

Industry Update



NW Automotive Trades Assn.

Committee passes collision bill

The Oregon Senate Commerce Committee on Monday passed (with a "do pass" recommendation to the full Senate) a significantly amended version of SB 523, related to insurer recommendation of collision repair shops.

As amended, the bill requires that prior to making a shop recommendation, the insurer tell the consumer that Oregon law prohibits insurers from requiring repairs be made at a particular shop and that vehicle owners have the right to use the shop of their choice.

If an insured chooses a shop recommended by the insurer, the insurer must send the insured in writing within three business days a statement that says, "If you agree to use our recommended repair shop, your vehicle will receive repairs returning it to a pre-loss condition relative to safety, function and appearance at no additional cost to you other than as stated in the insurance policy or as otherwise allowed by law."

The amended bill also states that if the vehicle owner does not choose a insurer-recommended shop, the insurer may not limit the cost of repairs "other than as stated in the policy or as otherwise allowed by law." (As originally drafted, bill said such charges could not be limited "based on charges that would have occurred had the vehicle been repaired by the insurer's recommended shop.")

NATA welcomes your comments on the bill as it moves through the legislative process.

NEAT dinner auction a success

Thanks to all who helped make the sixth annual NEAT dinner auction a success this past weekend. The event raised more than \$7,000 for scholarships to attract students to automotive and autobody training at community colleges in Oregon and Southwest Washington. (Scholarship applications, with a May 31 deadline, are available at the "Education" section of NATA's website.)

Special thanks go to NATA and its board of

directors; the Association of Women in Automotive; and Alan Melton of Northwest Regulator Supply (who helped arrange for 16 people to attend from the Electrical Rebuilders Association national trade show, also held in Portland last weekend).

The event also would not have been possible without the support of sponsors including: CARSTAR, DuPont, Ford Motor Co., Hawthorne Auto Clinic, Industrial Finishes, Keystone Automotive, LKQ Foster Auto Parts, Portland Transmission Warehouse, RGS Auto & Marine, Ron Tonkin Parts Center, Toyota Motor Sales, Vehicular Forensics and Verifacts Automotive.

NATA board to meet this weekend

All NATA members, particularly those in Southern Oregon, are invited to participate in this weekend's NATA board meeting, being held Saturday at the Seven Feathers Casino and Hotel in Canyonville, Ore., midway between Eugene and Medford. There will be a Friday night reception, and the board meeting will begin at 1 p.m. on Saturday. For details, information about a special room rate, or to register to attend, call our office.

SBA honors Portland Transmission

Congratulations to Portland Transmission Warehouse for being named "Oregon Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business of the Year" by the Small Business Administration (SBA) of Oregon. This is just the latest in a string of honors and awards for the company, which is operated by John Bradshaw (whose father, Gene Bradshaw, launched the business in 1938) and John's son Ross (an NATA board member).

Be sure to congratulate them when you stop by for the company's 25th annual Spring Classic auto exhibit and gathering from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m. on Saturday, May 12. This free event at 1016 S.E. Hawthorne spills out into the neighboring streets, with classics, customs, rods and sports cars. For details, call (503) 233-4966.

For the weeks of
April 30-May 7, 2007

TRAINING AND EVENT CALENDAR

Advance Registration
Required
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NATA Board Meeting

Sat., May 5 • 1 p.m.
Seven Feathers Casino
Canyonville, Oregon

Portland Transmission Warehouse Annual Spring Classic

Sat., May 12 • 7-11 a.m.
1016 S.E. Hawthorne
Portland

NATA's 'Express Lunch and Learn'

Topic: TBA
Wednesday, May 16
11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.
NATA Training Room
Northeast Portland

Lab Scope and Waveform Patterns

June 6 and 7
5:30 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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