



### *News Release*

## **Third Annual N! North America Connecting Days Held in Chicagoland Area**

- *Event provided a forum for NEXUS North America founding partners, The Network, Automotive Parts Associates and VIPAR Heavy Duty, to meet with current and prospective global suppliers*
- *N! North America Connecting Days allowed the three founding program groups to share ideas, knowledge and work collectively toward key initiatives*
- *Event highlighted with NEXUS North America members holding one-on-one meetings with suppliers*
- *NEXUS North America serves as the exclusive partner for NEXUS Automotive International SA in North America*

**Rosemont, Ill.** – May 17, 2018 – Members of NEXUS North America met in the Chicagoland area for the group’s third annual N! North America Connecting Days May 15-16, 2018. The event served as a forum for NEXUS North America founding partners, [The Automotive Distribution Network](#) (The Network), [Automotive Parts Associates](#) (APA), [VIPAR Heavy Duty](#) and executives of NEXUS Automotive International, to meet with current and prospective global supplier partners.

The two-day event offered an opportunity for NEXUS North America members and suppliers to spend dedicated time together, reaffirm existing relationships and explore new business opportunities.

“Connecting Days is an opportunity for NEXUS North America to meet with suppliers that are new to the North American market as well as strengthen our existing vendor programs,” commented David Prater, president of The Network.

N! Connecting Days North America was highlighted with NEXUS North America members holding productive one-on-one meetings with suppliers. It also provided a forum for all three North America program groups to share ideas, knowledge and work collectively on key initiatives to best meet the dynamic needs of customers ranging from light passenger through heavy duty commercial vehicles.

NEXUS Connecting Days is a global program initiated by NEXUS Automotive International to help the N! Community to accelerate its growth. Next to the yearly global N! Business Forum, more than 10 local Connecting Days are organized every year by NEXUS around the world. This event is one of the most important innovations of NEXUS among its community.

“In an industry that’s constantly changing, it’s important for our shareholders that we create and develop key partnerships in order to provide stability and competitive supplier programs,” noted Douglas Squires, Automotive Parts Associates board chairman. “Our alliance with the Automotive Distribution Network and VIPAR Heavy Duty gives us an opportunity to not only discuss the changing environment and share insights, but it has also provided a valuable connection for

collaboration toward future growth. By creating a support structure like NEXUS North America, we all benefit as resources for each other.”

NEXUS North America continues to deliver value to its members through real-time collaboration on a variety of projects in areas such as parts distribution center opportunities, national fleets and technology, including a B2B platform to provide an e-commerce solution for end-user customers.

“We have just started down the road, but already the level of cooperation and collaboration among NEXUS North America members is a model for what successful industry partnerships look like,” explained Chris Baer, president and CEO of VIPAR Heavy Duty. “The great work we have accomplished over the past few years has enabled us to better serve our respective customers.”

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Image attached:

Image link: <http://bit.ly/2wl5J7e>

#### **About Automotive Distribution Network**

The Automotive Distribution Network is one of the largest, most diverse program groups in the industry. The Network is a full-service program group providing services including marketing, technology, purchasing and sales. Network members operate under the brands Parts Plus, Parts Plus Mexico, Auto Pride, IAPA and are located in Canada, United States, Mexico and Puerto Rico.

#### **About Automotive Parts Associates**

Automotive Parts Associates, Inc. is a member-owned cooperative made up of over 70 shareholders of independent auto parts distributors with 400+ warehouse and company store locations throughout North America. For more information about APA or about membership opportunities, visit [www.ProfessionalsChoice.com](http://www.ProfessionalsChoice.com).

#### **About VIPAR Heavy Duty**

VIPAR Heavy Duty is North America’s leading network of independent aftermarket truck parts distributors. VIPAR Heavy Duty distributors serve the needs of their customers from more than 630 locations across the United States, Canada, Puerto Rico and Mexico. VIPAR Heavy Duty distributors are specialists who understand the demands of their local, regional, and national customers for quality parts and exceptional service. VIPAR Heavy Duty also operates two wholly owned subsidiaries, Global Parts Network, LLC and Power Heavy Duty, LLC, as part of the VIPAR Heavy Duty family of companies. For more information, visit [www.vipar.com](http://www.vipar.com).

#### **About NEXUS North America**

NEXUS North America is a leading aftermarket trade group and the exclusive partner for NEXUS Automotive International SA in North America. The organization is comprised of Automotive Distribution Network, Automotive Parts Associates and VIPAR Heavy Duty, who collaborate to share ideas, knowledge and strategies to best meet the needs of customers in their respective market segments – ranging from light passenger through heavy duty commercial vehicles.

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