CVSN to Honor two industry icons with the 2019 President’s Award

(Jacksonville, FL March 14) – The CVSN Board of Directors has decided to honor two industry icons as co-recipients for the 2019 president’s award. Steve Crowley from VIPAR and Pat Biermann from HDA America will each be receiving the president’s award for their many years of service to the HD aftermarket industry.

Steve Crowley began his career in the parts business in the early-seventies working at a NAPA store and later as part owner of a NAPA store. He sold his interests to his partner in the late 1970’s. Steve’s Heavy Duty aftermarket experience began at Schien Body and Equipment as a regional sales manager in their parts operation before joining Chicago Rawhide in 1981. Steve spent about 17 years at CR/SKF (most of that time as the Director of Sales for the Heavy Duty Aftermarket) then left CR/SKF in 1998 to help develop a new company, QDS Partners (Today known as FleetPride). Steve’s time at VIPAR Heavy Duty began in the year 2000 where he first started as the Executive VP, and then became the President of the company a couple years later, took over the role of President, and CEO a year later. Steve officially retired from VIPAR at the end of 2017.

Steve said, “I believe we are very fortunate to work in an industry where personal relationships still matter. Along the way I have been lucky to have had some great relationships that made my 40+ years in this business fly by”. “I greatly appreciate the board of CVSN recognizing my contributions to the heavy duty aftermarket.”

Pat Biermann started his career in 1982 when a group of 10 heavy duty industry distributors hired him to start HD America, the first Heavy Duty marketing group. Over the years HDA became the industry leader and was a force to be reckoned with. Forty years later, as HDA has grown, Pat’s involvement with associations like CVSN, events like HDAW, mentoring the new generation, working with companies on all levels, also has grown.

Pat said, “My time at HD America was quite a ride and it is quite humbling to be honored as a recipient of the President’s Award from CVSN. Throughout my career I have been fortunate to have been associated with bright, forward thinking people from the Independent heavy duty aftermarket and I can honestly say that my true friends come from this Industry”.

The president’s award, which honors those individuals who have contributed greatly to the heavy duty aftermarket and promoting and supporting the independent aftermarket distributor, will be presented at the Monday, September 16th Opening General Session at the CVSN Annual Aftermarket Distribution Summit to be held at the Rimrock Resort Hotel in Banff, Alberta, Canada from September 14 to 18, 2019.

More information on the September Summit will be available soon. To learn more about the Summit and CVSN or becoming a member visit www.cvsn.org.

About CVSN: CVSN (www.cvsn.org), is the voice of the HD independent aftermarket distributor. The mission of CVSN is to strengthen its members’ businesses through training and education and building strong relationships between members and their supply partners across North America. CVSN is leading the efforts to protect the independent aftermarket from challenges brought by the OE vehicle manufacturers and government regulations. CVSN is a co-owner of HDAW along with the Auto Care Association and the Heavy Duty Manufacturers Association (HDMA) and hosts the Aftermarket Distribution Summit every September for their distributor members and supplier partners.