



Automotive Service Association®

# COLLISION OPS NEWS

*A bimonthly news update from ASA's Collision Division.*

November/December 2015



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

The ASA Collision Division Operations Committee (COC) has finished the initial layout and design of 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 is currently being reviewed by the COC, with the goal of having a completed document available in mid-January. Special thanks to Mike Anderson for his efforts helping the COC identify and document standard procedures.

**Aluminum vs. Steel Research**

Final preparations are complete to move forward with the Collision Division Operations study on the processes involved in aluminum vs. steel repair for minor panel damage. The COC is working with representatives from the National Association of Paintless Dent Repair Technicians to identify the differences when performing minor dent repair on aluminum vs. steel body panels. The study was scheduled to take place at the Audi training facility in Ashburn, Va., on Jan. 6-7. Representatives from the insurance industry and I-CAR were scheduled to attend 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 also providing questions and input to illustrate the differences in the repair process and help with the study.

**Touch Time Study**

The Collision Industry Conference (CIC) has initiated a study to establish some hard data around touch time vs. rental time to see what the average is nationally. This project is similar to one the COC has in progress, so the committee has decided to combine its efforts with the CIC and share the information we have gathered to date on average rental times with the CIC study group to help move the project forward.

**Fact-Finding on Trim Removal**

The COC has received several replies to its survey of paint manufacturers to gather the facts on two key questions regarding trim removal during the refinishing process.

1. What is your position relative to removing trim and components during the refinish of a panel?
2. If the trim or component is not removed during the refinish of a panel, would your company's warranty cover the repair in the event the clear coat or substrate delaminated?

Once the COC receives replies from all of the manufacturers surveyed, the COC will publish a guide detailing their positions that will be available free to the industry on the ASA website.

**Training Package**

The COC continues to explore the development of a list of training providers, along with a recommended training package for various positions, equipment etc. Jeff Peevy, president of the Automotive Management Institute (AMI), is working with the committee to develop an AMI survey that will be used to gather the necessary data. As reported last time, the new AMI website will address that need and provide info on where and what type of training is available. COC members are participating in working committees for AMI to help identify needs and provide developmental input from the shop perspective.

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