

# Press Release

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **New Connecticut Collision Repair Association Affiliates with SCRS**

*Rocky Hill, CT, July 11, 2008* — A group of collision repair professionals have recently formed a new non-profit association in Connecticut. The new association is called: Connecticut Collision Repair Specialists (CCRS). In addition, the organization has stepped forward to become a state affiliate of the Society of Collision Repair Specialists (SCRS) national organization.

The brand new state association is committed to industry unity, but not at the expense of collision repairer rights. While this may seem a difficult path to negotiate, the CCRS is committed to making it a reality in their state, which has witnessed a flurry of legislative activity in regard to such issues as labor rates, steering and direct repair programs.

“Finding common ground with insurers and other industry segments creates a positive and productive business climate for all involved parties,” states Angelo Campanella, CCRS Chairman. It’s important for the consumer to see this kind of cooperation because it leads to a favorable perception of the industry and experience, something we’re all striving for.” SCRS Executive Director Dan Risley commented, “CCRS is committed to identifying and collaborating with other industry segments to address the concerns of their membership. The importance of working together to serve our mutual customer has never been more relevant given the current business climate.”

The Connecticut association also believes strongly in education and raising the professionalism of the industry, a fact reflected by its pre-requisite for prospective members: they must, within a year of joining, meet the definition of a Class A collision repair center as defined by the Collision Industry Conference (CIC).

Because these principles match up to those subscribed to and practiced by SCRS, it should be no surprise that one of the first items on the CCRS agenda was to become an affiliate association.

“In addition to providing us an important national presence, SCRS sets the bar very high in regard to professionalism and their commitment to continuously improving the industry. They have an established credibility that only comes from decades of commitment,” adds Campanella. “Since we’re

such a young association, we'll inevitably be judged by the company we keep, and SCRS is the best possible company.”

SCRS salutes the energy and drive of the CCRS as they continue to grow their association, and look forward to taking part in their long-term success. “As collision repair professionals we’ve seen time and again that divisiveness rarely, if ever, leads to productive, sustainable success,” says SCRS Chairman Gary Wano. “That makes CCRS’ passion for inter-industry teamwork refreshing and welcomed. They embody the philosophy that ‘Working Together Is the Most Important Work We Do’.”

Through its direct members and 34 affiliate associations, SCRS is comprised of 6,000 collision repair businesses and 58,500 specialized professionals who work with consumers and insurance companies to repair collision-damaged vehicles.

For more information regarding the Connecticut Collision Repair Specialists or to inquire about membership, contact CCRS Executive Director Lisa Siembab at (860) 778-6967 or e-mail [lisasiembab@prodigy.net](mailto:lisasiembab@prodigy.net).

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