POWERTRAIN INDUSTRY NEWS

GEARS does not endorse new products but makes this new information available to readers. If you have a new product, please email the press release information with applicable digital photo or drawing to **pressrelease@gearsmagazine.com** or send by mail to **GEARS**, 2400 Latigo Avenue, Oxnard, CA 93030.

TRANSTAR HONORED WITH EIGHTH STRAIGHT NEO SUCCESS AWARD

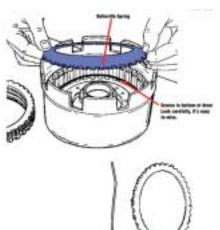
Transtar Industries Inc. (www.transtarindustries.com) has been honored with the 2004 NEO Success award. The award luncheon was held January 23, and hosted by Inside Business Magazine at Executive Caterers in Landerhaven, OH. Inside Business magazine established this award in 1997 to recognize the 90 topperforming companies in Northeast Ohio.

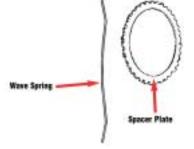
The criteria that must be met for earning this prestigious award include revenue growth, employee growth and profitability over a two-year period. "I'm so honored that Transtar's achievements have not gone unrecognized," said Monte Ahuja, Chairman and CEO of Transtar Industries Inc. "The employees of Transtar work diligently in order to keep us on top. This award is as much theirs as it is mine."

Transtar Industries Inc. is a worldwide distributor of quality transmission parts and services to the motor vehicle replacement parts industry. The company distributes a product line consisting Automatic of and Standard Transmission Rebuild Kits, Torque Converters, Electrical Products, Hard Parts, and other driveline products. Growing for nearly 30 years, Transtar has expanded into more than 25 locations nationwide and services over 60 countries.

NEW WAVE SPRING AND SPACER PLATE KIT FROM ALTO

Reuse your existing drum with Alto's Wave Spring and Spacer Plate Kit - found in the GM 700R4, 4L60 & 4L60E rear wheel drive (89-On). The Belleville spring located in the bottom of the reverse input drum flexes and displaces large amounts of metal. The metal is moved throughout the transmission accelerating the wear of bushings, bearings, planetary pinions, and





the valve body. The Belleville spring may also catch in the groove and cause a delayed reverse engagement.

Alto Products' DrumSaver wave spring and spacer plate kit is designed to match the "apply feel" of the Belleville spring, while in most cases allowing the reuse of the existing drum. Use the easy installation instructions provided in the 057758 kit for best results. For more information on Alto, call 888.USA.ALTO (872-2586) or visit their web site at www.altousa.com

SUPERIOR TRANSMISSION Introduces "3rd Gear DoneRite"

Superior Transmission has introduced the "3rd Gear DoneRite" accumulator heavy duty/performance valve for 700R4 and 4L60E transmissions (available as Superior part #K053). The 3rd Gear DoneRite valve delivers a clean, positive 3rd gear apply, and an even more important quick 3rd gear release to avoid the dragging of the 3-4 clutches on downshift.

Superior's VP Paul Erickson explained that this valve was developed in conjunction with their new 4L60E Performance Transaction Kit, but was determined to be a big plus to any



heavy duty build, and will be available separately. The 3rd Gear DoneRite valve replaces the whole check ball capsule in the servo casting of the case.

For more information on this or any Superior product call 800.451.3115, or visit the web site at www.superior-transmission.com.

PRODUCT ANNOUNCEMENT FROM WORLDWIDE TRANSMISSION GROUP

A never ending challenge for Worldwide Transmission Group is a continuing search for hard to find transmissions. Worldwide Transmission has acquired a sizeable number of ECVT units for the VTEC-E engines. Repair shops that come across Honda Civics ('96 on), now have relief, with a source for low mileage, dyno-tested ECVT units from Worldwide Transmission.

This continuously variable transmission has an almost limitless number of engine-speed-to-vehicle-speed ratios, with step-less acceleration. The ECVT transmission provides less



power loss than a typical automatic transmission, resulting in better efficiency and acceleration. Together with

the VTEC-E engine, greater effectiveness in fuel economy and CO2 emissions for today's driving is realized.

Worldwide Transmission is located in the Northwest suburbs of Chicago, IL. They can be reached by calling 800.822.1436.

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KEYSTONE ACQUIRES TORONTO AUTO PARTS DISTRIBUTOR

Keystone Automotive, Inc. of Pomona, CA, recently announced that it has acquired Quinte Bumper & Fender, Inc., a privately held company based in Ontario, Canada, that distributes automobile collision replacement parts. Quinte recorded sales of approximately \$8.7 million CAD (\$6.5 million USD) during its most recent fiscal year. Terms of the transaction were not disclosed. "This acquisition is a continuation of Keystone's strategy to expand throughout Canada. Quinte has a very good business model, an excellent distribution system that complements our existing Canadian facilities and a strong management team," said Charles J. Hogarty, president and chief executive officer of Keystone.

Hogarty emphasized Keystone's Platinum Plus private label product line, its quality assurance programs, and the increasing acceptance of Keystone's products by the insurance industry, body shops and consumers as important strategic factors that support the company's expansion plans for the Canadian market. Quinte's main hub and distribution center is in Trenton, Canada, with additional distribution centers in Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal.

Keystone Automotive Industries, Inc. distributes its products in the United States primarily to collision repair shops through 126 distribution facilities, located in 38 states, Canada and Mexico. Product lines consist of automotive body parts, bumpers, and remanufactured alloy wheels, as well as paint and other materials used in repairing a damaged vehicle. These products are sold to more than 25,000 repair shops throughout the nation.

ATEC ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF NEW SOLVENT RECYCLER

ATEC Trans-Tool is proud to announce the release of their newest product: the Still Clean Solvent Recycler. Industries wanting to move away from parts-cleaner service companies and eliminate the liability associated with spent cleaning solvents will relish this new technology. The Still Clean solvent recycler is designed to be



small, efficient, and portable; at 29 pounds it's easily moved between several parts cleaners within the same facility. Designed for use with mineral spirits solvent, the unit has a thru-put of over 1gph on standard 115VAC power. The patented technology behind the Still Clean allows it to enter the market with a list price of \$1,595.00; thousands less than its nearest competitor.

For more information contact ATEC Trans-Tool 110 Connelly San Antonio, TX 78203. Call 800.531.5978, or e-mail sales@atec-trans-tool.com.

STEVE DEKKER JOINS TEAM AT LIFE AUTOMOTIVE PRODUCTS

Life Automotive Products, the manufacturers of Smart Blend Synthetics and Trans Flush, has announced the addition of Steve Dekker to their team of transmission professionals. Steve has over 15 years experience within the transmission industry, and previously held the director of sales positions with SPX and Toledo Trans Kit.



is well respected in the transmission industry, and has key relationships at the aftermarket and OEM level," said M a r t y

Coleman, president of Life Automotive Products. He went on to say, "Adding Steve Dekker to our team of professionals as Director of Transmission Sales will allow us to focus and meet the needs of our customers in a more direct manner."

HOT FLUSH DRAWS FLORIDA SHOP AS GIVE-AWAY WINNER

Hot Flush of New Hampton, Iowa recently concluded their nearly yearlong contest when a winning name was pulled from among several thousand entries.

Russell Axsom, owner of Factory Transmissions in Orlando, Florida, was the winner of a top of the line transmission cooler flusher, valued at \$5,000. Russell was very happy to receive the winning news, and indicated this came at a perfect time as his current hot oil flushers were getting quite old. Factory Transmissions was established in 1997



and is part of a five-shop, independent chain serving as a transmission repair and service shop. Pictured is the shop manager, Tanner Bennett. who had many great things to say about the new addition to the shop.

For more information on the Hot Flush, call 800.852.5713. If you would like to talk to Factory Transmissions about their newest addition, call 407.420.9755.

BORGWARNER INTRODUCES HY-VO ZX CHAIN ON GM VEHICLES

General Motors Corporation has awarded BorgWarner Morse TEC a contract for the production of its new Hy-Vo ZX transmission chain technology, for GM's 4T40/45E transmission platform which includes the Cavalier, Sunfire, Malibu, Grand AM, Oldsmobile Alero and Saturn LS vehicles.

"The ZX chain allows GM to design lighter, more compact front-wheel drive transmissions and engines with higher torque output," said Roger Wood, BorgWarner Morse TEC President and General Manager. "In addition, it enables the communication of components between different transmissions - and provides a cost savings."

The ZX chain provides significant strength improvement, and can either

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improve load capacity in higher-powered applications or reduce the packaging space requirement in current applications. This chain technology is also being developed for and applied to some transfer case applications.

BorgWarner Morse TEC is a global leader in the design and manufacture of automotive chain systems and components for engine timing, automatic transmission and four-wheel drive applications. BorgWarner Inc. is a worldwide product leader in highly engineered components and systems for vehicle powertrain applications. The company operates manufacturing and technical facilities in 43 locations in 14 countries. Customers include Ford. DaimlerChrysler, General Motors, Toyota, Honda, Hyundai/Kia, Caterpillar, Navistar International, Renault/Nissan, Peugeot and VW/Audi.

For more information you can access their web site at www.bwauto.com, or call BorgWarner Corporate Communications at 312.322.8500.

ON-LINE TRADE SHOW & 6TH ANNIVERSARY TOP TRANSTEAM NEWS



TransTeam has announced a new on-line trade show at their web site. The popular employment web site for the transmission industry has expanded to include a trade show for the companies that sponsor the site. According to TransTeam founder Art Little, "We are trying to get as close to the trade show experience as possible using the tools of the Internet. We have guest speakers and feature an exhibit hall with live exhibit booths. Exhibit booths expose visitors to the company information, monthly specials, new products and give away drawings just like at the trade shows." http://sponsors.transteam.com/ or call 888.412.TEAM for more information.

TransTeam is also celebrating its

6th year as the National Employment Headquarters for the transmission industry. TransTeam's web site, www.transteam.com, has over a thousand industry employees registered from all over the United States. Art Little, TransTeam founder, said, "After rebuilding the web site nine times, we got it right in 2001. I have pretty much left her alone since then. If it's working, we don't fix it."

This employment web site for the transmission industry has helped employees relocate to shops all over the country. It is a free service to industry employees, and is supported by shop owners who pay a fee to access the employee registrations. Shop owners are able to recruit nationwide when they become Shop Owner Members. Employee Members can easily move through the web site. For more information visit the web site or call Art Little at 888.412.TEAM (8326).

ILI ANNOUNCES ADDITION OF NEW TRANSMISSION ASSEMBLY

LUBEGARD® by International Lubricants, Inc. (ILI) has announced the latest in transmission rebuilding essentials with the addition of Dr. Transmission Assembly Trannv Treatment. "Dr. Tranny products are developed and engineered based on real life building issues," said Pat Burrow, head of product engineering at International Lubricants. "We developed this new transmission assembly treatment based on the demand from professional builders for a safe and non-toxic patented synthetic polymer that would adhere to virtually any surface including metal, rubber, plastics, assisting in fitting parts together quicker. This new assembly treatment provides a very light tacking agent that will remain so at even high ambient temperatures."

Dr. Tranny Transmission Assembly Treatment is designed for use with lip seals, lip seal installing tools, o-rings and d-rings, sealing rings, servo pistons, bonded pistons, metal clad seals, gaskets, valves, and more. Patented polymers stick to virtually any material, yet is mild, non-toxic and user friendly to hands. The clear formula allows identification of possible contamination



and is safe on all seals, gaskets, and rubber components. Compatible with and dissolves in all transmission fluids.

Based in Seattle, Washington, ILI is a leading manufacturer of lubricants for the automotive, industrial and chemical markets, and currently holds more than 100 U.S. and foreign patents. For more information on LUBE-GARD® and DR. TRANNY™ products by International Lubricants, Inc., contact: ILI, 7930 Occidental South, Seattle, WA 98108. Call 800.333.5823 (LUBE) or visit the web site at www.Lubegard.com.

NEW JEEP AW4 (1997) TRANX 2000 Adapter from Zoom

Zoom Technology Inc. of West Berlin, New Jersey, has announced the release of another AW4 Jeep adapter for the TranX 2000. This AW4 adapter is a 6-pin square connector that is utilized in the Jeep Cherokee in model year 1997 only. The adapter does not require a TranX 2000 code update in order to test the solenoids, shift the transmission, or monitor the vehicle's ECU, and can be used with TranX test code 031. Zoom Technology's part number for the new Jeep AW4 adapter



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is 03X206. The TranX 2000 and all of the related adapters are available around the world through your local quality transmission parts distributors. For more information call toll free 800.443.8130, ext. 28, or visit Zoom Technology on the World Wide Web at www.zoom-tech.com.

NEW 2004 CATALOG FROM ACCURATE FEATURES FULL LINE

Accurate's new 2004 catalog features the complete line of quality products offered, including Automatic Transmissions for Domestic and Import applications, Manual transmissions, Transfer Cases, Allison, "BulletProof" series and "Pro Series" Performance transmissions. All are backed by Accurate's nationwide warranty. Accurate Transmissions is an authorized remanufacturer for three OEMs.

Also new for 2004 is the Dallas Distribution Center. Accurate stocks over 300 quality remanufactured transmissions in Dallas for quick delivery to the South and surrounding areas. The Dallas warehouse joins the other Accurate Distribution Centers located in Mundelein IL, Baltimore MD, Atlanta GA, Phoenix AZ, and Stockton CA. Call us today for a quote at 800.428.7726

TWO NEW QUICK-MOUNTING KITS FOR RN REBUILDER STANDS

RN rebuilder now has available two new quick-mounting kits that will fit the RN rebuilder transmission rebuilding stand or can be used in bench mount holders. The Ford and



GM kit (430-FRD) comes with three brackets and inclusions to fit Ford E4OD, 4R100, C6, A4LD, 4R55E, AODE, AX4N and AXODE, as well as GM 350, 400, 4660, 4L80 and 4T60. An adapter is also available for the Allison 1000 and 2000 series. The Chrysler kit (430-CHR) comes as a three bracket set which will cover 413, 604, 670, 904, 500, 727, 618 and 606. Wherever possible, brackets have been made adjustable to fit multi-units.

The RN rebuilder transmission stand can be purchased in a base unit at 24, 32 or 40 inch chassis. Extra attachments available are an oil pan, parts tray and tray holders.

For more information contact Rick Nolan Enterprises, Inc., 5 Cleverdon Blvd. Mount Albert, Ontario L0G 1M0 866.767.5438.

VALVE BODY CLINICS FROM SONNAX, H.E.L.C. & ZOOM

Sonnax, in conjunction with H.E.L.C. and Zoom, has begun a series of valve body clinics around the country this year. A successful series of seminars was held in San Jose, CA, Feb. 13 and 14, and the next Valve Body Clinics I and II will be offered at Showpower in Dallas-Fort Worth in April. Future presentations are scheduled for Chicago and Philadelphia.

Valve Body Clinic I is a five-hour course featuring hand-out materials, presentations and hands-on participation (except at Showpower), focusing on methods required to correctly diagnose and repair valve bodies. The course will cover such topics as understanding and identifying loss of circuit control, basic hydraulics, testing methods, disassembly and inspection, reaming procedures, fixtures and tooling, and before-and-after test comparisons.

Valve Body Clinic II covers all aspects of valve body remanufacturing, from testing and verification equipment and procedures to advanced rebuilding techniques and diagnosis. This will be an eight-hour program.

Cost for Valve Body Clinic I is \$150 (except in Dallas-Fort Worth, where the cost is covered in the Showpower Seminar fee), while the fee for Valve Body Clinic II is \$350.

Clinics will be offered at the fol-

lowing locations:

Dallas-Fort Worth (Showpower): April 3, Valve Body Clinic I (abbreviated version); April 4, Valve Body Clinic II

Chicago: June 11, Valve Body Clinic I; June 12, Valve Body Clinic II. Philadelphia: Sept. 17, Valve Body Clinic I; Sept. 18, Valve Body Clinic II.

Class sizes are limited. For more information or to register, call Sonnax at 800-843-2600 and ask for Seth Baldasaro or Mary Lucia.

NEW DOWNSHIFT VALVE SPRING & VALVE STOP FROM SUPERIOR



Superior Transmission Parts has just announced the release of the replacement spring and valve stop for 4L60E (1996 and up). The OE spring may be found broken upon inspection of the valve body. The original spring may coil bind under high line pressure situations causing its failure. The new Superior spring also comes with an added valve stop sleeve. This sleeve will save the new spring from the same failure. This New Superior Problem Solver will include three new springs and valve stops for each. The new Problem Solver will be available under Part # K054.



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