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NEWS RELEASE

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AUTOMOTIVE DOOR MODULES

The automotive door module market has seen a number of changes in the past few years. The primary impetus behind these changes has been the drive toward lower costs. An analysis of the advantages and disadvantages of a modular door approach is quite difficult, as there are many conflicting issues to consider. The issue of *soft costs* when analyzing the case for a door module program is complex. Exhibit One lists some of these cost elements.

The market is moving toward more integration or increased content level. Understanding the direction of developments in various door modules, one needs to look at the door, pillars, door handles, glass, etc. Design and styling performance changes at this level will drive the content level, role and future of door modules. Window regulators continue to play an important role in the door module market. The evolution of regulators into smaller, lighter mechanisms is creating possibilities for new door designs and greater integration. Recent developments in regulator design are summarized in Exhibit Two.

Overall, the automotive door module market will grow. The use of trim modules will be increasing due to potential for part integration. Cassette modules will be used mostly in special situations such as niche vehicles and landlocked plants. North America will lag substantially behind Europe on implementation of door modules. The Japanese and Korean markets are also developing, but at a much slow pace. Exhibit Three summarizes the global door module market penetration.

The ITB Group, Ltd. (Novi, Michigan) has completed a new global analysis of the door module market. This 200 page report considers industry dynamics, overall trends shaping the market, economics of the carrier manufacturing process and developments in carriers, door panels and window regulators. This report concludes with a profile of the companies who have been active in with door modules as a product or concept and have a direct involvement in this market.

Exhibit One

Soft Costs that Impact the Use of Door Modules

- Saved floor space:
 - Used
 - Unused
- Direct/indirect labor reductions
- In-plant repairs
- Inventory carrying costs
- Freight
- Part number elimination
- Warranty reduction
- Weight
- In-plant maintenance
- Ergonomics
- Production level support
- Administrative costs
- Ordering parts/purchasing
- Cost of moving inventory
- Quality improvement costs
- Engineering and development costs

Source: The ITB Group, Ltd.

Exhibit Two

Summary of Window Regulator Developments

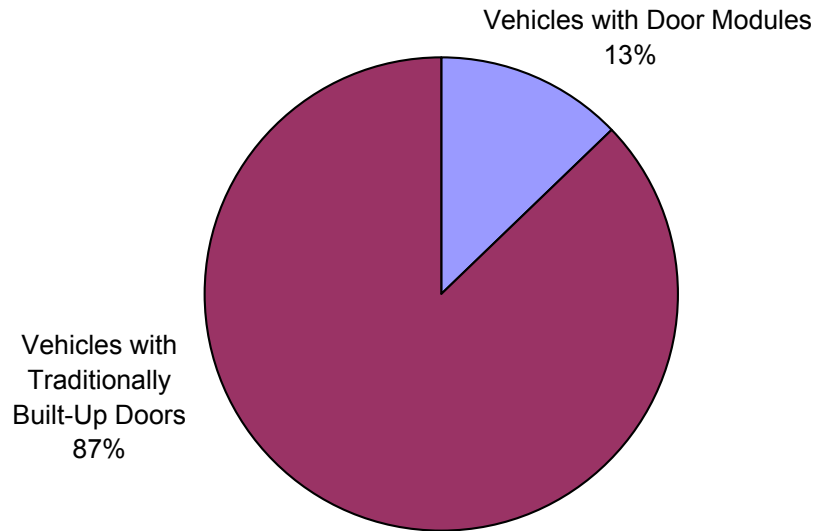
| Developments | Effect |
|------------------------------|--|
| Smaller Regulator Designs | Weight reduction Space created for other hardware Ease in handling and assembly |
| Advanced Electronic Controls | Convenience and safety Improved sealing and NVH Opportunity for integration with other door and mirror controls |
| Smaller Motors | Cost savings Weight savings Space savings Quiet operation |
| Integration | Improved assembly time Reduction in parts and complexity |

Source: The ITB Group, Ltd.

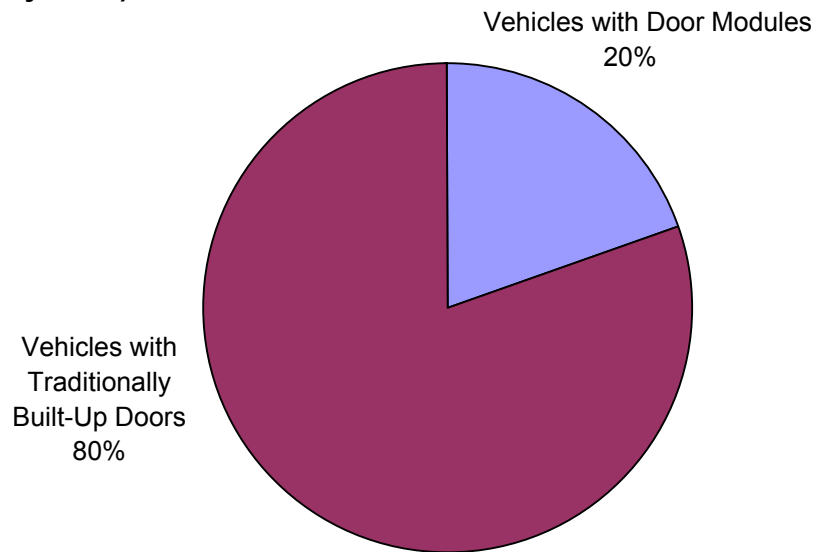
Exhibit Three

Global Door Module Market Penetration

2002



2007 (Projected)



Source: The ITB Group, Ltd.