



Automotive Service Association®

MECHANICAL Ops NEWS

A bi-monthly news update from ASA's Mechanical Division.

January/February 2014



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

Telematics is not a new challenge for the mechanical division. The ASA Mechanical Division Operations Committee has been actively involved in researching telematics since 2006. In July 2008, ASA published a report, *Telematics: Past, Present and Future*, that focused on the potential effects that telematics may have on independent automotive service and repair businesses, including remote diagnostics. ASA's findings indicated that as with previous technological changes, the aftermarket will rise to the challenge and find its place in the telematics market that will allow the independent repair facility to be an active participant. As with most things, timing is everything. Recently, the OEMs have approached ASA with an offer to create a workable solution for everyone.

To continue ASA involvement, a panel discussion on telematics is being planned during CARS 2014 in Detroit August 1. At this time, we anticipate the panel will include representatives of several OEMs, including engineering, service and legal perspectives. This will be a frontline, cutting-edge opportunity to get information from the source. We are working on a potential demonstration of telematics capabilities and possibly a "New Technologies" educational session. These new additions will be of great value to both mechanical and collision attendees by not only covering telematics, but the various devices on new vehicles that use telemetry to keep consumers safer.

OEMs at CARS/NACE 2014

Chrysler and Mopar, Ford, General Motors and ACDelco, Honda and Nissan have committed to a strong presence at CARS 2014, each with larger exhibits than in recent years. With an interest in both collision repair and mechanical repair, the OEMs have an opportunity to serve two important market segments at one industry event. And in addition to displays, attendees can expect to see presentations, seminars and training on the most up-to-date OEM technologies.

Opportunities for ASA Members

Scholarships Available: The Automotive Management Institute (AMI) is accepting applications for two scholarships to help pay expenses for recipients to attend the 2014 Congress of Automotive Repair & Service (CARS) in Detroit July 31-Aug. 2. These scholarships are the Tom B. Babcox Memorial Scholarship and the Arrowhead Specialty Market "High Octane" Scholarship. To request a scholarship application, call AMI at (800) 272-7467, ext. 101, or complete a scholarship application online at www.amionline.org. Applications must be received by AMI on or before June 20, 2014. The scholarship recipient will be notified by AMI on or before June 30, 2014.

ASA/AASA Survey on Parts Warranty and Returns: This joint effort between ASA and Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association is designed to learn more about the needs and

preferences of repair shops in terms of parts warranty and labor claims. ASA shop members are encouraged to take the online survey before March 14 about parts return processes. Your feedback is important and the survey should take only a few minutes to complete. Individual shop responses will not be identified. Link to survey: <http://goo.gl/mGwLOC>.

Automotive Aftermarket Scholarships Are Available

Over the previous years, ASA has maintained its support of the Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS). Robbie Haas continues to serve on the GAAS Scholarship committee. If you know any young people seeking a career in the aftermarket or family members of anyone currently in the aftermarket, encourage them to visit www.automotivescholarships.com to get started. Their completed application will automatically be considered by every organization where the applicant meets their qualifications. Applications must be completed by March 31, 2014.

Scan Tool Information

A new scan tool series, Training, Tooling, Information, made its debut in the January 2014 *AutoInc.* magazine. Authored by Pete Rudloff, this monthly feature will give detailed information and real hands-on experience with OE-specific scan tools. The new column runs in conjunction with the launch of a new website. Donny Seyfer took the lead on this Scan Tool Resource Center project and with vital assistance from Pete Rudloff and contributions from the committee, it is now a reality. It can be accessed under Tools & Resources at the ASA website, www.ASAshop.org.

Announcement

Robbie Haas recently made an addition to her current title and work responsibilities. She will be providing assistance to the collision division. Reflective of this recent change, her new title is manager of the Mechanical and Collision Divisions.

2014 opportunities for mechanical and collision joint collaboration to include:

1. Research potential for establishing a Mentoring/ASA Business Coach Program
2. Sublet work for mechanical/collision shops (How-tos)
3. Career information and support about automotive and collision offerings.
4. Telematics – Maintenance vs. Accident Data, Insurance and Manufacturer Steering

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