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AAAS Collaborates with Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium On Industry Scholarships

Research Triangle Park, N.C. – The Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS) Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce that the Automotive Aftermarket Association Southeast (Alabama, Georgia, and Mississippi) will be collaborating in creating an online scholarship resource for students planning to pursue careers in the automotive aftermarket.

This industry association cooperation will allow students interested in aftermarket careers to submit one application for 2008 scholarships online at www.automotivescholarships.org and receive consideration for the following scholarships: Automotive Aftermarket Association of the Carolinas and Tennessee (AAACT), Automotive Parts & Service Alliance (APSA), the Breslow Foundation, California/Nevada Automotive Wholesalers' Association (CAWA) and Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS). Applicants must meet the individual scholarship qualifications to be considered.

“This is a valuable resource for students seeking careers in the automotive industry. We are pleased to have APSA of Illinois as part of this important effort to promote this investment in our industry’s future,” said Pete Kornafel, chairman of the GAAS Scholarship Selection Committee.

“We appreciate very much the efforts of Mr. Kornafel and the GAAS organization in offering this great opportunity for intra-industry cooperation and communication. Those interested in furthering their education and looking to a career in the automotive industry, along with the industry itself, will be the real winners here,” said Randal Ward, CAE, president of AAAS. “I know that is the number one objective of each individual organization involved in this effort. Speaking for Foundation Chairman Jimmy Edwards of A-1 Auto Parts in Philadelphia, Mass., I can say we are very happy and proud to be part of this team,” he added.

The GAAS scholarship program awarded 142 scholarships in 2007. Including this year's awards, GAAS has presented more than 1,300 scholarships and more than \$1.3 million since it was formed. Details about the GAAS scholarship program are available at **www.automotivescholarships.com**.

Over its 13-year history, the annual Global Automotive Aftermarket Symposium (GAAS) has become the premier industry conference for senior-level aftermarket executives. All of the net proceeds from the event go toward funding industry scholarships. The 2008 event is slated for Tuesday, May 20, and Wednesday, May 21, at the Hyatt Regency O'Hare, Chicago. Speakers and registration details will be available soon at **www.globalsymposium.org**.

The GAAS program is a joint professional education effort of the Alliance of State Automotive Aftermarket Associations (ASAAA), Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA), Automotive Aftermarket Suppliers Association (AASA), Automotive Industries Association (AIA) of Canada, Automotive Parts Remanufacturers Association (APRA), Automotive Service Association (ASA), Automotive Warehouse Distributors Association (AWDA), Motorist Assurance Program (MAP), Motor & Equipment Manufacturers Association (MEMA), Specialty Equipment Market Association (SEMA), Tire Industry Association (TIA) and University of the Aftermarket.

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