

MECHANICAL OPS NEWS

A bimonthly news update from ASA's Mechanical Division.

September/October 2015



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Recent activities of the ASA Mechanical Division Operations Committee ...

The Mechanical Division Operations Committee (MOC) has several projects in progress and is working closely with Bob Redding, ASA's Washington, D.C., representative, to provide the support he needs on the legislative front. MOC members will be participating in the Periodic Motor Vehicle Inspection (PMVI) Forum in St. Louis on Dec. 2.

PMVI will serve as a focus for our committee in 2016, with plans to build a best-practices document and explore the creation of a generic program profile. To that end, we will be reaching out to those states with successful PMVI programs to gather data on best practices and lessons learned from their long experience with inspection programs.

Finding Talent

One of the biggest challenges our members report is finding the qualified employees they need to replace our aging workforce.

The MOC is working with the Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) Industry Education Alliance to explore getting our member shops involved in their internship process. The idea is to be able to offer our membership the opportunity to partner with their local training schools to offer internships to entry-level technicians as a resource for recruiting new talent.

Tom Richardson, ASE's vice president of Government Affairs, participated in a board call to provide an overview of the Industry Education Alliance internship process and answer any questions. He also provided a list of regional International Energy Agency (IEA) managers and their contact information to help our member shops get involved with their local Career and Technical Education program.

Auto Care Employment Website

We also are reviewing the potential for working with the Auto Care Association's new job board to help identify the more experienced talent our member shops are seeking. Tony Molla, vice president of ASA, met with Courtney Hammer and her team at AAPEX to continue the dialog, and they have invited us to provide any input or suggestions for improving the site and making it more valuable as a resource.

Heavy-Duty Update

ASA hosted a dozen participants on an Oct. 7 conference call to provide valuable input to ASA in understanding the needs of the heavy-duty (HD) world. It was productive and established important connections, including Marc Karon, president, Total Truck Parts, representing the Commercial Vehicles Solutions Network (CVSN), which took the lead in the HD Right to Repair memorandum of understanding.

Since then, we've received positive feedback and an interest in having a heavy-duty training track at NACE | CARS. With the strong initial interest from the independent HD service community, and the similarity of the challenges they are facing in technology, legislation and human resources, an ongoing dialog has been established. Common areas of interest include telematics, information resources and legislative initiatives.

Cardone Hosts Hybrid Training

Special thanks to Cardone Industries in Philadelphia for inviting MOC committee member Pete Rudloff to its facility on Oct. 8 for training on hybrid batteries. Cardone also has reached out to the committee for input and insight into the remainder-parts needs of the independent service community.

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