



Automotive Service Association®

COLLISION OPS NEWS

A bimonthly news update from ASA's Collision Division.

Mar./Apr. 2018



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Dan Risley
danr@asashop.org
(817) 514-2912

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

COC Sets 2018 Goals

Scott Benavidez, ASA Collision Division director, is excited about 2018. "The ASA Collision Operations Committee performs a crucial role in working with the board of directors to represent the collision repair membership in matters large and small," he said. "Each year, our volunteer COC and board members get together to set priorities and define goals for the year ahead, and the new direction will be obvious in the months to come. Last year was eventful, as you can see from the press releases and position statements on the ASA website. This year will be even busier as technological issues continue to drive and evolve the processes and procedures necessary to perform a safe and proper collision repair."

The COC operates as a "think tank" for the board, helping to provide information and insight into a variety of issues affecting our collision membership from a shop owner's perspective. You can see the results of this collaboration in the many press releases and position statements keeping you informed on how your association represents your interests every day on issues that can often have a direct impact on your bottom line.

The all-volunteer membership of the ASA Collision Operations Committee is a cross section of some of the best collision repair businesses in the nation. It's a diverse group that keeps you informed by focusing on the latest developments in legislative, technology and management issues so that you're free to focus on your business.

You can see some of the results of COC's work in the Free Resources section of the ASA website. There you'll find position statements on pre and post-repair vehicle scanning from the OEMs and ASA, along with white papers on aluminum repair, ASA's widely used Not Included Item charts, press releases and information resources that help you keep up with the information explosion necessary to run a successful collision repair business these days. Look for even more of these in 2018, as the COC works even harder on your behalf to keep you informed about what's new, what's next and what's now.

COC Faces Numerous Important Issues

"A lot of the work being done by ASA's Collision

Operations Committee is done without fanfare, working for the best interests of our members and the industry at large," Benavidez said. "In the next few weeks, the COC will be issuing a new position statement on the use of replacement welded quarter panels.

"We've been gathering information on the use of welded replacement parts and have examined it with statements from other industry stakeholders on the subject," he continued. "Members of the COC share their real-world experiences and together work to create guidelines and advice for best practices in achieving a proper, safe repair using OEM procedures when they're available. As reported in our last Division Newsletter, we'll also be taking a look at other replacement parts, including radiator supports, quarter panels and other structural panels, to assess the impact on the repair processes recommended by the OEMs where they exist."

The COC welcomes talking points from ASA collision members detailing their experience in using salvage quarter panels, along with appropriate OEM procedures that detail quarter panel replacement. If you have an experience using these types of repair parts and wish to share it with the group, feel free to email tonym@asashop.org with your input. "From more targeted Washington Fly-Ins with smaller groups that focus on individual issues, to taking a fresh look at the collision parts certification programs, the next few months are going to be very busy," Benavidez concluded.

Look for press releases on the latest updates to ASA's Not Included Charts and a few outside-the-box ideas on such hot topics as data security and compelling discussions on new business models that incorporate ideas on better repair process tracking. Watch for it! As always, we welcome any nominations for interested shop owners who wish to participate in the ASA Collision Operations Committee, along with any input you may have on topics you wish to bring to the COC's attention.

Automotive Service Association®
8209 Mid Cities Blvd.
North Richland Hills, Texas 76182
817.514.2900 • Fax 817.581.3572
asainfo@asashop.org • www.ASashop.org

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