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EMERGING AND FUTURE INDUSTRY TRENDS COVERED DURING I-CAR MEETING TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS – CAN YOUR BUSINESS AFFORD NOT TO ATTEND?

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL – April 25, 2008 – The 2008 I-CAR International Annual Meeting will be an opportunity for the industry to not only provide feedback to I-CAR, but also receive first-hand information from a number of vehicle manufacturers and other organizations covering emerging technologies and trends within the industry. The 2008 agenda includes several first-time presenters as well as the opportunity to receive technical information exclusive to attendees. As part of I-CAR’s customer-driven focus, attendees can expect to take home information that will enhance their roles in the collision repair inter-industry in the months and years to come.

Presentations during the 2008 meeting include:

- Chrysler – “What’s new at Chrysler?” will cover repair features on the new Dodge Ram pick-up as well as HEV safety precautions on the Aspen/Durango.
- General Motors – “General Motors Service Repair Information” will cover new program reviews and advanced high strength steels update.
- Porsche – “Porsche Collision Repair: The vehicles, technology, and techniques” will cover the history of Porsche, current model line, technology used in producing vehicles and within the vehicles, and techniques used in the repair procedures. This is the first time Porsche has presented at an I-CAR annual meeting.
- Toyota – “Toyota Hybrid Service Techniques” will cover hybrid service techniques and procedures that could be encountered after a collision. Technology covered will include A/C compressor oil and service, inverter coolant service, hybrid engine coolant, moving techniques for Prius, clearing diagnostic trouble codes (DTC), use of technician for clearing DTC, absorbed glass matt (AGM) battery service precautions, HV battery R&R procedures, and electric power steering technology and service. This information is new and not currently found in any other Toyota presentation.
- Panel Discussion: Waterborne Paint – Industry professionals will discuss waterborne paints and why this is one of the industry’s hottest topics as shops transition to new products. California legislation requires that every shop be water based by July 2008 and there are many questions about this new industry trend. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn the latest information about the move in many states to pass legislation regulating various types of volatile organic compounds (VOC). Representatives from AFC Finishing Systems, Akzo Nobel Coatings Inc., BASF Corporation, DeVilbiss Automotive Refinishing, DuPont Refinish, PPG Industries, SATA Spray Equipment, Sherwin-Williams, Spies Hecker, and Standox will be in attendance to provide answers to your questions.

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- American Iron and Steel Institute – Learn why different steel compositions between vehicle model years could change the way in which a vehicle is properly repaired. This presentation will bring you up-to-date on emerging steel trends and offer the latest information on the OEM steel applications of today and for the future.

In addition to the event's presentations and I-CAR staff and business meetings, I-CAR volunteers, committee members, and program instructors will have the opportunity to provide feedback on their roles in the industry and with I-CAR during open forums designed specifically for them. The information gained through the volunteers and instructors – who serve as the “frontline of I-CAR” to the industry – will enhance communication between the groups and will provide I-CAR with valuable input as it continues to meet the training needs of the industry through the delivery of high-quality, relevant courses.

Visit www.i-car.com/annualmeeting to view the event agenda, registration, current sponsor listing, sponsorship opportunities, and more.

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I-CAR, founded in 1979, is an international not-for-profit training organization dedicated to improving the quality, safety, and efficiency of auto collision repair for the ultimate benefit of consumers.



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