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Auto Glass Expo @ NACE to Debut at NACE 2006

Dallas, Texas — The International Autobody Congress & Exposition (NACE) announced the creation of the Auto Glass Expo @ NACE (AGX), a new national auto glass event within the NACE Exposition. The *Auto Glass Repair & Replacement Magazine* (AGRR) is an endorser of the AGX and will also serve as the official magazine for the event. In an effort to broaden their outreach to the body shop community, the Independent Glass Association (IGA) and the National Windshield Repair Association (NWRA) are also endorsing this event.

"Some of the leading auto glass suppliers have exhibited at NACE for a number of years where they encountered many of their regular customers in addition to many who use auto glass replacement services. Those suppliers have taken it upon themselves to inquire about having an auto glass pavilion at NACE where they can invite the whole auto glass industry to attend. We have responded favorably. As a result we are creating a special area and related activities for auto glass repair and replacement," stated Ron Pyle, ASA President and Chief Staff Executive.

Ray Asbery, President of Equalizer Industries, Inc., who was instrumental in the development of the AGX, said, "We have been given an exciting means of helping the auto glass industry have a genuine, well-attended, and focused NATIONAL show again. At NACE, attendees from our industry can talk to all the vendors, attend sessions on the latest trends in auto glass, watch demos where the most up-to-date technologies are demonstrated, and hear how to solve problems they will encounter in their daily work. Contained within the NACE show, they can network with other automotive industries that share common ground with the auto glass industry."

The AGX has been enthusiastically received, has sold-out quickly and required expanding in order to accommodate the demand for space. To-date, the AGX exhibitors include: ADCO, Aegis Tools International, AGRR Magazine, AGRSS, A.N. Designs, Inc., AutoGlasSolutions, Auto Glass Journal, BTB Auto Glass & Body Shop Tools, Burco, CPI, C.R. Laurence, Dow Automotive, eDirectGlass, EFTEC Aftermarket, Equalizer Industries, EXTRACTOR – Crystal Glass Canada, GlasWeld, Gold Glass Group, Independent Glass Association, Mitchell/NAGS, National Windshield Repair Association, PPG, Quest Software, Shat-R-Proof, and Sommer & Maca.

Joseph Gold, represents the fourth generation in a family rich in auto glass tradition and innovation, and is one of the owners of Gold Glass Group Corporation. Mr. Gold states, "I think in recent years, a lot of us have asked ourselves exactly what business we are in. Many of us think of ourselves as being in the glass business -- this is true. As the glass business has expanded to include the automobile repair business, an alignment with NACE makes sense."

An important component to AGX, and a very high-energy element, will be the Auto Glass Technician Competition (the "Olympics" of auto glass replacement). This competition will include daily heats where glass installation technicians compete against each other for the title of Best Glass Technician in the World. The three-day competition brings together the best glass technicians from all over the country to compete. The competition is judged by known industry experts in accordance with the AGRSS Standard. With a customer interaction, as well as a practical competition, this will be a very exciting addition to the AGX and the NACE 2006 Exposition.

"We are very excited to be part of this effort to help all those who perform or purchase AGRR services understand how important safety is," says Deb Levy, publisher of AGRR magazine, the largest magazine for the auto glass industry in the world.

In conjunction, the Auto Glass Replacement Safety Standards Council (AGRSS) will be holding its annual meeting during NACE 2006 at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center.

NACE 2006 will be held Nov. 1-4, at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. The educational Conference will run from Nov. 1-4 (Wednesday-Saturday), and the Exposition will take place Nov. 2-4 (Thursday-Saturday). The event will again be held during Automotive Aftermarket Industry Week (AAIW), taking place that same week in Las Vegas. The AGRSS Conference will be held Nov. 1-2, the Olympics, Nov. 1-3, and the NWRA Convention, Nov. 3-4 – all being held at the Mandalay Bay Convention Center.

NACE, the world's collision repair event, annually draws an attendance of approximately 30,000 from around the globe. It features a variety of educational sessions addressing the needs of all industry segments, as well as an Exposition with approximately 500 exhibiting companies. To exhibit at NACE 2006, call toll-free (888) 529-1641 or (972) 536-6444. For more NACE information, visit the NACE website at www.NACEexpo.com. Online registration and housing is also available via the NACE website.

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