

CRANKED
UP CONVERSATION

2010
SCHOOL OF THE
YEAR

CADDO
CAREER AND
TECHNOLOGY
CENTER

Presented in
partnership with

WIX
FILTERS





INSIDE THE BAY

I'm writing this letter while still buzzing from the excitement of the 2010 School of the Year event at Caddo Career & Technology Center in Shreveport, La. on April 27.

Our event at Caddo marked the third consecutive year Chicago Pneumatic has descended on a school with a crate full of Chicago Pneumatic tools, shirts, and other gear for the students. However, it was the first time in three years that the winning school was a high school!

We weren't alone at the event. Along for the ride were our partners from *Tomorrow's Technician*, the only publication in the United States dedicated to speaking directly to students working towards future careers in the automotive and body shop industries, and WIX Filters, an addition to this year's program as an associate sponsor of the competition. Both of these partners, and our good friend Rich Evans from Huntington Beach Bodyworks, contributed tremendously to the event and year-long effort of identifying and honoring the best schools in the country.

The full story is inside, but make sure you check out our page on [Facebook](#) to see more photos and videos from the 2010 School of the Year event. And while you're there, be sure to become a fan!

As we reflect on the excitement of spending the day with 140 of the best and brightest students around, we also look to the future with great anticipation.

The first week in May, we rejoin our Wheel Torque Solutions partners at Waste Expo in Atlanta. At the Wheel Torque Solutions booth #1420 we will continue to educate the industry about the importance of proper wheel maintenance and torquing procedures, while showing off the latest BlueTork technology.

We have Wheel Torque Solutions demonstrations planned every day of the event in our booth at the following times:

- Tuesday, May 4 – 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.
- Wednesday, May 5 – 11:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m. & 3:30 p.m.
- Thursday, May 6 – 11 a.m.

We hope you'll come by and see us!

If you know someone who would enjoy *Cranked Up Conversation*, please pass it along and tell them to e-mail cp.teamusa@cp.com to sign up. New subscribers this month have a chance to win the industry's hottest ½ inch impact wrench—the CP7749.

Thanks for reading!

Danielle Stevens
Marketing Communication Manager
Chicago Pneumatic



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2010 SCHOOL OF THE YEAR CADDO CAREER & TECHNOLOGY CENTER

In 2008, Waubonsee Community College was the first Tomorrow's Technician/Chicago Pneumatic School of the Year. Ohio Technical College, a school devoted to automotive, diesel, and body shop education, with a massive campus, large staff and students from across the country, won in 2009.

In 2010, it was time for the underdog to pull off the upset. Selected from more than 300 applications nominating more than 160 schools, Caddo Career & Technology Center in Shreveport, La., won the third annual award based on their dedication to education, commitment to career placement, and award-winning instructors and students. The instructors of the Automotive Technology program at Caddo Career & Technology Center have more than 84 years of experience in the automotive field and display a true passion for the future of their 140 students.

Gary Weese and Mike Falkner, instructors and founders of the program at Caddo Career & Technology Center, built the foundation of their award-winning program on real-life experience. They've formed extensive partnerships with local shops and dealerships for their School-to-Work program. And they've implemented a curriculum supported by the Ford Motor Company's Maintenance and Light Repair program in conjunction with AYES (Automotive Youth Education System) and NATEF (the National Automotive Technicians Education Foundation) certification. In fact, the school is the first in Louisiana to be selected by AYES to train entry-level technicians



and the first program to receive NATEF certification with a perfect score.

The program, which accepts juniors and seniors from 10 different area high schools, has three goals: enable students to meet the world of work, pursue post-secondary education and address life's challenges.

The CCTC curriculum covers heating and air conditioning, brakes, steering and suspension, electrical/electronics, engine repair, engine performance, automatic transmissions and transaxles, and manual transmissions and drive trains. Ford's MLR program enables students to obtain 38 percent of the required training to be qualified to work for a Ford dealership.

All students at CCTC are members of SkillsUSA, a national nonprofit organization serving teachers, high school and college students who are preparing for careers in trade technical and skilled service occupations. Weese coaches and leads teams to local, regional and national competitions hosted by SkillsUSA, Ford AAA, and the Greater New York National Automotive Contest.

The student to teacher ratio at CCTC is 20:1 with the addition of new instructor Thomas Evans. With a graduation percentage of more than 95 percent during the last five years, more than 47 percent of students go on to work in an automotive-related field, 38 percent attend either a two- or four-year college and almost seven percent join the armed forces.

With all these stats, awards and achievements, you might be wondering, “Underdog?” Absolutely. First, they are a high school – the first time a high school has won the competition. Second, many of the students come from challenging backgrounds that make this victory even sweeter. A majority of the students at CCTC are under-privileged and the CCTC Foundation helps give these students a chance for further education. The instructors also help the students apply for AYES and other scholarships.

Weese and Falkner call the students their kids and show their support outside of the classroom as well, attending sporting events, concerts, plays and other activities their students participate in. They know the stakes are high for these students to feel supported and to have someone believe in them.

The defining quality that makes a school “School of the Year” is tough to pinpoint. It’s a combination of the people, the students, the administration and obviously the program’s success. Here’s a short list of CCTC accomplishments:

- Recognized as the best program in Louisiana by ASE twice and 7th in the country.
- Only secondary or post-secondary school in the state to be recognized by the Career and Technical Education Dissemination Group as one of six promising programs in the nation.
- Gary Weese was recognized as first runner-up for the National Instructor of the Year for AYES, is president of the Louisiana Association for Career and Technical Education and was recognized as Instructor of the Year for 2009/2010. He also has served as the chairperson on the national AYES Automotive Instructor Roundtable (a 12 member group).
- National Runner-Up award winner for the Automotive Industrial Planning Council in 2005 and 2006.

The instructors and administrators at Caddo Career & Technology Center believe their greatest reward is seeing the students succeed at school and in life, because as they say, “When this happens we all win.”





Chicago
Pneumatic



2010 SCHOOL OF THE YEAR EVENT

A full contingent of representatives from Chicago Pneumatic, Tomorrow's Technician, associate sponsor WIX Filters and of course, the main man Rich Evans, descended upon Shreveport, La., on April 27 to crown Caddo Career & Technology Center as the 2010 School of the Year.

Presenting the School of the Year trophy and \$10,000 in tools to the Caddo Career & Technology Center was good fun. But, the best parts were meeting the instructors, administrators and students, watching the kids interact with Rich Evans, and of course, seeing the students put the CP7749 to the test in the now-annual wheel changing contest.

A highlight of the event was the 2010 School of the Year trophy designed by Rich Evans. Rich welded together car parts, like shocks and pistons, along with a CP7740 and WIX racing filter to create a truly unique trophy that weighed in at more than 40 pounds.

The \$10,000 tool prize received rave reviews as well, as students and instructors peered over the table of shiny new Chicago Pneumatic tools, ready to open the boxes and get their hands dirty playing with their new toys. Students didn't have to wait long to try out the new CP7749 and CP7750 Turbo.

The two ½ inch impacts were the weapons of choice in the tire changing contest, pitting students against each other in a race to remove and replace a tire on either a Honda Accord or Ford Mustang. The students didn't fail to impress, with the winners laying down times close to 40 seconds.



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Rich Evans was a hit with the students as well. Rich signed autographs and spoke with students for more than two hours. He even played his new Rich Evans iPhone app with a group of students – see the video on our [Facebook](#) page.

Adding to the atmosphere was the presence of multiple TV news cameras and print reporters. They were all gathered to tell the story of how this high school program from Shreveport was able to knock off more than 160 schools in this year's competition, and as the AYES representative that spoke at the event said, "And, the more than 2,000 other schools that didn't even have the guts to apply!"

Check out the Chicago Pneumatic page on [Facebook](#) for more videos, photos and stories from the event!





CRANKED UP CONTEST: APRIL

READ CRANKED UP - WIN FREE STUFF



CRANKED CONTEST

Send us the name of the tool that Rich Evans used in his design of the 2010 Chicago Pneumatic/Tomorrow's Technician School of the Year trophy. One lucky winner from all of the correct entries will receive the pneumatic impact of their choice! Send your answer to cp.teamusa@cp.com.

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