



Service Specialists Association

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Service Specialists Association

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WINTER
2021

President's Letter

Dear SSA Members,

What a year it has been! We have faced our second year of this Covid-19 pandemic. I hope it all becomes a distant memory sooner than later.

In 2014, I jumped into this industry (along with my business partner, Jeannie Lay) and became a co-owner of Allied Spring & Suspension with two existing locations in New York State. Then in 2016, we found ourselves opening a third location right in our hometown of Rochester, NY. It was an exciting and crazy time! We have done well (I think).

From day 1, the SSA has been a big brother. We have made long-lasting friendships and strategic alliances with some outstanding individuals and businesses in our industry. To spend time with people from all over the country, that do exactly what we do, is an amazing thing! Money can never buy the combined knowledge and wisdom of our members. I really cannot imagine being in this industry without the support. I love having so many of you just a phone call away!

There has always been and continues to be a sincere effort in bringing us together. It was truly wonderful to be able to gather again at our latest SSA Convention in Savannah, Georgia. I have huge



Jodie Cresswell
President

gratitude for this!

As we approach the holiday season, I truly want to thank you for being a member and for providing me with this opportunity to help lead such a wonderful group of people! I look forward to building additional relationships and getting to know even more of you!

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the SSA, I wish you all the safest and most peaceful holiday season! May it bring you good memories and lots of Joy!

Most sincerely,
Jodie Cresswell

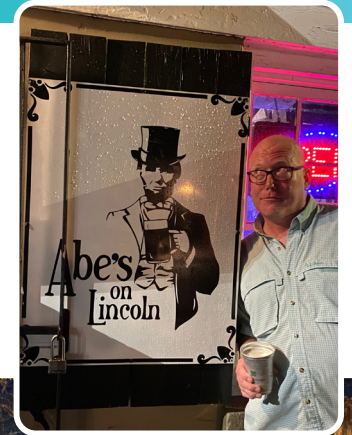
BUY AND SELL!



Are you looking for some used shop equipment or unique parts for an old vehicle? Are you looking to get rid of some extra equipment for cash or do you have old parts you would like to list for sale? Or maybe you desperately need a part that is currently unavailable to you? The SSA wants to help with this by creating an on-line forum for these types of requests. You will be able to see what is "for sale" and list items you wish "to sell." Soon, you will receive an email asking if you want to join the forum. You can choose to opt-in or opt-out. This is a great way to share information and opportunities with one another.

SSA CONVENTION 2021 - SAVANNAH, GA

In October, our SSA family gathered at the Marriott Riverfront Savannah for our annual SSA convention. The pandemic would not prevent our members from reuniting this year, and it was great to reconnect with good friends. In addition to presentations from our supplier members & lively discussions regarding our industry, we took in some of the Savannah sights, including a rousing golf outing at the Club at Savannah Harbor, a Creepy Crawl pub tour visiting some of Savannah's haunted hotspots, and a riverboat luncheon and cruise along the Savannah River. There was plenty of good food and good camaraderie among our members and guests. We look forward to gathering again in Coral Gables for next year's SSA convention!



A Special Congratulations to Annik Smith from The Universal Group for her induction into the L&H Threaded Rods International U-Bolt Hall of Fame!

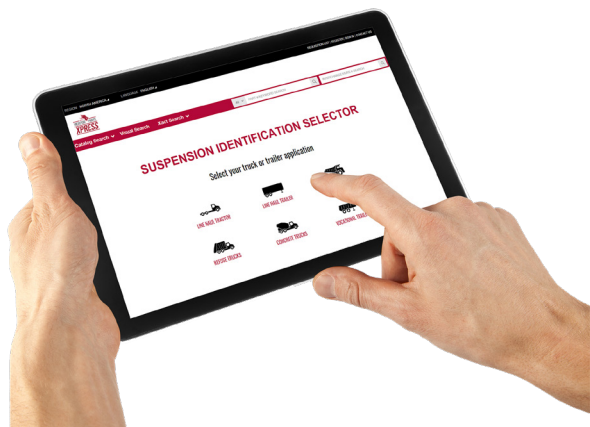
PRODUCT SPOTLIGHT

MERITOR IMPROVES SUSPENSION IDENTIFICATION

Meritor has expanded its suspension identification functionality with our Xact Search tool on MeritorPartsXpress.com, which offers a digital point and click version of our Euclid Suspension Field Manual. With the various types of suspensions and suspension components on the road, there can be some confusion when it comes to finding the part that is right for you. With the Suspension Identification tool on MeritorPartsXpress.com, users are provided visual clues to narrow down their search in just a few clicks.

The first step is selecting your application. From there, you will see a series of images for the most popular suspensions. Each suspension has identifiable features that will help you match it with the suspension on your truck or trailer. Once you have selected your suspension, the tool will lead you to a detailed exploded parts view in Visual Search – a separate interactive search tool on MeritorPartsXpress.com. Within Visual search, you can click or select the individual components to find what you are looking for.

Customers can not only search more easily for parts, but they also have access to an extensive Euclid OE-equivalent suspension parts portfolio. Backed by our nationwide warranty plus our national support network, Euclid high-quality, all-makes suspension parts ensure that our customers get quality replacement parts at an affordable price. With a comprehensive suspension parts portfolio, you can trust Euclid to provide your business with the parts needed to maintain uptime and keep your vehicles running on the road. Euclid suspension parts are designed and engineered for trusted performance and offered exclusively to independent distributors and their customers. To learn more or find the exact suspension parts you need, visit MeritorPartsXpress.com today.



OSHA SAFETY TIP



COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing ETS

On November 12, 2021, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit granted a motion to stay OSHA's COVID-19 Vaccination and Testing Emergency Temporary Standard, published on November 5, 2021 (86 Fed. Reg. 61402) ("ETS"). The court ordered that OSHA "take no steps to implement or enforce" the ETS "until further court order." While OSHA remains confident in its authority to protect workers in emergencies, OSHA has suspended activities related to the implementation and enforcement of the ETS pending future developments in the litigation.

The ETS on Vaccination and Testing was officially filed in the Office of the Federal Register on November 4, 2021, and it became effective when it was published on November 5, 2021. Written comments on any aspect of the ETS must be submitted by December 6, 2021 in Docket number OSHA-2021-0007. Written comments on the information collection determination as described in V.K. of the ETS preamble [2021-23643] must be submitted by January 4, 2022 in Docket number OSHA-2021-0008.

Learn more at
www.osha.gov/coronavirus/ets2

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA

October 11th - 13th

Block Rates Available: Oct.10th to Oct 15th



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After a year off, Heavy Duty Aftermarket Week is back live and in person in Grapevine Texas January 22nd through 27th at the Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center. HDAW is the industry's largest gathering of heavy-duty aftermarket professionals in the industry. HDAW '22 will host heavy-duty aftermarket professionals for four days of education, workshops, one-on-one business meetings, a Service Opportunities Learning Day, one-on-one business meetings, product training, valuable networking opportunities with top industry executives of all major heavy-duty suppliers, and a product expo that offers an exclusive view of the latest products in the heavy-duty aftermarket. HDAW's industry-leading education offerings serve as a focal point to guide the independent heavy-duty aftermarket industry through its ever-evolving landscape. Education sessions planned for the 2022 event will address logistics, freight and other supply chain issues, offer strategies for retaining quality employees, and help to accelerate attendees' e-commerce strategy in a changing market.

Visit www.hdaw.org for more information and to register. While you are there, be sure to look for us behind the SSA table at booth 118.

