



# News Capsule

## Nebraska AutoBody Association News & Information



July 27, 2010

Nebraska legislators will address the state's widening budget shortfall during the next legislative session beginning in January. Lawmakers, with few budget-balancing alternatives, will begin the painful process of levying new sales taxes on a large number of services that are now tax exempt, a change that could effect total-loss thresholds. The Nebraska AutoBody Association will continue to monitor this situation and keep you updated as well as provide easy means to communicate with your senator and voice your opinions.

Omaha Public Schools is looking for an auto body instructor and would like to talk to individuals interested in being an instructor, regardless of level of college education. They cannot guarantee that every applicant would qualify, but they have ways of working together with instructors who have a good background in auto body technology. Please post this email in your shop in case one of your techs would be interested. Anyone interested may contact Ken Spellman with OPS at (402) 557-2613, or [ken.spellman@ops.org](mailto:ken.spellman@ops.org)

Collision repairers often need to substantiate repair operations that are necessary to restore the vehicle and to accurately bill the insurer for these services. Last year, Toyota, Lexus and Scion issued a Collision Repair Information Bulletin (No. 173) recognized "topcoat sand & polish", a necessary process that is used both the factory manufacturing process as well as in the repair of damaged vehicles to restore the color, gloss and texture of the original finish. While needed topcoat, sand and polish operations are necessary to produce quality repairs, charging for these operations has created a source of friction between repairers and insurers. To ease that friction SCRS made public the relevant responses from new-car makers and paint manufacturers. The replies from Toyota, AkzoNobel, BASF, DuPont, PPG, and Sherwin-Williams are available from the referenced hyperlinks.

Other new resources and references added to the NABA web site include the [Ford Structural Parts Fact Sheet 7-21-10](#) and the [Ford Structural Parts Q&A 7-21-10](#) both of which can also be accessed through the referenced links.

Leaders of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives are drafting legislation that would require carmakers to install event data recorders (black boxes) that would give drivers advance warning safety system failures. Other safety improvements under consideration include a brake override system that allows drivers to stop the vehicle even when the throttle is open. The proposed legislation would also create a "vehicle safety user fee," which would require carmakers to levy a \$3 to \$9 per vehicle fee to supplement the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration's budget. The bill also subjects carmakers to stiffer fines for failing to report safety defects.

BASF and Daimler developed a liquid metal paint called Alubeam, which is a basecoat that makes cars look as if they were made out of chrome. Alubeam premiered at the Geneva Motor show in Switzerland. BASF's Liquid Metal basecoat immerses the car in a radiant deep gloss, making it look as if it were made of chrome rather than being painted. Look for more information in the next *Surgeons of Steel* magazine.

Auto Body Shop for lease. 50x50 metal building, paint booth & mixing room, office, new furnace and central a/c. This is an ongoing business and a great opportunity to have your own shop with very little investment. Phone 402-725-3230

**Fight For What's Right**  
**Join the Nebraska AutoBody Association**  
Membership application available at

<http://www.nebraskaautobody.com/filedownloads/memberap1&2.pdf>

*Information in this news capsule is obtained and condensed from sources believed to be accurate and reliable but readers should consult with an appropriate business professional before acting on information contained herein. Information contained herein does not necessarily reflect the opinions of NABA, its leadership or management. Summary is prepared by Norbert Zaenglein.*