



For immediate release

Voluntary Agreement on Right to Repair Should Replace Pending Legislation

Ottawa (October 9, 2009) The Canadian Automobile Dealers' Association applauds the recent signing of the Canadian Automotive Service Information Standard (CASIS) by the Association of International Automotive Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC), the Canadian Vehicle Manufacturers' Association (CVMA) and the National Automotive Trades Association (NATA).

The agreement will see auto manufacturers provide access to service and repair information to aftermarket repair shops, in turn ensuring the so-called "right to repair."

"CASIS represents the best solution to the concerns raised by the automotive aftermarket," said CADA president Richard Gauthier. "It is a fair compromise that will ensure that all repair facilities have access to the information that they need, while at the same time assuaging the intellectual property, security, and competition concerns of manufacturers and their dealers."

Under the terms of the agreement, manufacturers will provide aftermarket facilities with needed equipment and tools at rates commensurate with what they charge their dealers, ensuring that all parties remain on a level playing field. Half of manufacturers had previously provided this information to repair shops.

CASIS is modeled on the successful National Automotive Service Task Force in the United States, which has existed since 2000. This agreement has been successful in ensuring choice for consumers and serves as a model for industry cooperation. Legislation introduced by NDP MP Brian Masse, Bill C-273, is currently being considered by the House of Commons. CADA believes that CASIS removes the need for this legislation.

"With 75% of non-warranty work already being performed by the aftermarket, right to repair, by and large, has always been a solution in search of a problem", said Gauthier. "CASIS will fill in what gaps did exist, making C-273 legislative overkill."

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The Canadian Automobile Dealers Association (CADA) is the national association for franchised automobile dealerships that sell new cars and trucks. Our 3,500 dealers represent a key sector of Canada's economy. Through our dealers, we are represented in nearly every community and those dealers collectively employ over 140,000 people across the country.

For more information please contact:

Michael Hatch, CADA Chief Economist
Phone: 613-230-2079, Cell: 613-355-6233
Email: mhatch@cada.ca

Huw Williams, CADA Director of Public Affairs
Phone: 613-230-2079, Cell: 613-797-9583
Email: huw@cada.ca