P&L Consultants have developed a comprehensive classroom and hands-on training program that will assist all of the Rhode Island Collision Repair Facilities meet the requirements for the State of Rhode Island Commercial Licensing Regulation 16 Motor Vehicle Body Repair Technician Certification Program. The following is a description of the Estimology & Collision Repair training program:

**Collision Damage Repair & Estimating (Identification and Analysis of Damaged Vehicles)**

**Section Description:**
This section will cover the foundation of analyzing damage and estimating repair costs. Also covered is vehicle identification, photograph, the differences and similarities between the three major estimating systems, included and not-included items, additional procedures, additional items, labor head notes, and the how and when to utilize them, examples of comparisons between the three estimating systems for the same component, repair vs. replace decisions, what needs to be repaired, refinished, and the additional items needed to complete the proper repairs. This program will also cover the importance of the Triage/Tear Down/Disassembly/Blueprinting/Pre-Measuring process.

**Attendee Objectives/Outcomes:**
Attendees will learn how to better negotiate the needed procedures and additional items to properly restore the vehicle to pre-loss condition, how to optimize their estimates, how to calculate set up, realignment, additional anchoring labor times, learn to check the included and not-included operations not only in their system, but in the other systems more efficiently, the importance of checking labor and interpreting the definitions of the three database system to optimize their profits. The program will also give attendees a chance to write a mock estimate and compare their diagnostic skills.

**Collision Repair: Welding and Joining Methods**

**Section Description:**
The section will cover MAG/MIG/GMAW, STRSW, Silicon Bronze, Weld-Bonding, Rivet Bonding and Panel Bonding, rivet usage, panel preparation for structural adhesives, welding panel preparation, welder settings, welding applications, welding process, dressing procedures, destructive testing, and OEM information.

**Attendee Objectives/Outcomes:**
Attendees will learn how to interpret OEM procedures, rivet-bonding procedures, weld-bonding procedures, adjusting the welder settings, setting up the mating flanges, panel preparation, the importance of destructive testing, how to weld and dress the welds to minimize the HAZ (heat affect zone), safety precautions and equipment.
Contemporary Materials & Substrates
Section Description:
The section will cover the strengths, properties, and categories of the different types of substrates utilized in today’s vehicles, such as High Strength Steel (HSS), High Strength Low Alloy Steel (HSLA), AHSS/EHSS (Advanced/Extra High Strength Steel), UHSS (Ultra High Strength Steel), Boron, Martensite, Laminated Steel, Heat Treatable Aluminum Alloys, Non – Heat Treatable Aluminum Alloys, Magnesium, Carbon Fiber Plastic, and Fiber Reinforced Plastic.

Attendee Objectives/Outcomes:
Attendees will learn vehicle construction processes, what substrates can be found in today’s vehicles, what can and cannot be repaired or straightened, sectioning and replacement procedures, general location of these new materials, their roll in collision energy management and/or collision energy transfer, the importance of proper, additional and counter anchoring and structural realignment procedures, collateral damages issues and corrosion protection issues. The program will also cover the different attachment procedures used by the OEMs and collision repairs.

Structural Measuring and Realignment
Section Description:
The section will cover the procedures to anchor and measure today’s advanced strength substrates, anchoring locations, OEM required equipment, realignment angles, additional anchoring, mechanical measuring, electronic measuring, required measuring systems, vehicle preparation, structural documentation, stress relieving, use of heat, collateral damage prevention and safety issues.

Attendee Objectives/Outcomes:
Attendees will learn what substrates can and cannot be repaired, sectioning or realigned. Attendees will learn the general location of these new materials and their roll in collision energy management and/or collision energy transfer. Attendees will learn the importance of proper anchoring, additional and counter anchoring and structural realignment procedures to ensure no collateral damages. The program will also cover the different attachment procedures used by the OEMs and measuring procedures.

Steering and Suspension Systems
Section Description:
The section will cover the types of steering and suspension systems on today’s vehicles. Discussed will be the operation of the various suspension systems, wheel alignment, identifying damaged components, hardware usage and torque procedures.

Attendee Objectives/Outcomes:
Attendees will learn how to diagnose damaged components, OEM replacement requirements, hardware usage, torque procedures, components, how to read wheel alignment charts to determine damage, types of wheel alignment equipment and specialized wheel alignments.

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