



Executive Director's Report August 2005

CIECA Collision Repairer Involvement

CIECA Executive Director Fred Iantorno and Chairman Paul Krauss met with repairers, including several SCRS Board members, prior to the Collision Industry Conference (CIC) meeting in Scottsdale, Arizona in July. The purpose of the meeting was to gain more repairer input through the formation of an advisory panel. SCRS' Vice Chairman Gary Wano will chair the newly-formed advisory panel. One of their first goals is to establish a standard for vehicle status messaging. Many repairers are required to provide a status on vehicles in their shop, and often times that requires utilizing several different methods and or systems. By establishing a standard, it may reduce the time and redundancy of providing duplicate status reports on the same vehicle.

National Coalition of Insurance Legislators (NCOIL) Hearing

NCOIL had a hearing on July 7th in Rhode Island to consider the Certified Aftermarket Crash Parts Model Act (Model Act). In advance of the meeting, we submitted a letter to the 40+ legislators in opposition of the Model Act. Immediately following that letter, we prepared and submitted a 23-page document that substantiated our position. Lastly, SCRS Treasurer Chad Sulkala testified at the hearing on behalf of SCRS. The Legislators voted to appoint this to a sub-committee. The sub-committee is tasked with considering any amendments submitted to them regarding the Model Act over the next 30 days before making a final recommendation. The deadline was August 22nd. A letter was sent to the sub-committee members in advance of that date that stated our opposition to the Model Act. This letter was significantly different than SCRS' previous efforts because it was authored and supported by all three national associations (SCRS, ASA and AASP). It was our collective belief that displaying unity amongst the three national associations could have a more dramatic impact upon the committee members. The next hearing is scheduled for November 18th in San Diego. We are waiting for the agenda and format prior to strategizing as to our next steps.

CIC Database Task Force

The Collision Industry Conference (CIC) Database Task Force, which is comprised of representatives from SCRS, AASP and ASA, continues to meet and communicate with the information providers. We are extremely pleased to report that one of the issues that was brought to Mitchell's attention when we met in April has been resolved. Mitchell made an announcement at the July CIC meeting that they will only offer a panel bonding time in their database when there is an OEM-recommended repair procedure for that specific make, model and panel. Mitchell will remove any panel bonding times from their database where there is not an OEM-approved repair procedure.

A formal request was sent to ADP asking them to speak at CIC in July. The Task Force asked that they specifically address the October update and what have they done since that time to insure it does not happen in the future. They declined the offer because they felt as if they had already adequately addressed the issue with the industry. They substantiated their position by providing documentation that was supplied to the industry and their customers over the past few months.

Two-Way Communication

SCRS has continued to campaign the information providers for two-way communication since making the announcement at CIC prior to NACE last year in Las Vegas. (This technology would eliminate the need to re-key estimate data. Currently, repairers spend countless hours re-keying estimate data when the customer provides a copy of the estimate.) During NACE and subsequently thereafter, SCRS collected thousands of supporters including repairers, insurers, members, non members and affiliate associations.

In addition, a task force was developed through CIC which included several SCRS board members to address this issue. A meeting was held where insurers and repairers (representing SCRS, AASP and ASA) worked collectively to develop the functionality that would work best for all concerns. This information has been forwarded to the information providers to include into their development. Once again, we are pleased to report progress in this area. Mitchell and CCC have announced that they will be offering technology to address this issue in an upcoming release. If you have questions as to the functionality of this new feature and/or when it will become available, we would suggest that you contact your respective Mitchell or CCC representative for additional information.

Affiliate Association Meetings

I spoke at The Fellowship of Collision Repairers of Oklahoma Association meeting in August. There was a tremendous turnout and dialogue. Thank you to those that were in attendance.

As mentioned in prior reports, if your state association is interested in having me or another SCRS representative speak at one of your upcoming meetings, please contact Dan at (708) 598-3384 or e-mail him at drisley7@comcast.net.

New Corporate Member

We are proud to welcome the Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. as our newest Corporate Member. On behalf of the SCRS Board of Directors, welcome! We look forward to working more closely with Toyota and further developing mutually beneficial relationships.

September 2005 SCRS Board of Directors Meeting

Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September, 13th at the Hyatt at Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco, California from 3:30pm - 5pm. All members are strongly encouraged to attend and participate.