

Autoglass® Newsbulletin

May 2012

Autoglass® unveils new Automotive Technician Accreditation (ATA) Centre in Waterford.



In keeping with its commitment to innovation in delivering the very highest quality and safety standards, Autoglass, part of the world's leading vehicle glass repair and Replacement Company, has today unveiled its new Automotive Technician Accreditation centre in its Waterford facility.

The new ATA Autoglazing Assessment Centre, the first of its kind in Ireland, will be used as a location for the comprehensive training of Autoglass staff to meet the internationally recognised Automotive Technician Accreditation.

Autoglass is honoured that the **Chief Ex-**

ecutive of the Road Safety Authority, Noel Brett, officially opened the ATA Autoglazing Assessment Centre, demonstrating the commitment of both Autoglass and the RSA to the highest standards of vehicle safety.

Speaking at the opening, Mr Brett commented "Autoglass is to be congratulated for opening this ATA centre and I am delighted to be here today on behalf of the Road Safety Authority to preside over today's event. While much progress has been made in recent years to reduce the number of deaths on Irish roads, we have still some distance to go to meet the best international standards. Clearly improvements in vehicle safety are an important part of this, and I applaud Autoglass

for ensuring that all their technicians achieve the highest possible standards of training"

The ATA demonstrates to customers that the technician who has fitted their replacement glass has achieved the highest levels of technical competence and professional responsibility in the repair and replacement of vehicle glass.

The ATA process is monitored independently by the Institute of the Motor Industry (IMI) who oversee practical skills tests and knowledge based exams that must be retaken every three years.

The **General Manager of Autoglass, Mr Heiner Herz** added "Autoglass has voluntarily developed this centre and the

ATA Autoglazing process in an attempt to proactively introduce a proper level of vehicle glass repair and replacement qualifications into the Irish market. At present, the sector is largely unregulated and anyone can start-up a windscreen fitting business without any qualifications or standards".

"This is a potentially very serious situation given that a properly fitted windscreen accounts for up to 30% of the structural integrity of a vehicle".

"Autoglass is embarking on a campaign to highlight the importance of properly fitted windscreens and will be bringing our findings to industry partners and relevant authorities in the coming weeks."

[read more...](#)



Noel Brett (Road Safety Authority) speaking at the event



Heiner Herz – GM Autoglass

Eamonn Duffy – First Autoglazing ATA Tech in the ROI

Noel Brett – Road Safety Authority



Noel Brett officially opens the ATA training Centre



Heiner Herz congratulates Eamonn for being the first Autoglazing ATA Technician in the ROI



Noel Brett – Road Safety Authority
Soirse Leahy – Royal & sun Alliance
Morgan Stewart – Royal & Sun Alliance
Matthew Knight – Royal & Sun Alliance
Heiner Herz - Autoglass



Darren Power – Institute of Automotive Engineers Assessors (IAEA)
Noel Brett – Road Safety Authority
Cyril Jacob – Assess Ireland
John Murphy – Ruken Engineering
Heiner Herz - Autoglass



Noel Brett – Road Safety Authority
Ciaran Phelan – Irish Brokers association
Heiner Herz - Autoglass
Elaine Maher – Irish Brokers association
Inspector Anthony Dineen



Margaret O' Shea – SIMI
Noel Brett – Road Safety Authority
Liam Brazil – Waterford County Mayor
Heiner Herz - Autoglass