



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday 1 September 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Automotive Careers Ignited through Auto Camp

The automotive industry is currently experiencing a downturn in the number of young people entering the trade, resulting in a widespread skills shortage that plagues much of the industry.

As the industry continues to recover from the devastating effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, an abundance of jobs in the automotive sector are available due to a lack of qualified workers available to fill these roles.

In response to the downturn in young people interested in the automotive trade, the Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) has developed Auto Camp, a popular three-day school-holiday program for high school students aged between 14 and 17.

Auto Camp is designed to give participants a taste of the wide variety of career opportunities available in the automotive industry, with students receiving hands-on experience in a range of different automotive skills, from maintenance of internal-combustion-engines to operations of hybrid and electric vehicles and panel beating.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

Address: Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113 (Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)
Telephone +61 7 3237 8777 | Toll Free 1800 177 951 | Email info@mtaq.com.au | Website | www.mtaq.com.au

Auto Camp has also proven to be beneficial to students who perhaps initially do not share an interest in automotive sector but are interested in following a STEM tertiary pathway. With innovations and technologies connected to renewable fuels and artificial intelligence becoming more common in the industry, exciting new opportunities are appealing to all calibre of students.

Dr Brett Dale, Group Chief Executive for MTA Queensland said, "Since launching in 2018, Auto Camp has provided high-school students with an enjoyable, educational introduction to the automotive industry. The feedback we have received from students and parents who have undertaken the course has been phenomenal.

"We are continuing to see students who have participated in Auto Camp progress to our pre-vocational program, with a number of students going on to commence an apprenticeship, which is a fantastic outcome as we continue to address the skills shortage in the industry.

"The course is also beneficial for young car enthusiasts and hobbyists and it empowers teenagers to understand the workings of a vehicle, which helps with car maintenance and safety."

The next course will be 22nd to the 24th of September. The program is operating in a COVID-safe environment with PPE, social distancing and hygiene practices implemented. To enquire about the course, please contact courses@mtai.edu.au or call (07) 3237 8777.

ENDS

For more information:

Lysa Dugandzic | General Manager - Marketing & Communications | 0428 510 163 | lysad@mtaq.com.au

Background:

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (**MTA Queensland**) is the peak body representing the interests of employers in the retail, repair and service sectors of Queensland's automotive / mobility industry. There are some 15,500 automotive value chain businesses employing in excess of 90,000 people, that generate more than \$20 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

Address: Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113 (Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)
Telephone +61 7 3237 8777 | Toll Free 1800 177 951 | Email info@mtaq.com.au | Website | www.mtaq.com.au

of relevance to the automotive / mobility industry to all levels of Government and within Queensland's economic structure. In 2019 MTA Queensland was announced as an ABA100 winner in The Australian Business Awards and a finalist in the Lord Mayor's Business Awards, for Business Innovation.

The Association is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry through the **MTA Institute (RTO 31529)** - a registered training organisation. It is the largest independent automotive apprentice trainer in Queensland employing experienced trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba to Emerald. In the last year, the MTA Institute delivered accredited courses to more than 2,000 students. The MTA Institute is the first trade RTO in Australia to be approved under the ITECA Industry Certification Program and was announced the winner of the Small Training Provider of the Year at the 2019 Queensland Training Awards.

MTAiQ, Australia's first automotive innovation hub established by MTA Queensland in 2017, is an eco-system that supports innovation for mobility and the motor trades.

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

Address: Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113 (Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)
Telephone +61 7 3237 8777 | Toll Free 1800 177 951 | Email info@mtaq.com.au | Website | www.mtaq.com.au