

Coaches Corner

Interview with Matt Franchetti, instructor for the Mercedes-Benz STARt program in Norwood, MA

Who are you? Matt Franchetti, Mercedes-Benz STARt instructor. I will have been teaching at UTI for six years this July. I have been working in the automotive field for 26 years mainly as a technician but have held positions, such as service manager, shop owner, and technical trainer. I have also worked in the insurance industry. I am married and have two children, five and three.

What special skills and or certifications do you have? I am Mercedes-Benz certified, ASE Certified Master Auto Technician and a Rhode Island Licensed Emissions/Safety inspector. I have trained in and taught seven of UTI's core automotive courses, Course 3 Super Street, Course 4 Fuel and Ignition, Course 5 Drivability and Emissions, Course 8 Climate Control, Course 22 Advanced Electrical, Course 25 Professional Applications, and Course 26 Advanced Diagnostics. I am also a Certified Snap-On Modis Instructor.

What's your favorite automobile? My favorite car would be a Lamborghini Countach of mid 1980's vintage. Of course Mercedes-Benz is also at the top of the list. Any S class or SL class will do.

Why should students consider Mercedes Benz STARt? The STARt program prepares students with Mercedes-Benz service and repair procedures, Wiring Diagrams, the Star Diagnosis System (SDS), Vehicle Master Inquiry (VMI, the Mercedes-Benz Scan Tool), Specialty Tools and Netstar to name a few of the topics covered. Upon starting work at a Mercedes-Benz Dealership, the STARt graduate will have a good understanding of the vehicles, technology, correct workshop procedures, and repair. ***They can earn 15 credentials which gets them well on their way to earning Master Technician status. In addition most of our students take advantage of optional on-line and DVD courses that can earn them an additional 27 credentials.*** All combined STARt gives them a substantial head **STARt** over other technicians.



What should a student bring into your class? They should bring a desire to work on luxury cars, a positive attitude, a willingness to learn, the ability to work with others and a professional work ethic. These are also the qualities Mercedes-Benz and dealers are looking for in their employees.

What should a student expect after class? Confidence in themselves that they can work at a Mercedes Benz dealer or independent and have the basic knowledge and building blocks for a career working on beautiful vehicles that have some of the automotive industries latest cutting edge technology.

Why did you choose a teaching career with UTI? I still like working on cars and learning about technology. Teaching at UTI allows me to do that, work with the students and pass on my automotive knowledge.