Press Release



For Release: Immediate

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18th Annual Race for Automotive Education Raises over \$14,000

The Alliance of Automotive Service Providers of Minnesota (AASP-MN) held its 18th Annual Race for Automotive Education, January 14, 15 and 16, at ProKart Indoor Racing in Burnsville. The event raised over \$14,000 to support the Alliance's Automotive Education Fund and will fund scholarships for automotive students enrolled in ASE-accredited auto service and collision repair programs in Minnesota's technical colleges.

During the three-nights, 180 racers took to the track in go-karts reaching speeds of up to 40 miles per hour. Twenty-four teams of auto service and collision repair shops and industry suppliers were joined by twelve teams of automotive students from Dakota County Technical College, Dunwoody College of Technology, Hennepin Technical College (North and South Campuses), Lake Superior College, South Central College and St. Cloud Community & Technical College. The student teams were sponsored by 1 Collision Network. Many spectator fans were also on hand to cheer on their team.

Trophies were awarded to the 1st place and runner-up teams each night. They were:

Tuesday, January 14th 1st place – BLVD Autoworks, St. Anthony Runner-up – Lancer Service, St. Paul

Wednesday, January 15th 1st place – Collision repair students from Hennepin Technical College, Eden Prairie Runner-up – Collision repair students from St. Cloud Community & Technical College, St. Cloud

Thursday, January 16th 1st Place – LaMettry's Collision, team #1, Twin Cities Runner-up – Wenzel Auto Electric, Mankato

In addition to the 36 race teams, the event was supported by the following sponsors:

- 1 Collision Network
- Auto Value Parts Stores/APH
- Axalta Coating Systems
- CBIZ AIA
- Finishmaster
- Fourth Street Auto Repair
- LKQ Minnesota
- Lube-Tech & Partners
- PPG Automotive Finishes
- United Fire Group

The Automotive Education Fund was established in 2002 to provide financial resources to support automotive students, enhance automotive programs and raise awareness of career opportunities in the automotive service industry. Since its inception, nearly \$250,000 has been invested in student scholarships, Skills USA and automotive education programs throughout the state.

AASP-MN is an association of independently-owned automotive service businesses and industry suppliers dedicated to improving Minnesota's automotive service industry and the success of its 750 members. For more information, visit <u>www.aaspmn.org</u>.



Tuesday night's winning team from BLVD Autoworks, St. Anthony



Thanks to the support of 1 Collision Network, automotive students from 7 tech colleges were able to participate in this year's event



LaMettry's Collision, Team #1 took 1st place in Thursday night's race