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Independent Glass Association Announces New Management

The board of directors of the Independent Glass Association has announced that Michael P. Russo, formerly controller for Thru-Way Autoglass Distributors Inc. in Syracuse, N.Y., and former member of the Board of Directors of the Independent Glass Association, has been appointed executive director, effective May 1, 2010.

“The board began an extensive search upon the resignation of Key Communications last month,” said IGA president David Zoldowski. “We searched far and wide and found the best candidate close to home. Mike has been in the auto glass business and, until recently, served on the IGA board of directors. He is the perfect person to manage the association going forward.”

Russo is excited about this opportunity to work with the board of directors, the membership and the entire AGRR community to expand the influence of the Independent Glass Association in promoting fair and free competition.

“First I want to thank Key Communications for an outstanding job on behalf of the IGA. During Key’s tenure, IGA became the only association strictly devoted to auto glass, inaugurated an outstanding certification program, began an anti-steering program complete with data collection, increased its legislative work and retired all its financial debt,” said Russo.

“Since becoming a participant in the auto glass repair and replacement industry, I learned rather quickly that the current practices in the industry are not characteristic of a free marketplace. Independents have not been failing at epidemic proportions because of poor business judgment. It will be my intent to open the association up and make it even more responsive to the needs of its membership. If you want to talk, I want to listen,” said Russo. “I look forward to forging new relationships with our trading partners to improve the business climate for everyone. If we are to be successful in securing equal opportunity for all of the players in the industry, we have to work together. The best opportunity for all parties to come together will be in May at the IGA Spring Conference in Ft. Myers. For information, please refer to the website, www.iga.org. I look forward to seeing you all there.”

The transition will begin April 12 and will be completed by April 30. Key will continue to manage IGA’s annual conference and convention for the association.

The IGA is the only association dedicated to the needs of the independent glass companies in North America. Its members are also dedicated to the professional and ethical installation of glass in a safe and

proper manner. IGA members are located in all 50 states and ten countries. For more information, visit www.iga.org.