related product defect litigation—including class actions—across the country. Read more.

Publications

"USMCA Succeeds NAFTA Rule Governing Trade in North America"

August 25, 2020

Risk Management

"COVID-19 Automotive Outlook Flash Survey Results Dykema, MICHAuto and The Right Place"

August 6, 2020

The Open Road: Automotive Law Blog

"Results Are In! Dykema, MICHauto and The Right Place COVID-19 Automotive Outlook Flash Survey"

August 3, 2020

The Open Road: Automotive Law Blog

"Saving Midmarket, Closely Held Companies With Traditional Workouts"

May 13, 2020

CFO

"Life After Coronavirus: New Challenges for New Mobility Services"

May 6, 2020

The Open Road: Automotive Law Blog

"The top 5 9th Circuit civil cases of 2019"

December 30, 2019

The Daily Journal

"How does autonomous vehicle technology impact automaker liability?"

September 12, 2019

Automotive World

"Effectiveness of Contractual Receivership Clauses for Operating Companies"

August 26, 2019

Business Law Today

"Five Simple Rules for In-House Counsel to Avoid the Most Hidden Insolvency Risks in Commercial Transactions"

January 10, 2019

Business Law Today

"Successful Manufacturing Contracting—It's More than Standard Terms and Conditions"

February 2018

Manufacturing Today

"Service and Software-based Revenue Streams to Sculpt Legal Activities"

September 1, 2017

Automotive World

"Who Will Own the Rights to Autonomous Cars?"

July 26, 2017

Legaltech News

Automotive Industry Group (Cont.)

"Changes In Transportation Are Poised To Transform Commercial Real Estate"

July 24, 2017

Commercial Investment Real Estate

"Feds Don't Need New Powers Over Self-Driving Cars"

February 20, 2017

Crain's Automotive News

"International Distribution Relationships: Commercial and Legal Perspectives"

February 18, 2017

Texas CEO Magazine

"Understanding the autonomous vehicle industry is a complex dance"

July 10, 2016

Crain's Detroit Business

"The myth of the collision-free automobile"

July 7, 2016

Automotive World

"Supply Agreements: A contractual approach to supplier risk management"

June 26, 2015

Supply & Demand Chain Executive

"Why forthcoming EU data regulations will affect global auto industry players"

May 2015

Automotive World

"Current Law and Potential Legal Issues Pertaining to Automated, Autonomous and Connected Vehicles"

2015

Santa Clara High Technology Law Journal

Before Self-Driving Cars: Four Tech Challenges the Auto Industry Faces Today

January 16, 2015

"What Massachusetts Court's Ruling on Tesla Means for Automakers, Dealers"

October 23, 2014

WardsAuto

"Automobile Data Recording Is Not An Invasion Of Privacy"

June 19, 2014

Law360

"NHTSA's Drive for Automated Vehicle Safety"

June 6, 2013

Law360

"Decision in Genesis Healthcare Leaves Key Question Unanswered"

April 18, 2013

IADC Class Action and Multi-Party Litigation Committee Listserv

"State of the Automotive Industry"

October 17, 2012

Dykema Publication

"Nicastro and its Progeny: Did the U.S. Supreme Court Usher in a New Liability Landscape 25 Years After Asahi?" (Co-author)

June 18, 2012

Bloomberg's Product Safety & Liability Reporter, 40 PLSR 5834

Article on *Mazza v. Honda Motor Co.* Decision

March 2012

International Association of Defense Counsel, Class Action and Multi-Party Litigation Committee Newsletter

Automotive Industry Group (Cont.)

"The Buzz On Electric Vehicle Safety"

February 14, 2012

Law360

"Warranty Cost Sharing: The Framework for Negotiations"

November 2011

OESA Comparative Analysis of OEM Warranty Programs, Original Equipment Supplier Association

"The Legal Implications of the Disaster in Japan"

July 3, 2011

Autobeat Insider Perspectives

"Speed Bumps Ahead"

May 20, 2011

The Deal Magazine

"Regulation of the 'Connected Vehicle' —Issues and Models"

March 14, 2011

Product Safety & Liability Reporter, BNA

Speaking Engagements

Webinar: COVID-19 Automotive Outlook Survey Results: Driving the Future of the Automotive Industry

August 13, 2020

Using Innovation to Defend Your Case: Using New Automotive Technology to Build Your Defense, 2020 DRI Product Liability Conference

February 5, 2020

Absolute Liability and *Res Ipsa Loquitur*: Dangerous Legal Concepts Potentially Stifling Autonomous Vehicle Innovation

August 20, 2019

Critical Considerations: Autonomous Vehicle Product Liability and Potential Legal Risks

January 15, 2019

The Convergence of Automotive, Product, Class Action, and Consumer Litigation

October 16, 2018

New PVC Regulations and the Implications on Customer/Supplier Pricing, Motor Vehicle Metals and Resins Conference

Legislation and Regulation of Highly-Automated Vehicles, Vehicle-to-Vehicle Warning Systems and Real-World Roll-Out

January 30, 2018

And Now the Law: Product Liability, Cybersecurity, Privacy, Ethics, Insurance, and Regulatory Compliance, Autonomous Vehicle Safety Regulation World Congress

October 24, 2017

Legal Challenges: Product Liability, Cybersecurity, Privacy, Ethics, Insurance, and Regulatory Compliance, moderator, Autonomous Vehicle Safety Regulation World Congress

October 24, 2017

Product liability: bump in the road or big pothole?, Autonomous Vehicle Safety Regulation World Congress

October 24, 2017

Autonomous Vehicle Regulation, Legislation and Technology, Texas Auto Roundup, Texas Auto Writers Association, Austin, Texas

May 8, 2017

Technology and the Law: Update on Vehicle-to-Vehicle Regulation and Michigan Autonomous Vehicle Legislation

January 24, 2017

Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Product Liability Litigation—Distracted Driving

September 20, 2016

Automotive Industry Group (Cont.)

Technology and the Law: Accelerating the Next Revolution in Roadway Safety
October 18, 2016

Regulatory Developments - Connected Vehicles, 7th Summit on the Future of The Connected Vehicle, Ann Arbor, Michigan
October 6, 2016

The Transformation of Transportation, Michigan State Law Review Symposium, East Lansing, Michigan
April 7-8, 2016

Technology and the Law: Autonomous Vehicles
April 12, 2016

Emerging Issues in Legal Liability for Connected Vehicles, 6th Summit on the Future of the Connected Vehicle
October 27, 2015

Automotive: Managing the Ups and Downs of the Business Cycle, Crain's Detroit Business General & In-House Counsel Summit
June 10, 2015

Recalls and Class Actions, ACI Automotive Product Liability Litigation Conference
June 3, 2015

Avoiding Expectation Bias in Fire Investigations, 2014 Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Products Liability Litigation, ABA, Tort Trial & Insurance Section
March 24, 2014

Trying a Products Liability Case for the Supplier Without the OEM Present, 2014 Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Products Liability Litigation, ABA, Tort Trial & Insurance Section
March 24, 2014

The "Connected" Vehicle - Regulatory and Liability Issues, Specialty Equipment Market Association
November 7, 2013

Transfer Pricing for Automotive Companies: Practical Strategies for Managing Global Tax Risks
May 15, 2013

Doing Business in Korea and With Korean Companies in the U.S.
April 30, 2013

Are Capacity Constraints Paralyzing Your Supply Chain?, *Automotive News* Power Training, Panelist on Webinar
April 16, 2013

Class Action Developments: What Automotive Product Liability Defense Lawyers Need to Know, DRI Product Liability Conference
April 4, 2013

Rule 68 Offers to "Pick Off" the Named Plaintiff: Legal Update, Tactics and Best Practice, Webinar, International Association of Defense Counsel
December 2012

Automotive Industry Outlook 2013
December 12, 2012

Autobeat Insider Conference: Getting it Right
September 20, 2012

Automotive Institute: Retail Auto Distribution Today
May 17, 2012

Automotive Institute: Legislative and Regulatory Issues Currently Impacting the Automotive Industry
April 18, 2012

Blockbuster Developments in Class Action Litigation, Co-Panelist, 22nd ABA Conference on Automotive Product Liability Litigation, Phoenix, Arizona
March 28-30, 2012

Automotive Industry Group (Cont.)

Bridging the Divide: Plaintiff and Defense Counsel Mediation Summit, Panel Co-Moderator and Co-Chair of Conference, 22nd ABA Conference on Automotive Product Liability Litigation, Phoenix, Arizona
March 28-30, 2012

Managing Risk in a Rapidly Growing Market: How the Automotive Industry is Preparing for Hybrid and Electric Vehicle Liability Claims, 2012 Emerging Issues in Motor Vehicle Products Liability Litigation, ABA, Tort Trial & Insurance Section
March 28-30, 2012

Automotive Institute: Opportunity, Risk and Liability Social Channels
October 19, 2011

Autobeat Insider Conference
June 23, 2011

Auto Industry Panel, ABI New York City Bankruptcy Conference, New York, NY (Panel member)
June 16, 2009