

ATech Educator News

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September 2009

Fred Hines

Fred Hines devoted over twenty years to automotive technology training. He pushed the envelope in everything that he did – always questioning, “Why?” This was a testament to his intelligence, drive, and desire to impact education for the better – whether it was electronics, computers, or automotive technology. He commanded respect not only because of his contributions, but also because he chose to do so ethically.

Fred continuously demanded perfection from himself. He was always trying something different or tweaking an existing project. Fred also always looked out for the underdog or individual that



May 5th, 1945- May 7th, 2009



just needed a chance to develop their innate skills. In doing so he would never seek out fame or glory and gave anonymously to many causes.

A life is comprised of many roles. During his life, Fred was a son, brother and husband to his family. His professional life included the roles of veteran, teacher, computer engineer, and President/Owner of ATech Training. At ATech Training he was our boss, mentor, friend, and living example. Fred Hines will be sorely missed by all that knew him.

ATech Training appreciates the many cards and condolences sent to us during this time. Special thanks for all the donations sent in Fred’s name to St. Elizabeth Hospice.

Auto Shop Safety

Why the big concerns over the safety of the public? I was raised in an era when there were very few safety labels on anything. When you bought a piece of power equipment, it was assumed that you knew how to use it properly. Some old-timers seem to think that safety has become too restrictive. I mean, several people had to take a hairdryer into the shower for them to put that label on all hairdryers. You cannot take for granted that common sense will prevail, especially in the automotive shop. In the auto shop there are very few things that a student can do that are un-dangerous. These students sometimes don’t realize that flying debris from a grinder can put an eye out or that the twelve volts from a battery can be used to weld. These are just a few of the safety hazards in the auto shop.

Most auto shop safety rules are based on general knowledge, common sense, and attention to detail. A safe work environment is not just maintaining a clean and tidy work area. It is a combination of the work area

and the workers themselves. It is every person’s responsibility to ensure that the proper safety gear is worn and that all of the safety rules are followed. Always wear eye protection in the shop area. Dress in an appropriate manner: no loose clothes, no jewelry, and good closed toe shoes. Keep work area clean and tidy. Use the right tool for the job at hand. Keep everyone out of the shop that does not belong there. They can divert attention from the task at hand. These are all very important and I could go on and fill several pages with common sense rules, but one of the most important ones that I have seen **added** lately is to “**Avoid anyone that does not take shop work seriously**”. The person that

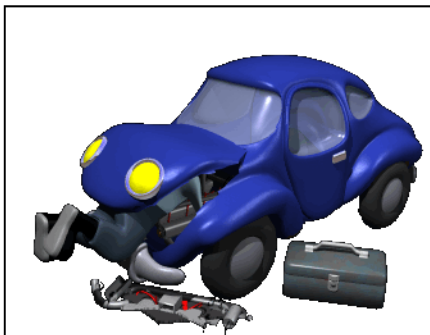


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does not take shop work seriously is not only a danger to himself, but to all of those around him. They are also the ones destined to be nicknamed “lefty” or “stubby” for some reason later in life.

Identifying and isolating the problem student can become a major problem in and of itself. You must identify a student’s unsafe practices and problematic behavior early. This needs to be done by direct observation of all students at all times while in the shop during the first weeks of classes. Close monitoring of the students, feedback from other students in a discussion forum, and in some cases, additional information about the student from other faculty and their files.

Communicate your problem to the student. Many instructors have indicated that once they recognized unsafe practices, they communicated their concerns directly to their students. At this point, they try and ascertain whether the student was aware of the problem and if they could identify the source or contributing factors of the unsafe behavior. Students who are able to identify their weaknesses are easier to deal with. The student is then given the chance to respond and, if possible, indicate to the instructor how he could improve his or her safety practices. However you decide to handle unsafe practices it is always good to have a “Plan of Action” on file and make the students aware of the plan. This will be beneficial to all involved so that there are no surprises when action is taken. So please, go forth and educate our youth safely.



Good luck in the coming year and as always, “BE SAFE”.

Jeff B. Bogue

Fall 2009 CAT Conference



October 16th and 17th, 2009
Cypress College
Cypress, CA

Contact: John Alexander
Ph: 714-484-7000
jalexander@cypresscollege.edu

NACAT 2009 Charlotte, NC

Congratulations to NACAT on attaining record attendance. We would like to thank Central Piedmont Community College on hosting a fantastic conference, they deserve a round of applause.



Left to Right: Jeff Bogue (Assistant Production Supervisor, ATech), Curtis Traylor (Arkansas State University–Searcy), and Laura Lyons (CEO, ATech)

ATech Drawing Winners

\$2,500.00 Equipment Certificate

Curtis Traylor
Arkansas State University– Searcy - Searcy, AR

Auto Tap

Keith Greer
Uncoi County Career & Technical School - Erwin, TN

Merle Saunders
Vale High School - Vale, OR

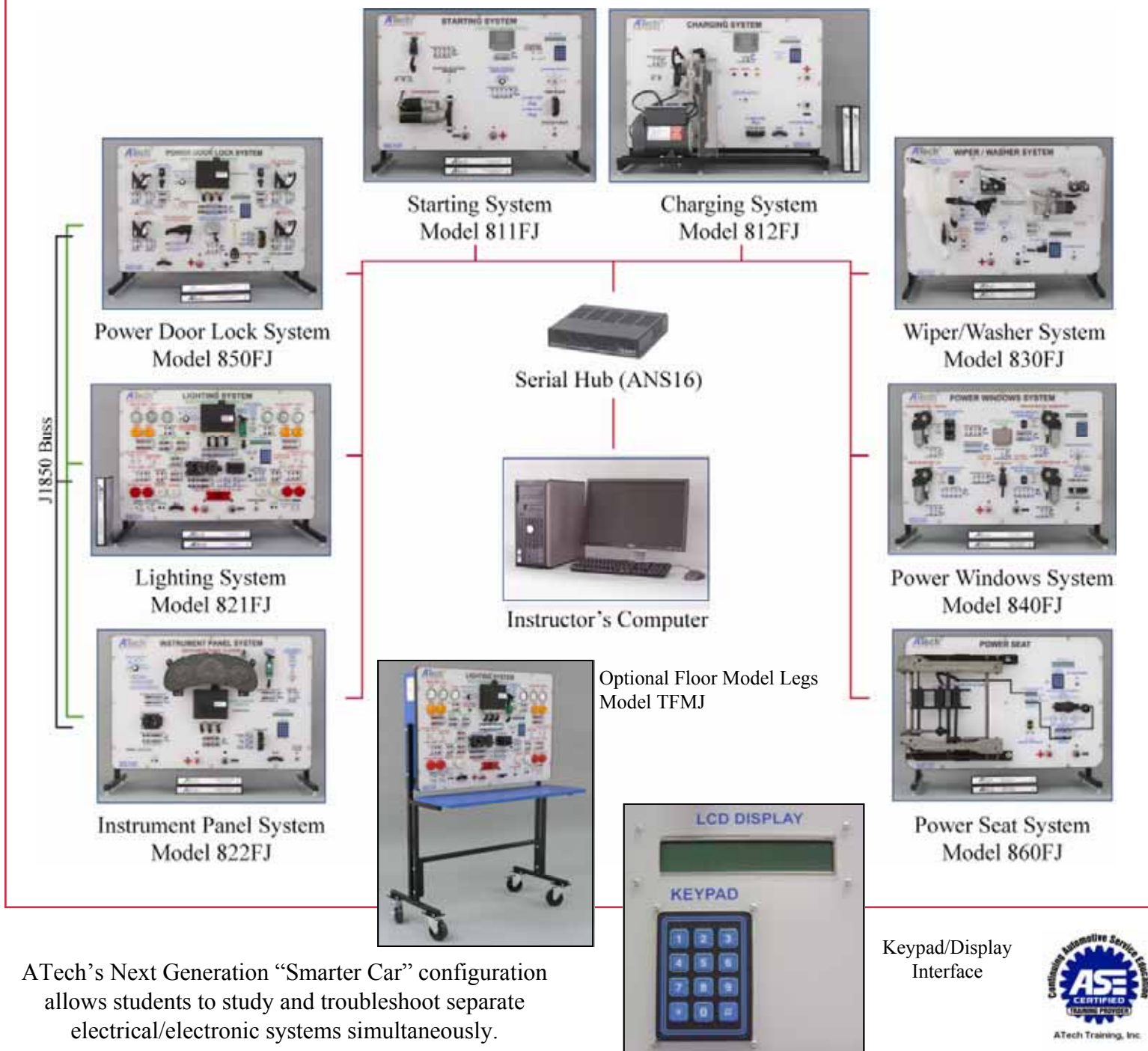
Proto Lab 4.0

Larry Danielson
Iowa Lakes Community College - Emmetsburg, IA

John McNary
Western Harnett High School - Lillington, NC

Matthew Woods
Southside Virginia Community College - Keysville, VA

Next Generation “Smarter Car”



ATech's Next Generation “Smarter Car” configuration allows students to study and troubleshoot separate electrical/electronic systems simultaneously.

FEATURES:

- Courseware Includes: Instructor Guide, Student Manual, and Service Information
- Actual New Vehicle Components
- Insert Intermittent or Hard Faults using built-in Keypad, computer or ANS
- Compatible with Instructor Management Program (IMP)
- Tech 2 (not included) communicates via the DLC Connector
- Requires 12V Battery or Power Supply (optional)

ATech Training, Inc.
 12290 Chandler Drive, Walton, KY 41094
 Ph: 859-485-7229 Fax: 859-485-7299
 Email: sales@atechtraining.com
www.atechtraining.com



ATech

Automotive Technology

ATech Training Inc.
12290 Chandler Drive
Walton, KY 41094
(859) 485-7229
www.atechtraining.com
sales@atechtraining.com



ATech Training, Inc.

A Veteran Owned and Operated American Company

2009 NACAT SC Chapter Conference



October 16th and 17th, 2009

Midlands Technical College
Columbia, SC
E-mail: nusslerr@midlandstech.edu
Ph: 803-738-7151

Hope to see you there!

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and Actively Supports:



Others talk about great product quality and service...
ATech delivers them. Ask our customers.
