

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: August 22, 2007
Contact: Dan Risley, SCRS Executive Director
(708) 598-3384

DEG Founding Associations Laud Mitchell for their Commitment to Database Accuracy

The architects of the Database Enhancement Gateway (DEG) initiative, a joint effort between the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP), the Automotive Service Association (ASA) and the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) welcome Mitchell International's recent announcement on July 26th to collaborate with the DEG project to collect broader industry data in an effort to identify, monitor and analyze wider industry trends and issues concerning the collision industry. Mitchell is the first information provider to publicly commit to working with the DEG. AASP Past President Nick Kostakis said, "Mitchell has once again taken a lead role in supporting the collision repair industry, and it hasn't gone unnoticed."

AASP, ASA and SCRS would like to thank Mitchell for their commitment to the project and to the repair industry. Similar to Mitchell, all three national associations fully support "industry openness and cooperation, and to providing fair and accurate repair data."

Carroll Proctor, ASA Collision Division Operations Committee member, commented, "As this project draws closer to a go-live date, having the support from the information providers is key. The DEG is committed to facilitating industry openness, and cooperation is an essential element."

"Since the project's infancy, all three national associations have devoted a considerable amount of time and resources in an effort to move this initiative from a concept to a reality. Hopefully, the unity is evident to the industry, and will translate into improved accuracy of the databases," stated Barry Dorn SCRS Vice Chairman.

Among other DEG initiatives, a single industry website will be created for the industry to submit a "request for reviews" whenever they question the accuracy of a labor time or identify missing, incomplete or incorrect data within any one of the three information providers' estimating products.

About AASP: The Alliance of Automotive Service Providers is a coalition of associations that serve the automotive service industry. In a spirit of mutual cooperation and support, Alliance participants are committed to sharing information, knowledge and other resources for the benefit of the members it serves. For more information, visit www.autoserviceproviders.com.

About ASA: The Automotive Service Association is the largest not-for-profit trade association of its kind dedicated to and governed by independent automotive service and repair professionals. ASA serves an international membership base that includes numerous affiliate, state and chapter groups from both the mechanical and collision repair segments of the automotive service industry. ASA advances professionalism and excellence in the automotive repair industry through education, representation and member services. For additional information, go to www.ASAshop.org.

About SCRS: Through its direct members and 33 affiliate associations, SCRS is comprised of 6,000 collision repair businesses and 58,500 specialized professionals who work with consumers and insurance companies to repair collision-damaged vehicles. Additional information about SCRS is available at www.scrs.com. Or, e-mail SCRS at the following address: info@scrs.com.