



IABA's April Chapter Meetings Focus on Estimating Accuracy

Over the course of three days in April, the Indiana Auto Body Association (IABA) held five chapter meetings that focused on estimating accuracy. Be-

members are aware of the procedures necessary to properly repair a vehicle and that they also know which procedures to include on their blueprint and final bill, IABA held five VLIVE TRAINING sessions with Mike Anderson, famed industry speaker from CollisionAdvice.com. **Tony Passwater**, Director of IABA, stated, "Our new VLIVE format worked very well, and the information provided was very educational."

The New Albany chapter held their quarterly luncheon meeting on April 14 at Tuckers, and that evening, the Bloomington chapter met for dinner at Crazy Horse Food and Drink Emporium. The Merrillville and Fort Wayne chapters both met on Wednesday, April 15, and the Indianapolis chapter met on April 16 at a new venue, Rick's Boatyard and Café, where they plan to hold their August meeting because "it was a very good place to hold the meeting," Passwater said.

Each meeting commenced with updates on current events that may impact members' businesses. IABA next addressed association news and



The Indianapolis chapter loved their new venue, Rick's Boatyard and Cafe

programs. The VLIVE presentation followed; VLIVE TRAINING is a new format designed to provide the best speakers and information for IABA meetings through the association's virtually live interactive format.

VLIVE debuted at IABA's February meetings with a special message from John Arthur Eaves Jr., as well as

glimpse of new technology, the Catalytic Cold Gas Curing System. Passwater shared, "In our April meetings, we had Mike Anderson, Danny Panduro and Tim Briggs provide insights on getting to 100% estimating/blueprinting accuracy. We also had some new technology from Collision Diagnostics Services and the Astech Unit. Our new VLIVE format really has allowed us to add very educational content to our meetings from the top presenters in our industry."

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cause the technology used on modern vehicles changes constantly, shop owners' responsibilities and liabilities also increase regularly. In order to ensure



Longtime I-CAR Executive Jeff Peevy to Lead Automotive Management Institute

I-CAR announced on April 27 that **Jeff Peevy**, Senior Director Segment



Jeff Peevy

Development – Collision Repair & Field Operations, has been recruited to lead the Automotive Management Institute (AMI) as its next president. His last day with I-CAR was May 15.

The opening created by Peevy's departure is not expected to be immediately filled.

Peevy has been associated with I-CAR for nearly 25 years. He joined the organization in 1990 as a committee member, served as an instructor and rose to become a top regional manager, leading the South Central Region for six years.

In 2006, Peevy was promoted to National Field Operations Manager and then joined I-CAR's leadership team in Hoffman Estates to head Field Operations in 2007, later becoming senior director, managing both Field Operations and the newly formed Collision Repair Segment

team since 2012.

"The I-CAR ecosystem will miss Jeff, and at the same time, we also are thrilled that he is taking on a new challenge that will also serve the interests of our industry," said I-CAR CEO and President **John Van Alstyne**. "While Jeff has played a key role helping drive positive change at I-CAR over the past several years, this commitment transcends Jeff—customer focused continuous improvement is now part of our DNA at I-CAR. We wish Jeff well and look forward to exploring possible synergies with AMI that will benefit the collision repair industry, especially in new curriculums such as our new Production Management Role, which will be launching later this year."

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New Chief Fume Extractor Protects Body Shop Technicians from Weld Fume Particulates

On April 24, *Chief Automotive Technologies* introduced a heavy-duty weld fume extractor. The new fume extractor collects weld fumes at their source.

The fume extractor is part of Chief's product line expansion into "fusion" products. The fusion group includes a new rivet gun as well as a full line of spot and MIG/MAG welders that had previously been marketed under the *Elektron* brand.



The Chief FE7 Fume Extractor helps protect body shop technicians from weld fume particle

Group (VSG). "Continued exposure can lead to illness, lost time and worker's compensation claims. Some facilities utilize overhead vacuum systems to clean the air, but the new Chief fume extractor offers superior protection by capturing weld fumes before they reach the

technician's breathing zone."

The Chief fume extractor uses an electric motor to draw weld fumes through a cylindrical arm that leads to a large ProTura® Nanofiber cartridge. The filter offers a MERV 15 efficiency rating. MERV (Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value) ratings vary from 1 to 16, with higher ratings indicating greater efficiency in trapping airborne particles. The filters in the Chief fume extractor provide the ultimate combination of high efficiency, low operating costs and longer filter life. A built-in pressure gauge on the fume extractor shows when the filter should be replaced, and the machine's "Quick Seal" door release provides fast filter removal and maintenance with no tools required.

While traditional fume extractor arms are made of plastic tubing, the Chief fume extractor's arm is manufactured of powder-coated aluminum with cast aluminum joints. The seven-foot arm holds a bell-shaped extraction hood with an integrated 360-degree handle, and an ember catcher prevents hot particles from reaching the filter.

To learn more, visit www.chiefautomotive.com/OnOurLines/ or call (800) 445-9262.