

RVM Newsletter

Issue No. 4

Continuing Professional Development



Improving Service Standards

Contents

- 1 From the Editor
- 2 Continuing Professional Development
- 3 The Awards Ceremony for the Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice 2012 Competition
- 4 Commonly Used Auto Parts Terminology
- 5 An Update on the Registration Scheme
- 6 Smart Vehicle Mechanic Competition 2012
- 7 Prize Quiz
- 8 Some of the Training Institutes that Provide Continuing Professional Development Courses for Vehicle Mechanics





From the Editor

Continuing Professional Development

If a person takes time to repeat a certain job correctly a few times over, he or she will surely get the main points and master the skills involved. The job will be done expeditiously and properly. One develops better and sometimes amazing skills with experience.

But the auto industry is characterized by innovation and technological advances. It is not enough for vehicle maintenance mechanics to acquire the skills by experience. There is a wise Chinese saying that advancing one's knowledge is like sailing a boat against the tide, and one must be a step ahead in order not to fall behind or be swept away. We also like to speak of the proverbial Changjiang River that its new waves literally chase its old waves in the same way that a new generation will supplant the old. The vehicle maintenance mechanic who is not able to keep abreast of developments in his field will lose his competitiveness. That is why all vehicle maintenance mechanics must go for continuing professional development to acquire the latest maintenance knowhow and skills of the auto world.

The fact is that any vehicle maintenance mechanic who practices his trade again after leaving it for 5 years will be under tremendous strain just to catch up. If he has left his trade for 15 years, he will find the new vehicles completely beyond him. It's the same for doctors, lawyers, engineers and other professionals. Modern professionals are able to enjoy their professional status because they undergo continuing professional development to move with the times. One requirement for the renewal of their professional registration is proof of their continuing professional development. That is why continuing professional development is a must for vehicle maintenance mechanics to enhance their professional status and quality of service and win public respect and recognition.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish colleagues continued improvement and an energetic and fruitful new year. Best wishes to you and your families.

WONG Teck-sun

Chief Editor

Continuing Professional Development

All for the Sake of Improving Service Standards of the Vehicle Maintenance Trade

In the past, many vehicle mechanics in the medium and small sized garages relied on their experience in dealing with the technical problems they came across every day. This is not only inefficient, but may also cost them dearly in terms of time and money. Unlike in the old days, computer devices must be used in modern maintenance practice. They are the most important, and indispensable, tools in vehicle maintenance. We must therefore not just acquire experience in our daily work, but also undertake continuing professional development to acquire new knowledge and management skills to maintain our competitiveness. Modern vehicle maintenance mechanics should be prepared to improve themselves and their value to the industry, and embrace lifelong learning.

"Continuing Professional Development, I should not consider it as a burden taking up time, with no immediate tangible benefit – but a milestone." (IMIUK)

I would like to take this opportunity to boldly share my learning experience with you so we can together revise and renew our knowledge.

Dr LEE Yiu-pui

Chairman, The Institute of the Motor Industry Hong Kong

The Awards Ceremony for the Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice 2012 Competition

The Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice Competition has been organized by the Vocational Training Council's Automobile Training Board since 1986. The Awards Ceremony for this year, its 27th, was held on 1 November 2012. Here is the address by the officiating guest Mr Chan Fan, Director of Electrical and Mechanical Services, to the other guests, students and friends at the Ceremony.

Chairman Lee, Dr Yau, Honorable Guests, Dear Students and Friends:

Greetings to you all. I am pleased to attend the Awards Ceremony for the Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice 2012 Competition organised by the Vocational Training Council's Automobile Training Board. The Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice Competition has entered its 27th year since it was launched in 1986. It is a major event for the auto industry, thanks to the enthusiastic support of the industry over the years, and the active participation in particular of our very talented students today who are finishing their apprenticeships.

The car is like a horse capable of carrying people and supplies at high speed. Like a horse, a car has head and body. The four wheels are to the four limbs of the horse, as the engine is to the heart and motor oil is to the blood of the horse. The car will become ill, or even break down, if it is not properly used and in good maintenance. The car caught up in a serious traffic accident will require major surgery and a replacement of parts.

After watching the brilliant performance of our students in the competition, I can picture a scene at the emergency ward where the doctors were desperately trying to save a patient's life. Our students were carefully examining the malfunctioning car through looking, smelling, listening and inquiring, and with all kinds of sophisticated devices as the doctor would diagnose his patient. They analysed what the problem with the car might be so they could give it a proper treatment and bring it back to life within a short time. The vehicle mechanic therefore is like a physician for the cars in his care.

Hong Kong is a modern metropolis and we cannot do without vehicular transport. Hong Kong has more than 600,000 registered vehicles, 2,700 vehicle maintenance workshops and over 9,400 vehicle maintenance mechanics. Car and road safety is ensured by the support of these high quality vehicle maintenance workshops and the well-trained vehicle maintenance mechanics who are responsible for the regular maintenance, examination and repair of the vehicles on the road.

Every year, the Pro-Act Training and Development Centre of the Vocational Training Council provides specialist training in areas such as vehicle mechanical and electronic systems, vehicle hydraulic system, paint spraying, and tyre, battery and air-conditioning servicing, all of which are indispensable for the auto industry. Vehicle maintenance mechanics have been trained in their thousands over the years to meet industry needs.

The Government has been actively promoting the service standards and professional status of vehicle maintenance sector. On the recommendation of the Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee, a Voluntary Registration Scheme for Vehicle Mechanics was implemented in as early as 2007. The Scheme has the support and endorsement of the industry as reflected by the registration to date of more than 7,500 vehicle maintenance mechanics.

In order to raise service standards further, the Vehicle Maintenance Technical Advisory Committee has this year drawn up the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops and invited all vehicle maintenance workshops in Hong Kong to participate in the Vehicle Maintenance Workshops Charter. Industry members are encouraged to adhere to the Guidelines in operating their workshops so that they can provide their services to the satisfaction of the motoring public.

Although the London Games has come to an end, this Olympic year has many memorable and inspirational events and personalities. I am sure we all remember the cyclist Lee Wai-sze, who won a bronze for Hong Kong. She has recently won the first prize in a sprint event of the Track Cycling World Cup. Wai-sze is Hong Kong's native daughter who grew up on the Lower Ngau Tau Kok Estate. She did not enjoy the best health as a young girl suffering from anaemia. Her deficiency in red blood cells affected her sporting performance. She passed out several times at the sports meets of her school and required hospitalization. But she was so devoted to cycling that she decided to become a fulltime athlete after finishing her School Certificate.

Although she had to overcome more hurdles than other athletes, she never gave up and she trained as hard as ever, even taking the risk to train at the high altitudes of Kunming. In 2007, while training on the highway, she was caught in an accident which fractured the bones of her left hand. It nearly ended her career as an athlete. But she was determined to resume cycling after undergoing three surgeries in a year. While she was recuperating, she continued her training at the Sports Institute wearing an arm cast.

We can only wonder at the pain she was going through. Even her coach could not bear to see her suffer so much and persuaded her to quit. But she fought on with her incredible will. She continued to train, the unbearable pain notwithstanding. In the end she not only returned to the racecourse, but won at the London Games and other world events and brought glory to Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is a small place but it has enabled many of us to dream and make our dreams come true. Wai-sze's story is just one shining example. Wai-sze can accomplish her dream, and I am sure so can our students who participated in the competition and who are about to finish their apprenticeships. All we need is to put in the hard work and be prepared to learn. Make good use of your passion and ingenuity to become distinguished physicians for the vehicles in your care, and bring glory and pride to the industry. Thank you very much.

1.11.2012



Photos taken at the Awards Ceremony for the Outstanding Vehicle Apprentice 2012 Competition

Commonly Used Auto Parts Terminology

MAN Yuen-ling

Colloquial terms in Hong Kong for auto parts named after *food* and their official names

Colloquial terms	Official names
banana (蕉)	Exhaust Manifold
mushroom (冬菇)	Torque Converter
drumstick (雞脾)	Steering Swivel
pineapple stick (菠蘿鎚)	Bevel Pinion

An Update on the Registration Scheme

- 1 EMSD has provided more than 2,500 vehicle maintenance workshops with copies of the Practice Guidelines for Vehicle Maintenance Workshops and the Application as a Subscriber of the Vehicle Maintenance Workshops Charter (Form 4). The Scheme is being promoted by means of posters, vehicle license disc stickers and radio announcements to the workshop managers and the public at large.
- 2 With effect from 1 January 2013, all registered vehicle mechanics applying for renewal of registration must submit copies of their Continuing Professional Development (CPD) training records (e.g. course completion certificates, attendance certificates, or in-house training records) together with the application form. To facilitate the recording of training information by the registered mechanics in meeting the requirements, a Record of Continuing Professional Development is available at the EMSD website for downloading and the completed form will suffice as documentary proof at this stage.
(The Record of Continuing Professional Development can be downloaded from http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/e_download/cgi/CPD_record_form.pdf)
- 3 The annual test will be published in the next issue of RVM Newsletter. Interested parties may refer to our previous issues for the areas covered in this test. Registered mechanics who answer all questions correctly will earn 2 hours worth of CPD.
- 4 The Launching Ceremony for the Vehicle Maintenance Workshops Charter was held on 10 January 2013. Mr Joseph LAI, JP, Permanent Secretary for Transport and Housing (Transport) was the officiating guest. Tidbits of the Launching Ceremony will be carried in our next issue.



Photos taken at the Launching Ceremony
for the Vehicle Maintenance Workshops Charter



- 5 Over 110 vehicle maintenance workshops have already become signatories of the Vehicle Maintenance Workshops Charter. Their names and other relevant information are available at the EMSD website as follows:
(About the Charter: http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/cgi/vlnttry_vmrs_chrtr.shtml)
(Charter Subscriber List: http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/e_download/cgi/CharterWorkshop.pdf)

Number of vehicle mechanics in the vehicle servicing sector in 2012

9,420¹

Note 1 2012 Manpower Survey Report by Automobile Training Board

Number of registered vehicle mechanics (as of December 2012)

7,443

Smart Vehicle Mechanic Competition 2012

The Smart Vehicle Mechanic Competition was held by the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department on 13 December 2012. There were totally more than 200 registered mechanics entering the competition. Each participant of the competition earns 4 Continuing Professional Development (CPD) hours. The winners of the competition and the workshop that sent the most number of participants to the competition are as follows:

Gold Prize: Coupons valued at HK\$5,000, a trophy and a certificate

Mr. HO Chi-ming

Silver Prize: Coupons valued at HK\$3,000, a trophy and a certificate

Mr. LEE Fuk-kin

Bronze Prize: Coupons valued at HK\$2,000, a trophy and a certificate

Mr. CHO Yu-hang

Merit Prizes: Coupons valued at HK\$500 and a certificate

HO Wing Fai	LAU Wai-lam	WONG Kwai-tim
CHAN Fook-keung	CHEUNG Shan-shing	KWOK Chi-sing
LEE Kun-ho	LAU Chi-ming	WONG Long-wai
YIP Lai-hing	CHUI Tai-wai	TSANG Heung-chap
LEE Chi-wa	PUN Kin-fan	LAU Tung-sing

The Gold Prize winner's workshop: A trophy and a certificate

Anderson Concrete Limited

The Silver Prize winner's workshop: A trophy and a certificate

Sime Darby Motor Services Limited

The Bronze Prize winner's workshop: A trophy and a certificate

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

The workshop that sent the most number of participants to the competition: A trophy and a certificate

Vitasoy International Holdings Limited



Photos taken at the Smart Vehicle Mechanic Competition

Prize Quiz

- Q1** A registered vehicle mechanic must accumulate at least ____ hours of Continuing Professional Development within 3 years before renewal of registration.
- A** 10 **B** 20 **C** 30 **D** 40
- Q2** What is the new policy adopted by the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit of the Electrical and Mechanical Services Department, with effect from 1 January 2013, in regard to the verification of the records of Continuing Professional Development submitted by vehicle mechanics for renewal of registration?
- A** Verification of records of Continuing Professional Development is waived and every submission is accepted on trust
B Training institutes are required to verify the records of Continuing Professional Development submitted by applicants
C All applicants are required to provide supporting documents for their records of Continuing Professional Development.
D Applicants are required to provide supporting documents for their records of Continuing Professional Development only when they are randomly selected for spot checking.
- Q3** Registered vehicle mechanics who have participated in the Smart Vehicle Mechanic Competition 2012 will earn ____ hours of Continuing Professional Development.
- A** 1 **B** 2 **C** 3 **D** 4
- Q4** Registered vehicle mechanics may contribute to the RVM Newsletter. Once a piece of writing is adopted by the Editorial Board, the registered vehicle mechanic will earn ____ hours of Continuing Professional Development.
- A** 1 **B** 2 **C** 3 **D** 4
- Q5** Which of the following is not recognised as Continuing Professional Development?
- A** Enrolling in a course on occupational safety and health.
B Enrolling in a Putonghua course.
C Participating in a technical seminar on new automobile products.
D Exchanging visits between vehicle maintenance workshops.

How to participate?

Please complete the form below, circle the correct answers, and send it to the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit by fax or email (fax: 3521 1565 or email: vmru@emsd.gov.hk). Deadline: 28 February 2013.

Question	Answer	
1	A. B. C. D.	Name: _____
2	A. B. C. D.	Vehicle Mechanic Registration No.: VM _____
3	A. B. C. D.	Email Address: _____
4	A. B. C. D.	Contact Telephone No.: _____
5	A. B. C. D.	

Each winner will receive a souvenir. As there are ten souvenirs in all, the winners will be decided by lottery if more than 10 participants give correct answers to all the questions.

- Only registered vehicle mechanics with valid registration may participate, each not more than once in each quiz.
- The decision of the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit on the quiz answers will be final.
- The correct answers and list of prize winners will be announced in the next issue of the RVM Newsletter. Prize winners will also be notified by the Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit individually.

Result of the prize quiz in RVM Newsletter Issue No. 3

The answers of the prize quiz in RVM Newsletter Issue No.3 are as follows:						The ten winners who gave correct answers to all the questions and drawn by lottery are :					
Question	1	2	3	4	5	LEUNG Wai Tong Lawrence (VM 0003842), WONG Ian Kit (VM 0005511),					
Answer	A	B	C	B	A	WONG Chi Wai (VM 0099633), KONG Chung Fun (VM 0023495),					
						WONG Wai Wah (VM 0072537), LO Wai Man (VM 0065768),					
						WONG Chi Kong (VM 0032079),					
						FUNG Kwun Kit (VM 0099155),					
						LIAO Wei Ye (VM 0102979), LAM Chi Wo (VM 0001640)					



Some of the Training Institutes that Provide Continuing Professional Development Courses for Vehicle Mechanics (in random order)

Name of Training Institute	Website	Enquiry Tel. No.
Traffic Services Employees Association	http://www.facebook.com/tseahk Courses for March and April 2013 are now open for enrolment. Topics covered: operation of the power system of environment-friendly electric vehicles, operation of the full pneumatic brake system, evolution of gearbox and application of new maintenance techniques, basic operating principles of Euro-IV and Euro-V power systems, conducting research online for new information on vehicle maintenance techniques, and basic operating principles of the intelligent brake system. For details, please visit the above website or call the enquiry telephone number.	2575 5544 
Pro-Act Training and Development Centre (Automobile)	http://www.vtc.edu.hk/vtc/web/template/yc_course.jsp?fldr_id=458&lang=tw	2449 1310 
The Institute of the Motor Industry Hong Kong	http://www.hkimi.org.hk The Institute is organising a series of automotive e-Learning courses in conjunction with the Electude Company of the Netherlands from January to June 2013. Enrolments will be called for every month. Online guidance and assessments are available during the learning period. Participants will receive a CPD certificate on completion of a course. For details, please visit the above website or call the enquiry telephone number.	2625 5903 
Hong Kong Vehicle Repair Merchants Association Limited	http://www.hkvrma.com.hk/training/index.html	2399 7977 
Hong Kong Vehicle Repairing Industry Employee General Union	http://www.VrUnion.hk	2393 9955 
Integrated Vocational Development Centre (Transport and Supporting Services)	http://ivdc.vtc.edu.hk/public/SusCourseList.aspx Courses are now open for enrolment. Topics covered: application of engine testing equipment, servicing of LPG fuel injection system, structure and basic application of motor vehicles and components, application of automotive electronics, partial vehicle body repairing (sheet metal, painting) techniques and basic automotive electricity knowledge. For details, please visit the above website or call the enquiry telephone number.	3907 6789 
The Society of Operations Engineers (Hong Kong Region)	http://www.soe.org.hk/events.asp	3188 0062 

Gentle Reminder

Please watch out for each issue: it helps you catch up on the development of the registration scheme, acquire hours of continuing professional development, and enhance the quality of service.

Each issue can be downloaded from the EMSD website at:

http://www.emsd.gov.hk/emsd/eng/cgi/vmrs_pub_news.shtml

For enquiries, please contact the EMSD Vehicle Maintenance Registration Unit

(Fax: 3521 1565; Email: vmru@emsd.gov.hk; Tel: 2808 3867 or Government Hotline: 1823)

Editorial Board Members:

Mr WONG Teck-sun (Chief Editor), Mr FUNG Ming-kong, Mr LAI Chi-wah, Mr LIU Tat-ming, Mr WONG Yiu-kwong, Miss MAN Yuen-ling, Mr TAI Tak-chung and Mr LAW Ko-ming.

一般法例部  機電工程署

香港九龍啟成街3號

General Legislation

Electrical and Mechanical Services Department

3 Kai Shing Street, Kowloon, Hong Kong

電話 Tel: (852) 2808 3867 傳真 Fax: (852) 3521 1565

網址 Website: www.emsd.gov.hk

電郵 Email: vmru@emsd.gov.hk