

January/February 2022

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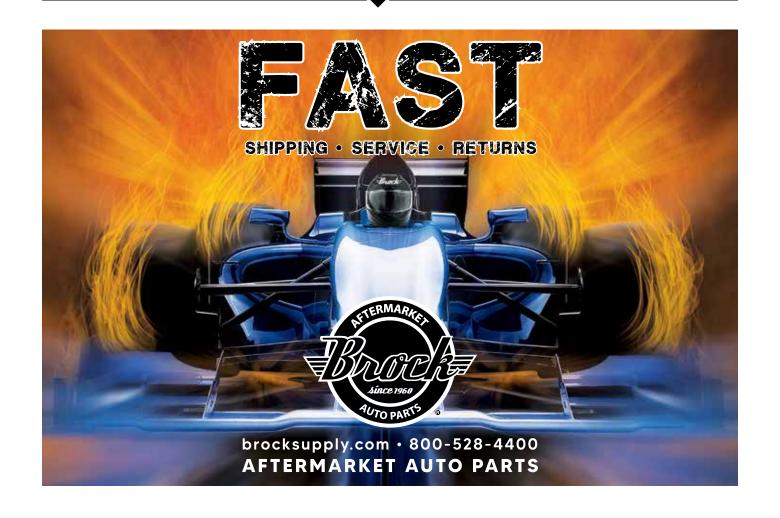


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Articles may be edited for length and format.

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President's Perspective

By Frank Mistretta, ATRI President

Happy new year everybody. If you're as busy as I am, you are pretty busy! I have only been the ATRI President for a couple months now and am ready to tackle the agenda we have set for the future of ATRI. Illinois auto recyclers are facing some up-and-coming changes to the IL Vehicle Code and It's about time, but like everything else, time these days is an issue. This pandemic has caused so many set-backs. Not just in our industry, but everywhere and I will be glad when it is all behind us. It's great that we as auto recyclers seem to be so busy and thriving, but we also are facing the challenges of keeping help and finding good help.

We have been hearing that the Secretary of State's office has been outperforming audits. A lot of us are IL Green Car Members so it does give us some peace of mind for sure, but just remember to keep up on the better practice standards as you know them. If you are not an IL Green Car Member it may be something you will want to look into for the future of your business. If you are not yet a member of ATRI, and want to become one, call Michelle at the ATRI office and she will get you all set up.

A big thank you to those of you who have renewed for 2022. There are a lot of yards here in IL that need to join the association and reap the many benefits it has to offer. For questions feel free to give the ATRI office a call. In this new year we hope to see more educational forums take place so watch your email for information. Here's to a positive and prosperous new year!

Thank you, Frank Mistretta, ATRI President Aero Auto Parts



Welcome New ATRI Members

New Direct Member:

Pop's Auto Parts

7828 W. Lincoln Hwy Frankfort, IL 60423 815/409-1475 popsparts21@gmail.com

contact: Todd Rodeghero

New Associate Member: Cat Factory LLC

4041 W Albany St Unit 1 McHenry, IL 60050 Phone 815/482-9692 Contact: Chris Richardson



Executive's Viewpoint

By Michelle Lechner, Executive Director

As the beginning of the year 2022 begins, actually Jan 4, 2022, ATRI is already meeting with the Secretary of States office to discuss enforcement of non-regulated buyers, and the issue with catalytic converter theft. In the IL Vehicle Code there are clearly laws that prohibit someone without a license to broker parts and/or sell catalytic convertors. We want these laws to be enforced and those out there to be held in compliance just like you who are dotting your I's and crossing your T's. Our meeting went well, in attendance was the Secretary of State's legal team, two SOS Captains, our lobbyist and ATRI. We feel hopeful our message was clear and maybe something may get done that addresses these two issues. With Covid going on, and cases ramping up again, slows everything down. ATRI has been very instrumental in making some of the ever-needed changes to the IL Vehicle Code. Remember the \$10 junk title fee? It's gone! If you make a complaint against an unregulated buyer and fax to the Secretary of State's office, please send it along to me as well. We have other legislation that will be introduced later in the year. I am not sure if there will be a lobby day as Covid continues to soar.

ATRI is still working on getting a seminar set up on Hybrid/Electric Cars. This is going to be a subject you will all need to learn about for the future of your business. We may even have one in the North and the South to accommodate everyone. So many new ways to do things with this new normal as we know it. Since you all are considered essential workers, you would think this would be easier because you have been following these guide lines for a while now, but instead maybe harder with finding and keeping good employees, which I know has been an issue in all business. Prices are soaring all over from food, gas, electricity and even hairdressers have raised their prices. How much longer will

this go on? The good news is I hear from most of you that business is thriving and that you are busy. Again, with this everchanging industry we will keep you updated and informed on the latest news as we get it.

Now, more than ever is a good reason to be part of this association. Because of this new normal we are here for you when needed. It could be Covid related, SOS related or a pleather of the many issues that could plague our industry. These days it's hard to say, so rest assured we are the watch dog for you.

Thank you to those of you who have paid your dues for 2022. If you haven't done so, please take a minute and knock it off your things to do list. If you have lost the renewal form you can find it at www.illinoisautorecyclers.com or email me and I will send you one. I also want to remind you that if you haven't already done so, please send me your logo and a 50-word blurb about your busyness for the website. Car-part.com host our website and I'm told our website get's a lot of hits. Remember, our website and newsletter that goes out 6 times a year is a great way to advertise your business.

Happy New Year to all of you and stay healthy,

Michelle Lechner Executive Director

THE VET Review – 2021 IL Green CAR Medalists Awarded!

By VET Environmental Engineering, LLC Elizabeth Grubb, MS, MPA – Senior Project Manager Sara R. Hamidovic, MS, PE, CHMM – President/CEO

We would like to congratulate all of our Illinois Green Certified Automotive Recycler (IL Green CAR) Medalists. We were finally able to be together in person and present the awards at the ATRI convention in Alton, Illinois at the end of October! It was great to have everyone together for the first time in a while! The event had a great turn out and we had a blast. Today, we wanted to acknowledge all the medalists and the hard work these facilities have put in over the last year.

Each facility listed below has taken significant steps toward environmental and safety compliance, improving their business, and gaining peace of mind. These facilities have managed to keep up with day-to-day business operations, compliance programs, and recordkeeping even during CO-VID-19! Congratulations to all the medalists!

1st Place - Bionic Auto Parts PLATNIUM - 98.1%

We would like to congratulate the Catalano family, Jako, and the Bionic Auto Parts team on earning first place and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2021! They have made a lot of great improvements over the past year. Notably, the team installed a new core storage area. The new racks for cores and freshly paved concrete look phenomenal. It was still under construction when we visited, and we cannot wait to see what the finished product looks like next year! Not only that, but the staff at Bionic are awesome. We always learn something new due to the incredibly knowledgeable and helpful team at Bionic. Keep up the great work guys!

3rd Place (Tie) - Stafford's Auto Parts PLATINUM - 97.62% **MOST VALUABLE**

We would like to congratulate the Stafford's team on earning third place, in a tie with Collins Truck Parts, and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2021! This facility has hands down the cleanest crusher area we have ever seen. There is no debris in sight which is an impressive feat. The staff put down old car seats under the crusher to absorb any residual fluid from the vehicles during the crushing process. What a great way to recycle old, unsellable parts. We can't wait to see what the team is up to next year!

Stafford's Auto Parts is also our MOST VALUABLE yard for 2021! Stafford's is a great example of what an auto recycling facility should be. We can all learn something from their operation. We often see yards treat compliance tasks, such as inspections, as unimportant, easy tasks that are easily pencilwhipped. While this is not the intent of compliance tasks, we see it every year. This is definitely not the case at Stafford's. The team uses inspections as a way to identify issues with the operation and correct the cited issues as soon as possible. This is the way inspections should be used. Thank you to Stafford's for setting a great example for facilities everywhere!

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3rd Place - Collins Truck Parts PLATINUM - 97.62%

We would like to congratulate Brian, Bubba, and the rest of the team at Collins Truck Parts on earning third place, in a tie with Stafford's Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR PLATINUM Medal for 2021! The team at Collins is definitely one of the most organized we see. Nothing is ever misplaced, paperwork is impeccable – five stars all around. Also, Brian made a new lead acid battery storage area out of an old IBC tote with a new sign. It looks fantastic! Thank you for your commitment to the IL Green CAR program! Congrats again and see you next year.

4th Place - BC Automotive GOLD - 94.29%

We would like to congratulate Ron, Steve, and the rest of the BC Automotive team on earning fourth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! These guys never miss a beat on training or inspections in all the years we have worked with them. It really is impressive – especially throughout the trials of the last few years. On top of that, the yard looked the cleanest we have seen it in a long time. It was clear that the BC team had put some dedicated effort into cleaning up the yard this year. Keep up the great work, guys! Congrats!

5th Place - Three B's Used Auto Parts GOLD - 90.95%

We would like to congratulate Steve, Paul, and the staff at Three B's Used Auto Parts on earning fifth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! Paul's commitment to storm water quality is second to none. He never misses the opportunity to collect a storm water sample, provided the weather cooperates! If he doesn't

get his results back or cooler back in a timely fashion, we know we are getting a call from him. He is also very dedicated to trying new things to improve his analytical results. Thank you to Paul and the entire staff at Three B's for setting such a great example!

6th Place - Circus Auto Parts GOLD - 90.48%

We would like to congratulate the Circus Auto Parts team on earning sixth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! We all know that self-service yards are typically messier due to the nature of these operations. However, this is not true for Circus. We were thoroughly impressed when we visited for our audit this summer. The yard was incredibly tidy! Circus also uses fluids storage labels with their facility's logo for containers throughout the yard. We love the branding and pride the facility takes in making things look good - keep up the great work! We can't wait to see you all in 2022.

7th Place - ABC Auto Parts GOLD - 90.00%

We would like to congratulate the ABC Auto Parts team on earning seventh place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! The ABC staff dedicated some significant time over the past year to clean up the large core storage at their facility. In 2020, we dinged them for storing cores outside the dismantling building. But, when we visited this year, all the cores were under a roof and over an impervious surface! We love the time the staff dedicated to make sure cores would not come into

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contact with storm water and properly storing them on racks to reduce slip, trip, and fall hazards outside their buildings. Awesome job! Can't wait to see what you all accomplish in 2022.

8th Place - Route 14 Auto Parts GOLD - 88.1%

We would like to congratulate Steve, Jake, and the entire Route 14 Auto Parts team on earning eighth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! This facility has one of the most impressive storm water quality control measure areas we have seen. This facility has dedicated a significant area to storm water quality control measures at expense of the vehicle storage yard. The team has allowed vegetation to grow in and installed riprap just upgradient of the facility's outfall. We are impressed by the time and resources this facility has dedicated to improving storm water quality and the continued effort and maintenance the team dedicates. Thank you for commitment to storm water quality – you set a great example for yards everywhere!

9th Place - Bill Smith Auto Parts 86.19%

We would like to congratulate Jonathon and the entire Bill Smith Auto Parts team on earning ninth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! When Jonathan took over the business, there was a significant tire and scrap pile along the back portion of the facility. When we visited this year, we were extremely impressed by the effort the team put into cleaning up this area. From conversations with the team, we know they have been shorthanded and extremely busy. Despite those challenges, the team was still able to dedicate energy to cleaning up the yard. We are excited to see your progress in 2022 – keep up the awesome work!

12th Place (Tie) - New Cats Auto Parts GOLD - 85.71%

We would like to congratulate Samantha, Frank, and the whole New Cats Auto Parts team on earning 12th place, in a three-way tie with Rockford Auto Parts and Elgin Super Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021!



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12th Place (Tie) - Rockford Auto Parts GOLD - 85.71%

We would like to congratulate David, Zack, and the entire Rockford Auto Parts team on earning 12th place, in a three-way tie with New Cats Auto Parts and Elgin Super Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! The winter before our visit, the facility was hit by a bad snow-storm. The storm significantly damaged the roof on the facility's back storage area. We were impressed by the team's ability to turn a negative situation into the positive. The team focused on how to use this situation as an opportunity for growth. The staff worked tirelessly to sort, organize, and clear out material from this area in preparation for a new roof. Great job using this event as a way to improve your facility's organization and inventory! We are excited to see the progress in 2022.

12th Place (Tie) - Elgin Super Auto Parts GOLD - 85.71% **MOST IMPROVED**

We would like to congratulate Elgin Super Auto Parts on earning twelfth place, in a three-way tie with New Cats Auto Parts and Rockford Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR Medal for 2021! The team did an awesome job keeping on top of housekeeping despite being incredibly busy. Specifically, the facility's warehouses were exceptionally organized. If you have ever visited Elgin, you know this is not an easy task. The facility has an incredible amount of warehouse space and moves a lot of parts on a daily basis.

Elgin Super Auto Parts is also the MOST IMPROVED facility for 2021! The facility increased their score by a 9.52% since 2020!! Last year, Bryan was out for an extended period of time due to contracting COVID-19 and the facility was generally understaffed across departments. However, in 2021 the team at Elgin Super Auto Parts kicked it into high gear to make sure things could get back to normal. The team really stepped up their game to make sure housekeeping items were completed, recordkeeping was tight, and safety training was conducted regularly. We are so proud of the Elgin team and all the improvement they showed in 2021! Great work.

13th Place - Aero Auto Parts GOLD - 85.24%

We would like to congratulation Andy, Frank, and the team at Aero Auto Parts on earning thirteenth place and an IL Green CAR GOLD Medal for 2021! This facility never fails to impress. The amount of parts, vehicles, and equipment the team fits into a small space is beyond incredible. This year, Andy gave us a tour of a new building down the block that the facility is using as warehouse space. The amount of time, thought, and resources that the team invested in this new space is incredible. The building is impeccably organized and will allow the team to expand their engine and transmission storage. We can't wait to see what else the team has in store for next year!

14th Place Rhodes Auto S/S/S SILVER – 80.95%

We would like to congratulate Rick and the team at Rhodes Auto S/S/S on earning fourteenth place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2021! This facility's battery storage methods are the best in the business! We were thoroughly impressed with the time and care the team took to make sure all batteries were stacked, wrapped, and stored correctly. Additionally, the dismantling area was spotless, not a drop of oil ANYWHERE. This is not a small accomplishment. Way to go, team! We can't wait to see what you accomplish in 2022!

15th Place - I-55 Auto Salvage Silver - 80.48%

We would like to congratulate Dave and the team at I-55 Auto Salvage on earning fifteenth place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2021! We constantly use this facility as an example of facility with an outstanding crusher area. We know we mention it a lot, but how awesome is it that the team spent the time, money, and effort to build a crusher enclosure? This is an amazing step that many yards never take. Additionally, specifically this year, the team did a great job of keeping the vehicle storage yard organized and picking up debris and scrap throughout the yard. We are impressed by the leadership and the example they set for

the staff. You won't find anyone around the yard who isn't willing to walk around and collect scrap for the dumpsters! Keep up the great work.

16th Place - Scotty's Auto Parts Silver - 79.05%

We would like to congratulate Travis and the Scotty's Auto Parts team on earning sixteenth place and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2021! Travis and the team made a great effort this year to keep the facility's scrap piles organized. Travis is even looking into making signs for each pile (aluminum, iron, etc.) to give the yard an even cleaner look. The team has done a great job of keeping up with compliance items – including working on improving the site's storm water analytical results. VET is working with the team to try out different quality control measures to help improve the overall quality of the storm water exiting the site. We applaud Travis and the team's commitment to consistent improvement. Well done, guys!

19th Place (Tie) - Decatur Auto Parts Silver - 75.24%

We would like to congratulate Barb, Caleb, and the entire Decatur Auto Parts team on earning nineteenth place, in a three-way tie with Speedway Auto Parts and Mack's Auto Recycling, and an IL Green CAR SILVER Medal for 2021! Barb and Caleb have made great efforts this year to delegate tasks. They have started assigning inspections, sampling, and other compliance items to individuals on their team. We admire their commitment to delegation as it helps ensure each task is completed. Keep up the good work, team! We are proud of you. See you in 2022!

19th Place (Tie) - Speedway Auto Parts Silver - 75.24%

We would like to congratulate Sean, Liliana, and the Speedway Auto Parts staff on earning nineteenth place, in a three-way tie with Decatur Auto Parts and Speedway Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR Medal for 2021! This facility recently experienced some turnover that inhibited their ability to complete compliance tasks. During our visit this year, we

provided a hands-on storm water sampling overview and walked through how to conduct inspections. Since our visit, the team has buckled down to ensure sampling and inspections are completed every quarter. We are proud of the improvements this team has made and can't wait to see what they do in 2022!

19th Place (Tie) = Mack's Auto Recycling Silver - 75.24%

We would like to congratulate Rob and the team at Mack's Auto Recycling on earning nineteenth place, in a three-way tie with Decatur Auto Parts and Speedway Auto Parts, and an IL Green CAR Medal for 2021! This team is serious about safety. Every single one of their employees was wearing necessary personal protective equipment (PPE) during our audit. We know how hard it can be convincing staff of the importance of wearing PPE such as hard hats, eye protection, and gloves. We are proud of Rob and the leadership team for setting a good example and ensuring the facility is safe at all times. Great work!



The Future of Mobility and Automotive Recycling: An Update on Battery Recycling and Outlook on Clean Energy Trends

By Becky Berube

On Friday, November 12, at the 78th Annual ARA Convention & Expo, in Dallas, TX, we assembled an expert panel to discuss what "electrification" will mean for automotive recycling. Dirk Spiers, Founder of Spiers New Technologies, and Lea Malloy, Head of EV Battery Solutions of Cox Automotive Mobility, now partners, provided an update on what they hope to be a "one stop" solution for battery life cycle management to include both reuse and recycle. Matt Watson, Director of Precious Metals Commodity Management LLC, presented research on energy trends and the heightened critical mineral demands of the future. With differing views on many topics, the panel agreed that future complexities will mean future opportunities for harvesting critical technology materials from end-of-life vehicles.

In short, recyclers are receiving hybrid and electric vehicles with batteries that need environmentally responsible and profitable solutions. ARA electric certification and EV battery handling programs from trainers like Andy Latham of Salvage Wire, provide the crucial first step before the sale; namely, removal of the battery while keeping employees safe. The next decision for the recyclers is where to sell the battery. Remanufacturing and reuse, as a rule, tend to be more profitable than recycling. A decision tree forms depending on the chemistry of the battery, the state of charge, and logistics.



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In a September 1, 2021, press release, Cox Automotive announced as part of the Spiers New Technologies (SNT) acquisition, that "the new independent, third-party battery health diagnostic tool built by SNT and Cox Automotive Mobility is powered by SNT's ALFRED battery decisioning platform. This battery health diagnostic tool is becoming the industry standard used globally to assess the condition and value of EV batteries, filling a void in the new and used EV category. Cox Automotive is currently delivering EV battery health reports as part of its Manheim condition reports at select auction locations."

Automotive recyclers, Daniel Baldwin, of Nevada Pic A Part, wanted to know when the panel thought the battery supply chain would develop profitability and Jim Watson, of ABC Auto Parts, asked if they anticipated automotive recyclers being included in the loop. Malloy answered affirmatively regarding inclusion of recyclers in the end-of-life solution and Spiers emphasized the importance of taking in all chemistries, and not "cherry-picking" loads, to make the business case positive for both the end-to-end solution provider and the recycler. Important to note is that transportation of nickel-based and lithium-based batteries require special handling under the UN Manual of Tests and Criteria, section UN 38.3.

Matt Watson explained to the audience how lithium-based batteries containing higher percentages of cobalt and nickel would make the business case positive for recycling while lithium iron phosphate compositions or LFPs, with less expensive materials, cost money to recycle. For several years, Umicore Battery Recycling in Hoboken, Belgium, has been able to recycle all types and all sizes of Li-ion and NiMH batteries into cobalt, nickel, and copper alloys, with partner company Solvay, in France, that can further reclaim rare earth elements (REE) concentrates found in the pyrometallurgical slag. This operation has primarily served extended manufac-

turer responsibility take-back schemes in Europe and other parts of the world. Today, however, through the efforts of organizations like Call2Recycle, a battery recycling and stewardship program, batteries move through sorting partners and specific chemistry batteries are shipped to appropriate specialty processors. The processors extract useable metals to be used in the manufacturing of new products. Waste products are responsibly and safely disposed of according to Responsible Recycling (R2) and Basel Action Network (BAN) standards. The importance of selling to responsible parties cannot be overstated, as not doing so can become a liability to the recycler that generated and received payment for the scrap.

Watson made his case that there are serious mineral constraints for lithium, nickel, and cobalt, to meet the lithium battery production demand. He differentiated the amount of platinum group metals (PGMs) needed between a base case (minimum) and a zero-emission mandate (maximum) level being reached. The majority of auto catalyst scrap recovery will be in palladium while the demand for palladium will decrease significantly 20 years after the ICE vehicles retire. Higher PGM coatings will be required for hybrid vehicles due to cold starts and higher emission standards, but there is no such need for the metals in fully electric vehicles. Hydrogen vehicles, on the other hand, require large amounts of platinum.

Watson told the audience that copper and silver drive the electrification of everything and will be in high demand. Silver is the best conductor of energy with copper a close second, gold, and expensive third, and aluminum a distant 4th. He stated that 560 metric tons of copper had been mined in the past 1,000 years. We will be needing double that amount for the next 30 years for clean energy and the electrification of everything.

The bottom line is that it is a great time to be in recycling. These critical technology metals will be in demand and auto recyclers will have a continuous supply. The prices for these metals are likely to climb over the long term. Since recycling has a lower carbon footprint than mining, many OEMs get higher credits for using recycled ounces than mined ounces. This is more good news for auto recyclers.

If you have questions about this article or any issue pertaining to the recovery of precious metals and materials from automotive recycling, we, at United Catalyst, are here to help you. United Catalyst Corporation is a processor of scrap catalytic converters that offers global refining services. Our recycling solutions are accurate, scientific, and verifiable to get you the most money. United Catalyst is a processor you can trust.

To subscribe to our daily e-newsletter or get Platinum Group Metal prices texted twice daily to your phone, TEXT 60-Second or Daily to 864-834-2003. You can also call us or email us at sales@unitedcatalystcorporation.com.

Becky Berube serves the recycling community as President of United Catalyst Corporation, is a Member of the Automotive Recycling Association's Educational Programming Committee and is the Immediate Past President of the International Precious Metals Institute.

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