

### Quaker State Names Winners Of 'Best in Class Challenge'

After six weeks of competition, Quaker State's "Best in Class Challenge"

time, creative representation of their school. The teams were judged on various automotive criteria that took into account before-and-after diagnostic



automotive education program featuring high school auto shops across the U.S. has come to an end. The First Place Grand Prize winner is Jordan Vocational High School in Columbus, GA (students pictured in front of its customized vehicle), which was awarded a \$2500 credit account at AutoZone, a customized tool kit valued at \$500, a digital article on automotive websites and the opportunity to sell its vehicle at a Barrett-Jackson auction, with the proceeds going back to the school.

Each participating school was awarded ownership of its customized vehicle from the competition, along with credit accounts at their local AutoZone stores. The 2nd through 5th Place finishers were: Charles B. Aycock High School, Pikeville, NC (\$2000 AutoZone account); Satellite High School, Satellite Beach, FL (\$1500); Kearny High School, Kearny, NJ (\$1000); and New Trier High School, Winnetka, IL (\$750).

Throughout the competition, the teams were tasked with a different challenge each week and were responsible for customizing, restoring and fine-tuning a preowned Ford Mustang (valued at \$3000) into a pris-

results, interior and exterior customization work, general engine maintenance and overall creativity.

"Quaker State believes in empowering the next generation of automotive technicians, and the 'Best in Class Challenge' is our special way of reaching out on a personal level to achieve just that," said Laura Jaime, Quaker State North American Marketing Manager. "For the second year in a row, these students have been put through the gauntlet of hands-on automotive exercises to get their vehicles into auction block shape. The hard work and creativity the students displayed throughout the six-week challenge was an inspiring glimpse into the future of our industry."

### MEMA Weighs In on Federal Automated Vehicle Policy

The Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA) recently submitted comments to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) regarding the recently released "Federal Automated Vehicles Policy."

While praising NHTSA for providing proactive guidance at a time when technologies are just emerging,

MEMA outlined several issues and concerns, and urged NHTSA not to risk impending technological development and listen to industry voices as it develops its policy.

First, MEMA will support an approach to establish policy guidance vs. regulations through a transparent process involving all stakeholders that does not impede innovation.

Second, MEMA urges NHTSA to treat systems and vehicles for testing and production separately in the context of its AV Policy.

Lastly, MEMA requests that NHTSA issue an immediate update on the AV Policy, which is critically important to provide fundamental clarifications and to make appropriate changes based on stakeholders' input.

"We are committed to reducing or eliminating fatalities on our roads, and automated vehicles will be critical to reach that goal," said Steve Handschuh, MEMA president and CEO. "...As the leading trade association representing more than 1000 companies in the mobility industry, we sincerely hope NHTSA will carefully review our concerns and make the appropriate adjustments to improve the policy and lay the groundwork for technological advances."

### Autologic, Volvo Enter Licensing Agreement for Diagnostic Data

Autologic Diagnostics announced that it has entered into a licensing agreement with Volvo Car Corp. Under the agreement, Autologic ([www.autologic.com](http://www.autologic.com)) will have direct access to Volvo diagnostic data and technical information, enabling the provision of a comprehensive repair and maintenance on 2000 to current models through Autologic's Assist cloud-based diagnostic solution.

The agreement, which covers North America, Canada, the United Kingdom and the European Economic Area (EEA), will provide customers

within those territories the benefit of receiving guaranteed genuine Volvo data, ensuring improved aftermarket continuity of safe, accurate and effective repairs.

"The arrival of Volvo data coincides with the adoption of our new centralized Autologic knowledge database (ADX), which has been developed specifically to secure VM licensed data and repair and maintenance information (RMI)," said Mark Stamp, Autologic chief technology officer.

Customers will be able to download the licensed Volvo package directly to their Autologic AssistPlus diagnostic device starting this month, ensuring that independent repair shops will have access to the latest validated information that's provided to dealers.

### Women in Auto Care Announces 2016 Scholarship Winners

During the recent AAPEX show in Las Vegas, Women in Auto Care, formerly the Car Care Council Women's Board,



Summer Miller (left) accepts a replica scholarship check from Vonda Lee (right), education committee chair, Women in Auto Care, and Kathleen Schmatz, immediate past president and CEO, Auto Care Association, and founder of the Car Care Council Women's Board, now known as Women in Auto Care.

en's Board (WB), presented Summer Miller with the Kathleen Schmatz Scholarship for \$10,000 as part of the Women in Auto Care scholarship program, now in its 14th year. Miller is a student in automotive technology at Brookhaven College in Decatur, TX.

Women in Auto Care also awarded \$50,000 in other scholarships to deserving young women, ranging from \$5000 to \$1000. Eight of the scholarships went to high school students, 11 to postsecondary school students.

"It is incredible to see how much our scholarship fund has grown over the years," said Vonda Lee, education committee chair, Women in Auto Care. "We are thrilled to be able to award Summer a \$10,000 scholarship that will truly impact her education, and we are grateful to our sponsors and all those who support us in our mission to help female students looking to enter the auto care industry."

### Access to Vehicles Tops Auto Care Association Concerns for 2017

At the last AAPEX show in Las Vegas, Bill Hanvey, Auto Care Association president and CEO, shared his organization's mission and strategic plan, then addressed the subject of access to vehicle data, software and other information as a growing aftermarket concern.

He described five distinct strategic pillars, each of which addresses the dramatic growth of unprecedented technological changes facing the industry. He also gave specific examples of the Association's products, programs and initiatives designed to achieve the goals of each strategic pillar, which he identified as:

**Emerging Vehicle Technologies.** Ensure that our industry can have access to, and take advantage of, these technologies.

**Global Supply Chain Efficiency.** Improve efficiency through strategic data acquisition and standards adoption.

**Membership Growth and Retention.** Review and revise the structure of programs and initiatives to support membership growth and retention.

**Global Growth Opportunities.** Identify such opportunities for our members and help eliminate barriers.

**Profile and Influence.** Grow the Association's political and financial profile and influence.

"From a technological perspective, access to vehicle data while ensuring cybersecurity is a must for the

aftermarket," Hanvey emphasized. "The aftermarket must have a voice and shared control of access to vehicle diagnostic and other data, whether it involves telematics, vehicle communication networks, connectivity, automated driving, cybersecurity and other technological innovations."  
—Bob Chabot

### DENSO Expands Aftermarket Technical Training Program

DENSO Products and Services Americas is adding three new training classes to its wide selection of automotive repair courses. The program was developed to enhance technicians' diagnostic and troubleshooting expertise to repair vehicles efficiently and correctly the first time.

The classes joining DENSO's 2017 roster are "Advanced Circuit & Electrical Testing," "Evaporative Emissions Systems" and "Ford Engine Performance." The company offers a total of 42 classes under its Technical Training Program.

"Quality training goes hand in hand with quality replacement parts," said David Shushereba, director of DENSO's Product Development, Engineering, Quality and Service Group. "We are committed to helping technicians service cars and trucks quickly and accurately so customers can rely on a job well done when they pick up the vehicle."

DENSO's Technical Training Program classes teach technicians to rule out operational and functional conditions first, an approach that results in the least amount of invasive testing to save time and money and prevent the replacement of good parts. More than 16,100 technicians have completed one or more courses since the program was established 11 years ago. The full-day and half-day sessions emphasize instructor-led hands-on training.

For detailed information on the program or a comprehensive program guide, contact Deanna Willcoxon at 310-952-7424 or [deanna\\_willcoxon@densodrive.com](mailto:deanna_willcoxon@densodrive.com). Visits also can be arranged for companies interested in learning more about a specific class. 