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In Need of a Tune-Up?

***CARSability* Set to Launch Web-based Skills Assessment Designed to Identify Training Gaps for Over 34 Automotive Related Occupations**

(Ottawa, ON) September 20 – The Canadian Automotive Repair and Service (CARS) Council has developed *CARSability*, a web-based skills assessment tool targeted to service managers in the automotive industry.

CARSability is designed to identify training gaps for participants in 34 automotive related occupations and provides immediate and accurate assessments of the true skill levels of personnel.

“We’ve collaborated with over one-thousand industry professionals to develop the industry standards and skill assessment questions for 34 key automotive occupations,” said Jennifer Steeves, Executive Director of CARS Council. “These standards provide the blueprint for the assessment questions by identifying the level of skills and the job requirements necessary to succeed in each occupation,” she added.

The assessment allows shop owners and automotive service managers to readily assess the skills of new hires and to define and track skills development opportunities for existing employees, while providing employees the opportunity to develop personal training plans in order to close skill gaps.

“This program is designed to help shop owners and service managers ensure the best return on their training investment dollar. By precisely identifying skills gaps and training needs, the implementation of this assessment will help shop owners and managers to hire, manage and train smarter, and will also enhance employee retention,” she added.

The *CARSability* web-based skills assessment will officially launch on November 23rd, 2007 at AXIS 2007 (Aftermarket Exchange Industry Symposium) in Toronto. For more information on *CARSability*, please visit www.carsability.ca.

About Canadian Automotive Repair Service (CARS) Council

As Canada’s leader in human resource development and training for the motive power repair and service industry, the Canadian Automotive Repair and Service (CARS) Council addresses the needs of one of the largest and most important components of the Canadian labour market, an industry which employs some 254,000 Canadians

CARS brings together government, business, and educational stakeholders to share ideas, concerns and perspectives about workforce issues and to develop proactive training and professional development initiatives for the motive power repair and service industry.

CARS activities and strategic direction as a national, not-for-profit sector council are driven by the industry’s need for proactive programs and projects that increase workforce skill levels and industry productivity.

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