



Automotive Service Association®

MECHANICAL OPS NEWS

A bimonthly news update from ASA's Mechanical Division.

March/April 2015



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- Diane Larson, AAM
- Vernon E. Menke Jr., AAM
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Recent activities of the ASA Mechanical Division Operations Committee ...

Ongoing

ASA continues the Parts Warranty Task Force program that it developed with the Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA). Recent work has taken place with Remy Electrical, which gave input on its recent launch of electrical system diagnostic procedures. After reviewing Remy's input, I believe that it's relevant to the untrained segment of the industry and a good direction for the do-it-yourselfers to determine if they need to seek professional assistance. A thank you to Bill Hanvey, from AASA, and Remy Electrical for being the first to step into the task-force process. I'll keep you updated and give you the website in the next issue.

Pete Rudloff's new column, "Show Me the Fix," which debuted in the March/April issue of Autolnc. magazine, promises to be an interesting read for many ASA members. Don't miss the next installment in the May/June issue, when Pete writes about the process of tracking down why a Chevrolet Equinox has experienced a four-month history of emissions failures. After you've read it, I'd strongly recommend that you pass it along to others.

CARS 2015

Get moving to sign up and book your room for the annual expo and conference taking place July 23-25 in Detroit's Cobo Center. Hotels are filling up fast, way ahead of last year because the event is expected to be larger than last year. The training lineup I've seen is exciting. The ASA board, along with other interested sponsors, is stepping up to provide varying amounts of scholarship funding for the Young Technicians Symposium powered by Bosch. And don't miss the telematics and technology segments. For more info on this event, go to www.CARSevent.com.

Goals for 2015

We're continuing to review periodic motor vehicle safety inspection (PMVI) programs from across the country. Our strategy is to work through the

evaluation process and then develop standards and procedures that could be introduced in areas that currently have no safety inspection programs in place. We've also added a new goal to work more closely with our corporate sponsors and offer to let the advisory committee assist them where and when needed.

Returned Parts

At ASA's annual meeting in Washington, D.C., Cardone Industries gave a presentation outlining its concern for returned parts. It noted that returned parts, defective or not, do not come back with enough valid information to assist the company in making any necessary changes to their processes. So now, Cardone is going to the installer to get the information they need. It is this committee's opinion that any returned part, to any supplier, should contain either the ASA parts return form or a full description of which testing process was done to support the return. In addition, it should state what reasons or concerns prompted the return. Data and communication to the manufacturer are keys to quality results. Our thanks to Cardone for bringing this committee up to speed on its industry concerns and how it's trying to resolve the problem.

Conclusion

The committee and I want to thank the ASA board of directors for allowing us to work toward ensuring the future of our industry, our members and all of our business partners. And continued thanks to my committee for being there when I make a call. They are strong and believe in our industry.

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