

SOUNDING OFF! *continued from page 5*

"stimulus." I'm not trying to bash the government, but sending \$600 to everyone was supposed to drive the economy. I think it only drove up oil company profits because we all drive."

Scott Wahlstrom, Marketing Manager, Motor State Distributing: "I asked some of our customers and most of them said that although several of their customers said they were going to be using their stimulus check to buy some aftermarket parts, they didn't notice any spike in sales for that period of time. My personal feeling is that with rising fuel cost and living expenses increasing daily, many Americans simply absorbed the stimulus check into their household funds and spent it on necessity items like fuel and

groceries. I do believe some people did spend it on aftermarket parts but I don't think enough was spent to spike sales for that given period of time."

Jon Wyly, Executive VP, Arrow Speed Warehouse: "While reports indicate that stimulus checks did have a modest positive effect to the general economy, I haven't heard any compelling reports from the field that indicate any great surge in customer spending on specialty parts. Our e-commerce business during the period grew at the same consistent rate and brick-and-mortar jobbers continue to report sluggish activity. Personally, I think a fair amount of stimulus checks went right to the gas tank, credit card bills, house payments, etc. Lower fuel prices are what we need to truly stimulate the economy!"

IRS Increases Mileage Rate Deduction to Reflect High Gas Prices

Soaring gas prices caused the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) to raise the standard business mileage deduction by 8 cents to 58.5 cents for all business miles driven between July 1 and December 31, 2008.

It is unusual for the IRS to make a mid-year adjustment. The mileage calculation also includes all other aspects of buying and operating a vehicle such

as depreciation, insurance and tires. Businesses and individuals who use their car for business have the option of using the standard rate in lieu of keeping records of their actual expenses.

The adjusted 2008 standard rate of 58.5 cents per mile applies to the use of automobiles (including vans, pickups and panel trucks) for business purposes.

Source: LA Times

TIMBREN

TIMBREN SES
Suspension Enhancement Systems

- Reduce Sway
- Improve Roll Stability
- Cushion Road Shocks
- Improve Handling

- ✓ No Drilling
- ✓ Easy to Install
- ✓ Trouble Free
- ✓ Lifetime Warranty
- ✓ Satisfaction Guarantee

The Simple Solution to Ride & Handling
for Pickups, SUVs & Vans

Call for Information

1-800-263-3113
www.timbren.com