



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP) Endorses SCRS Two-Way Communication Petition

Prosser, WA, December 14, 2004 — Advancing a cause that is steadily gaining momentum, the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP)—a leading national association representing the collision repair industry—has endorsed the petition spearheaded by the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) to support two-way communication between like estimating systems.

AASP joins a burgeoning group of industry professionals, associations and organizations that is asking the industry information providers to allow for the ability —regardless of whether they are in a DRP relationship— to electronically transmit and receive an assignment, estimate, supplement or attachment(s) with one or more service providers (repairer, insurer, appraiser, etc.) that shares a common platform.

“SCRS approached us in November during Industry Week to explain the petition and gauge our interest in providing a unified front,” recalls Nick Kostakis, President of AASP National. “Our Board approved endorsing the petition and continuing to work together until this issue is resolved.”

AASP members feel strongly about this type of open standard for data transmission. They believe the collision repair industry is unnecessarily burdened by the information providers inability to provide repairers with the technology that is readily available today.

“Our shops often need to have an insurance carrier’s estimate in their computer to manage that repair in their facility and to be able to generate accurate supplements,” Kostakis explains. “In the absence of two-way communication, repair shops now incur the additional burden of having to waste hours manually re-keying these estimates. With today’s information technology, this should be a fairly simple obstacle to overcome.”

AASP maintains that a collective effort is the best way to pursue two-way communication. “By aligning with SCRS and others on the issue, our opportunity to create positive change increases,” Kostakis says. “It’s been proven that when we work as a unified entity with other industry elements, we’re much more effective.”

SCRS appreciates the support of the AASP and their membership. “We’re excited that the AASP is joining us in our effort. We believe that having two national associations support this cause will further validate to the information providers that this is what their customers want. This serves as a great example of how ‘Working Together Is The Most Important Work We Do,’” furthered Lou DiLisio, SCRS Chairman.

The Alliance of Automotive Service Providers is a national association headquartered in St. Paul, Minnesota, representing the automotive service industry in the United States. AASP was founded in 1999 by a coalition of state and regional organizations representing the industry. AASP has seven affiliates representing over 4,000 automotive professionals nationwide. The association works to strengthen its state and regional affiliates by promoting common business interests, forging strategic alliances and monitoring federal legislation and regulations.

Through its direct members and 30 affiliate associations, SCRS is comprised of 5,000 collision repair businesses and 58,500 specialized professionals who work with consumers and insurance companies to repair collision-damaged vehicles. Additional information about SCRS including news releases is available at the SCRS web site: www.scrs.com. You can e-mail SCRS at the following address: info@scrs.com.

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