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[jolinda.ottum@i-car.com](mailto:jolinda.ottum@i-car.com)**COLLISION INTER-INDUSTRY GIVES POSITIVE REVIEWS OF I-CAR'S NEWEST TRAINING PROGRAM FOR HYBRID ELECTRIC AND ALTERNATIVE FUEL VEHICLES**

Hoffman Estates, IL – November 25, 2008 – Inter-industry professionals who completed I-CAR's newest course, Hybrid Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicles (ALT02), at its premiere at NACE in Las Vegas, Nevada, had a lot to say about the program aimed to increase industry professionals' knowledge of hybrid-electric technology and alternative fuel vehicles.

"This program gave a great breakdown of electric and electric/gas combination vehicles already here and the new technology on its way," said Kevin Czar, Appraisal Unit Team Leader for TD Meloche Monnex Insurance in Edmonton, Alberta. "A key takeaway for me was how to disable an electric vehicle. This is especially important because if a vehicle is not disabled properly it could be dangerous for the technician and the appraiser writing the estimate. I want all of our appraisers to take this course because it is so rich in information."

"I found the step-by-step procedures to disconnect an electric vehicle highly beneficial," said Kendell Karlson, Estimator for Larry Chris Auto Body, Inc. in Burley, Idaho. "As an estimator it gave me a better understanding of the charges associated with completing these procedures and others. The program is very vehicle specific and to-the-point," said Karlson.

"There is an extensive amount of information on electric vehicles and the components of the vehicle that are also electric-powered such as electric air conditioning and power steering and the safety issues in disconnecting an electric battery properly. It also covers what can and can't be done on a hybrid vehicle and the real safety issues for whoever touches an electric vehicle. There's also a real focus on the changes ahead in the industry with additional information on propane and hydrogen powered vehicles," stressed Scott Balogh, Material Damage Supervisor for Safeway Insurance Company in Westmont, Illinois.

"I've already highly recommended this class to my appraisers. In the insurance industry, a lack of knowledge can hurt you in the long run and can cost more money based on items and procedures that are necessary and unnecessary in the repair process," he added.

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Harry Raleigh owner of Raleigh Auto Body in West Bridgewater, Massachusetts added, "This program supplies the proper procedures and warnings we need to stay safe while on the job. I also sent this information to our local fire department because it is a matter of safety for them to know and properly shut off hybrid vehicles."

Additional information within the program includes:

- Saving time and money by understanding electric air conditioning systems and the unique compressor oil used in hybrids.
- Protecting yourself by learning unique damage analysis and repair considerations regarding electric-assist power steering systems and inverter/converter cooling systems.
- Protecting yourself by learning how with each new hybrid vehicle there is a twist on the conventional hybrid system technologies.
- Gaining insight into the future with alternative fuels, from the current ethanol blends, propane, and compressed natural gas fueled vehicles, to future technology such as plug-in hybrid electrics, the new pure electrics, and hydrogen fuel cell test vehicles.

Hybrid Electric and Alternative Fuel Vehicles (ALT02) is now available across North America. For 2009 dates and the most up-to-date listing of the currently scheduled classes, visit [www.i-car.com](http://www.i-car.com) and register for a class scheduled near you!

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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.*

