

PRESS RELEASE

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Contact: Dan Risley, SCRS Executive Director
(708) 598-3384

CIC Database Task Force Meets with Audatex

The Collision Industry Conference (CIC) Database Task Force (Task Force) met with representatives from Audatex, a Solera company on August 21st and 22nd at their headquarters in San Ramon, California. The Task Force is comprised of representatives from the three largest national collision repair trade associations: the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP), the Automotive Service Association (ASA) and the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS).

This was the third such meeting the three organizations have had with the information providers. The meeting, which spanned two days, was spent covering macro-level issues including but not limited to: substrate identification, specific OEM repair and replace procedures, blending formulas, refinishing flexible substrates, disclosure of database changes, the request for review process and two-way communication (eliminating re-keying of estimate data).

“Audatex is making a significant investment in enhancing our database as the only global claims solutions provider,” said Scott Jenkins, Sr. Director of Audatex. “Our hosting of the two-day summit with the CIC Database Task Force is one of the key initiatives that Audatex is undertaking in having proactive, ongoing and open dialogue with our industry partners. We also affirmed to the Task Force our commitment to regular, on-going procedure studies to ensure that our database reflects the current repair methodologies.”

ASA Collision Division Chairman, Darrell Amberson stated, “Audatex’s commitment to the Task Force and the industry is apparent. An example is their solution to addressing two-way communication. To date, they are the only information provider to implement a solution that allows repairers to download estimates from their website that was prepared by their staff.”

SCRS Board of Director Barry Dorn furthered, “The formation of the Task Force was a direct result of the lack of disclosure of significant database changes. Audatex clearly understands the industry’s concern, and is willing to continue working with the Task Force to provide a solution. It is our hope that an announcement will be forthcoming in the ensuing months that puts Audatex at the forefront of change when it comes to database disclosure.”

"It's my belief that Audatex understands the urgency surrounding substrate identification. Repairers rely on their database not only for an accurate estimate, but for pertinent information which could be critical to the repair. The lack of substrate identification at the time of the estimate will continue to cause problems throughout the repair industry until a solution is put in place. Audatex's commitment to working with the Task Force and the OE's on addressing this is the first step of a long journey," stated Nick Kostakis, AASP Board of Director.

The Task Force wants to extend their appreciation to Audatex for hosting the meeting and committing the time and staff necessary to have a productive meeting. It was extremely helpful and informative to have the department heads presenting, listening and answering questions. It gave the Task Force a broader understanding of their business model. As a result of the meeting, Audatex has added several of the Task Force members to their advisory council. The Task Force will continue to report upon the progress made with Audatex in addition to the two other information providers at future Collision Industry Conference (CIC) meetings.

This press release was produced and distributed as a result of joint efforts by the Alliance of Automotive Service Providers (AASP), the Automotive Service Association (ASA) and the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS).

AASP: "The Alliance of Automotive Service Providers is a coalition of associations which 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 we serve." Visit the AASP website at www.autoserviceproviders.com.

ASA: The Automotive Service Association is the largest not-for-profit trade association of its kind serving an international membership base that includes numerous affiliate, state and chapter groups from all segments of the automotive service industry. ASA's headquarters is in Bedford, Texas. ASA advances professionalism and excellence in the automotive repair industry through education, representation and member services. For additional information about ASA, including past news releases, go to www.asashop.org, or visit ASA's legislative Web site at www.TakingTheHill.com.

SCRS: Through its direct members and 31 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 other news releases is available at the SCRS web site: www.scrs.com. You can e-mail SCRS at the following address: info@scrs.com.

About Audatex:

Audatex, a Solera company, delivers the industry's most comprehensive, integrated suite of applications for claims processing, estimating, shop and yard management, and business analytics for performance management. Our solutions help insurance carriers, collision repair shops and automotive recyclers automate core business processes, streamline workflow with industry partners and manage performance. Solera's operating companies employ over 2,000 associates in over 37 countries, and have a global network of over 50,000 customers. The Solera companies include Audatex in the United States, Canada and in 26 additional international markets; Informex in Belgium; Sidexa in France; ABZ in The Netherlands and Hollander serving the North American recycling market.