



Hot Air

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2010

The Automotive Air Conditioning, Electrical and Cooling Technicians of Australasia

Corporate Affairs: secretary@vasa.org.au Phone 07 5591 6274 Fax 07 5591 8172

Administration: treasurer@vasa.org.au 1 Cleg Street, ARTARMON NSW 2064

Forging relationships with the technicians of the future

VASA will soon begin a program to introduce Australia's up and coming technicians to the industry network.

Beginning with Box Hill Institute of TAFE in Melbourne, trainees in auto electrical and air conditioning will be offered free membership of VASA for the duration of their course.

They will receive copies of Hot Air newsletter, access to the VASA website, discounts for conventions and any other event, but not voting rights.

When they've completed their time, they will be invited to join as a full member of VASA.

The program will be extended to a number of TAFE institutes which have shown an interest in VASA as a professional network.



Adrian Lea (right) with VASA vice-president Mark Padwick at the 2008 Wire & Gas Convention

VASA first tested the idea with Adrian Lea, Automotive Training Consultant at the Box Hill Institute and he responded enthusiastically. He told Hot Air that training institutes encouraged direct relationships with industry as an important part of a student's orientation into the trade.

It will be the first time that VASA has actively promoted its network to future technicians. Up till now, it has relied on word of mouth and its conventions to expand its ranks.

The VASA directors see the move as essential to encourage participation in a professional network, not just for social reasons, but to ensure that technicians are exposed to real world issues that they are likely to encounter in their careers.

Awards to TAFE colleges to encourage apprentices are also being considered.

Display your new logo signage with pride



*The Automotive Air-conditioning,
Electrical and Cooling Technicians
of Australasia*
Member

ARCtick Refrigerant Trading Authorisation

No.

When VASA memberships are renewed this year, this new logo signage on an adhesive decal, in the corporate colours of green and gold, will be issued to all members.

It will be bigger than all previous decals - A3 size, so it will stand out on your building windows or doors or on your mobile van.

Members will be asked to replace all existing VASA decals with this one, because all other logos are now out of date.

The VASA logo was simplified

about a year ago, to better reflect the organisation's role on behalf of auto electricians and cooling technicians as well as the air conditioning technicians.

Since the AU number now must be displayed on all signage where air conditioning services are promoted, there is space on this new decal for insertion of the number. Individual adhesive numbers available at any hardware store will be the easiest solution.

New Zealand members simply cut the decal below the word 'Member'.



“The Wire & Gas Convention is a great opportunity to increase your knowledge base (and that of your staff), and socialise with fellow workshops and suppliers from around the country. Become involved in your industry. It’s a

fantastic location with a relaxed atmosphere and as a bonus it is all a tax deduction! Too good to miss out on.” - Ben Marsh, National Sales Manager, Adrad Group.



“The four major benefits of the many I see are:

- Knowledge enhancement through leading industry trainers who are experts in their respective fields thus reducing the technicians’ current repair times, whilst increasing the range of problems they can solve in a time effective manner.
- Industry leading suppliers display the very latest product and equipment available in one convenient location that is designed to increase their productivity in their workplace.
- The convention gives technicians an opportunity to network with like minded technicians to share thoughts on technical problems and solutions.
- Partners have the opportunity to get a better overview and appreciation for the industry or take some well earned R & R - the choice is theirs.” - Shayne Quaile, Marketing Manager, Ashdown-Ingram.



“CoolDrive Distribution specialises in supplying parts to automotive specialists and we believe that it is essential for industry specialists to continually develop their

knowledge and skills via facilities like Wire & Gas in order to stay ahead of their game.” - Tim Grimes, General Manager Marketing, CoolDrive Distribution.

Promote your company to the best customer list you will ever see

Silver and Bronze sponsorship opportunities are still available for the 2010 Wire & Gas Convention and Trade Show.

It presents a unique opportunity to showcase your organisation and show its products and services to a targeted and influential delegate group.

In recognition of the tight economic times, the Convention Committee is offering a wider range of low cost sponsorship options than ever before.

Gold sponsors have contributed \$5000 each, while Silver sponsors will pay \$3000 and Bronze, \$1000.

Upwards of 14,000 potential delegates have been targeted across Australia and New Zealand.

With incentives being offered for delegates to bring additional technicians and apprentices from their workshops at greatly reduced fees, the Committee has set a maximum target of between 400 and 500 delegates.

Sponsorship not only provides sponsor companies with an additional public relations platform, but by contributing to the income stream through sponsorships, it helps to keep registrations and trade show space costs to an absolute minimum, thereby attracting many more people than might otherwise be possible.



- **June long weekend 11-14 June 2010**
- **Trade show target - 50 - 60 booths containing the latest and greatest in tools and technologies**
- **Training sessions - 10 top trainers delivering workshops which are longer and better than ever**
- **Learn to Earn - a new emphasis on helping workshops to work smarter**
- **The best networking you will ever find in this industry**
- **... and have fun at the same time - bring your family**

Licence assessments not on the Convention agenda

Licence assessments for air conditioning technicians will not be offered at the Wire & Gas convention this year.

There are now well established courses and current competency tests available through the TAFE and private educational systems to cope with future applications.

The general belief is that all current professional technicians are already licenced.

Newcomers to the industry from associated trades will be referred to institutions such as the Box Hill Institute in Melbourne, which last year introduced an award-winning Automotive Air Conditioning Accreditation

training package which can be done through long-distance study.

Many of their client base are experienced mechanics, located in remote areas. The Box Hill course allows mechanics to complete much of the work in their own workplace.

The course is so well designed that tasks are clearly measurable and cannot be “fudged” - which was one of the criticisms of some of the earlier ‘assessments by mail’ offered by a couple of colleges. The tasks are then checked and authenticated by their own workshop manager or foreman.

www.bhtafe.edu.au



New members

Mark Baber
Combined Mobile Services
Wallsend NSW

James Noonan
Mobile Transport Solutions
Morrinsville
New Zealand

John MacPherson
John MacPherson Motors
Otorohanga
New Zealand

Joe Farrugia
Kangan Batman TAFE
Somerton VIC

How to access the 'help' service



One of the big benefits of being a VASA member is that you receive a free copy of the TaT magazine, and with it free access to the TaT Assist service.

This is a web-only service, so to access technical help, members must go to www.tat.net.au and log in, using the form which will be generated when you click this link on the left of your screen.

If this is your first sign-in Click Here and enter the same email you gave with your subscription to generate your login details.

In your case, as a VASA member, your email is already installed in the TaT system, so providing it matches, you will be provided with your own password for all future visits.

When you access the TaT Assist form, you must fill in as much detail as possible.

So you don't think you work in sales! President Ian Stangroome has got news for you

A question for VASA members. Are we in sales?

Most of us would answer "No! I am an auto electrician, a motor mechanic, an air conditioning technician or perhaps a manager or a business owner." Few of us consider ourselves to be working in sales.



In my view, every last one of us works in sales.

The greatest asset we have to offer throughout our lives is ourselves and our personal services, and we continually sell these - usually to anyone, and if possible, to the highest bidder.

From the day we leave school and find our first job we are selling ourselves. We may not yet have a trade certificate or a university degree, but we do have enthusiasm, a positive attitude and a willingness to work, to learn and to earn money for the first time and to feel appreciated for the service we provide.

As we mature, we gain experience, but we never stop selling.

We sell our services to our employers. Our value goes up with knowledge and experience and there we go selling again - for a promotion or to woo a new employer.

In our business, we sell our services to customers every day.

You might argue, "No, they are buying my product, because they need it."

But are they really. Did it occur to you that they are buying that product only because you are selling it?

Sure, they might buy the product the first time from anyone, but would they come

back again if they didn't feel comfortable doing business with you?

Would you keep dealing with someone you didn't like? I won't.



The day we stop selling is an indication we feel we no longer have anything of value to offer.

Is that you, or are you constantly improving yourself as a marketable commodity?

Now for the other big question. What are you really worth?

It doesn't matter if you are an employee or an employer, you could well be expecting or receiving more than you are worth.

Are you rendering the maximum quantity and quality in the services you provide?

If not, what do you intend to do about improving your ability to provide better service for the rewards that you wish to receive?

If you really want to get on in the world, here's some advice that I'm glad I was given early in life.

If you are an employee, always make sure you are of greater value to an employer than you are getting paid for, and keep it that way.

Your self respect is of far greater value than any amount of cash you could receive in wages.

If you are a business owner always make sure you are providing greater value in service to your customers than you are receiving in cash.

A customer who leaves your business feeling they have received real value will not hesitate to come back and bring their friends with them.

Some will argue - "You're asking me to do more than I'm getting paid for?"

Yes, I am. If you want to be the greatest salesperson of them all, give everyone more than they expect. Works better than any advertising I know.



**ON YOUR WEBSITE
FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

- All 51 bulletins of the famous VASA RTP bible on vehicle air conditioning
- MACS Worldwide service bulletins from Feb 2005
- Hot Air newsletters back to May 2005
- 2009 Annual Report and minutes

VASA to push for licence to cover all refrigerants - all technicians

VASA believes that the only way the air conditioning and refrigeration industry will come to grips with poor work practices and inappropriate use of wrong refrigerants, will be to extend licencing across the board to cover all technicians and all refrigerants.

There are already moves through the Australian Refrigeration Council and COAG, the Council of Australian Governments to look at such a scheme.

In VASA's case, the move stemmed from mounting complaints of the poor work practices which typify the charging of automotive systems with flammable hydrocarbon refrigerant.

Despite the fact that some sections of the hydrocarbon industry boast a commitment to workplace safe practices,

those technicians who are using hydrocarbons generally ignore the basics of proper labelling and distinctive service fittings which would at least warn the unsuspecting that a dangerous refrigerant has been used.

VASA president Ian Stangroome told a recent Board meeting that the current licencing regime, while it was designed strictly for environmental reasons to limit emissions from synthetic greenhouse refrigerants, had proved its value in generally raising the level of professionalism and improving work practices across the board.

The VASA Board has agreed to work with other industry groups to pursue an all-embracing licencing regime which would automatically require Codes of Practice and standards to be introduced to cover all refrigerants.

FRIDAY 11 JUNE 2010

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 9am – 3pm | Wire & Gas golf tournament at Royal Pines course (including lunch) |
| 6pm – 9pm | Official opening function at the Trade Show |

SATURDAY 12 JUNE 2010

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 9am – 9.45am | Industry update by Grant Hand and Jack Stepanian |
| 9.45am | Trainers provide three minute introduction to their training sessions |
| 10.15am | Morning tea |
| 10.45am | Open forum – including VASA Annual General Meeting |
| 12 noon | Lunch in the Trade Show |
| 12 noon – 4pm | Trade Show |
| 2.30pm – 4pm | Training sessions |
| 4pm – 5pm | Happy Hour in the Trade Show |
| Evening | Free for socialising with old and new friends |

SUNDAY 13 JUNE 2010

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------------|
| 10.30am – 12noon | Training sessions |
| 12 noon – 1.30pm | Lunch in the Trade Show |
| 1.30pm – 3pm | Training sessions |
| 3.30pm – 5pm | Training sessions |
| 7pm – 11.30pm | Gala Dinner |

MONDAY 14 JUNE 2010

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10.30am – 12 noon | Training sessions and Farewell Lunch |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|

Top trainer line-up for Convention

At Wire & Gas Training Convention and Trade Show, at Royal Pines Resort, Gold Coast, from Friday 11 to Monday 14 June, delegates will be able to choose a maximum of five training sessions out of the ten on offer.

VASA has assembled a formidable line-up of top trainers, so there will be something for everyone. Each training session will run for one and a half hours in dedicated training booths, with seating and good acoustics in and around the ballroom of Royal Pines. One training session, on heavy equipment, will be held on the lawns outside the ballroom.



When delegates arrive at the registration desk at the Convention, they will be given a schedule of trainers and asked to choose their five sessions.

The large choice of trainers accomplishes two things - gives delegates a wide range of subjects from which to choose, and ensures that class sizes are around 20 people or less.

So start making your choice now, to save time when you arrive in June.

A topic for all technicians



Grant Hand (Automotive Training Solutions)

Air conditioning systems and repair in agricultural and industrial plant.

With 25 years experience in TAFE, preceded by ten years in the workshop, Grant has emerged as one of Australia's leading trainers in climate control systems and electronics. He is an advisor to many organisations including VASA and in recent years provided

high level technical services to the mining industry. In a change from his usual presentations at Wire & Gas, Grant will address big machinery issues, with the help of a well used end loader.



Jack Stepanian (TaT)

Understanding BUS CAN

Jack is a highly respected automotive trainer who worked for Holden and Saab as a trainer for many years. He has recently re-established his own workshop business in Sydney. With his extensive electronics background, Jack will be concentrating on the Ford BA Falcon.



Dave Townley (Adair)

Modern air conditioning systems

Dave has been in the automotive industry for more than 40 years, half of that time with Air International and is now a/c product specialist and training coordinator at Adair. Dave will cover ECC system basic function, Holden VN – VS, VT – VZ, VE ECC system operation, components, locations, Ford BA, BF, Territory ECC system operation,

components, locations, common problems with the ECC systems Holden/Ford and on board diagnostics and testing.



Gil Sher (TaT)

Hybrids

Gil operates his own workshop in Sydney. He has travelled to America to study and train on hybrids and has become a leading Australian workshop servicing and repairing hybrids. Gil will use the popular Toyota Prius to demonstrate the safety and service issues on this model, highlighting certain component locations and some of the technical features of this car.



Nick Murphy (TaT)

Modern radiators and cooling systems

Nick is a well known and respected trainer with extensive knowledge in engine management and in electronic and mechanical systems. Nick manages one of the TaT workshops in Sydney. He will look into the areas of stray current and electrolysis and also the integration of the cooling systems into modern engine

management systems including thermo fan operations. Understanding the complexities of the modern systems and the effect electrolysis has on these systems is going to be vital.



Garry Reid (TaT)

Engine management systems

Gary is a respected automotive technician and trainer based in Sydney. He will be looking at engine management and programming. He has extensive knowledge and experience on electronic systems in a wide range of vehicles. Gary will demonstrate on a late model vehicle and will run through some of the systems and programming tricks.



Mark Howitt (Chief Engineer - Diagnostic Equipment, Auto Service Solutions)

ECU programming and recoding

Mark is a UK trained automotive technologist. He was a product engineer for Land Rover and Jaguar. He emigrated to Australia where he has done work for the NSW Road Transport Authority and other companies. Mark specialises in vehicle

electronics. He will cover programming and re-coding. This is a growth area for the aftermarket and is something all technicians need to know and invest in.

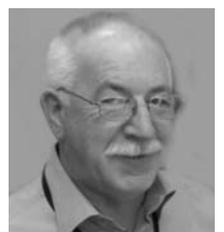


Allan Hill (ERG Cargo)

Starter and alternator rebuilding

For those looking to get back into rebuilding, this will be an essential training session. Allan has been involved solely as an Auto Electrician since 1955. He comes from an era when almost all units had to be rebuilt before tariffs and import restrictions were lifted. Allan believes that using old techniques and new age materials can be more profitable than fitting poor quality replacements. Allan will

give practical hands-on demonstrations of commutator replacement, reinsulating of field coils and much more.

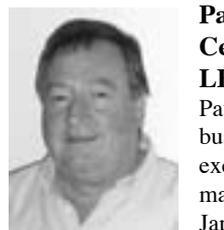


Rick Goodwin (CoolDrive Distribution)

Workshop equipment, repairs and maintenance

Rick has extensive experience in the automotive trade. The second most important thing in your business after your staff is your equipment. Rick will be running through equipment maintenance and repairs on a range

of workshop specialised tools.



Paul Rimington (Business Enterprise Centers)

LEARN TO EARN

Paul has extensive experience as a technology business manager at managing director and executive chairman levels. He has worked as a management consultant throughout Canada, USA, Japan and New Zealand. He holds an MBA with a major in entrepreneurial studies from Southern

Cross University. He will help technicians plan how to convert their extensive knowledge into money in the till and generate happy customers.



The spider that used the web to contact VASA - how else?

VASA's website has been operating for more than 12 years and during that time it has played a huge back-room role in bringing in the cars to member workshops, and educating the motorist about the value of hiring professional repairers.

With VASA's new and greatly improved website, there's a wealth of information for members, but more importantly, it is a highly productive portal for motorists looking for advice and direction.

Members would be surprised at the number emails received by VASA, containing curly technical questions.

We answer them all and try to direct them to the most appropriate member workshops in their area if repairs or advice are required.

All VASA members are listed on the website, in an easy to navigate database, where a motorist can quickly locate the VASA workshops in their town or suburb.

A survey of web traffic to www.vasa.org.au between 1 December 2009 and 10 February 2010, reveals that the page which generated the greatest traffic on the site was the search page for VASA workshops.

The 1,652 page views recorded is quite remarkable because that's greater traffic than the home page of the website, which attracted 1,512 views.

Views to all pages of the VASA website totalled 5,550 during the same period, with high traffic to the pages explaining the virtues of using the proper refrigerant and another explaining the reasons for proper maintenance

of a car air conditioning system.

All of this means that motorists are using the VASA website to educate themselves about their air conditioning systems and that's good news for members.

This entry on the website is a highly valued benefit of VASA membership, but one which is not always highly visible.

The Alfa Romeo Spider story

More than a year ago, a Brisbane lady sent this email to VASA.

"I have a 1967 Alfa Romeo Spider that I truly love. I live in Queensland and would like to add airconditioning to the restoration process. While I understand it did not originally come with airconditioning, I would like to find out if

VASA's website does an important branding job - and it brings in the work

someone can fit an aftermarket product and/or a later model airconditioning unit to the car."

We recommended a couple of our longest established members in Brisbane who had a lot of experience in manufacturing installations in cars which were not designed for air conditioning.

We left it to the lady to make contact with our members.

We recently received this email from her: "After a rather lengthy process we did finally get airconditioning installed along with a complete engine rebuild. That process took just over a year and we now have an airconditioned Alfa with a new engine and brake system. Please accept a belated thank you for all of your assistance in getting 'my baby' in tip top shape."

QUEENSLAND TRAINING DAY EXPERIMENT LEADS TO NEW ONE-DAY WORKSHOPS IN FOUR STATES

The Saturday training workshop which made a big hit in Brisbane last October, is to be extended to four states towards the end of this year.

Guided by Queensland director Mark Mitchell, the new workshop roll-outs will recognise the different requirements of the older and more experienced technicians and the younger technicians fresh from college or wishing to expand their careers into a more technical area of vehicle repair.

The dates and locations will be the subject of a special promotional flier

which will be distributed at the Wire & Gas convention, and posted to all members.

The workshops will be held in Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia and Queensland around late October this year. If the members react favourably to the new format, VASA

will consider extending the workshops to regional areas.

Mark Mitchell said that those who attended the Queensland day had responded warmly to the idea of a two-in-one training day, which would have appeal to both experienced and newer members of the workforce. Long

time VASA trainer, Grant Hand is working with Mark to develop a one day program to address these needs.

Costs will be kept low to encourage member workshops to bring all their employees.

Wholesalers will also be encouraged to bring their technicians, and in return for three bookings, will be offered free display tables at each workshop, effectively turning the day into a mix of training and mini trade show.



Chooks, cows, sheep, ducks and platypus - all in a day's work for this auto electrician

It's a tough life when you have to feed the chooks, plough the house paddock, dock the sheep and milk the cow before you pick up your multi-meter and start acting like a real auto electrician.

But Paul Dujmovich of Burnie Auto Electrical & Air Conditioning Service manages it, with a lot of help from his wife Liz.

Paul will be best known to VASA members as Revo Auto Electrical and Air Conditioning Services which Paul and Liz established out at Riverstone, north west of Sydney in 1994.

He was previously employed in an auto electrical workshop. The moment he set up his own business, he joined VASA (member number 164).

Paul and Liz decided on a big tree-change a few years ago, so after a lot of planning, they pulled up stakes at Riverstone, and created their own Riverstone by buying a 21-acre farm in the hills at Upper Natone, outside Burnie in Tasmania.

Their Riverstone (the name they gave to the property), is fast developing into a self sufficient lifestyle for the enterprising pair.

It's not as if they were novices at the business of farming. Liz is a professional book keeper and former dog trainer. On their block outside Sydney, they ran poultry and goats.

They've stocked their Tasmanian farm with distinctive, black faced Dorper sheep, one cow, ducks and the most unattractive chooks called Transylvanian Naked Necks. They built a huge hot house so they can grow their vegies all year round.

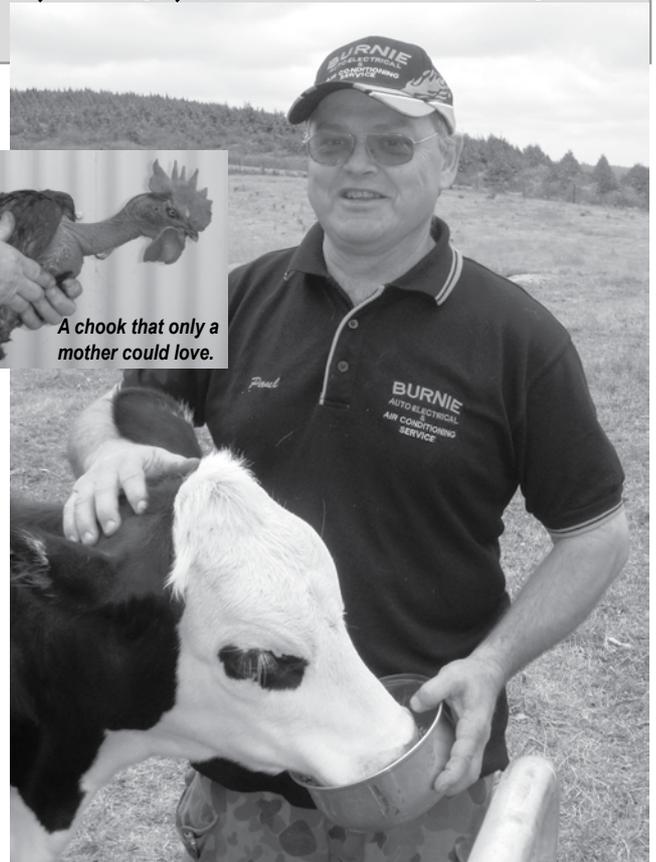
With solar hot water and other innovations Paul has up his sleeve, the plan is to become as self sufficient as possible with their hobby farm. On the back of the property is a huge dam, stocked with trout, and the home of families of platypus.

When they moved permanently three years ago, Paul offered his services to another VASA workshop in Burnie, French's Auto Electrics, owned by Marcus French.

But the demands of the hobby farm became too great, so Paul is now back working as a solo auto electrician and air conditioning technician - but only after he's fed the chooks.



A chook that only a mother could love.



It's not too late to get your DVD on air conditioning servicing procedure at the special VASA price

Produced by one of Australia's most experienced air conditioning trainers, Grant Hand of Automotive Training Solutions, this is the most comprehensive air conditioning service message ever produced.

You receive a DVD case containing three programs, including a detailed air conditioning service on a vehicle, an insight into how to sell a professional service, as opposed to a quick 'top up' (now illegal) and an in-depth study of why components fail.



air conditioning service procedures.

This total package is retailing for \$50 but, for VASA members, a limited number of DVDs are available for only \$40.

To order your copy, email a request to secretary@vasa.org.au with your name, membership number and phone number and we will post it to you immediately along with your invoice.



And, inside the DVD case is a 24 page workbook containing a summary of professional



Liz and her beloved Dorper sheep.

Paul said any VASA member is welcome to call in and say hi at Riverstone.

Paul unpacks his VASA manuals down at the farm.

WEB ACCESS FOR MEMBERS

Regular calls are still coming in from members who are having difficulty accessing the member pages on the VASA website.

Some were trying to use the password they had for the old website of several years ago. They no longer work.

The old website has been replaced by a brand new one and for access to the site you must follow this logon procedure:

1. On the front page of the site, you will see this box. Click to login.

VASA Members

[CLICK HERE TO LOGIN](#)

[Not a member? Click here to join.](#)

2. Type your membership number in the first box and in the Password box, type, in lower case, the first four letters of the suburb in which your membership has been listed.

Member Log in

Member Number:	<input type="text"/>
Password:	<input type="password"/>
<input type="button" value="LOG IN"/>	

If that doesn't work, please check your membership number and suburb and try again.

Remember that after five password attempts the site will lock you out, and you will need to wait 10 minutes before trying again.

With password entry to websites, accuracy is essential. A capital letter in your password will block your entry. So will an errant full stop, comma or any other accidental key stroke.

New at
www.wireandgas.com.au

Delegate registration form (downloadable)
Exhibitor kit
Royal Pines Resort kit for exhibitors
Sponsorship kit
Convention program

So let's clearly explain the difference between the VASA website and the TaT website.

The VASA site is all about your association and the information it holds in the member library comprises volumes of technical data, plus technical bulletins from our affiliate organisation in America, MACS Worldwide.

VASA does not offer a problem solving service. This is provided free of charge to VASA members by the TaT team.

As mentioned earlier in this newsletter, the TaT team have taken on the role of technical help, but it is not a phone in service.

So VASA members need to be very clear about what they are looking for on the web.

Here's a general rule:

For matters affecting your membership of VASA, technical archives containing the Registered Technicians Program, consumer information about VASA and a full listing of all members by location and type of membership, the website address is:

www.vasa.org.au

If you have serious technical problems with a particular vehicle, no matter what the problem is, and for access to a growing series of vehicle faults and solutions, the website address is:

www.tat.net.au

MACS 30th Anniversary Convention and Trade Show wrap-up

The Mobile Air Conditioning Society (MACS) Worldwide celebrated its 30th Anniversary Convention with an optimistic and focused group of buyers and sellers in February.

Close to 1200 from 30 countries attended, with 97 exhibitors in 160 booths for the two-day trade show.

Twenty-five speakers gave state-of-the-art presentations on technical and regulatory subjects.

Don't let others devalue your membership

Membership of any organisation has a real value.

You pay good money to join and to stay in the network.

The last thing you need is a workshop or technician either pretending to be a member when they are not, or even worse, a lapsed member who conveniently forgets to take down the VASA logo from the front door, or from their website.



Occasionally, VASA has to fight to protect your rights as a member. Where membership lapses, we try to negotiate a peaceful solution, and most people will take the responsible approach and take down any VASA signage when reminded.

Once in a while, a stubborn ex-member will try to defy the legal requirement and VASA then has to resort to legalities.

It is fraudulent for any person to use the VASA logo for any

reason, unless they are a fully paid-up member of the company.

VASA is a properly constituted limited liability, not-for-profit company and legally, we must advise ASIC of our full membership list each year.

Therefore, if a membership lapses, it will be a breach of ASIC regulations if that member fails to take down any VASA signage.

It's also false pretences, and you can't blame fellow members for taking a dim view of such activity.

If any member of VASA is unsure of another workshop's membership status if they are displaying the VASA logo in any way, or on any website, a quick email to admin@vasa.org.au will do no harm, and ensure that the membership is protected at all times.

MACS honours its chief

President and Chief Operating Officer of MACS Worldwide, based in the USA, Elvis Hoffpaur has been honoured for his 30 years of dedicated service to the industry.

MACS Chairman Andy Fiffick (left in the pic), publicly thanked Elvis for his contributions to the welfare, success and sound fiscal management of the Society.

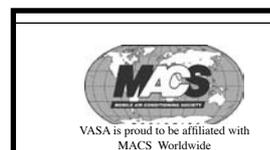


Elvis came to Australia last in 2004, as a special guest at the Wire & Gas Convention on the Gold Coast.

There is a standing arrangement for any official representative of VASA and MACS to attend each

other's Convention as a special guest.

In 2005, VASA sent Ken Newton to the Las Vegas MACS Convention, and it was there that the affiliation agreement was set in place by the then VASA President Mark Padwick.



Go to the members pages at www.vasa.org.au to see the latest MACS service reports.