



Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Independent Garage Owners of North Carolina Welcomed as Newest SCRS Affiliate Association

Prosser, Washington, June 1, 2006 — The Independent Garage Owners of North Carolina (IGONC), has announced its commitment to become the newest Affiliate Association of the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS).

Founded in 1959, the IGONC is the largest automotive repair and service association in the state and boasts close to 500 body shop, mechanical service and heavy truck repair professionals as members. It provides benefits that include up-to-date information on repair techniques and business practices; lobbying on behalf of the industries it represents in the state legislature; and fostering productive relationships between its members, automotive vendors and the motoring public. The association is noteworthy in that it owns its own corporate headquarters and an insurance agency that provides coverage to automotive specialty businesses in the state.

“Operators in this state face many challenges, and the best way to keep their businesses healthy is to keep them ahead of the curve and looking into the future,” says Bob Pulverenti, IGONC Executive Director. He continues, “Our mission is to do what it takes to achieve that objective for our membership, to be a comprehensive source for their business needs.”

IGONC’s interest in creating a relationship with SCRS came out of that desire and the need to enhance its offerings to collision repair members. When Pulverenti and several of his colleagues caught up with SCRS Executive Director Dan Risley and SCRS Director at Large Barry Dorn at the Northeast Leadership Meeting this year in Suffern, New York, the movement toward affiliation gained momentum.

“The North Carolina group was impressive in that it was looking to heighten its presence in our industry, and its leadership wanted to do so by providing added value to members,” says Risley. “They thought the IGONC and SCRS would complement each other, and as this relationship has grown, the statement couldn’t be more true,” Risley continued.

From the perspective of IGONC, affiliating with the Society makes sense several ways. “Aligning ourselves with SCRS will allow us access to an unprecedented source of expertise and information for our collision repair members,” states Pulverenti. “As a result, we’ll gain insights into national issues that may well affect our local market and become part of a network of professionals with industry know-how. This partnership will help facilitate success for the individuals we serve,” Pulverenti added.

“Over the decades IGONC has proven itself to be an institution in the state of North Carolina, one with a distinguished record of service for the automotive businesses it serves,” says SCRS Chairman Tom Moreland. “We’re pleased to welcome this kind of experience and practical knowledge into our ranks, and look forward to demonstrating, once again, that ‘Working Together Is the Most Important Work We Do’.”

Through its direct members and 32 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.

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