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Taiwan Suppliers Join ABPA in Taking Action on Structural Parts

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The Taiwan Auto Body Parts Association (TABPA) said that it is advising its manufacturing members to stop selling and manufacturing non-certified structural parts. TABPA says that the recent Collision Industry Conference (CIC) Technical Presentation that demonstrated differences between a number of aftermarket structural parts and their OEM counterparts illustrated the importance of structural part certification in the aftermarket.

During the week of January 18, 2010 members of the Auto Body Parts Association (ABPA), the Taiwan Auto Body Parts Association (TABPA) and TABPA's consultant, Karen Fierst, conveyed the seriousness of the findings presented at the Collision Industry Conference to the two aftermarket part association Boards. The Board of Directors of both associations independently decided to convey the CIC Technical Presentation findings to their respective members and advise them to stop selling and manufacturing non-certified structural parts.

The CIC presentation, given by Toby Chess, provided a graphic illustration of possible safety concerns that can arise from the use of untested aftermarket parts for the repair of certain structural parts of cars.

"TABPA appreciates the efforts of Mr. Chess, SCRS and CIC in bringing these issues to our attention," said TABPA Chairman Dr. Chiang Hsu, Chief Executive Officer of TYC Group. "The presentation illustrates the importance of product certification. I am confident that our member companies will embrace structural part certification standards."

TABPA consultant, Karen Fierst of KerenOr Consultants said, "As soon as the TABPA Board understood the potential risk to consumers they took immediate action. This is an excellent example of inter-industry collaboration to rectify a potential problem."

According to Dr. Hsu, "TABPA members want to be recognized around the world as the primary source of high quality, aftermarket collision repair parts. Our association and members are prepared to take the necessary steps to achieve that goal."

TABPA is a sub-committee of the Taiwan Transportation Vehicle Manufacturer's Association representing twenty-two Taiwan based companies manufacturing motor vehicle replacement parts for the global market. Member companies produce both OEM and aftermarket parts.



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