

# Hunter Highlights

News and  
Trends of the  
Automotive  
Service Industry

## New Hunter Tire Changer Choices



**H**unter has introduced a pair of advanced table top tire changers suitable for handling both contemporary, high-end OE wheels and custom aftermarket products. The traditional design and conventional operation of the new TCX500 and TCX550 is familiar to technicians, speeding orientation and use. The TCX500 and TCX550 complement Hunter's current line of TC3250 and TC3500 tulip-clamp Euro-style tire changers. Both designs are capable of handling the widest range of car and light-truck wheels and tires. A PAX wheel kit is also available for the TCX550BPS and TC500BPS.

- The **TCX500** is designed for continuous, heavy use. It has a wheel clamping capacity of up to 26-inches. Standard and optional features allow easy service of simple steel wheels or low-profile alloy wheels and run-flat tires.
- The **TCX550** is an ultra-high-performance tire changer with a 28-inch rim capacity. A patented mount/demount arm automatically positions the head for easier service. The clamping table raises and lowers for varying wheel widths and features a dual-direction, two speed, self-centering clamping system. A standard air-operated BPS bead lifting/pressing device makes service easier with less stress on the tire, rim and operator.

## Porsche AG Approves GSP9700 for Dealership Service



*Porsche US training instructors (shown at left with Hunter instructors) recently completed a Porsche-specific GSP9700 training program in St. Louis.*

*The GSP9700 (right) shows the Porsche color standards and decal. Optional items shown are a 175-lb. (80 kg.) capacity wheel lift and printer drawer.*



**P**orsche AG has approved a customized version of Hunter's GSP9700 Road Force Measurement® System (Porsche part number GSP97PO) for use in its dealership workshops worldwide. As Porsche explains in its dealership equipment handbook, the approved GSP97PO road tests wheels before they go on the car to solve wheel-related vibration that traditional methods cannot fix. GSP97PO accessories include a Porsche-specific wheel mounting kit. The Porsche-approved StraightTrak® Lateral Force Measurement feature for eliminating tire pull is an available option.

# Hunter Proves Right Choice for California Tire Retailer



*On a typical weekday at Jimmy's Tire Center, each of the shop's six Hunter-equipped bays are earning profits for owners Jimmy and Kathy Kehoe.*

**A**fter more than 30 years in the tire business, San Clemente, California operator Jimmy Kehoe knows how to run a profitable shop. This experience is what led him and his wife (and business partner) Kathy to exclusively equip their new shop with Hunter alignment and wheel service equipment.

Business at the Kehoes' original shop jumped 40% after they installed a Hunter aligner and balancer. Those results made planning their new equipment purchases easier. They chose six Hunter RX Lift Racks and two Series R811P-Plus Alignment Systems with DSP600 Sensors. A GSP9700 Road Force Measurement® System, DSP9600 Balancer and a TC3500 Tire Changer handle the shop's high-volume wheel mounting and vibration management chores.

Kehoe's shop now earns five times that of his first. "I can be more aggressive than most in my marketing, because I know I have the equipment to back it up," he said. "My Technicians have had great training from Hunter. Using this equipment I can diagnose and solve any situation a customer brings in."

## National Sales Organization Meetings Held in St. Louis



*Hunter's Research and Training Center classrooms and service bays were filled with sales representatives during the national sales meetings. Hunter National Service Manager Matt Wise (below) demonstrates the new TCX500 Tire Changer's wide range of service capabilities.*



**T**he recently completed National Sales Meetings brought Hunter's 300-plus sales representatives to the company's home office in St. Louis for a series of new product introduction seminars and refresher training. The meetings provide hands-on training with the company's newest alignment and wheel service technology. Continuous training is critical for Hunter Sales and Service Representatives to keep pace with advancing technology and changes in the marketplace.

# Hunter Hosts Goodyear Service Managers



**Hunter Product Manager Dave Scribner conducted the seminar at the Hudson, Ohio Regional Training Center.**

**G**oodyear Tire & Rubber Company and Hunter Engineering teamed up recently to share some important resources and information with the tiremaker's field service managers. While hosting twenty-two Goodyear field service managers at Hunter's Hudson, Ohio training center, Hunter Cleveland Regional Manager Frank Ponte and Hunter Product Manager Dave Scribner presented a wheel vibration management seminar specific to Goodyear's tire service requirements.

The program included a resource guidebook that borrowed from Hunter's highly successful Rolling Smooth wheel vibration management program. It provided materials ranging from OE technical service bulletins to Hunter product and accessory information. Proper technician training was also emphasized along with reviews and demonstrations of the advanced capabilities of Hunter wheel service technology.

## New L434GS Lift Rack for General Service

**T**he Hunter L434GS Lift Rack integrates many of the best Hunter four-post alignment rack features into a general service lift rack design. This combination offers a robust and efficient platform for performing non-alignment service for a wide range of vehicles. The L434GS is a customized version of the Hunter L424 Four-Post Lift. It was developed especially to meet the general service needs of Sears Automotive Group and is now available to all Hunter customers. The L434GS features a 12,000-lb. lifting capacity, quick 45-second raise and lower times, a 180-inch wheelbase capacity and wide 22 1/2-inch runways to accommodate small cars as well as wide trucks and SUVs. Options include 6,000-lb. capacity swing air jacks (ideal for brake work or tire rotation) or a 30-gallon rolling oil drain pan for fast and efficient oil, filter and fluid service.

**The L434GS lifts to a height of 70 inches with 17 locking positions. Approach ramp extensions are available for low-clearance vehicles.**



## OCL400 Named Top 10 Tool by Undercar Digest Readers

**U**ndercar Digest publishes an annual issue inviting readers to choose the *Top 10 Tools* from its list of new tools and equipment. This year the readers selected Hunter's new OCL400 On Car Brake Lathe.

The winners were announced at Showpower 2005, the annual undercar exposition organized by Undercar Digest publishers, MD Publications.

The OCL400 is designed to increase production and reduce comebacks. Its unique ServoDrive® system allows variation of the spindle speed and rotational torque during compensation and machining. The lathe's Anti-Chatter Technology (ACT) feature oscillates machining speed to virtually eliminate vibration buildup (chatter) during rotor machining.



# Autopromotec Is Key Venue for Hunter Export Products



Visitors to the 2005 Autopromotec Exhibition in Bologna, Italy found a full range of Hunter export products on display at the exhibit of Pogliani & Rivolta S.p.A., the distributor of Hunter undercar service products in Italy.

The biennial Autopromotec Exhibition draws industry buyers from throughout the world. As a leading international trade show for tire and wheel service equipment it is a key event for Hunter's export sales and marketing staff.

The introduction of Hunter's new WinAlign Tuner™ custom alignment for modified vehicles generated a great deal of interest at the show, especially from the distributors who are experiencing their own versions of the "Tuner car" phenomena in their home markets.

Hunter's top export products are Series 811 alignment systems, DSP600 sensors and the GSP9700 Road Force Measurement® System, which is unmatched in its ability to diagnose and correct tire and wheel vibration and pull issues that are not identifiable using traditional wheel balancers.

## **Hunter Highlights**

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