



Automotive Service Association®

COLLISION OPS NEWS

A bimonthly news update from ASA's Collision Division.

January/February 2016



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**Recent activities of the ASA Collision Division
Operations Committee ...**

The ASA Collision Division Operations Committee (COC) has finished the third volume in our series of research to establish baseline reference materials for common operations when preparing a complete damage assessment and repair estimate. The initial draft of the Reference Chart of Not-Included Operations When Installing LKQ Replacement Parts has been reviewed by the COC, with a target to have the completed document available in March. The document is currently under review by the information providers and other key industry stakeholders.

Aluminum vs. Steel Research

The COC has completed a study on the processes involved in aluminum vs. steel repair for minor panel damage. The study took place at the Audi training facility in Ashburn, Va., on Jan. 6-7.

Working with representatives from the National Association of Paintless Dent Repair Technicians (NAPDRT), the study identified the differences of performing minor dent repair on aluminum vs. steel body panels.

Representatives from the insurance industry and I-CAR attended the study, along with others interested in documenting the differences between aluminum and steel panel repair in the specific area of hail damage. The COC is in the process of developing a white paper, to be presented to the industry, which will include the data charts and analysis gathered during the comparisons on various steel and aluminum hoods from both import and domestic vehicle manufacturers. The initial results have confirmed the basic premise of the study, in that the aluminum panels did require more pressure to remove the dent using PDR techniques.

Pre- and Post-Repair Vehicle Electronic Scan Study

The Collision Industry Conference (CIC) has initiated a study to gather data and OEM recommendations for performing an electronic vehicle system scan both before and after collision repair operations. The purpose of the project is to identify the process generally used

by collision shops to ensure no trouble codes or other electronic issues arise during the repair process and to verify that those detected prior to the repair were correctly resolved. The COC also will be polling the OEMs to gather information on recommended procedures that may exist along these lines.

Training Package

The COC is also continuing work in cooperation with the Automotive Management Institute (AMI) to develop a list of training providers for both management and technical areas as a component of a larger project to create recommended training packages for various positions, equipment etc.

Jeff Peevy, president of AMI, is working with the committee to develop a survey that will be used to gather the necessary data. The goal is to have a reference source for shop owners and managers to use when developing a training and/or career development plan for employees.

Once complete, the information and recommendations will be available through the new AMI website, where users can easily find information on where and what type of training is available for the various positions in their business enterprise. This is expected to be a key component in the ongoing work to encourage shops in every segment of our industry to develop and promote a learning culture within their businesses and, by doing so, help to not only improve their business operations, but create career-development paths that will attract and retain the talent we need to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

COC members are participating in working committees for AMI to help identify needs and provide developmental input from the shop perspective for this important project.

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