



Collision Industry News & Information

June 9, 2011

Nebraska Internet providers are reporting increases in the number of “phishing” e-mails, which attempt to obtain your personal or financial information by falsely posing as a reputable company site. Phishing sites use graphics and other page layout features that make them look exactly like a legitimate web page, such as that from a bank. Financial service institutions and other businesses, however, will not send emails asking you to submit your login and password information. The following links will help you avoid being a victim of fraud and identity theft. [Protect yourself Phishing? What if I released personal information to a Phishing?](#)

For the seventh straight month, Nebraska’s most recent Business Conditions Index once again moved above a 50.0 growth neutral position. The Index, compiled from a survey of supply managers, climbed to 57.7 from 54.4 in April. Components of the index included new orders at 61.3; production or sales at 60.9; delivery lead-time at 54.5; inventories at 53.9; and employment at 58.1. *“An expanding manufacturing sector is spilling over into the rest of the state’s economy. For example, rail transportation is growing rapidly even as higher fuel prices have restrained growth for trucking firms,”* said Dr. Ernie P. Goss Professor of Economics Creighton University in Omaha.

More positive economic indicators were reported by the Nebraska Department of Labor, which said that the state unemployment rate remained the same from the previous month at 4.2% in April, that compared to a nationwide rate of 9.0%. Commissioner of Labor Catherine D. Lang said, *“The state continues to see improvement in all regions, and we are encouraged by the positive indicators.”*

The United States and other industrialized countries had quietly held out hope that OPEC would raise oil production; a measure that could ease high gasoline and energy costs. But the hope for more oil was dashed when members of Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries did not agree on new production targets, which means that the demand for oil later this year is expected to outstrip supplies leading to higher prices for oil and gasoline.

In cities like Los Angeles, where the car has ruled the road for decades, the thought of commuters leaving their automobiles behind and opting for public transportation once seemed unthinkable, according to an article in RIS media. But CBS Evening News recently reported that Los Angeles commuter rail rider-ship had increased 8 percent from a year earlier. High gas prices, climate change, and environmental awareness are changing America’s driving patterns as more people look for ways to work closer to home, not only because commuting is becoming more expensive, but also because of concerns over car-centered life and its environmental impact.

The Nebraska Auto Body Association continues to add information for repairers and consumers to its web site at <http://www.nebraskaautobody.com>. Among the most recent additions include the Guide to Complete Repair Planning, information about fraud trends, curbstoning and much more.

Join the Nebraska Auto Body Association

<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 prepared by Norbert Zaenglein.