



November
2020

Industry Update

*News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members*

[View Online Classes](#)

NATA helps 'PAVE' the way to training event

In 2020, most in-person training events were canceled or postponed. We missed priceless connections. We missed valuable training opportunities. Most importantly, we missed you!



In response, NATA has joined with other automotive industry organizations from across the United States to create PAVE – Professional Automotive Virtual Education. PAVE, being held January 8-10, promises to be the ultimate virtual training event, with more than 30 live online training sessions for automotive professionals. This event brings together the industry heavyweights of training as well as leading organizations in the mechanical and collision industry. Registration opens soon, and group discounts will be available.

“Don’t miss out on the biggest virtual training event in the auto repair industry,” said Mark Warren, Worldpac training manager. “In an unprecedented move, the best auto repair associations have joined together with the top instructors and vendors to bring you PAVE. The three-day event is packed with four-hour technical classes and two-hour business management classes with downloadable handouts. Join us, and invest in your future through education!”

“By providing this event virtually, more industry professionals can take advantage of the training without the cost or risk of travel and lodging, especially during these uncertain times,” said Jeff Lovell, PAVE training event chair, and executive director of ASA Northwest. “This ULTIMATE training event brings quality training to the comfort and safety of your shop or home.”

Sponsors have an opportunity to capture the attention of thousands of attendees during this event. For sponsorship opportunities, contact Jeff Lovell at (253) 405-2661 or email jeff@asanorthwest.com.

To learn more, visit PAVETraining.com, call (877) 257-2100 or email contact@pavetraining.com.

NATA hosts presentation by Bastion Security

NATA members are invited to an online presentation on November 10 by Bastion Security. The free session will focus on protecting your business, employees and inventory.



Mark Wells of Bastion Security said the company recently developed an "Express Service," a smaller monitoring system starting as low as \$225 per month. It is a leased system with low up-front costs with fast and efficient installation. Bastion provides live "active video monitoring" for critical areas on a business with personal "dynamic voice down" deterrents.

[Click here](#) to view a brief video introduction into what the company offers.

"We create customized security plans to prevent and deter crime at for a variety of business operations, and we look forward to sharing security resources with you," Wells said.

The NATA online meeting with Bastion Security will be held at 11:30 on Tuesday, November 10. [Click here](#) for a flier with the Zoom meeting details.

Body shops have chance to 'grade' insurers

Collision repair professionals once again have a unique opportunity to grade the performance of the insurance companies in their state, with the launch of *CRASH Network's* "Insurer Report Card."

The "Insurer Report Card" each year asks collision repairers to grade each insurer based on how well each carriers' claims practices ensure quality repairs and customer service. By assigning insurers a grade from "A+" to an "F," shops can let consumers know which insurers have their eye on quality repairs and customer service - and which may have some room for improvement - when consumers have a claim.



It can be completed in less than three minutes (though shops are encouraged to spend time to explain why they gave each insurer the grade they did), and all individual shop identification information remains confidential. Shops that complete the "Insurer Report Card" and provide an e-mail address will be sent the results, at no charge, once they are compiled.

Body shops can [click here](#) to grade the insurers.

Schools' career event includes 'automotive'

Portland Public Schools on October 21 introduced an innovative, district-wide career and post-secondary planning high school event entitled, "Tools to Build Your

future.” This virtual event was available to thousands of PPS students, parents and educators.



The morning portion of the event included two 40-minute sessions of career learning presentations with professionals from a variety of industries. Presenters talked about their career path, education and experiences as part of a panel that presented together. All high school students were invited to attend the career panel sessions.

Portland Public Schools reached out to NATA to find volunteers to represent “transportation careers.” Many thanks to Russ Jones and Jay Kuykendall of Portland Community College’s Automotive Service Technology program, Jonah Mezgar of Precision Body & Paint and Reichen Restorations, and MaryAnn Trout of Hillsboro Auto Wrecking. More than 90 students ‘attended’ the transportation career presentations. PPS plans to offer one-on one-tours or interviews with some of the presenters.

Remember: If we don’t support the automotive, diesel and collision programs around the state, we will continue to have a shortage of skilled technicians. If you want contact information regarding the program(s) nearest your business, call us! We will gladly put you in touch with the instructor(s). If you want to be contacted when a program needs industry support call us! Call NATA’s Margaret Ragan at (503) 253-9898 or (503) 423-7355 (cell).

SAIF complying with state order in fire areas

On October 18, Oregon's Department of Consumer and Business Services [extended the emergency order](#) to address businesses affected by the wildfires. The order will be in force through November 16, and may be extended. It applies to [businesses located in zip codes designated by DCBS](#) to be affected by the wildfires. This list of zip codes has been updated since the original order was issued.



The order addresses:

- Reporting requirements for claims. (Please note that employers are still required to file claims within 5 days of their notice or knowledge of a claim.)
- Grace periods for payment of insurance premiums and performance of other duties by policyholders
- Temporary postponement of cancellations and non-renewals

SAIF will comply with the requirements of the order and support our policyholders in the affected areas.

SAIF is committed to helping those who have been struggling because of the wildfires and the COVID-19 pandemic maintain their coverage. Any policyholders who are concerned about their ability to make timely payment or have a change in their operations can contact SAIF at (888) 598-5880 as soon as possible.

Technicians group meeting in-person, online

The Northwest Automotive Technicians Society (NATS) is meeting in-person at 6:30 p.m. on November 23 though the meeting will also be available online via Zoom. The topic will be a continued discussion of scan tools, and the group is working on arranging some live demos. There is no charge to attend/participate either online or in-person at Molalla Auto Works. [Click here](#) for a flier with detail, or like and follow the [NATS Facebook page](#).



Obituaries

Al Stewart

The industry lost a great, long-time supporter in early October when Al Stewart died at age 84. Many will remember him from his many years at Portland Transmission Warehouse (PTW), where he retired as general manager and vice president in 2011, and for



his presence at so many auto shows and rallies. But his love of cars began in his childhood, and after attending Lewis & Clark College, he moved to San Francisco to sell automotive parts for Wagner Company. In 1961, he returned to Portland to join Borg Warner, until forming his own company, the Stewart Group, as a manufacturer's representative. He joined PTW after several years.

He contributed his leadership skills to the industry, serving as president of the Oregon Automotive Parts Association and NATA.

He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Marilyn. A full obituary is [here](#), and the family says a celebration of Al's life will be held at a later date. In lieu of flowers, they suggest donations in his name to the [Francis Center](#).

Jeff Joki

Also last month, Jeff Joki, longtime representative of Automotive Products, passed away unexpectedly October 14 due to complications of a burst appendix. He was 63 years old.

Jeff worked as an outside representative for Automotive Products for 35 years. He had a great deal of integrity and avoided encouraging his clients to purchase items he felt were inferior. Many will miss his weekly visits that brought industry news, parts news and an occasional joke.



Jeff was a resident of Molalla although all his family lived in Minnesota. He counted his co-workers and clients as his local family. He was an avid car enthusiast, attending car shows regularly. He was also a fan of motorsports racing in any form.

May they both rest in peace.

Links to helpful compliance documents

We've recently come across some helpful information we wanted to share with you on a number of topics.



- The Small Business Administration eased the process of seeking forgiveness of PPP loans of \$50,000 or less. [Here](#) are some details.
- The most recent issue of Oregon OSHA's magazine included an [article](#) on avoiding common violations related to safety and health hazards in automotive repair shops.
- The Families First Coronavirus Response Act requires certain employers to provide their employees with paid sick leave or expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID-19. [Here](#) are some details.

Calendar purchases benefit local veterans

"Saluting Our Veterans" is raising money to help local homeless veterans by selling a 2021 calendar.

"This is our only 2020 fundraiser" Lynn Kirwan of the organization said.

Calendars are \$20, or \$15 each if you purchase two or more. Please [click here](#) to buy some calendars

to support this organization helping our veterans in need.



Available in November 2020 order yours now!
Order forms and info at: <https://www.salute-to-veterans-car-motorcycle-show/>

Happy Thanksgiving from NATA!

NATA's office will be closed on November 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday.

Happy Thanksgiving to all our members and their employees and families!



NATA members receive SAIF dividend

Association members in NATA's SAIF program who were eligible recently received dividends totaling \$404,624 for the 2019 year. While dividends cannot be guaranteed and are declared at the discretion of SAIF's board of directors, it is a strong message regarding our partnership with our members and with SAIF.



Buyer looking for a shop

An NATA member is interested in purchasing a small auto repair shop in the Gresham area. If you have information about a possible location, please call Kathy at (503) 830-8611.



Coming soon... A new NATA website

Launching almost any day now...NATA's new website! With the help of our newest Associate Member, Lithium Marketing, NATA's site will be getting a facelift. You can get a sneak peak [here](#). Take a look... and weigh in. We have lots of edits to do yet, but we think the new site will be terrific.



SCRS offering 'Repairer-Driven Education'

The Society of Collision Repair Specialists is offering its ["Repairer-Driven Education."](#) 18 sessions that are rolling out over the course of this week, though registrants will have access to the sessions through next August.

This includes their annual ["OEM Collision Repair Technology Summit,"](#) online sessions being released this Thursday. Sessions can be purchased individually or as a all-inclusive package. [Click here](#) to register.



ASE offers entry-level certification

The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) offers "Entry-Level certification," the first step in building career credentials as an automotive service professional.

"The ASE Entry-Level certification tests are designed to indicate a substantial level of practical, knowledge-based readiness for the workforce in those seeking a career in the automotive service industry," Mike Coley, ASE Education Foundation president, said. "These tests are intended for students in career and technical programs and are a predictable gauge for future success with ASE professional-level certifications."



Geared toward students completing a program of technical study, ASE Entry-Level certification tests are available for the automobile, collision repair/refinish and medium/heavy truck segments. The tests are designed and calibrated for those with no hands-on work experience. The certifications are good for two years.

"For students, ASE Entry-Level certification is a gateway to a professional automotive career and demonstrates to employers a potential to become a high-performing employee," Coley said. "For schools, these tests can also serve as an excellent metric for a training program's effectiveness, and for employers, this credential is way to evaluate the skills of entry-level student employees. We encourage all students to ask their instructors about ASE Entry-Level certifications and recommend that schools and employers contact the ASE Education Foundation if they need more information about the program."

[Click here](#) for a brochure about the entry-level certification, or visit the ASE [website](#).

Change could put more students in schools

A change in Oregon rules related to COVID-19 infections could allow an estimated 130,000 students to return to the classroom as early this month.

The new rules will move the focus to infection rates based on individual counties rather than any statewide measurement. While the majority of students in the state will likely be required to continue with distance learning, many could return to schools.



[Click here](#) for an article about the change.

Oregon agencies offer business training

Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for

companies within the state.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).



The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.

The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

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