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Cincinnati Area Auto Body Shop Receives \$65,000 from OAQDA to Reduce Emissions, Save Energy

73-Year-Old Business Receives Funds to Upgrade Equipment

COLUMBUS – A long-time Cincinnati area automotive paint and body repair shop seeking to improve efficiency, save energy and reduce emissions was approved by the Ohio Air Quality Development Authority to receive \$65,000 in air quality bond financing from the Clean Air Resource Center at the Authority’s January meeting.

Llanfair Body Shop, located at 9394 Pippin Rd., plans to use the funds to replace its 26-year-old paint booth with a new energy-efficient downdraft paint booth.

The new booth will increase capacity by enabling the Llanfair paint teams to spray repaired vehicles and disassembled parts in one cycle, thanks to larger cabin size. The new booth features technology upgrades that reduce energy consumption and improve filtered air quality, Dave Schofield of Llanfair, explained.

Schofield added that the natural gas direct-powered burners for the new paint booth will utilize 997,000 BTU burners with 98 percent efficiency.

“The OAQDA funding will help us increase the efficiency and quality of our refinish department thus reducing the cycle time of repairs. This investment is part of our ongoing commitment to customer service and high quality repairs,” he said.

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Cincinnati Area Auto Body Shop

He added that Llanfair plans to convert to water-based, color coat paints once the new booth is operational. This change will improve the air quality for Llanfair technicians as well as for the environment.

Schofield said the Llanfair technicians use high efficiency HVLP paint guns to reduce overspray. Any overspray is captured in the advanced filtering process of the paint booths, thereby drastically reducing emissions.

“The new booths will have specially-designed panels to prevent heat loss into the surrounding shop, which, combined with the more efficient recycled baking system will reduce energy consumption. This will save energy and contribute for cost savings for us as well,” Schofield said.

Llanfair has served auto body customers in the Cincinnati area since its founding in 1944. Schofield bought the company in 1973 and operates it with his wife. He said the business currently has four technicians and recently added another paint tech thanks to the cost savings he anticipates with the OAQDA paint booth financing.

“We are pleased to provide this Clean Air Resource Center financing for the paint booth project at Llanfair Body Shop. Projects like this show how OAQDA assists small and medium-sized Ohio businesses in preserving and protecting air quality while helping them save money on utilities and conserve energy,” Chadwick Smith, OAQDA executive director, said.

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The Ohio Air Quality Development Authority (OAQDA) is a non-regulatory government agency created to help Ohio businesses comply with clean air regulations. Since its creation in 1970, the Authority has provided technical and financial help to hundreds of large and small Ohio businesses, awarding more than \$8 billion to finance air quality projects. For more information about OAQDA and its services, please visit its web site at www.ohioairquality.org.

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