



October 24, 2012
For Immediate Release
Photos available

Contact: Carrie Blewitt
202-683-3216
cblewitt@qorvis.com

AAMCO'S "50 Cars in 50 States" Reaches Marine Corporal in Arizona

Afghanistan War Veteran from Phoenix area enjoys free car repairs

from local AAMCO dealership

HORSHAM, Pa. – [AAMCO](#), the world's largest chain of transmission specialists, continued its *50 Cars in 50 States* initiative by repairing the car of an Afghanistan War veteran in Arizona through its partnership with the [Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) (MOPH).

U.S. Marine Corps Corporal Brad Ivanchan served three tours of duty in the Afghanistan War. He lost both of his legs in an improvised explosive device blast in June 2012. He recently received prosthetic legs that have allowed him to walk and drive again. Cpl. Ivanchan is a native of the Phoenix area. He and his wife, Sarah Ivanchan, are currently living in San Diego as he is undergoing rehabilitation at the Navy Medical Center in San Diego, Calif., where he expects another 18 to 24 months of treatment.

The couple relies on his car to get to Cpl. Ivanchan's physical therapy and medical appointments and to drive back to Phoenix to visit family. Ivanchan's 2000 Infinity was having major trouble, and they were seeking assistance with the repairs. The car was overheating and the oil was leaking. The cooling system and engine were showing problems too.

Word of Ivanchan's car trouble made its way to AAMCO during the Purple Heart National Convention in Phoenix in August, where AAMCO was participating and presenting details of the *50 Cars in 50 States* program. The timing was perfect.

"I really appreciate all that AAMCO has done for me and my wife by repairing our car," said Cpl. Brad Ivanchan. "It's essential to have another vehicle to get to and from rehab, and to visit my family in Phoenix."

Cpl. Ivanchan and his wife picked up their newly repaired car on Monday, October 8 from the Mesa AAMCO service center at 868 S. Country Club Drive, where the services were provided free of charge from a combined effort of all 20-area AAMCO dealers. It was determined that the cooling system, left side axle and all engine mounts needed repair. AAMCO made these repairs as well as replaced the oil switch and the fluids and belts. A complete inspection of the car was conducted to ensure the vehicle will continue to serve him and his family for years to come.

As a special surprise to the Ivanchans, the local area AAMCO dealers also provided the funds for a new windshield and minor bodywork and they detailed the car. These additional efforts

were done to demonstrate the company's appreciation of Cpl. Ivanchan's sacrifice to the country.

"Cpl. Ivanchan's bravery and perseverance is an inspiration to us all," said Wayne Martella, of the Mesa AAMCO center. "It's an honor to be able to assist America's combat wounded veterans and to participate in AAMCO's *50 Cars in 50 States* initiative."

In celebration of its 50th anniversary in 2012, AAMCO partnered with the MOPH to give back to America's veterans in communities across the U.S. Through the *50 Cars in 50 States* program, AAMCO is repairing the cars of 50 combat veterans, with the goal to repair one in each state. The Arizona vehicle is just one of the first repairs that AAMCO will make through its partnership with the MOPH to commemorate 50 years of total car care service.

About AAMCO

[AAMCO](#) is the world's largest chain of transmission specialists and one of the leaders in total car care services. AAMCO has over 900 automotive centers throughout the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico. Established in 1962, AAMCO centers are proud to have served more than 45 million drivers. For more information, visit www.AAMCO.com.

About the Military Order of the Purple Heart

The organization now known as the "[Military Order of the Purple Heart](#) of the U.S.A. Inc.," (MOPH) was formed in 1932 for the protection and mutual interest of all who have received the decoration. Chartered by the Congress, The MOPH is unique among Veteran Service Organizations in that all its members were wounded in combat. For this sacrifice, they were awarded the Purple Heart Medal. With grants from the MOPH Service Foundation, the MOPH and its Ladies Auxiliary promote Patriotism, Fraternalism, and the Preservation of America's military history. Most importantly, they provide comfort and assistance to all Veterans and their families, especially those requiring claims assistance with the VA, those who are homeless, and those requiring employment assistance. Through the VAVS program, MOPH volunteers provide assistance to hospitalized veterans at VA sites and State Veterans Homes.

###