



July  
2022

# Industry Update

*News and Information for  
Northwest Automotive Trade Association  
Members*

## NATA is moving...and needs a helping hand

As of July 8, NATA will be settling in at our new office! We'll be located at:

Clackamas River Plaza  
15 82<sup>nd</sup> Drive Suite 15  
Gladstone OR 97027



**And here's where we could use a little help!** NATA has been keeping a storage unit for MANY years. We need to sort and dispose of a lot of old stuff. We are asking for a few volunteers with pickup trucks to assist in clearing out our storage unit. Please contact us if you can provide a pickup truck and some muscle to help. This should only be a half-day adventure. We'll buy lunch! Get in touch with Margaret to volunteer: [margaret@aboutnata.org](mailto:margaret@aboutnata.org) or (503) 253-9898.

## Webinar on tech mentorship programs

There is no denying that companies with mentorship programs have a more confident, engaged, and better-trained workforce – leading to overall more productive and profitable businesses.



Within the auto, diesel, and collision industries, we know the first couple of years in the shop is a crucial time in a new technician's career. A well-structured mentorship program can help set new technicians up for a long, successful career in the industry and within your shop.

A July 12 WrenchWay roundtable webinar will cover how some of the top shops and dealerships across the country structure their mentorship programs for technicians.

Discussion topics will include:

- The importance and purpose of a mentorship program for technicians
- The components of a successful mentorship program
- Where mentorship programs fall short
- Easy steps shops can take to start a technician mentorship program

The roundtable is free to attend, but you must [register here](#). Can't attend live? Register, and WrenchWay will email you the recording after the event.

Also, WrenchWay plans to launch its Local Shop Talk newsletter for the Portland area this summer.

"We're still getting more local shops and dealerships to participate in your area. We expect to launch the first issues later this summer. In the meantime, be sure to check out the [Shop Talk page on our website](#) or the [WrenchWay mobile app](#). You can filter videos by city and category to see what's going on at shops and schools in your area."

A shop that wants to be included in the newsletter can [click here](#) to learn more about becoming a WrenchWay Top Shop.

High schools or post-secondary schools who would like to be included in the newsletter can sign up for a free [WrenchWay Schools account](#).

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## OSHA offers help with heat, smoke rules

Need more information about Oregon OSHA's new heat-related rules for employers? [Click here](#) for a fact sheet, or [here](#) for an online course.



The agency also offers free resources to help employers understand and comply with the new rule protecting workers against wildfire smoke. [Click here](#) for a fact sheet (available in English or Spanish) or [here](#) for an online course.

Both rules were proposed in February, following a development process that included worker and community stakeholder listening sessions, input and review by rule advisory committees, and input from employer and labor stakeholders. The rules build on temporary emergency requirements that were adopted in summer 2021 following several months of stakeholder and community engagement.

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## Obituary: Ron Wade

NATA sends its condolences to the family of Ron Wade, owner of Chevs of the 40's, who died July 6 of cardiac arrest. His sister-in-law, Lynne Wade, posted this about Ron:



"He had so many dreams still unfulfilled. He was never without dozens of projects: some started, some almost complete, some still in his mind. His car collection was amazing, I'm so glad I got to see it again just two weeks ago. But what comes first to my mind when I think of Ron is the amazing number of friends he has. We never went anywhere with him that he didn't know several people there. He made friends wherever he went. He was smart, he was funny, he was generous, he was brave. He knew more about cars than anyone I've ever met. I have to admit I did not understand him buying the Messerschmitt. It wasn't sporty and it certainly wasn't fast. When I sat in it and asked him about it, it took less than a minute for his enthusiasm to make me understand. It's

stinkin' cute! I had to admit then that it was my second-favorite car in his entire collection. Only Ron Wade could win me over a car that fast."

Ron's car collection is housed at Western Aeroplane and Antique Automobile Museum (WAAAM) West in Vancouver. "As a teenager I fell in love with the 1941 Chevrolet Cabriolet," Ron is quoted on the museum's website. "I gathered parts for 18 years before starting the restoration. Because of this restoration 'Chevs of the 40's' was born and started in a rented room with parts under my bed."

That Chevrolet Cabriolet was fully restored in 2000, the website states. "It has won many awards including the prestigious Vintage Chevrolet Club of America Best of Show award, at Springfield, Illinois."

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## Coming soon...Tech compensation survey

With the tough employment challenges our members face, NATA is getting a lot of calls about current mechanical employee compensation trends. It's been several years since we last surveyed the industry about this, so be watching this summer for our latest survey. The more shops that participate, the more reliable the data we can return to you.



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## Add dental or vision benefits to your plan

Want to round out your benefits package? It's easy to add NATA dental and/or vision to an existing plan! Great rates available. Contact Diana to learn more at [diana@aboutnata.org](mailto:diana@aboutnata.org) or (503) 253-9898.



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## Ask NATA: Your questions answered

**A NATA member recently asked:** We own a parts store and have been a NATA member for many years. Have any other members been impacted in either a positive or negative way by the passage of HB 3389 from the 2021 legislative session? This bill changes how the tax experience rating is calculated.

An employer's UI (unemployment insurance) tax experience rating for 2022 through 2024 will roll back to the pre-pandemic 2020 UI experience rate (benefit ratio). The tax rates may fluctuate during the 2022 – 2024 period due to tax schedule changes; however, the rate will be based on the employer's experience rate prior to the pandemic. Our experience rating prior to the pandemic was worse than it was during





the pandemic. We had just come through a period of having benefits charges against us, and 2022 was scheduled to be the first year without any benefits charges against us. However, because of the passage of HB3389, our tax rate for 2022 is an entire percentage point above 2021, even though we had no benefits charges in 2021. I estimate our negative impact to be more than \$20,000 just for 2022, and this tax rate will hold through 2024.

Have you heard from any other members regarding this change? I have been attempting to get help from our elected representative, but have so far been unsuccessful. I have filed a request for a hearing with the Employment Department, but they are very far behind in processing any hearings requests.

**NATA responds:** HB 3389 has been on the NATA radar, but only peripherally. NATA is always here to help, so we got on the phone to the Employment Department and found out some useful information.

Oregon's Employment Department site offers information about HB3389 tax relief: <https://unemployment.oregon.gov/taxrelief>, be sure to check their FAQ for lots of useful information.

If you have more questions, after visiting the website, you can give the Employment Department a call directly at (503) 947-1488, Option 9 will get you to the Payroll Tax Auditors directly.

Currently, ALL employer accounts are being audited and issues may be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

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## Did you know NATA has a forms program?

A number of our members purchase their custom envelopes, invoices, and statements, etc., through NATA. The next time you need a batch of custom forms printed, give us a call to compare pricing.



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## Schools have job openings

**Clackamas Community College** has an opening for an automotive instructor. This is a part-time faculty pool for available assignments during the academic year. Applications are considered throughout the academic year and reviewed based on department need. Should a review of your application result in the intent to pursue your candidacy, you will be contacted by phone or email for an interview. Requires flexible work schedule to meet program needs. [Click here](#) for details.



**Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus** has an opening for a part-time Instructor in the Automotive Service Technology Department. [Click here](#) for more information.

Please spread the word that **Benson Polytechnic High School** in Portland is looking for a new auto shop teacher. [Click here](#) for more details (the job does not automatically pull up, so please type the words "automotive" in the search bar).

**Clark College** in Vancouver, Washington has an opening for a Tenure Track Automotive Instructor. Clark College's Dealer Ready Automotive Technology programs include Toyota Technician & Education Network (T-TEN), the Honda Professional Automotive Career Training (PACT), the Dick Hannah Initiative for Technician Education at Clark College (HiTECC), and the Audi Education Partnership. You can find more details about the job opening by [clicking here](#).

**Clark College** also is now a GM Satellite training facility and will be hiring for a part-time instructor position; [click here](#) for detail.

**Clark College** also is seeking a part-time lab tech in the Auto Department. The position is working with the students, supervising Lab assignments and some general tasks in the shop. This job is capped at 34 hours a pay period and wage is approximately \$17.50 per hour. If interested, contact Dannie Nordsiden, Manager of Technician Development Office, (360) 992-2566 or cell (360) 907-4053.

**Central Oregon Community College** has an opening for a full-time Assistant Professor of Automotive. The position provides instruction to students in the Automotive Technology program, develops curriculum, assesses student learning, and provides student advising. This position will be a part of team teaching in a self-paced learning environment, and will provide individual conference time to guide and evaluate student progress. [Click here](#) for more information or to apply. If you have questions, contact the school at (541) 383-7216 or [MyHR@cocc.edu](mailto:MyHR@cocc.edu).

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## Helpful links for collision repairers

Here are some links to items our collision repair members may find helpful.

### Useful Links

- The Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) regularly post "SCRS Quick Tips," short videos each focused on a specific helpful topic. Recently, for example, they covered [collision photography](#). "Photo documentation can be used for a lot of purposes, from demonstrating damage to a bill-payer, establishing the adherence to an OEM repair procedure for future reference, or establishing old or pre-existing damage with the customer," the intro to the video states. "One important element of photography is ensuring the right lighting, and tools like a PDR light can be useful." The video explains good photography angles to effectively show the damage, and how to hold the phone or digital camera being used.
- Collision Advice and *CRASH Network* have opened the latest of their quarterly "Who Pays for What?" surveys, this one focused on frame and mechanical labor operations. The survey can be completed in less than 15 minutes. Check it out [here](#).
- In response to some requests from those interested in conveying to regulatory agencies the rising cost of materials body shops are facing, SCRS has put together a [PowerPoint deck](#) that describes those rising costs.

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## Don't forget to 'like' us on Facebook!

If you haven't already done so, check out [NATA's Facebook page](#). It's a great way to keep up-to-date with what's



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## 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](mailto:ed.web@oregon.gov).

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EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

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