

# Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

## **Business insurance advice this week**

The recent multi-million dollar judgement against a Tigard automotive shop has many in the industry wondering if they are adequately insured to protect their business. That's why this week's "Express Lunch & Learn" features a presentation by Heidi McCauley, vice president of the Portland insurance consulting firm USI Northwest. She'll offer some insights on what business owners should consider and ask as they purchase or renew their shop liability and other insurance coverages. The lunch meeting will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. on this Wednesday (Oct. 18), at the NATA Training Room in Portland. Registration is \$20 and includes lunch. Call us to register.

## **November hybrid classes nearly full**

Don't put off registering for NATA's hybrid vehicle training in Portland because it's just three weeks away and filling fast. Check out the calendar section of NATA's website for more details, but the week of November 6, popular hybrid trainer Craig Van Batenburg will offer four different hybrid-related classes on Monday through Thursday evenings. Then on Saturday, a full-day course focuses on the Toyota and Lexus hybrid drive.

Members can sign up for the full series of classes for \$379, or for any one class for \$99.

**American Payment Systems NW** has graciously offered to sponsor the dinner at one of the classes. If your company would like to do the same, please call our office.

## **New NATA health plan well-received**

Thank you to all of the NATA members who have signed up with the new health insurance plan through Benu. Together we have made this a smooth change. In addition to the vast majority of members previously in the NATA plan, about a dozen other members have already opted to go with the new HealthNet or Kaiser choices NATA now offers. The feedback has been very positive; members say

they are saving from 7 to 20 percent for equal or better coverage. Call Cathi Webb at the NATA office for more information.

## **Shop offers scam alert**

A service writer at a Portland shop who got taken for \$250 is offering a caution for other shops. An elderly woman came in saying she was the widow of a customer of the shop. Her husband, she said, wanted the service writer to have his 1955 truck. She said she would bring the truck in later that day, but needed some cash for a number of reasons. Once she had the money, she didn't return. Watch for details in the November *Northwest Automotive Journal*.

## **Nominations sought for NATA board**

A nominating committee is now seeking potential board members and officers for NATA for 2007. Although the work the board does is very important, NATA recognizes that business owners' time is valuable and works to minimize the time commitment that serving on the board requires. Anyone wishing to nominate themselves or another NATA member, or with questions about what serving on the board entails, can call our office or nominating committee members Bob Anderson (503-581-7737) or Rick Field (503-364-4714). The election will be held in January.

## **NATA resumes safety meetings**

After a hiatus of several years, NATA is once again holding monthly safety meetings. The first one, from Noon to 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, November 1 at the NATA Training Room in Portland, will focus on developing your company's emergency plan. The December 6 meeting will help you determine if you need a lockout/tagout program and how to implement one. Subsequent meetings will be held Jan. 3, Feb. 7 and March 7.

Register for any one meeting for \$20, or all five for just \$90 (you don't have to send the same person from your business to every meeting). Call us to register or for more info.

For the weeks of  
October 16-23, 2006

## **TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR**

Advance Registration  
Required  
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### **NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'**

Topic: Business Insurance  
Wednesday, October 18  
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.  
NATA Training Room  
Northeast Portland

### **NATA Safety Meeting**

Topic: Emergency Plans  
Wednesday, November 1  
Noon - 1:30 p.m.  
NATA Training Room  
Northeast Portland

### **Hybrid Electrical System Analysis**

Monday, November 6  
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
NATA Training Room  
Northeast Portland

### **Hybrids: A/C, NiMH Batteries, Regenera- tive Brake Systems**

Tuesday, November 7  
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
NATA Training Room  
Northeast Portland

### **Honda IMA Hybrid Drive**

Wednesday, November 8  
6 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
NATA Training Room  
Northeast Portland

**HAVE QUESTIONS? WANT MORE INFO? WE'RE HERE FOR YOU!**

**Northwest Automotive Trades Association**

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