



Midwest Associations

with Chasidy Rae Sisk

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ASA-MW Springfield Chapter's Roundtable Helps Students Prepare for Industry Jobs

On Tuesday, April 15, the Springfield Chapter of ASA-Midwest held their annual Industry Professional and Student Roundtable to discuss "Shaping the Future of Our Industry." ASA-Midwest is made up of chapters from

shape the future of our industry," explains **Sheri Hamilton**, Executive Director of ASA-Midwest.

"This event was a great success! ASA-Midwest welcomed over 40 participants including area industry professionals, educators and local automotive technical students."

The event was divided into two parts: networking and a panel discussion on industry issues. For students interested in pursuing a career in the collision repair industry, the networking portion of the evening provided an opportunity to meet with industry professionals. The professionals looked forward to meeting prospective

future employees in order to discuss the skills needed to make these students attractive to future employers after graduation. Because these students represent the next generation of automotive serv-

ationals was also featured during the event. **Perrie Stone**, owner of *Hammer's Autoworks*; **Brian Patton**, service advisor for *Premiere Automotive*; **Tom Perkins**, drivability technician for *Rick's Automotive*; **Mikey Dailey**, drivability technician for *Aasby Automotive*; **Amy Gilbert**, co-owner of *Go Automotive*; and **Paula Dillner**, owner of *Schillby's*

Auto Service shared some of their experiences and answered students' questions about entering and working in the field. Some of the topics discussed included the future of the industry, what employers look for in future employees, the current direction of the industry, and technological changes.

Hamilton states, "These events are important to continue the conversation between industry professionals, to build a community within the organization, brainstorm ways to improve business, support each other, and evolve with technology. This event was again a huge success, and we look forward to continuing the annual event in the future."



A panel of industry professionals answered students' questions

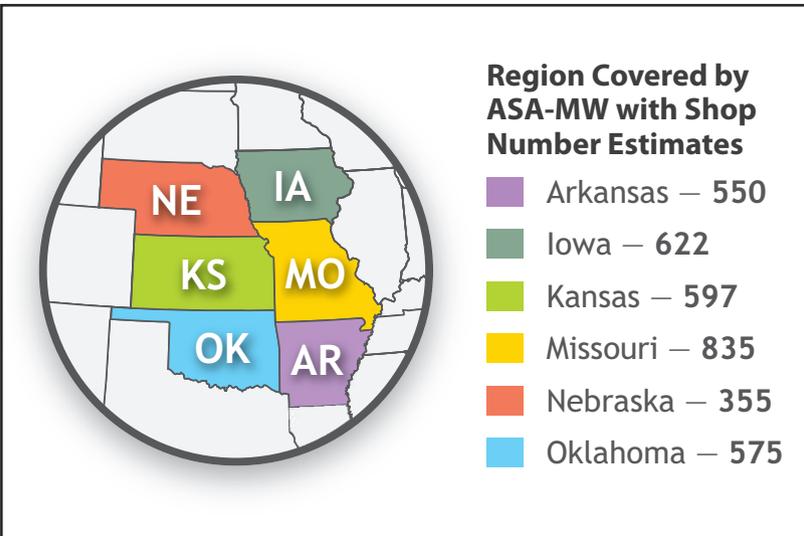
the following states: Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, Arkansas, Nebraska, and Oklahoma.

The event was held at Ozark Technical College in Springfield, MO, and



ASA-Midwest looks to the future by providing an opportunity for collision repair industry students to network with future potential employers

ASA-Midwest
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was designed "to facilitate conversation between the current industry professionals and the future professionals, as well as to discuss the ways current professionals, educators and students can work together to strengthen and

ice professionals, ASA-Midwest feels it's important for current industry professionals to mentor and guide them to strengthen and secure the industry's future.

A panel of local industry profes-

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