



NEWS

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CAPA to Establish New Certification Standard for Aftermarket Cooling Parts Radiators, Condensers, Cooling Fans and Fan Shrouds to be Covered

Washington, D.C. – The Certified Automotive Parts Association (CAPA) Executive Director Jack Gillis today announced that CAPA is establishing a new certification standard to address the quality of an important category of aftermarket replacement parts: Aftermarket Cooling Parts. The new standard will include radiators, condensers, cooling fans, and fan shrouds.

In response to industry input, CAPA evaluated car company brand and independently manufactured radiators. The results indicated that a majority of independently produced radiators were not comparable to their car company brand counterparts. “There is wide-ranging variability in the performance of important radiator functions,” said Debbie Klouser, CAPA’s Director of Operations. “By establishing a CAPA Standard specifically for cooling parts, the industry will have the means to identify independently produced parts of the highest quality.”

In order to establish the requirements of the new standard, CAPA is collaborating with a variety of technical experts. The standard will compare critical performance elements such as leak resistance; pressure and flow; pressure cycle

durability; corrosion resistance; general construction as well as heat transfer characteristics. Major manufacturers of cooling parts have already expressed their interest in participating in the CAPA Standard development process. The CAPA Technical Committee, which includes representatives from all affected industry segments, including part distributors, collision repairers, manufacturers, and other industry experts, is the body responsible for the approval of all new CAPA Standards. CAPA expects to complete the Cooling Parts Standard prior to the end of the year.

“Cooling parts such as radiators are dynamic and can be more complex than other collision repair parts such as hoods or fenders. However, just like hoods and fenders, shops and consumers cannot make an informed decision about the quality of these parts simply by looking at them. This is why CAPA Certification has been an asset to the industry for nearly 25 years, and why CAPA is developing another new standard,” said Bob Anderson, of Anderson’s Automotive Services and Chairman of the CAPA Board of Directors.

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The Certified Automotive Parts Association, founded in 1987, is the nation’s only independent, non-profit, certification organization for automotive crash parts whose sole purpose it to ensure that both consumers and the industry have the means to identify high quality parts via the CAPA Quality Seal. CAPA is an ANSI accredited standards developer for competitive crash repair parts. For more information see www.CAPAcertified.org.