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PPG's Green Belt Training Class A Huge Success In Kansas City

On the week of September 13th, over 30 PPG Collision Shop customers converged in Kansas City to attend the PPG Green Belt Lean Process Training program. Within that group were 8 people representing 3 shops from Omaha.



Green Belt Training is a comprehensive 3.5 day training program in the practical application of Lean Six Sigma tailored for collision repair.

Collision shops that have attended Green Belt Training

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Continuing PPG's Green Belt Training Class.

and have applied those practices to their collision businesses have continuously outperformed their market competitors. If you can deliver work at a high quality, faster, and with far fewer unforeseen "production killers", the shop increases their profitability, CSI, and improves their relationship with insurers.

Of the Omaha shops that attended this month's Green Belt Class, all brought technicians, not just managers. This is where most other programs fail. If the entire team isn't on the same path, the program will never work. The shops productions technicians are the key component to making change work. After attending the Green Belt Program, even the biggest doubter in the building will become the shops Green Belt Champion. When this happens, it's like magic.

If you are interested in seeing what Lean Processes can look like in your shop, call your supplying D&R location. We have a simple Power Point Presentation that will start you down the path to a smoother operating collision shop while reaping higher profits.

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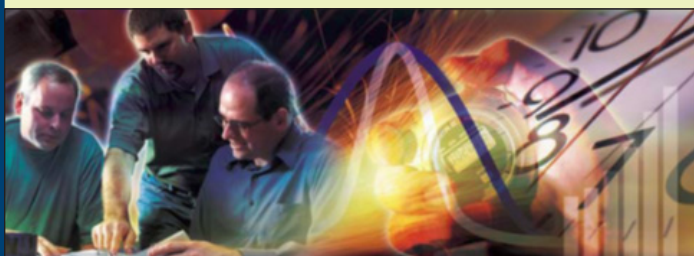
Words To Live By

Leadership: The art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it. - **Dwight D. Eisenhower**

Mark the dates October 26th & 27th & plan on attending PPG's Leadership & Leading Change program scheduled to be held in the Omaha/Lincoln market.

Leadership & Leading Change

Knowing what to change can be easy. Implementing and Sustaining change is where most managers/owners fail. The collision centers that can embrace and foster change in a positive light will be best prepared to improve and grow to create a long term bright future. Shops that are stuck in the past will be passed by.



PPG's Leadership & Leading change course provides owners and managers the opportunity to assess and strengthen their leadership skills and learn proven approaches to leading change throughout their organization. Topics discussed include the most common reasons why companies fail at change, proven approaches to causing sustainable change, and how to implement a plan for change.

If you are a shop owner or manager that has ideas and goals that will require "Change", contact your supplying D&R Auto Paint and Supply location and ask how you can register for this program.

Number of Automobile Accidents Down 5.3 Percent in 2009

According to details released in the latest Traffic Safety Facts publication issued by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) there were approximately 5,505,000 motor vehicle crashes in 2009, a decline of more than 300,000 police reported crashes from 2008.

U.S. Transportation Secretary Ray LaHood released updated 2009 fatality and injury data showing that high-

Articles continues on the next column.

Continuing Number of Automobile Accidents Down 5.3 Percent in 2009

way deaths fell to 33,808 for the year, the lowest number since 1950. The record-breaking decline in traffic fatalities and total number of crashes occurred even while estimated vehicle miles traveled in 2009 increased by 0.2 percent over 2008 levels.

The report shows that the total number of fatal crashes dropped by 3,375 since 2008, a 9.9 percent decline while the total number of injury crashes dropped by 113,000 (6.9%) and there were 189,000 less property damage-only crashes (down 4.6 percent) compared to 2008 levels. According to NHTSA's National Center for Statistics and Analysis, the estimated declines in non-fatal, injury, and property-damage-only crashes are all statistically significant.

Passenger car occupant fatalities declined for the seventh consecutive year, and are at their lowest level since NHTSA began collecting fatality crash data in 1975. The estimated number of people injured in crashes is enjoying its tenth consecutive yearly reduction and is at its lowest point since NHTSA began estimating injury data in 1988.

"Today's numbers reflect the tangible benefits of record seat belt use and strong anti-drunk driving enforcement campaigns," said NHTSA Administrator David Strickland.

Automakers credited cutting-edge auto technologies as one of the primary factors in the record low traffic fatality rate.

Number of Crashes, by Crash Type

Crash Type	2008	2009	Change	% Change
Fatal Crashes	34,172	30,797	-3,375	-9.9%
Non-Fatal Crashes	5,777,000	5,474,000	-303,000	-5.2%
Injury Crashes	1,630,000	1,517,000	-113,000	-6.9%
Property-Damage-Only Crashes	4,146,000	3,957,000	-189,000	-4.6%
Total Crashes	5,811,000	5,505,000	-306,000	-5.3%

Source: FARS 2008 (Final), 2009 (ARF)
Changes in non-fatal, injury, and property-damage-only crash estimates shown in **bold** are statistically significant.

"What we are seeing now is the payoff from years of manufacturer-driven safety improvements, like anti-lock brakes and electronic stability control systems coupled with high visibility enforcement safety efforts by law enforcement," said Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers President and CEO Dave McCurdy.