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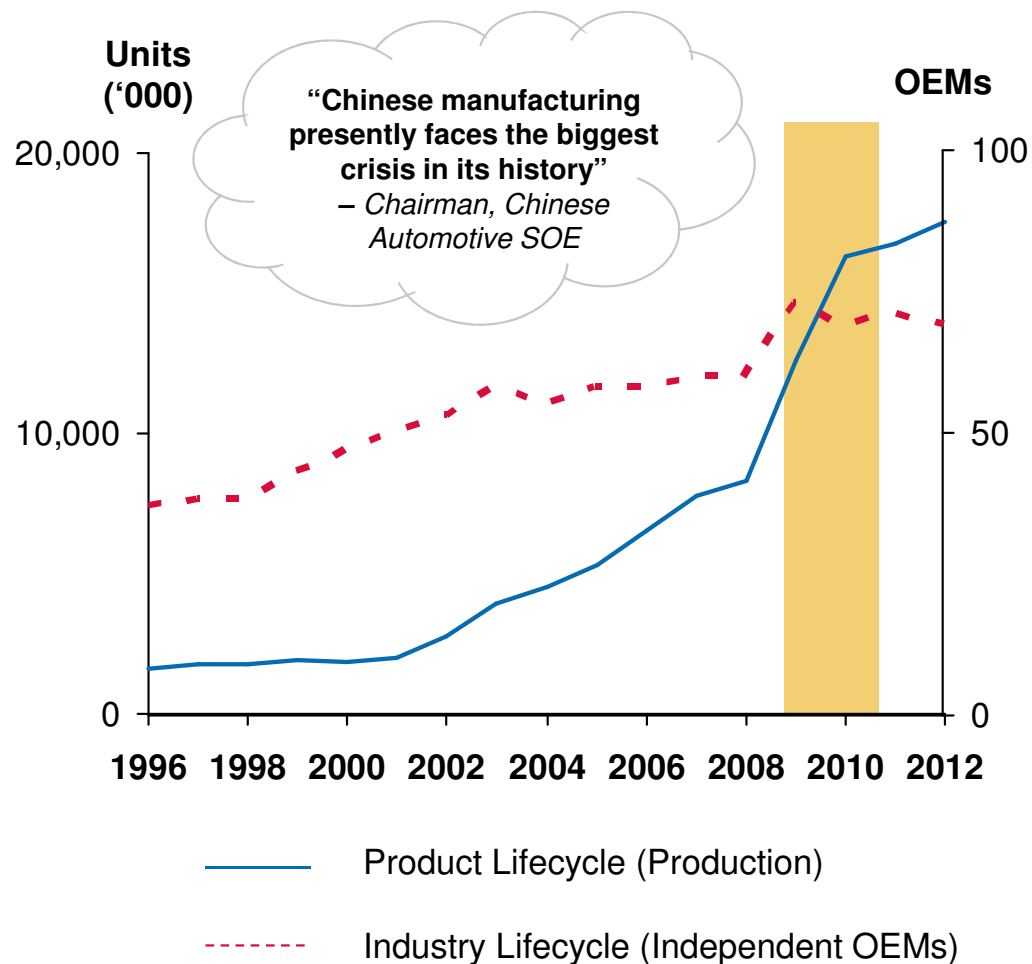
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# Racing to the Bottom

Presentation at the Global Supply Chain Council

# China's auto industry is presently at an important inflection point

## Industry Dynamics



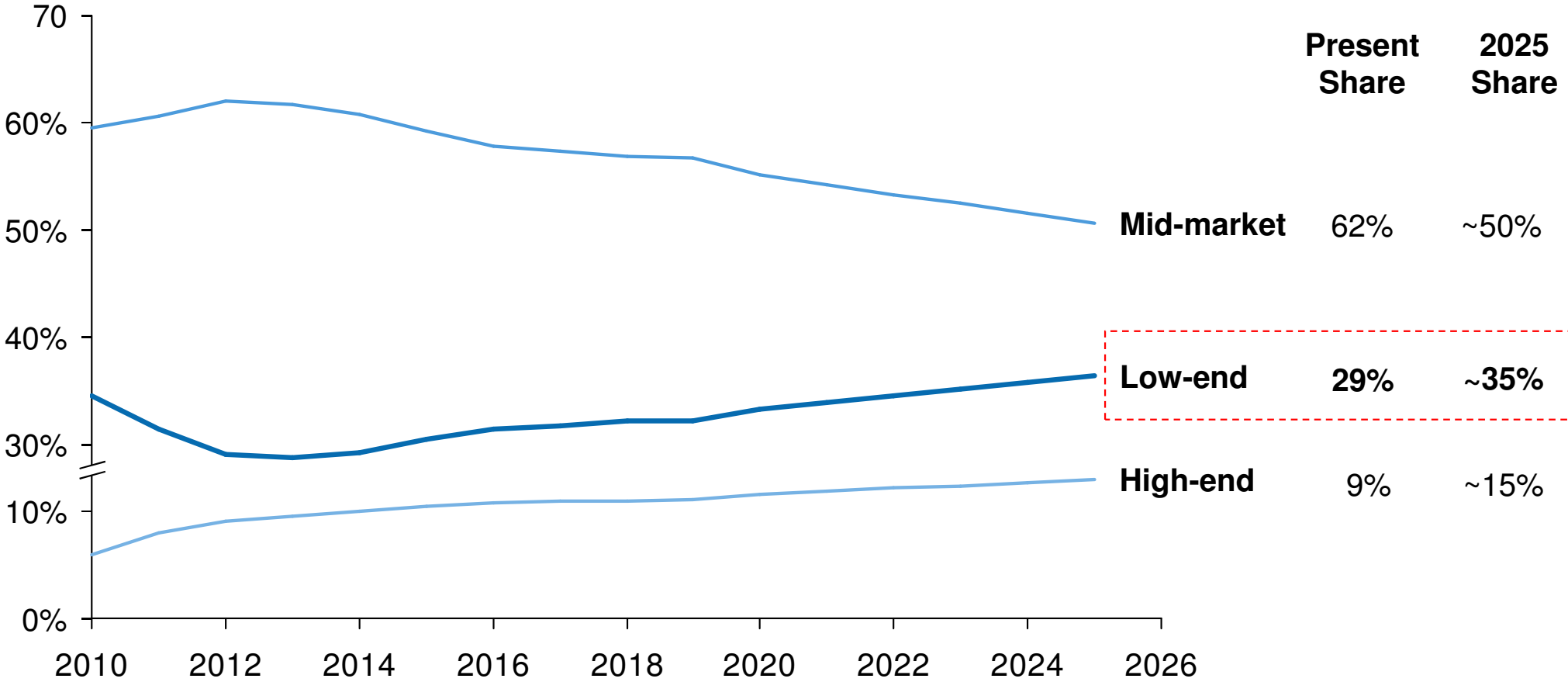
## Major Trends

- Annual sales expected to slow down from 25% CAGR before 2010 to ~6% CAGR during the next decade
- The product and industry lifecycles are beginning to decouple
  - High levels of overcapacity
  - Price and margin pressure
  - (Orderly) shake-out finally underway?
- Changing competitive dynamics increasingly resembling those of mature markets
  - Repeat purchases / owner loyalty
  - Used vehicles / parts & service
  - Lease / Finance?

Source: Global Insight, Literature Research, Booz & Company analysis

# The low- and high-end segments will likely continue to gain share at the expense of the mid-market

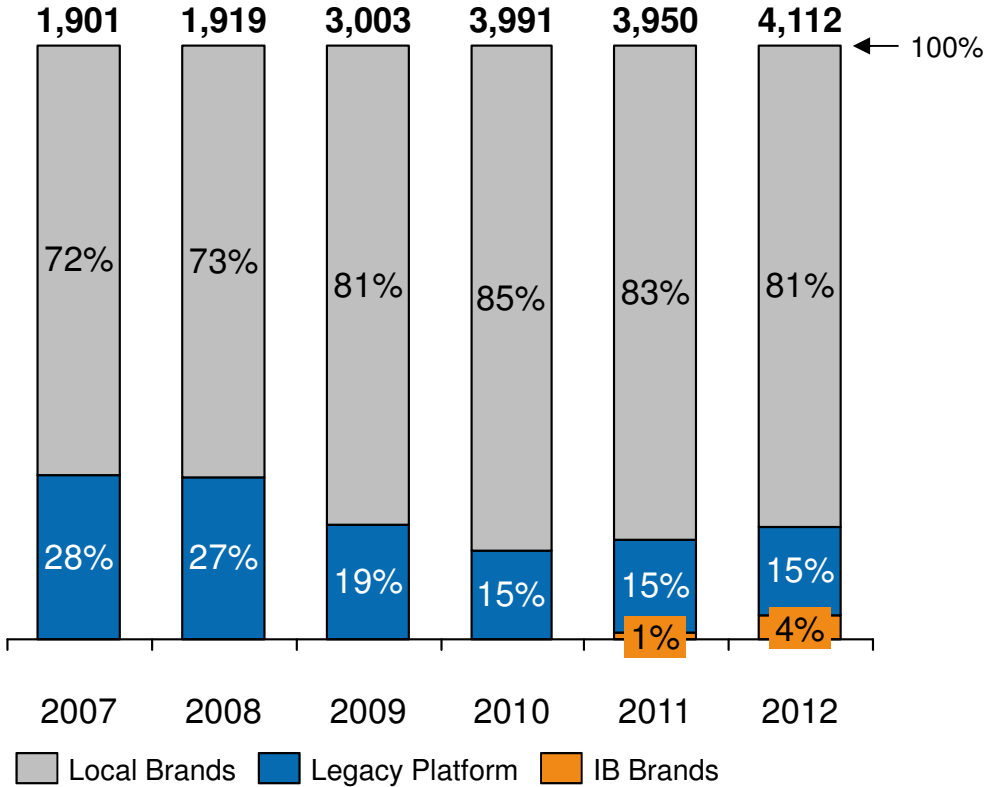
**China Vehicle Sales – By Segment**  
(2010 – 2026E, % of Total Sale Units)



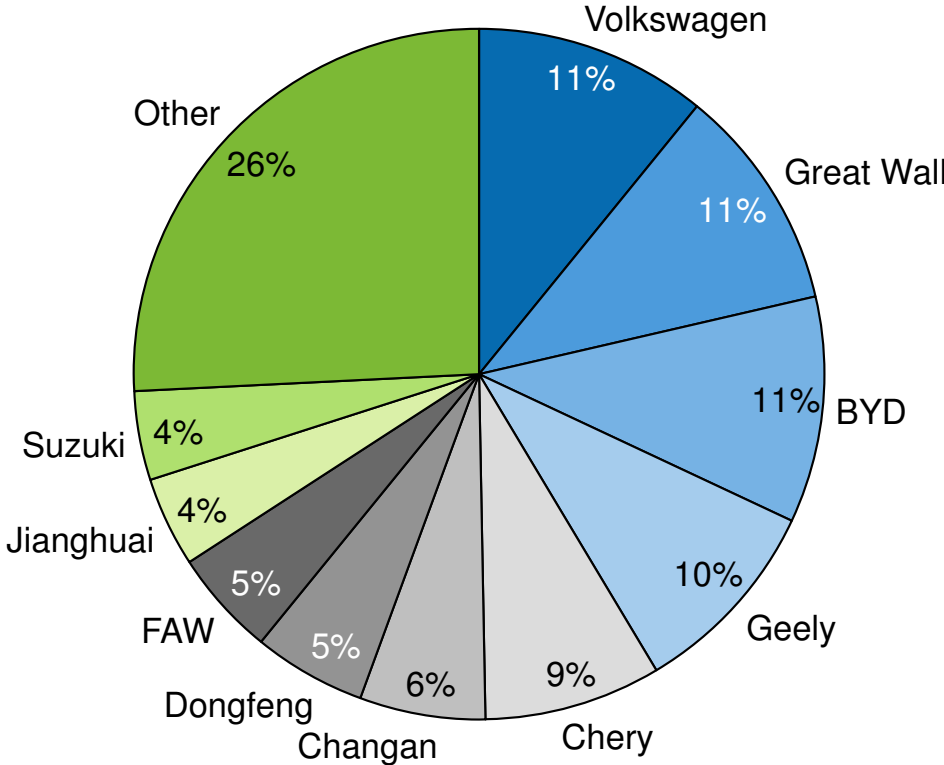
Source: Global Insight, Literature Research, Booz & Company analysis

# Local Chinese brands currently dominate the low-end segment

**Low-End Market Share Change by Type of Player**  
(2007~2012, '000 Units)

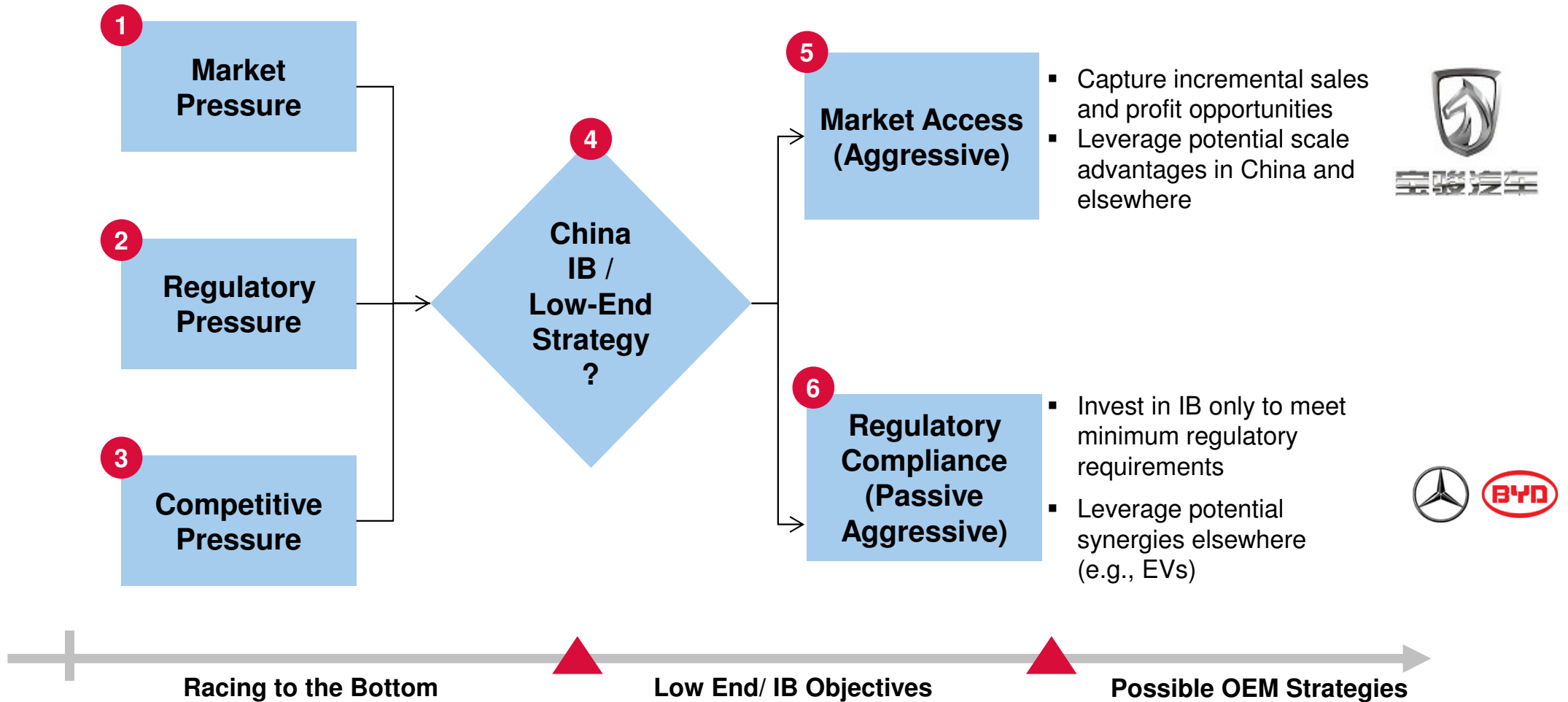


**Low-End Market share of all players**  
(2012)



Source: Global insight; Booz & Company analysis

# However, foreign automakers are under considerable pressure to enter the low-end segment themselves



Source: Booz & Company analysis

# The passive-aggressive strategy is probably not advisable for most foreign automakers, especially those in the volume segments

## Potential Risks of a Passive-Aggressive IB Strategy

### Market Risk

- Lost profits, competitive position, and prestige
- Inability to reach business plan objectives
- Scale disadvantage in China and potentially other emerging markets

### Regulatory Risks

- Potential negative impact on relationship with key government officials and other stakeholders
- Substantial investment may be required even to meet minimal regulatory requirements
- Potential challenges with expected tightening of IB policy (e.g., future minimum volume requirements)

Source: Booz & Company analysis

# In fact, several foreign automakers have already entered the low-end segment

## Recent Low-End Market Entries By Foreign OEMs



**SGMW Baojun**



**Segment**

**Price**

**Compact**

**58-97k**



**Dongfeng Nissan Venucia**



**Compact**

**68-85K**



**GAIG Honda Everus**



**Sub-compact**

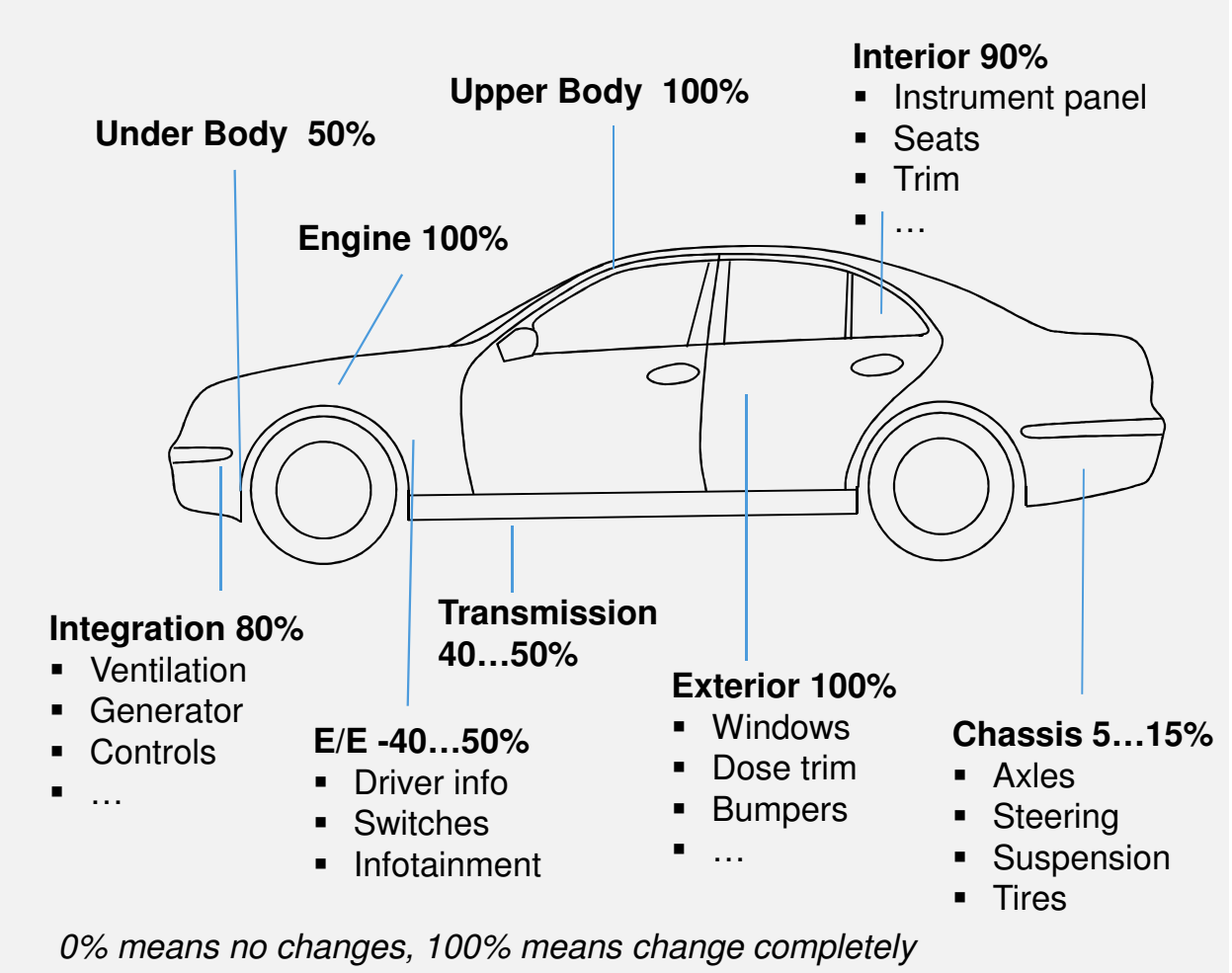
**58-100k**

Source: Literature Research, Booz & Company analysis

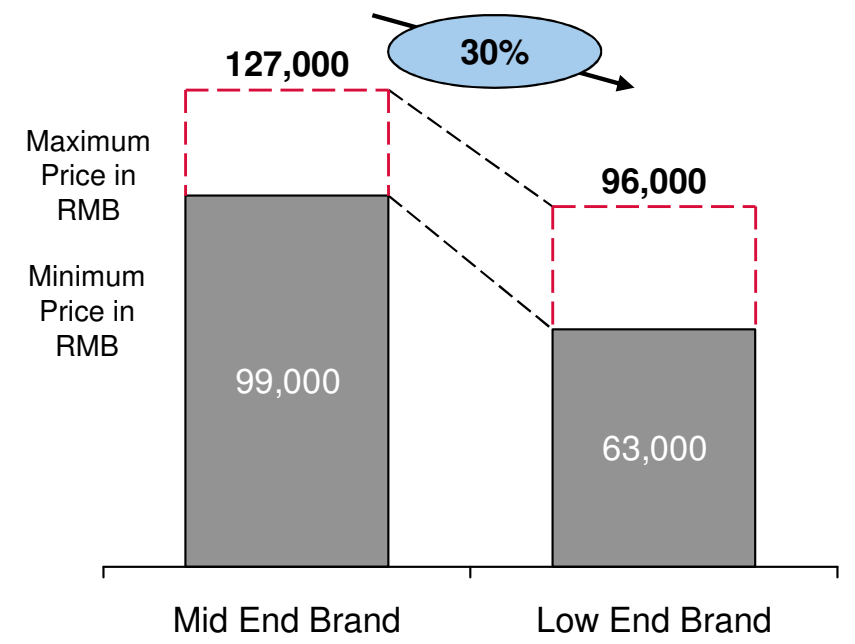
# Some foreign automakers have achieved cost reductions of >30%

**CASE STUDY**

## Changes Between Low End and Mid End Brand for Global OEM in China



## Price Comparison between Mid End and Low End Brand

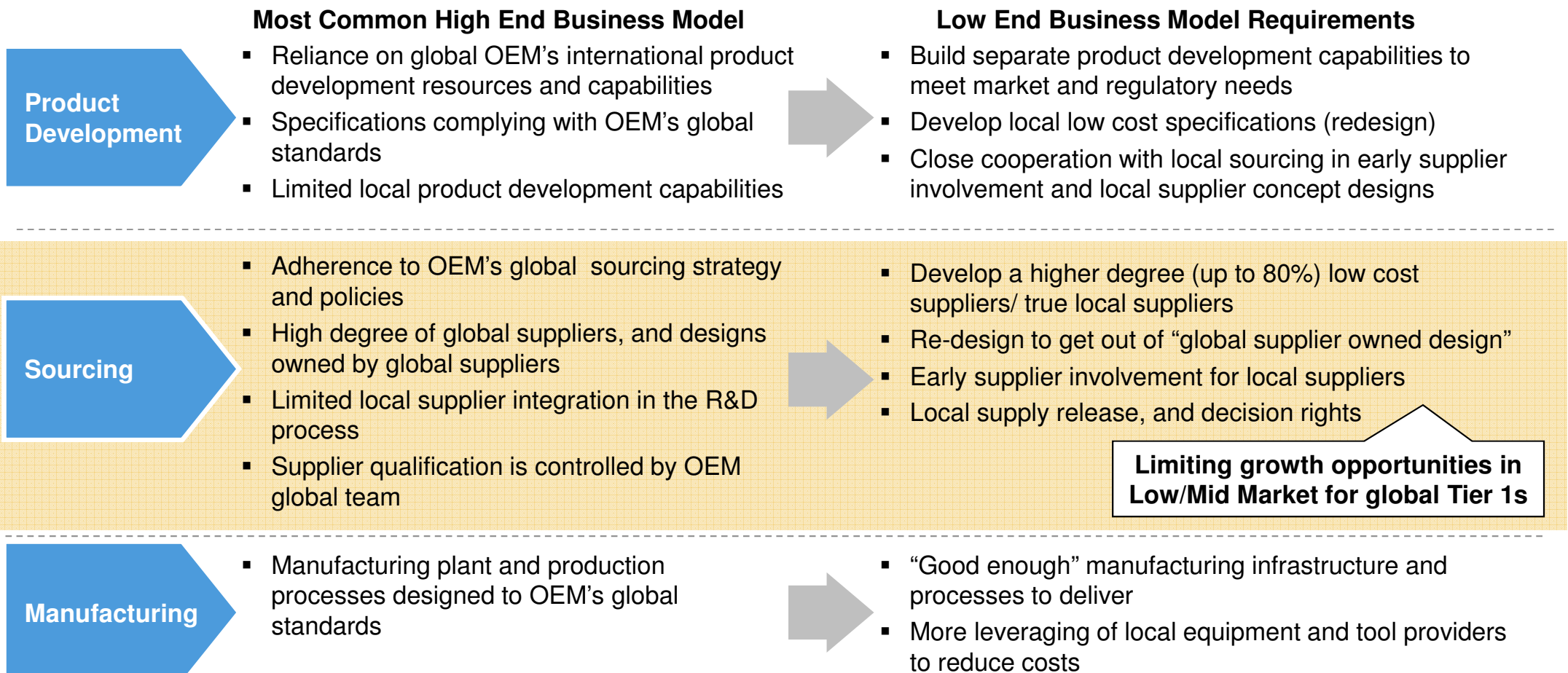


Source: Literature Research, Booz & Company analysis



# To do so, foreign automakers must make significant changes in their product development, sourcing and manufacturing activities

## Examples Business Model Changes



Source: Booz & Company analysis

**For example, one automaker reduced total plastics costs by ~35% by simplifying design and using more local Chinese suppliers**

**Example- Plastics Part Reconfiguration for Low End Car**



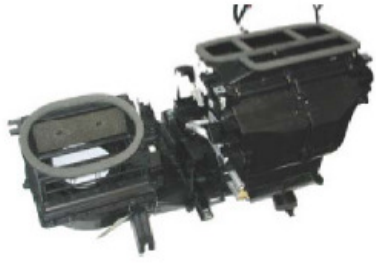
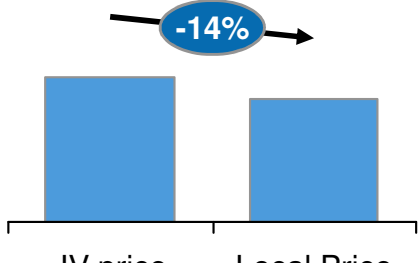

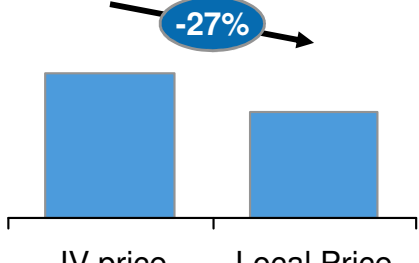
		Low End Model	Mid End Model
<b>A</b>	<b>Resin Grade Comparison*</b>		
	High End (%)	15%	60%
	Mid/Low End (%)	85%	40%
<b>B</b>	<b>Plastic Consumption*</b>		
	Plastics Weight Reduction (Low-vs. Mid End)	-7%	NA
<b>C</b>	<b>Suppliers</b>		
	Type of supplier used	Mainly Local Suppliers	Mainly Global Suppliers
<b>D</b>	<b>Total Plastics Cost</b>		
	Plastics Cost Reduction (Low - vs. Mid End)	-35%	NA

Note: High end plastics represents plastics over 20RMB/Kg, with an average of 25RMB/Kg (for calculation purpose) mainly including PC, ABS, ABS/PC, PBT, PMMA, POM and elastomers, while mid/low end are those lower than 20RMB/Kg, with an average of 12RMB/Kg (for calculation purpose), mainly including PA, PP, PE

Source: Booz expert judgment , Booz & Company analysis, expert interviews

# In fact, local Chinese suppliers can already sell many parts at acceptable quality levels for low-end cars, but at much lower cost

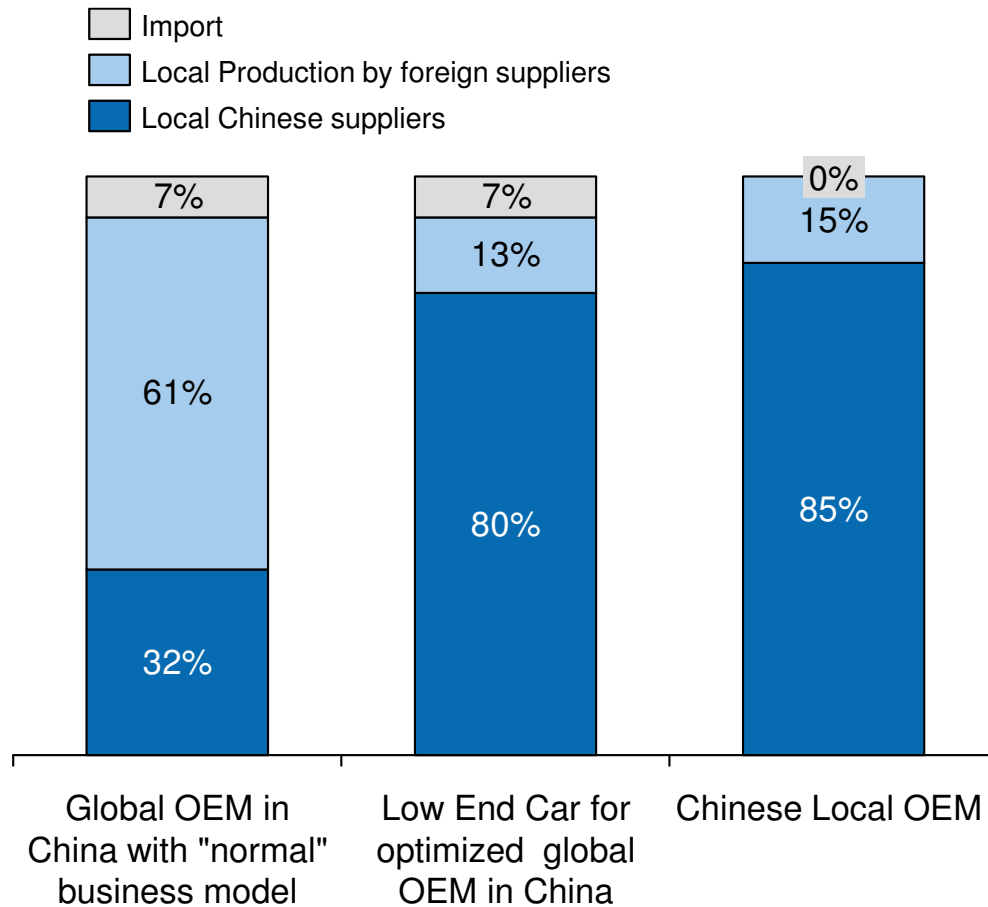
CLIENT EXAMPLE

Product	Total Cost Comparison	Cost Driver Comparison
 <p><b>ABS</b></p>	 <p>JV price      Local Price</p>	<p><b>JV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>90% components imported from Europe</li> <li>Assembly in China</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Supplier</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>50% key components imported from Europe</li> <li>Assembly in China</li> </ul>
 <p><b>HVAC</b></p>	 <p>JV price      Local Price</p>	<p><b>JV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Evaporator, heater core from Europe at higher price</li> <li>Assembly in China</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Supplier</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% manufactured in China with similar quality, but at lower prices</li> <li>Able to match requirements/specifications</li> </ul>
 <p><b>Display Cluster</b></p>	 <p>JV price      Local Price</p>	<p><b>JV</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Frame contract with automakers' HQ</li> <li>Higher additional overhead costs</li> </ul> <p><b>Local Supplier</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>100% manufactured in China with similar quality and requirement fulfillment, but at lower prices</li> </ul>

Source: Booz & Company analysis

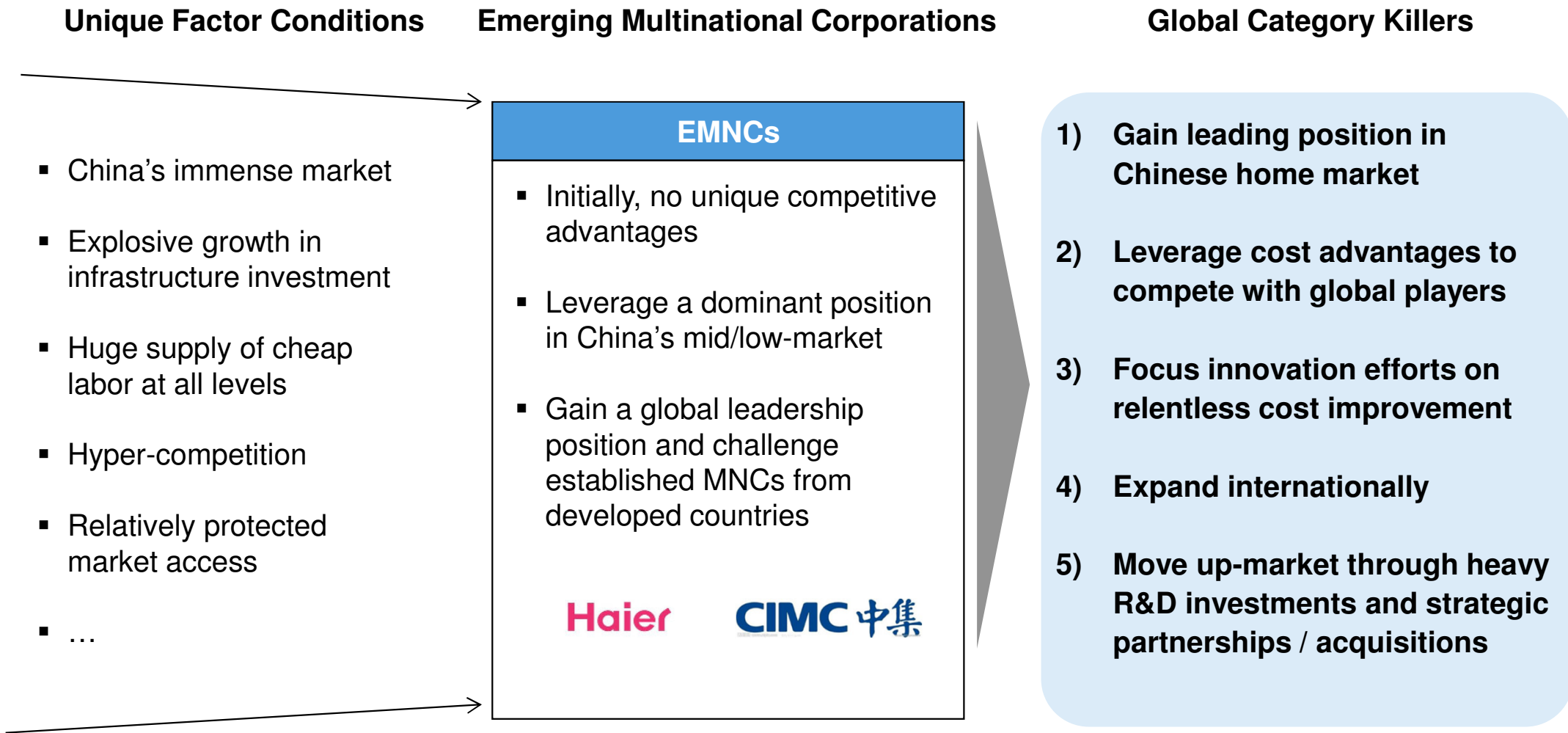
# Importantly, working with foreign automakers will enable local suppliers to improve their own capabilities and move upmarket

## Supplier Base Distribution Examples



Source: Literature Research, Booz & Company analysis

# In fact, there is a realistic chance that at least some of these local Chinese suppliers may become global category killers over time



Source: "How Firms in Emerging Markets Can Play Catch-up" – Strategy + Business, Jullens, 7 January 2014

# Wanxiang is a good example of just such a global category killer

## How Wanxiang Obtained Advanced Technologies Through Acquisitions



### Background information on Wanxiang

- Established in 1969, Wanxiang has become China's second largest private company -- annual revenues of over US\$ 10 billion
- Focus in the 1980's and 1990's was on increasing quality and cutting costs
- Wanxiang has acquired a market share of 70% for universal joints and started supplying to Sino-foreign JV's such as GM and Ford
- Their only tech center, established in 1994, is located in Xiaoshan, with 150 engineers
- Annual R&D expenditure of the group exceeded 4.5% of total sales
- There is at least one component from Wanxiang Group in every three cars produced in US

### Schiller

- In 1998, Wanxiang acquired Schiller for US\$ 19 million
- Gained technology, patents and new customer base

### Universal Auto Industry

- In 2001, Wanxiang purchased a 21% stake in the brake component maker for US\$ 2.8 million
- Made Wanxiang the first Chinese purchaser of a Nasdaq- listed company

### Rockford Powertrain

- In 2003 Wanxiang bought a stake in Rockford
- Gained expertise in drive shafts and clutch manufacturing

### Neapco

- In 2006 Wanxiang acquired a majority interest in Neapco a leader in drive train technology
- Product development engineers were sent to China to work on the product development process

Source: Company Annual Reports & Websites, Booz & Company analysis

# Fuyao is another example of a local Chinese supplier gradually becoming a global upmarket brand

## How OEMs Helped Turn Fuyao Become A Global Player



### Company Profile

- Fuyao Group is a joint venture corporation founded in 1987 in Fuzhou, specialized in production of automotive safety glass and industrial technological glass
- The group has over 10,000 employees and built automotive glass production bases in Fuqing, Changchun, Chongqing, Shanghai, Guangzhou, and Beijing
- In China, Fuyao has captured more than 50 per cent of the domestic OEM market and has been approved as a qualified, key supplier to eight of the world's leading automotive manufacturers: GM, Audi, Bentley, VW, GM, Ford, Toyota, Honda, Nissan, PSA, Volvo, Hyundai and Daimler

### Products – Automobile Glass



Passenger Vehicle Glass



Bus Glass



Bonding Glass

**Advanced  
Manufacturing  
Techniques**



**Low Labor and  
Overhead  
Costs**

### Global Supplier

- It is ranked No. 1 in China and No. 4 in the world
- In 2012, sales in overseas markets accounted for 30 percent of the company's total sales revenue
- In 2014, Fuyao will invest \$200 million to build a safety glass plant in the US, and \$220 million to establish a base to supply raw materials for its safety glass plant in the Russian market

Source: Company Annual Reports & Websites, Booz & Company analysis

# Many global suppliers are structurally disadvantaged and may find it difficult to respond successfully

	Key Drivers	Common Benefits for Locals	Typical Challenges for MNCs
R&D / Product Development	Localized Design	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ “Leaner”, <b>market-back, pragmatic designs</b></li> <li>▪ <b>Risk taking</b> in design and broader usage</li> <li>▪ <b>Lower R&amp;D cost</b> , shorter product development cycle and fewer tests</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Higher R&amp;D cost, longer design process and more design tests</li> <li>▪ “Over-engineer” and struggle to “truly localize” designs</li> </ul>
	Truly Local Supplier Base	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Higher sourcing percentage from truly <b>local suppliers</b></li> <li>▪ More aggressive in moving supplier base to <b>lower tier cities</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Struggle to “truly” localize majority of components</li> <li>▪ Often use global suppliers with higher costs</li> </ul>
Sourcing	Lower Cost Sites	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Lower cost locations</b> for manufacturing</li> <li>▪ <b>Larger scale operation</b></li> <li>▪ Moving west more aggressively than MNCs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Higher standards for site selection</li> <li>▪ Higher wage expectations due to MNC image</li> <li>▪ Stricter policies and potentially worse morale</li> </ul>
	Favorable Loans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Favorable financing rates</b></li> <li>▪ Some never repaid long-term loans</li> </ul>	
	Labor Cost/ Worker Policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Low-cost workers from Inland China</li> <li>▪ Less strict policies overall</li> <li>▪ Lower safety standards</li> </ul>	
Manufacturing	Low Global Overheads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Almost no excessive international workforce and additional related costs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Heavy global overhead</li> </ul>
	Robust Governmental Relationship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Favorable price terms by lobbying government / regulators</b></li> <li>▪ Less market competition under government protection</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Longer time and more tactics to build trusts with local government</li> </ul>
Overhead / Others			

Source: Expert interviews; Booz & Company analysis



# Global suppliers should assess four potential strategies to defend their position – many will have to find a way to “Win In China”

## Four Strategic Options for MNCs

1  
“Stay at home”

- **Option 1:** Remain focused on upper tier and leave mid/low-market to other competitors



2  
“Wait it out”

- **Option 2:** Wait for mid/low-market demand to catch up to premium demand



3  
“Win in China”

- **Option 3:** Develop required products, capabilities, and other resources to compete proactively in the Chinese mid/low-market



4  
“If you can't beat' em ...”

- **Option 4:** Partner with one or more Chinese competitors and develop the (global) mid/low-market together



# While every firm has to develop its own low-end market strategy, there are a few universal principles that will apply to most MNCs

- 1 Entry-Level Business Model** – Rethink business model to support unique entry-level market requirements, including product, price, branding, marketing, distribution, and operations
- 2 Low-price Products** – Develop “low-priced” products specifically designed for Chinese mid-market customers, as opposed to merely introducing “low-cost” versions of existing world-class product
- 3 Value chain migration** – Transfer core activities to China to narrow cost gaps with domestic entry-level market competitors through local product development, sourcing, and manufacturing
- 4 Selective Partnerships** – Consider entering into partnerships with local suppliers to fill gaps in entry-level market product portfolio, develop optimal distribution footprint, and navigate China’s unusually complex regulatory environment
- 5 Multi-Brand Strategy** – Consider developing a multi-brand strategy to successfully operate across premium and entry-level market price points as well as multiple product categories
- 6 Multi-format Sales Channel** – Develop cost-effective ways of sale by employing multi-format dealerships including vehicle supermarkets, 2S stores, and brokers to penetrate entry-level regions
- 7 Strong Local Organization** – Ensure that management is capable and sufficiently empowered to enable fast decision-making and sensitivity to local market requirements. Clarify decision rights and put in place a strong governance structure
- 8 Global Mindset** – A firm’s success in China is tied to the mindset of its top managers. At a minimum, ensure that headquarters has at least a basic understanding of China’s unique business and regulatory context

Source: “China’s Mid-Market: Where “Good Enough” Just Isn’t”-- Strategy + Business, Jullens, 9 July 2013

# How ready are you to “win” in the China low/mid end market?

Step 1. Market Understanding	Y	N	Step 2. Market Entry Strategy	Y	N	Step 3. Implementation Readiness	Y	N			
1. You know your product’s current market share across China low/mid/high-end market segments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. You have a clear definition of which segments to enter, and with what positioning, target price and customers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	1. You have target costing of your low/mid end product close to local competitor levels, and know how to reach these targets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
2. You understand the market trends for the next 5-10 years across segments	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. You have a clear product strategy for the defined market positioning	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2. You have conducted product tear down study, value engineering etc., and have a clear action plan of how to reach targets	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
3. You have modeled low/mid end growth scenarios for the next 5-10 years and understand implications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. You have conducted a customer need analysis for target customers and understand the implications on the product design/ boundaries	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	3. You have available and released Chinese low-cost suppliers (not foreign JVs) to supply your product to >80%	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
4. You understand customer needs, and differences in needs between regions and tier cities within China	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. You understand the required business model to fulfill the target price and reach low/mid end customers, in:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	4. You have released truly local raw materials (e.g. steel, resins)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
5. You understand demand/ sales distribution between regions and cities	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	a) Low Cost Product development	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	5. You have production set up with local equipment and automation sufficient for low/mid end product requirements	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
6. You know the competitor landscape, their strategies, cost base and quality level vs. your own	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	b) Sourcing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	6. You have multi-format distribution channels capable of penetrating even entry-level regions, including a network of possible agents and brokers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
7. You understand current and future regulatory requirements and their implications	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	c) Manufacturing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	7. You have a globally agreed brand image for your low/mid end product	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
8. You have a clear view of your company’s overall potential and barriers in low/mid end market based on regulatory, market and competitive drivers	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	d) Marketing	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	8. You have a strong local organization capable of domestically managing all points above	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
			e) Sales Channel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	9. Your global management understands the unique requirements in China and supports the required business model changes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
			f) After market services	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
			5. You have conducted a branding study and considered multi-brand options	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
			6. You have analyzed various organic and inorganic growth options– and decided	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
			7. You have a solid business model confirming the viability of your strategy	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>						
<p>If any of the questions are answered “no”</p> <p><b>Market Explorer</b></p>			<p>If 4 or more of the questions are answered “no”</p> <p><b>Undecided</b></p>			<p>If less than 4 of the questions are answered no</p> <p><b>Getting Ready</b></p>			<p>If 3 or more questions are answered no</p> <p><b>Fit For Growth</b></p>		

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