Hunter Highlights

News and Trends of the Automotive Service Industry



unter's new RKHD Heavy-Duty Power Rack is an easy-to-use, drive-on style lift rack for alignment and general service that offers the benefits of a pit rack without the cost. The RKHD makes heavy-duty alignment faster and easier. Designed with safety and versatility in mind, it meets the widest range of heavy-duty shop needs.

RKHD features:

 Pop-up rear ramps add wheelbase capacity while making maximum use of available bay space.

- Independent runway sections can be added for an unlimited total rack length.
- Super-strong truss-design runways handle 20,000 lbs. per axle.
- Super-wide 33-in. runways make drive-on/drive-off easier and safer.
- Adjustable front wheel stops provide clearance during vehicle service operations.

Plaza Automall, Brooklyn, New York



Space and service requirements of Plaza Automall's multiple service departments are met by matching Hunter RX Alignment Racks with DSP400 Digital Imaging Sensors.



n the Brooklyn neighborhood of Marine Park, where space is a costly premium, Plaza Automall keeps four Hunter-equipped vehicle inspection lanes generating income — one for each of the dealership's service departments. Drivers pull off of busy Nostrand Ave. for computerized brake, suspension, and side-slip testing that identifies service problem areas in seconds.

The write-up areas are climate-controlled booths. The lanes include Hunter brake test plates, suspension analyzers and sideslip meters to test for alignment or other under-car problems.

Walker's Automotive Service, Pleasantville, New Jersey

Walker's outdoor installation allows testing of vehicles before they enter the service areas. The B400 console is located in the shop lobby. Walker also uses the B400 to document his AAA-approved repairs and extended vehicle warranties.



brought to him by New Jersey's state-operated vehicle inspection program. Using the same Hunter B400 brake testing equipment used by state facilities Walker can verify that his work will pass when a vehicle is retested. In addition to DMV-related work, Walker tests 80% of the vehicles entering his shop. Fifty to sixty percent of those tested have problems severe enough to need repair.

Brennan's Sunoco, Egg Harbor Township, New Jersey

Wike Baxter, well known south New Jersey operator of Brennan's Sunoco, likes to maximize service value rather than service volume by spending more time with each customer. His 21-point inspection of every vehicle serviced includes a complete B400 brake inspection.

Without having to remove wheels, Baxter's B400 quickly uncovers brake problems in vehicles brought in for other service.



Baxter with his morning line-up of service jobs.

In clear view of customers purchasing gasoline, the B400 itself helps create interest. The unit also performs outsource work from local service operators and dealerships.

DCH Freehold Toyota Nissan, Freehold, New Jersey

With a volume of 3,500 to 4,000 cars per month speed and accuracy are critical for Richard Mootz, Service and Parts Director at Freehold Toyota Nissan. Mootz installed his first B400-equipped inspection lane in 1994. The business has since quadrupled.

Richard Mootz explains a brake performance results printout to one of his customers.



The B400 brake test plates and console are located at the entrance to the dealership's service areas allowing brake testing during check-in.

He installed a second unit when his responsibilities were later expanded to include the Nissan Service Department. According to Mootz the B400's continuously generate brake and alignment work for his staff of 24 technicians. The units also speed inspection and documentation of the dealership's used-vehicle inventory.

Audi Makes Hunter GSP9700 Mandatory Equipment for New RS 6 Dealerships

Measurement® System *mandatory equipment* for all of its new dealerships that wish to offer the new limited edition RS 6 performance sedan. The RS 6 is equipped with an innovative suspension design that changes the vehicle's ride characteristics dynamically in response to the driver's steering actions. Hunter's GSP9700 (V.A.G part number VAS6230) is an ideal solution to the specialized ride management needs of Audi vehicles. It measures radial wheel force variation and provides steps to minimize its effects. The VAS6230 is also equipped with Hunter's StraightTrak® Lateral Force Measurement feature. StraightTrak measures tire-related drift and pull and also provides corrective measures.



VAS6230 standard features include a printer and drawer assembly kit, and an integrated tire lift that helps center wheels up to 175 lbs. and reduce operator fatigue.

First DSP600 Sensors Shipped to Colorado Tire and Service Retailer



Hunter Executive Vice President Nick Colarelli christens the first production DSP600 Digital Imaging Sensors just prior to shipping.

key group of Hunter design, production and marketing staff gathered recently at the company's Bridgeton, Missouri production facility for a short ceremony to commemorate the release of the first production DSP600 Sensors, the next generation of Hunter's new digital imaging alignment sensors. Prior to crating and shipping the sensors were christened with a touch of aged bourbon, a tradition kept since the early days of Hunter Engineering Company. The sensors were part of a complete alignment system order from Carroll's Tire & Auto Service, the Fowler, Colorado retail tire and service shop.

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