

eAir REPAIR



Outreach Seminars For 2010

From: the Illinois EPA Repair Industry Outreach Team

The success of the Vehicle Emissions Testing Program depends on the repair industry being able to fix vehicles with emission problems. The free Outreach Program Seminars in 2009 focused on the Dashboard website, monitor readiness issues, communications, scan tools, and diagnostic techniques. In 2010, Outreach Program Seminars will concentrate on advancing technologies related to emissions repairs. This specialized training is almost impossible to get through other sources because of the current economic conditions of automotive manufacturers.

There is a direct correlation between the amount of training that shop members have and a shop's score in the Report Card booklet. For this reason, we will be offering new seminars in 2010 that reflect issues on late model vehicles such as: fuel trim / MAP; communication protocol; Mode 6; foreign car issues; and fuel sensors. As in the past, these seminars are free, and the information learned can be used the very next day to repair vehicles with emission problems.

The year 2009 has been a transition year for many repair shops. One of the biggest changes this year has been that monitor rejects now count as a FAIL when calculating a shop's grade for the REPORT CARD booklet. This booklet contains grades on every repair shop that has achieved a grade of "C" or better. It is distributed to all motorists when their vehicle fails an emissions test. To be included in the REPORT CARD, shops must have a grade of "C" or better.

Most shops listed in the REPORT CARD have made four steps their standard operating procedure:

1. Diagnose the vehicle
2. Fix the code problem(s)
3. Run the monitors
4. Test the vehicle

Now that we calculate Monitor rejects as FAILS, the result has been faster fixes and cleaner air for everyone. We have been providing free training and informative newsletters to instructors, students, technicians, shop owners, and

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dealerships. We have partnered with many community colleges, instructors, trade associations, and members of the automotive industry to provide this training. Please join us for the next series of seminars that we will be offering in 2010.

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When My Phone Rings

By: Dave Alder from ApplusTechnologies, Inc.



As you know, I frequently receive phone calls relating to repairing emissions systems. Let me share some from this month. The first one relates to "P" codes. A technician called asking me why the car failed when the code, P07xx, is a transmission code--not an emissions code. I explained how the PASS criteria is written. If the MIL is illuminated, and there is an active "P" code, the car will FAIL. Know that if you come up with a "P" code, IT IS EMISSIONS RELATED AND NEEDS TO BE FIXED.

The second call relates to a CAN bus vehicle that failed the test with multiple "U" codes. The technician who diagnosed the vehicle said the Anti-Lock Brake Module (ABM) was shorting the bus and causing a "no-communication" failure. He stated that this could not possibly be an emissions failure. I responded by telling him that while the ABM is not an emissions failure, if we cannot communicate with the vehicle because of a bad ABM, it needs to be replaced before the vehicle can be retested and receive a PASS. Know that not all emission failures are straight forward. Sometimes they get a little weird and sometimes even pretty bizarre.

Just as a reminder, you should know that at the end of every quarter, shop owners are responsible for logging on to the DASHBOARD website and verifying all of their grade details. If there is a discrepancy (possible error's when calculating a shop's grade), shop owners need to call the Illinois Vehicle Emissions Outreach Program at (847) 758-3434. Unfortunately, if you are calling after the booklet is printed, it is too late to make changes. Please mark your calendar NOW to check your score on December 31, 2009.

That is all for this month. Please call me if you have any questions at (847) 616-6064. If you have a good question, it may wind up in an article to share with fellow techs and shop owners!

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The Chicago Automotive Networking (C.A.N.) Conference

From: Automotive Service Association of Illinois

ASA is hosting the Chicago Area Networking (C.A.N.) Conference on October 17th and 18th in Rosemont, Illinois. A variety of topics will be covered for both technicians and shop managers.

For for details and registration information, [download the event flyer.](#)

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Dashboard Tip Of The Month

From: the Illinois EPA Repair Industry Outreach Team

Having Problems Viewing Dashboard in IE 8, Try This

In the IE 8 toolbar, click on the small icon that looks like a page broken in half, next to the refresh button (pictured below). This invokes "Compatibility View," which can fix some page rendering issues.

Source: Microsoft



Can't Access The Dashboard?

If your internet is not working and you need to take a vehicle in for a test, just fill out the paper form. The station will do the data entry. But don't forget to check it when you are able to get online again, it's your grade!

Two New Helpful Links

[OBDII Pass, Fail, Reject, Criteria](#)

[Difficult To Set Readiness Monitors](#)

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October, November, December 2009 Seminar Schedule

All Seminars are from 6-10 pm on dates below.

They are sponsored by the Illinois EPA for the repair industry and they are free!

- [2009 Complete Seminar Schedule](#)

Communication Protocol Testing for OBD Failures

This seminar will review proper testing techniques for communication issues with the PCM and various modules as it relates to OBD failures. The communication topology that will be discussed will focus on GM, Ford, and Chrysler systems. This is a "must attend seminar" for serious OBD repair technicians.

ID	Date	Location
K204	Oct. 5, Monday	Morton College
K205	Oct. 8, Thursday	Truman College
K206	Nov. 3, Tuesday	College of DuPage
K207	Dec. 3, Thursday	Oakton Community College

Diagnostic Techniques for OBD Failures

This seminar will focus on the use of OBD scan data, freeze frame, and failure records as a means to a successful OBD repair. The Illinois Dashboard website will also be included in the diagnostic process. The overall goal of this presentation is to emphasize efficiency in testing and repair techniques for OBD failures.

ID	Date	Location
K106	Nov. 2, Monday	Oakton Community College
K107	Nov. 5, Thursday	Prairie State College
K108	Dec. 1, Tuesday	Truman College

Waveform Analysis

The emphasis of this seminar is on real world applications of labsopes and graphing scan tools for driveability diagnostics. Discussion topics will include scope features that aid diagnosis, waveform capture and storage techniques, graphing scan tool and scope analysis case studies, and a live demonstration using PowerPoint to build a case study. Creating repair files using PowerPoint is one of the best ways to build a repair database for later review or for in-shop technician training.

ID	Date	Location
S504	Oct. 15, Thursday	College of DuPage
S505	Nov. 17, Tuesday	Collinsville State of Illinois Complex

OBD Code Repair Using Lab Scopes

This seminar is devoted to helping technicians develop a plan for successfully repairing OBD emission failures using labscope testing strategies. OBD testing will be reviewed and actual failure case studies will be looked at to help understand the test capabilities of scopes and probes. Using computerized information systems and code charts will be discussed to make diagnosing OBD code problems easier.

ID	Date	Location
S103	Oct. 27, Tuesday	Kennedy-King College
S104	Nov. 23, Monday	Morton College
S105	Dec. 8, Tuesday	Universal Technical Institute

OBD Repairs Using Scan Tools

This seminar will show repair technicians the capabilities and enhanced functions of a variety of aftermarket and factory scan tools for system testing and OBD vehicle repair. Emphasis will be placed on bi-directional controls for testing and diagnosis found in many of the scan tools available today. Graphing scan data analysis and testing strategies will be discussed. The goal is to get the most from these tools and shorten diagnostic times. Actual vehicle case studies will be shown to illustrate these points.

ID	Date	Location
S203	Oct. 28, Wednesday	Kennedy-King College
S204	Nov. 24, Tuesday	Morton College
S205	Dec. 9, Wednesday	Universal Technical Institute

Readiness Monitor Challenges

This seminar will address the growing problem of OBD emissions test rejects due to monitor status being “not ready.” The new changes in the testing program will make first retest rejects count against a shop’s grade, so making sure monitors run to completion is critical. Case studies of vehicles with difficult to set monitors will be studied. A strategy for addressing vehicles that won’t run monitors will be discussed along with using scan tools and Mode 6 to help determine a solution to this often challenging problem.

ID	Date	Location
S203	Oct. 28, Wednesday	Kennedy-King College
S406	Nov. 16, Monday	Collinsville State of Illinois Complex

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Articles Needed For eAir Repair

From: the Illinois EPA Repair Industry Outreach Team

We are always looking for short articles of interest for eAir Repair. Many of you have gathered information for successful emissions repairs. It is time to share those tips with your fellow technicians. Please help us all out by writing a brief story (a couple of paragraphs) about your success or fix.

Those tips can be e-mailed to epa.repair.outreach@illinois.gov.

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