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[jolinda.ottum@i-car.com](mailto:jolinda.ottum@i-car.com)**I-CAR PROGRAM INSTRUCTOR TOBY CHESS STRESSES IMPORTANCE OF WELDING QUALIFICATION TESTS TO CIC**

Hoffman Estates, IL – November 5, 2008 – I-CAR Program Instructor Toby Chess addressed the Collision Industry Conference (CIC) on the importance of having all technicians complete an I-CAR welding qualification test during their meeting in Las Vegas on November 4.

Chess' technical presentation included examples of seemingly good welds that when tested proved not to hold up. He noted that the quality of the weld plays a significant role in the safety of passengers on the road.

"It should be mandatory that all technicians complete a welding qualification test," explained Chess. "Too many technicians do not know how to complete a proper weld. The safety of others requires that all who work on vehicles every day get the proper training."

As a part of his presentation Chess discussed the proper methods of welding high strength steels that are becoming more common in newer model vehicles and the I-CAR live training program *Steel Unitized Structures Technologies and Repair (SP07)*.

Chess is the recipient of Auto Body Repair News 2008 Industry Leadership Award presented to him at the Collision Industry Conference (CIC) Collision Industry Achievement Awards ceremony in Las Vegas on November 4.

The Collision Industry Conference (CIC) is a forum where collision industry stakeholders come together to discuss issues, build broad understanding, find common ground and communicate to the industry at-large, findings, and possible solutions.

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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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