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Fleet Guardian, LLC

Press Release

Union Township Man Honored in Automotive Hall of Fame.

Bridgewater, March 1, 2006: Damon Russell originally set out to test his knowledge for self-improvement reasons. As co-owner of Fleet Guardian, LLC, a small truck repair shop in Bridgewater, he has many commercial vehicles coming thru his shop. The last thing his clients want is for him to be guessing at repairs. He decided to test his own skills through the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (ASE), the voluntary testing group for the automotive repair industry.

"I took the first tests to see if I was really qualified to be doing my job. Who knew I'd get this far?"

Once he passed the first round of tests, he became a certified **MASTER Automotive Technician**, a rewarding accomplishment achieved by less than 97,000 repair technicians nationwide. Enthusiastic about the results, he tested further and became a certified **MASTER Truck Technician**, bringing his ranking to one of less than 4,600 nationwide.

"I was pretty happy to see I measured up in general repair...but my customers bring me all sorts of things to fix. Like generators, tow-behind equipment, drill rigs...whatever they use in their business. I decided to keep testing myself in less common areas of knowledge because I tell everyone I can fix anything with wheels...and if it's doesn't have wheels, we can put them on."

Once he decided to go as far as he could, he tested and became a certified **MASTER Machinist**, a **MASTER Collision Technician**, and a **MASTER Truck Equipment Technician**. On a roll, he then became certified on the 2 very difficult advanced tests **Advanced Gas Engine Diagnostics (L1)** and **Advanced Diesel Engine Diagnostics (L2)** of which there are only 3,298 technicians qualified for in the nation.

Based upon his numerous MASTER ASE certifications, he was honored as a **WORLD CLASS TECHNICIAN** by The Automotive Aftermarket Industry Association (AAIA), an industry group that seeks to reward high personal achievement.

The AAIA presented Mr. Russell with the honor of listing him in the Automotive Hall of Fame in Dearborn, Michigan.

"I was blown away. I had never studied for any of these tests. I believe you should be tested on what you know, not what you studied the night before. I did not realize the significance of my achievement until I received notification by AAIA. I almost fell over. Maybe I did fall over...I don't remember...I was so happy"

Mr. Russell, not being satisfied with that great achievement, has gone on to become a **MASTER ASE School Bus Technician**, in addition to numerous other certifications.

What does the future hold for Mr. Russell? Well, along with his wife Kathy, he has rescued several farm animals and plans to build a bigger barn on his Union Township property to house them. Who knows...is there a "Barn Builder Hall of Fame"?

For Release March 1, 2006

Mr. Russell can be found at Fleet Guardian, LLC. 732-560-9401

ASE:

http://www.ase.com/Content/NavigationMenu/ASE_Resource_Center1/About_ASE2/ASE_Scoreboard/ASE_Scoreboard.htm

AAIA:

<http://www.aftermarket.org/Home.asp>

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