The Professional Bicycle Mechanics Association & United Bicycle Institute (UBI) join forces in order to collaborate on a cycling industry standard basic certification.

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In October of 2016 the PBMA posted a call to action, asking the industry to step forward and be more involved in a vision of standardized certification for the cycling industry.

The cycling industry as a whole, and specifically the IBD, rely on a constant supply of professional and highly skilled technicians. This joint project seeks to create a platform to encourage, educate and then certify current and future generations of professional bicycle mechanics.

With the traditional methodology of mechanic assessment in mind, the PBMA is devoted to the development of a certification program that will simplify the process of determining the specific skill set of the bicycle mechanic. This will achieve the goal of an industry-accepted benchmark for both mechanics themselves (being able to effectively present their experience and qualifications), and for potential employers (adequately assess a potential new hire).

James Stanfill, President of the PBMA says, "The partnership of UBI and their vast experience in education and delivery of education with the connectivity of the PBMA make this a great match. Ron personally has more than 30 years of teaching and his team of seasoned professional instructors provide an insurmountable bank of knowledge to tap into."

Ron Sutphin, Owner of United Bicycle Institute says, "Every level of the bicycle industry will benefit from this process. After communicating with the PBMA over the past few months it is clear that UBI shares the common goals of providing all cyclists with the highest level of safety and performance as well as recognition of the demanding skillset of the professional bicycle mechanic. UBI is eager to share our 35 years of experience and to collaborate industry wide to achieve these goals and more."

The certification project is focused on increasing professionalism, accessibility of training and education, utilizing existing resources and creating new ones. Training and certification should be easily attainable goals for those working within the cycling industry. This effort is community driven and it is intended to be inclusive of all interested in driving it. The formal certification project will be unveiled at Interbike 2017. Additional details and ongoing updates are available on the PBMA website.

For more information about the PBMA Certification Project, visit: www.probma.org/certification.html

For more information about UBI, visit: www.bikeschool.com