



December
2022

Industry Update

*News and Information for
Northwest Automotive Trade Association
Members*

Happy Holidays from NATA!

A look back, a look ahead....

Happy Holidays to all of you, and to your employees and families!

Every year we all look back and say, "WOW, that year went fast!" I think when you have a lot of happenings in a year this is even more so.



NATA has had a lot of happenings this year. We are so grateful COVID fears and precautions have lessened significantly. This has given us more opportunities to get out and visit members, prospective members and automotive programs around the state. NATA is not a staffing agency, but we work with the automotive programs around the state to make sure they have industry support. Those students ARE our future workforce. We are regular members of nine different school advisory boards, and we Chair the annual Oregon SkillsUSA automotive competition. We attend career days. We are guest speakers in classrooms at high school and college level. We facilitate hiring events at the colleges. And we reach out to you – our members – to do the same.

We moved to our new location early in July – but spent several weeks prior to that, searching for a new location and preparing for the technicalities of the move.

We gained a new staff member, Tere MacNaughton. She is doing a tremendous job helping us grow NATA and bring more opportunities to our members.

Thank you ALL for making NATA a great place to work. We are blessed to have so many down-to-earth people to work with and turn to for insight. If you ever have ideas to help us improve, we want to know.

We wish you all the best during the holidays and throughout 2023.

Margaret

Looking into 2023 we have several exciting things happening:

Brothers Collection Tour March 12, 2023

Mark your calendars for March 12! NATA has arrangements made for our members to attend The Brothers Collection in Salem. This is one of the largest private car collections in the country. More details will be coming soon. (Tour is limited to 200 attendees.) In the meantime, visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AZoFfKx-Fag> to check out this and other videos on YouTube.

CTI Training - Bend, Medford and Portland

Also in 2023, NATA and Baxter Auto Parts are bringing live technical training from CTI (Carquest Technical Institute) to Bend, Portland and Medford.

PAVE (Professional Automotive Virtual Education) January 13-14, 2023

Additional training will be offered through NATA's partnership with PAVE (Professional Automotive Virtual Education) on January 13-14, 2023.

Automotive Training Program Outreach

We continue to support the faculty and students in the automotive training programs around the state – and help connect them with you, the industry.

Have you joined NATA on FACEBOOK? Please do...

<https://www.facebook.com/aboutnata>

And don't forget our newsletters are all archived on our website: www.aboutnata.org

Welcome, new NATA members

Among the companies recently joining NATA are:

Lanphere Enterprises and **Beaverton Honda**, a new car dealer offering sales, service and maintenance of Honda vehicles.



Brock Automotive, a full-service auto repair shop in Beaverton that specializes in repairing and maintaining imported vehicles from Asia and Europe.

Town Center Automotive, which has two locations (Portland and Clackamas) providing automotive and diesel repairs as well as transmission rebuilds.

Inter Mountain Truck & Car Repair, established in 1996 to cater to the needs of diesel pickup owners in the Bend and Central Oregon area.

Welcome to NATA!

Do you know someone whose business would benefit from belonging to NATA? Refer a new member to us, and receive \$50 off your next NATA renewal!

Around school...

NATA recently visited shops in Eugene

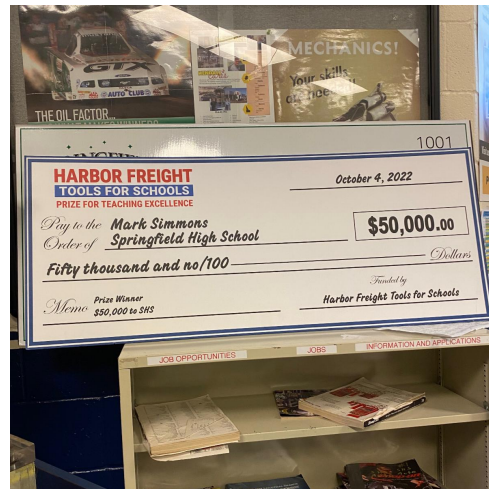
and toured Lane Community College and Springfield High School.

We would like to mention that Lane Community College needs more support in getting newer vehicles into their program. The school does not have funds to purchase vehicles, so they rely on donations. Currently all the vehicles used for training are over 10 years old. PLEASE contact the NATA office if you have a donation. We will put you in touch with Egan Riordan, the lead instructor at Lane.



Springfield High School is a solid program taught by Air Force veteran Mark Simmons. He teaches automotive technology and small engine repair. The first task he teaches his students is how to keep the shop tidy – how to mop and sweep. The shop is well equipped because Mark writes grants for funds. His program was awarded \$50,000 by Harbor Freight.

This week we also facilitated Portfolio/Mock Interviews at Portland Community College's Sylvania Campus (in the photo above, a representative of Bridgestone speaks with a student). Interviewers included Tesla, Subaru, Honest-1 and others. The students all received advice on their interviewing skills. Several scheduled follow up interviews with employers for potential employment.



Springfield High School automotive instructor (right) and his assistant Sam McElwain. The program recently received a \$50,000 grant from Harbor Freight.

Schools have job openings

Clark College in Vancouver, Wash., has an opening for a part time lab tech in the Auto Department. The position is working with the students, supervising Lab assignments and some general tasks in the shop. Hoping to find someone with a flexible schedule. This job is capped at 34 hours a pay period and wage is approximately \$17.50 per hour. Contact: Dannie Nordsiden Manager of Technician Development Office: (360) 992-2566 or (cell) (360) 907-4053



Portland Community College-Sylvania
Campus has an opening for a part-time Instructor in the Automotive Service Technology Department. [Click here](#) for more details.



Siuslaw High School is looking for a Manufacturing/Metals instructor. This is a full time position. Equipment includes new CNC machines. This is a small school with small class sizes... and Florence is a beautiful town. [Click here](#) for details.



Phoenix High School in Phoenix, Oregon, is looking for an automotive technology teacher. The position is the primary instructional delivery person in the classroom and therefore must be well trained in delivering industry-based instruction that develops student competencies leading to postsecondary education and employment. The teacher supervises and assists students, volunteers and educational assistants. The teacher must have excellent communication and interpersonal skills and possess an in-depth knowledge of automotive technology. [Click here](#) for details.



ASE offers remote recertification testing

The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) has introduced a remote testing option for ASE recertification tests through its partnership with Prometric.



Available for all ASE recertifications tests, excluding L1 and L2 tests, the ProProctor testing option allows those service professionals looking to recertify their ASE certifications without having to go to a test center. The tests need to be scheduled in advance but can be taken at any time. The test takers will be continuously monitored by multiple live proctors during the testing process.

Prometric's test proctors constantly monitor test takers during the tests, but will never have access to test content, which minimizes the exposure of the test questions. Prometric also has all the tools, systems and processes in place to ensure the privacy of the test takers' personal data.

With the ProProctor testing option, service professionals now have the choice of taking their recertification tests in-person or online, at a time and location that is convenient for them. Those taking the recertification tests will have the same screen experience and use the same test driver no matter which test option they choose.

To take the recertification tests remotely, there will still be a check-in and screening process similar to that at a test center. There are also unique procedures that will need to be completed before the test can be launched, such as downloading the ProProctor application to a computer and completing a system check the day before.

testing. In addition, finding and preparing a room to be used for testing must meet Prometric's requirements to ensure a controlled environment.

To learn more about the ASE remote testing option, visit [ASE.com/proproctor](https://www.ase.com/proproctor).

Online apps for retrofit certs now available

The online application system for certification in the [Diesel Retrofit Compliance Program](#) is now open. To prepare for this process, there are several steps vehicle owners must complete.

DEQ's Retrofit Compliance Program web page has step-by-step instructions, including information on required documents, and a link to

the online application. Avoid any delays in renewing vehicle registrations by beginning the certification process now.



DEQ recommends checking with an Approved Retrofit Installer as soon as possible to ensure the availability and timely installation of the applicable technology. The agency maintains a [list of On Road Manufacturer Authorized Installers](#) to help vehicle owners determine which approved retrofit technology to consider.

Medium- and heavy-duty vehicles powered by a 1996 or older diesel engine and with an owner address in Clackamas, Multnomah or Washington counties may not renew registrations for 2023 unless they are equipped with approved retrofit technology and certified by Oregon DEQ. Deadlines for registration renewal are as follows:

- Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services (DMV): Jan. 1, 2023
- Commerce and Compliance Divisions (CCD): Jan. 31, 2023

Registration renewal timelines, engine year requirements and diesel vehicle exemption questions can be addressed by the Oregon Driver and Motor Vehicle Services or Oregon Commerce and Compliance Division based on the gross vehicle weight rating:

- DMV: Medium-duty (14,001 - 26,000 lbs.) vehicles, call DMV Customer Assistance at 503-945-5000
- CCD: Heavy-duty (>26,000 lbs.) vehicles, email at CCDHB2007Inquiries@odot.state.or.us
- DEQ cannot answer questions concerning exemptions; please contact the above.

The Retrofit Compliance Program online application and details on the submission process are available at www.oregon.gov/deq/aq/programs/Pages/Diesel-Retrofit-Compliance.aspx. If you have questions on the applications and/or submission process, please contact Rick Reznicek, DEQ project manager, at diesel.retrofitcompliance@deq.oregon.gov.

Oregon agencies offer business training

Three Oregon agencies offer regular training for companies within the state.

The Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industry (BOLI) offers training seminars on such topics as wage

and hour laws, discipline and discharge, and the latest developments in employment law. Details are available by [clicking here](#).

The Oregon Department of Environmental Quality invites businesses that handle hazardous waste to sign up for a class covering basic management of such waste. Registration is free but on a first-come, first-served basis. [Click here](#) for more details.



The Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) offers classroom workshops and online training on such topics as hazard communications, safety meetings, lockout/tagout, personal protective equipment, etc. [Click here](#) for current class description and schedule, call (888) 292-5247 (option 2) or send an email to ed.web@oregon.gov.

NATA conducting collision wage survey

With the tough employment challenges our members face, NATA is getting a lot of calls about current collision shop employee compensation trends. You can help us get current information by participating in our compensation survey by [clicking here](#).



Your shop's individual information will be kept confidential. Only aggregate data will be released. You need only provide your shop's city/town and zip code. However, if you wish to receive the survey results, please provide an email address.

You will need two things in order complete the survey:

1. An understanding of the benefits your company offers employees (for example, the type(s) of medical insurance offered and the percentage of the premium paid by the company).
2. Information on how some or all employees are paid (i.e., hourly, flat-rate, salary), the dollar-rate that each receives, and/or their total annual compensation.

If you have that information before you begin, the survey should take you less than 15 minutes to complete.

Your participation is greatly appreciated. Share the link with your colleagues. The more shops that participate, the more reliable the data we can return to you.

Body shops can now grade the insurers

Collision repairers are well aware there are differences among the auto insurers selling policies. They can share their perspective with consumers by completing the annual "Insurer Report Card" before it closes next week.

It asks collision repairers to grade each company – from "A+" to an "F" – based on how well the insurers' claims

practices help ensure quality repairs and customer service.

More than 1,000 collision repair professionals each year grade the performance of the auto insurers in their state through *CRASH Network's* "Insurer Report Card" – and the insurance companies and consumers are paying attention. Insurers that have consistently received top grades tout that in their marketing and social media. Other organizations, like Forbes Advisor and CNET, that also offer independent information to consumers about financial decisions, now incorporate the "Insurer Report Card" grades into their auto insurance rankings.



In about three minutes, collision repair shops can fill out the latest "Insurer Report Card" at <http://www.CrashNetwork.com/gradebook>. All individual shop grades and identification information will remain confidential. Shops that provide an e-mail address will be sent the results to share with their customers, at no charge, once they are compiled.

'Lunch & Learn' on paint shop information

NATA is inviting autobody businesses to join EcoBiz Oregon (ecobiz.org) and partners for a 1-hour lunch online discussion on the value of spray transfer efficiency and waterborne paints.

The agenda includes an overview of spray transfer efficiency, including training and benefits; an overview of the benefits and ease of adoption of waterborne paints; and Q&A.



The Pollution Prevention Resource Center (PPRC) will share a summary of their free half-day in-person virtual reality (VR) training available for painters and paint facilities (<https://www.pprc.org/spray-efficiency>). In the half-day training, painters learn about and practice technique refinements that can reduce paint overspray for waterborne (or solvent-based) applications, save money, and achieve NESHAP 6H-compliant training for operators.

The webinar will be held at Noon on Thursday, December 15. [Click here](#) to register.

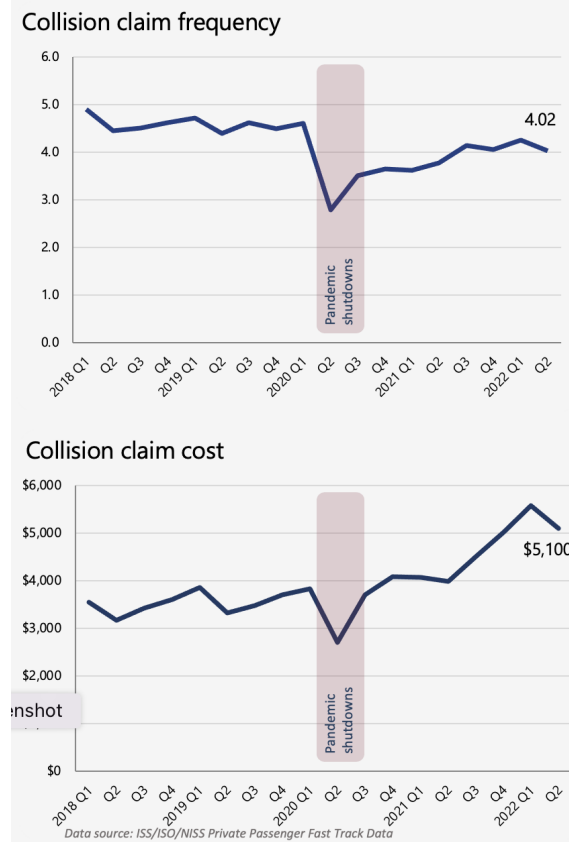
Auto claim counts in Oregon still down

Collision claim frequency in Oregon has yet to rebound to pre-pandemic levels, according to the latest release of ISS Fast Track Data. The frequency in the second quarter of 2022 was 4.02 claims per 100 insured car years. (An insured car year is the equivalent of one car insured for one full year.) This is down from the prior

quarter but still below the 2018 and 2019 levels that were hovering around closer to 5.0 claims per 100 car years.

Comprehensive claims frequency has rebounded more closely to pre-pandemic levels.

The average paid collision claim cost in Oregon was \$5,100 in the second quarter of this year, down from the prior quarter but still well above the same quarter last year. That average includes not only the body shop bill, but also the loss adjustment costs pertaining to those claims.



Medicare questions? Contact Tressa...

Do you or one of your employees have questions about Medicare? Our Associate member Tressa Cox can help! Tressa of Willamette Valley Benefits is a health insurance broker who specializes in Medicare. Her free services are best suited to give you advice and knowledge about Medicare, and to tailor-fit a plan to meet your needs. She can be reached by phone at (971) 260-9885, or email (tressa@tressacox.com).



Conference focuses on health, safety

The Oregon Governor's Occupational Safety & Health Conference (GOSH), taking place March 6-9 at the Oregon Convention Center, is the largest safety and health conference in the Northwest. Oregon GOSH offers educational opportunities that equal the best in the country. The event attracts nationally known speakers, offering 160 workshops and sessions and more than 125 booths showing the latest safety and health products and services. An awards ceremony and luncheon to acknowledge safety and health leaders in Oregon marks the conclusion of the conference.



The goal of the conference is to provide an educational forum where employers, safety and health professionals, safety committee members, line supervisors, manufacturers, and distributors can come to gain state of the art knowledge and skills

leading to self-sufficiency in their occupational safety and health programs. Attendees come from all industries and class topics cover a broad range of timely safety and health issues.

For more information, visit <https://oregongosh.com/>.

Get flu vaccine to help strained hospitals

This year's flu season is showing signs of being severe and peaking early. Public health officials in Oregon predict that people will likely be hospitalized with the flu at a rate similar to years prior to COVID-19. And with COVID-19 cases expected to rise as winter moves in, Oregon hospitals, already struggling with staffing shortages, risk being overwhelmed.



"Your flu vaccine is extremely important this year — and certainly more than it has been in the last two years when we had virtually no flu that was circulating," said Peter Graven, Ph.D., director of Oregon Health and Science University's Office of Advanced Analytics. "The flu is probably going to be at least as important this year as COVID."

For those with insurance, including Oregon Health Plan members, flu shots are free. Without insurance, flu shots are available for purchase at most pharmacies for about \$40. Call 211 if you need support finding a health care provider or locations that offer low-cost or free flu shots.

Everyone age 6 months and older is eligible to [get a flu vaccine](#). You can search [Vaccines.gov](https://www.vaccines.gov) to find flu and COVID-19 vaccines

*Wishing you a great start
to 2023!*

EDUCATION

BENEFITS

CONSUMER INFO

SHOP HELP

INSURANCE

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