



AAPEX was packed with exhibitors—about 2,400 strong, manning 5,000 booths... while attendees from approximately 130 countries filled the aisles.

There were 40 education sessions on the latest technologies and industry trends—all complimentary; a Remanufacturing Section, a Tool and Equipment Section and NARSA Heat Transfer and Mobile A/C Pavilion. Live NASCAR Engine Rebuilding contests drew many spectators.

Many, many Canadians were in attendance... members of Uni-Select, NAPA, CARQUEST, Lordco, Bestbuy, Auto-Value (Vast Auto), Auto Sense, Piston Ring and many more were seen walking the floor looking for new products and great deals.

Canadians were also in the limelight. Jim Tennant, CEO, Piston Ring Service Supply Co. of Winnipeg, was presented with the 2013 Art Fisher Memorial Scholarship Award by AWDA for his support in training and education.

Mevotech of Toronto won a New Packaging Award in the Environmental Impact sector and SpectraPremium of Quebec won in the Economics division. The AIA members' Canada Night Reception entertained over 1,000 people during the evening. **SB**

Free New Functionality for AB Magique



PHOTO: AB MAGIQUE

VL Communications announced a new functionality, totally free of charge for AB Magique software users. Anyone can download the application directly to their Android or Apple devices, go scan a VIN barcode on any vehicle, and send it to their current estimate in seconds. This allows technicians to get faster and more accurate information.

In a matter of seconds, you'll obtain the Year, Make, Model, the VIN (and more), and be able to look for the correct parts for the right vehicle, using VL's state-of-the-art e-commerce integrations.

Users in the past needed costly scanners to scan the VIN information, but those days are over! VL's new integration saves time and money for technicians around the country. Finally, this significantly reduces hand data entry on vehicles and ensures accuracy when it comes ordering parts.

To enable this VIN barcode scanning app through AB Magique software, just call VL's free Technical Support team at 1-800-268-4044. **SB**



If you've ever been to the SEMA Show, you know how big it is... this year was the biggest ever. It had over 25,000 exhibitors and drew

more than 130,000 international and domestic buyers from more than 130 countries in three huge halls covering a vast 1-million sq.ft.

Hot custom cars, glamorous paint finishes, accessories galore, racing engines, race parts, tires, wheels... you name the part, it was there - you could see anything pertaining to the automotive, truck and SUV, powersports, and RV markets and then some!

All exhibits are displayed in 12 sections, and the New Products Showcase showcased about 2,000 newly introduced parts, tools and components. The SEMA Show also provides attendees with educational seminars, product demonstrations, special events, networking opportunities and much more.

The show even spilled over to the outside and there you could see about 6,000 cars and trucks—all duded up and ready to rock'n'roll. In addition, many celebrities were on hand—Richard Petty, Danica Patrick, Jeff Gordon, master builders Chip Foose and Troy Trepanier... just to name a few! **SB**

New London DC for Vast-Auto

March 2014 will see the opening of a new Distribution Centre in London, Ontario, for Vast-Auto. This brings their DC total to 5!

Vast-Auto is very enthusiastic about this addition. It will offer a strong value proposition to parts stores located in South Western Ontario. This investment in inventory will provide local parts stores with a wide assortment of vehicle parts and accessories - both national and private label brands - thus reducing lead times and allowing them to better serve their customers.

"This is a very important market for us and we are committed to offering parts stores parts availability, through accessibility with our wide product assortment, plus provide value added services to fulfill the needs of our growing customer base," said John Del Vasto, President of Vast-Auto Distribution.

"We continue to reinforce our focus on service as a key differentiator from our competition. This reflects our commitment to our customers and reinforces our proximity strategy with our channel partners across Ontario and Quebec," explained Del Vasto. **SB**