

Understanding Insurance

Dream Car, Nightmare Insurance? Do You Have All The Auto Coverage You Think You Have?

(NAPSA)—Millions of auto owners are involved in accidents every year. And if that weren't bad enough, auto owners are often stunned to find out that their auto coverage actually may not cover everything they anticipate. For instance, many auto policies will take a deduction for depreciation—even if a brand-new auto is involved in an accident while driving off the dealer's lot.

"Too often, the importance of having the right insurance is not realized until a loss occurs, and consumers are left paying more than expected for auto repairs," according to Cathy Rein, president and CEO of MetLife Auto & Home. "There are many unexpected out-of-pocket expenses that consumers need to be aware of, because all insurers are certainly not the same."

Below are some questions you should ask before purchasing auto insurance:

- If your new car is damaged beyond repair, will your auto insurer replace the vehicle with a new one, or take a deduction for depreciation (a loss in value as items age or wear out)?
- If your older auto is involved in an accident, will your auto insurer replace items like tires, batteries, steering and electrical wiring components in full, without taking a deduction for depreciation?
- If you have an accident while driving a rental car and it needs repair work, will your auto insurance pay the rental agency's expenses for daily loss of rental



A thorough understanding of your auto insurance policy can help keep you on the road to savings.

income while the auto is out of service? Will it pay for the towing, storage and administrative costs that the rental company may incur?

"Consumers are often surprised to find out that their insurers deduct for depreciation when settling both total and partial loss claims on their brand new owned vehicles," says Rein. "Customers are also shocked to get bills from a rental-car company for the company's business losses, and are unhappy to discover that their auto insurance does not reimburse for these expenses. By asking questions before the loss, the customer has the option to either accept limited coverage or secure a more complete policy."

For more information about MetLife Auto & Home, contact your local MetLife Auto & Home provider or authorized Independent Agent, or visit MetLife's Web site at www.metlife.com.