

CONTACT:

Jolinda Ottum, I-CAR Marketing Communications Specialist
800.422.7872, Ext. 247
jolinda.ottum@i-car.com

I-CAR THANKS VOLUNTEERS DURING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL – April 16, 2009 – In recognition of their enormous contribution of time and energy, I-CAR asks members of the collision inter-industry to thank the thousands of volunteers who make I-CAR training possible during National Volunteer Week from April 19-25. Established in 1974, National Volunteer Week presents an opportunity to celebrate the ordinary people who accomplish extraordinary things through their volunteer service.

As part of its celebration of industry volunteers, I-CAR has launched a volunteer recruitment and training initiative along with a volunteer recognition program in conjunction with the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

"I-CAR volunteers make a difference in the lives and careers of tens of thousands of collision inter-industry professionals each year through their dedicated service to training and education," said John Edelen, I-CAR President and CEO. "As we prepare to celebrate volunteerism and inter-industry training at the I-CAR 30th Annual Industry Conference in July, there can be no better way to launch these celebrations than through the recognition of these dedicated inter-industry volunteers."

Individuals interested in becoming an I-CAR volunteer, along with those who already give their time to inter-industry education, can now participate in a series of I-CAR Volunteer Orientation training seminars designed to improve the volunteer experience and help individuals achieve their personal goals.

According to Mike Miller, I-CAR Field Support Manager, "This four-part Volunteer Orientation program will help both new volunteers and our veterans better leverage the time they invest in their local volunteer I-CAR committees. As a training organization, providing these seminars was a natural path to take to improve the volunteer experience."

Information on the I-CAR Volunteer Orientation training seminars including a seminar schedule is available at the I-CAR website by clicking on the Committee/Volunteers link near the bottom of the home page.

I-CAR also announced that it has been approved by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation to recognize individuals for their volunteerism with the President's Volunteer Service Award.

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5125 Trillium Blvd. ■ Hoffman Estates, IL 60192 ■ 847.590.1198 ■ 800.422.7872 ■ fax: 800.590.1215

“I-CAR has recognized its volunteers since the organization’s inception nearly 30 years ago,” said Jeff Peevy, I-CAR Director of Field Operations. “Adding the President’s Volunteer Service Award eligibility is an honor our volunteers greatly deserve.”

The President's Council on Service and Civic Participation created the President's Volunteer Service Award program as a way to thank and honor Americans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service. The President's Volunteer Service Award recognizes individuals, families, and groups that have achieved a certain standard – measured by the number of hours served over a 12-month period or cumulative hours earned over the course of a lifetime.

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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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