

GUIDE

Automotive Supplier Guide to Forced Labor and DDRT



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Chapter 1

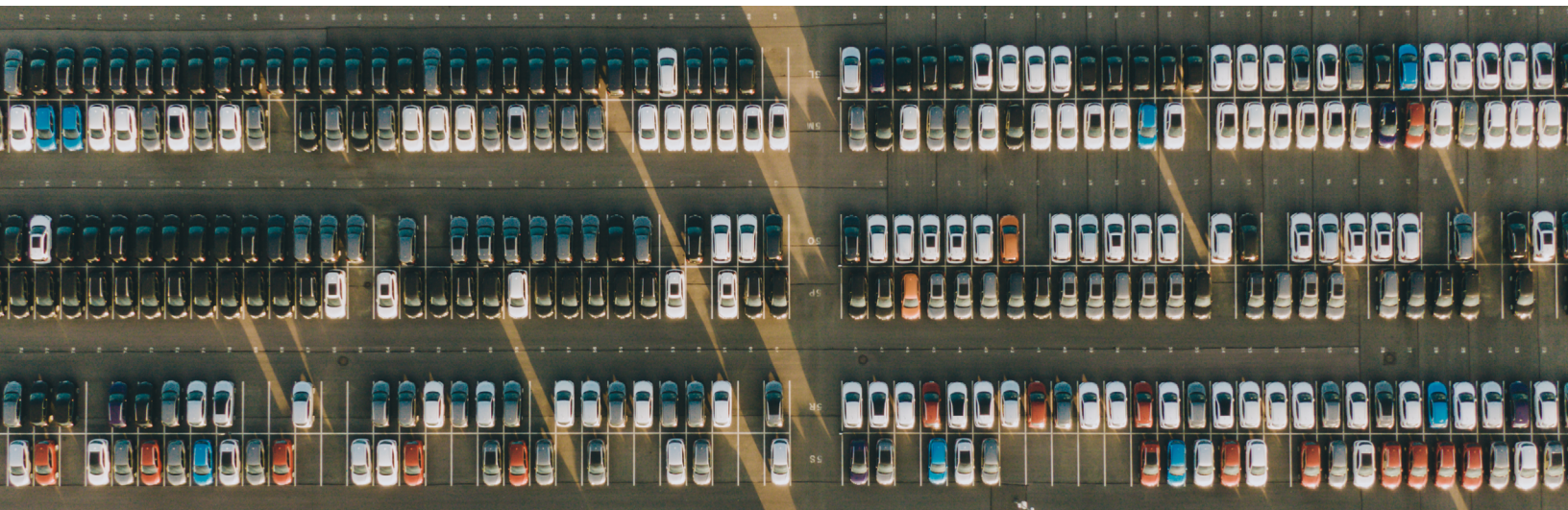
Executive overview

The automotive industry stands at a new compliance crossroads.

With the Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act ([UFLPA](#)) enforcement accelerating and [AIAG's Forced Labor Due Diligence Program](#) now requiring suppliers to provide deeper, verifiable multi-tier supply chain data via the Due Diligence Reporting Template ([DDRT](#)), OEMs are demanding a new level of transparency and validated proof of ethical sourcing.

For suppliers that cannot meet these expectations, the risks are substantial: shipment detentions, production delays, lost revenue, and potential removal from approved supplier lists.

In this guide, you'll learn how tightening forced labor enforcement is affecting automotive shipments, what DDRT requires, and the steps suppliers can take to comply. You'll also see how [Resilinc's Agentic AI platform](#) automates supplier assessments, maps multi-tier risk exposure, and delivers audit-ready DDRT submissions—so you can prove compliance faster, reduce disruption risk, and strengthen brand trust.



Chapter 2

Why DDRT readiness matters now



DDRT marks our industry's shift from voluntary frameworks to standardized, evidence-based due diligence. By mid-2026, annual submissions will be the norm. Suppliers who embrace technology-enabled due diligence now will be better positioned to maintain their preferred-supplier status."



Tanya Bolden

VP, Corporate Responsibility and Supply Chain Products and Services, AIAG



The release of AIAG's DDRT 2.0 in May of 2025 marks a fundamental evolution in due diligence expectations.

What began as a voluntary reporting framework is now a core requirement for doing business with major OEMs such as Ford, GM, and Stellantis.

By mid-2026, annual DDRT submissions will be the industry norm, with OEMs requiring proof of ethical sourcing and forced labor compliance. The new standard expands supplier accountability, requiring:

- **Mapping supplier relationships beyond tier 1** to capture sub-tier sites, components, and materials that may fall within high-risk regions or categories
- **Documenting direct and indirect forced labor risks** using validated data, supplier attestations, and continuous monitoring across global networks
- **Providing structured responses in a standardized format** aligned with AIAG's DDRT template to ensure consistency and audit readiness.

The challenge? Most suppliers lack the multi-tier visibility, supply engagement, compliance validation, and reporting automation needed to meet these expectations. Many are still managing due diligence manually through emails and spreadsheets, making it nearly impossible to identify high-risk suppliers or complete DDRT submissions at scale.

As OEMs tighten due diligence requirements and global regulators intensify enforcement, compliance is now a defining measure of operational integrity. The shift toward data-verified, continuous compliance means suppliers must prove not only that they know their networks, but that they can trace materials, validate labor practices, and respond instantly to scrutiny.

The heightened supplier requirements from OEMs reflect the broader compliance expectations placed on them by U.S. Customs & Border Protection (CBP), especially under UFLPA, which are becoming increasingly stringent as summarized here:

- No forced labor anywhere in the supply chain
- Full multi-tier mapping
- Complete traceability documentation
- Supplier risk assessments
- A formal due-diligence program
- Independent verification
- Remediation processes
- Ability to provide documentation rapidly
- Forced labor rebuttable presumption compliance

For companies still relying on manual attestations and siloed data, the risk of falling behind is real. The consequences of inaction are already visible across the industry, as regulators hold suppliers accountable for transparency failures and forced labor exposure.

Chapter 3

The impact of non-compliance



The cost of non-compliance with DDRT and forced labor regulation now directly affects revenue, production continuity, and supplier relationships with OEMs.

Failure to meet evolving due diligence requirements can result in shipment detention and contract delays. Recent enforcement data underscores the magnitude of this risk:

- **6,900+ shipments** were detained under the UFLPA in 2025, according to U.S. CBP.
- These detentions represented more than **\$1.6 billion in goods** across industries including automotive, electronics, and aerospace.
- **Over 70%** of detained shipments were denied entry due to incomplete traceability or unverifiable supplier attestations.
- OEMs are now enforcing [AIAG DDRT](#) as a supplier qualification requirement, with non-compliant suppliers facing sourcing delays and audit escalation

For automotive suppliers, even a single detained shipment can halt production lines, trigger costly airfreight or resourcing contingencies, and jeopardize future OEM contracts. Beyond these financial and operational losses, non-compliance erodes customer and investor trust—signaling inadequate supply chain governance at a time when ethical transparency has become a defining measure of competitiveness.

A series of high-profile detentions shows the rising cost of hidden supply chain exposure



In early 2024, CBP impounded thousands of vehicles from **Volkswagen Group** (affecting brands like **Porsche, Audi, Bentley**) when a sub-component was linked to forced labor.



In a separate but related case, **BMW** imported roughly 8,000 units of a model into the U.S. containing the same banned component, even after the supplier was notified of the violation.



Jaguar Land Rover (JLR) likewise imported affected parts (for spare/aftermarket service) after the component maker was sanctioned, forcing the automaker to quarantine and destroy existing inventory once the problem came to light.

And these cases aren't isolated. Across the automotive sector, OEMs are now reevaluating their supplier footprints to avoid similar compliance failures, none more visibly than Tesla. In 2024–2025, Tesla began actively removing all China-made components from vehicles destined for the U.S. market, a direct response to tightening import scrutiny and expanding forced labor enforcement.

The company's accelerated shift toward alternative suppliers signals how quickly compliance expectations are reshaping sourcing decisions. It also underscores a growing reality for every OEM: maintaining market access now requires supply chains that are fully traceable, continuously monitored, and adaptable enough to replace at-risk parts long before they trigger detentions or downstream disruption.

Chapter 4

Resilinc's end-to-end DDRT solution

The Resilinc platform advantage



Unified workflow for multi-OEM reporting



AI-powered insights and real-time risk surfacing



Human-in-the-loop precision combined with automation



Seamless scalability for future DDRT and ESG requirements

Resilinc's DDRT solution is purpose-built for automotive suppliers seeking to comply with OEM-mandated due diligence requirements while minimizing administrative burden.

The platform combines [supplier-validated mapping](#), human-in-the-loop engagement, and AI-driven automation to deliver an integrated process from risk detection through report submission.

The solution begins with supplier validation, where [human experts](#) and Resilinc's Intelligent Supplier Network ensure that sub-tier data is accurate and complete. Next, [autonomous mapping](#) automatically identifies hidden suppliers and harmonizes records across business units. Resilinc's [Forced Labor Compliance Agent](#) continuously scans millions of data sources to detect exposure to high-risk regions, materials, or entities, automatically flagging suppliers for further review.

Once data is validated, the platform's AI engine generates OEM-specific DDRT reports, customized for each manufacturer's format and submission requirements. The process culminates in continuous monitoring—alerting teams to changes in supplier status, new regulatory risks, or emerging compliance gaps. In one unified platform, suppliers can prepare, submit, and maintain [DDRT compliance](#) at scale.

Chapter 5

How Resilinc accelerates DDRT readiness

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Ethical sourcing is now table stakes for doing business with major OEMs. Resilinc's Agentic AI platform gives suppliers the multi-tier visibility and automated DDRT reporting they need—transforming months of manual work into a streamlined, audit-ready process that builds competitive advantage.



Kamal Ahluwalia
CEO, Resilinc

Achieving DDRT readiness requires both structure and speed. Resilinc's five-step roadmap provides a proven framework for suppliers to move from manual compliance to intelligent automation.

- 1 **Identify high-priority suppliers** in critical product categories where sub-tier exposure is most likely.
- 2 **Map multi-tier relationships** through Resilinc's validated network, uncovering Tier 2–n suppliers and their interdependencies.
- 3 **Automate supplier outreach and data collection** using guided workflows and built-in templates aligned with DDRT requirements.
- 4 **Generate OEM-specific DDRT reports automatically**, complete with supplier attestations and supporting documentation.
- 5 **Monitor compliance continuously**, leveraging real-time alerts and risk analytics to maintain visibility throughout the year.

By following this roadmap, suppliers can meet OEM submission deadlines with confidence—while positioning themselves for future ESG and CBP compliance expansions.

Chapter 6

Next steps: Activate, validate, and monitor

Getting started is simple.

- 1 Activate the Forced Labor Compliance Agent with DDRT functionality on your Resilinc platform with no new infrastructure required
- 2 Specify your OEMs for automated reporting.
- 3 Validate supplier data, leveraging Resilinc's Intelligent Supplier Network for faster engagement.
- 4 Generate and submit OEM DDRT reports, supported by audit-ready documentation.
- 5 Monitor continuously with real-time alerts and always-on compliance visibility.

About Resilinc

Resilinc is the leader in supply chain risk and compliance intelligence. Our agentic AI-powered platform transforms how companies detect, assess, and respond to disruptions—autonomously, in real time, and at scale. With 15+ years of supplier-validated data and visibility to the part-site level, Resilinc delivers predictive disruption alerts, compliance insights, and AI-guided mitigation workflows that reduce response times and drive better business outcomes.

Learn more at resilinc.ai

Conclusion

As regulations tighten and enforcement accelerates, suppliers that invest in proactive, data-driven compliance will not only safeguard operations but also strengthen their standing with OEMs and regulators alike. By combining automation, human expertise, and continuous monitoring, Resilinc gives suppliers the visibility and intelligence needed to stay ahead of evolving mandates and avoid costly disruptions that can halt production, delay contracts, and erode trust. Readiness is more than a regulatory requirement—it's a strategic advantage that defines the future of ethical manufacturing.

Ready to get DDRT-ready the intelligent way?

Learn how Resilinc can help

[Schedule Demo](#)

