

STUDENT TOUR AND EVENING CELEBRATION SUCCESSFUL

Mix over 300 high school students with a Baja 1000 road racecar and a major renovation of the autobody lab at Centennial College and you have an exciting and busy special event. Centennial Colleges' Ashtonbee campus (at Warden Ave) is the site of an almost \$1 million dollar remodeling of the autobody training and apprenticeship facility. On February 28, 2006, the College and the collision repair industry hosted a free school tour opportunity at the autobody lab, with a chance to talk to the crew of the PPG Canada-sponsored 2005 Scorelite Racer, the student entry that came 3rd in its class at the 2005 Baja 1000 in Ensaneada,



Mexico. With presentations and displays of collision repair equipment, new paint coatings from PPG Canada, repair estimating software from ADP, Lincoln's Electric's new welding lab and products supplied by 3M Canada, the afternoon tour generated a number of requests for apprenticeship in collision repair and autobody. Officials from Job Connect, the Ontario Youth Apprenticeship Program and the Ministry of Training, Colleges and Universities, were in attendance to answer any questions.

Employers were invited to the Interview Area to speak with young people looking for employment in the collision repair industry. Even before the tours, with over 400 young people sending in applications for autobody and apprenticeship training, the future looks bright for the College and young people learning the autobody and



collision repair trade. An evening industry awards dinner recognized those companies and individuals who have donated equipment, services and funds to the upgrading of the autobody lab. The school that arrived with the most students for the tours won a free car, for their auto shop, courtesy of Toyota Canada and free software courtesy of Mitchell International. Congratulations to Dr. G. W. Williams Secondary School in Aurora who now get to work on a Lexus ES300 with a further donation of another Lexus to Centennial College. For more information on this special event and on how to become an auto body apprentice in Ontario please see: www.ciia.com or call



CarFixWORLD SIGNS ON SIGNIFICANT EXHIBITORS

Several significant players in the Canadian aftermarket and collision industry have signed on for CarFixWORLD, the automotive industry exhibition taking place September 29 to October 1, 2006 at Toronto's National Trade Centre. The exhibitor commitment continues to grow and an early survey of potential show visitors indicates attendance will exceed initial expectations, according to John McLean, the event's manager. Exhibitors who have signed on include Carcone's Auto Recycling, Cars Systems Inc., Chicago Pneumatic Tool, Citation, Delphi, Dominion Sure Seal, Fletchek.com, Global Finishing Solutions, Gojo Industries Inc., Henkel, Hofmann, Inov8, Matco, Transport Canada, RS Finishing Systems Inc. and Thermofluid Technologies. CarFixWORLD also conducted an email survey to trade publication readers in both the repair and collision sectors. Nearly 1,000 replies were received. The survey indicated consistent enthusiasm for the "one big show" concept from all sectors of the aftermarket community. Survey respondents indicated an enthusiasm for the show to focus seminars on product training, business management, technology/equipment, tools and recruitment. "This speaks to our extensive schedule of seminars and special presentations at the show. CarFixWORLD will set a new benchmark for the in-

Special points of interest:

MEMBER BENEFIT PROGRAM

For the first time in Ontario, autobody and collision repair shop owners/operators can enjoy reduced costs while helping their local trade association. Save thousands of dollars on your garage insurance policy costs. Save almost \$1000 with a special offer from ADP. Make **thousands** of dollars with increased profits from our special consultants. Simply join your local collision repair trade association by calling 1-866-309-4272 for your membership kit.

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