



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Former MTAI Apprentice wins Scholarship to Chase International Motorsport Dream

Elliott Lemmon, a former light vehicle apprentice who trained with the MTA Institute and was the Institute's 2017 Apprentice of the Year, is to head overseas to pursue a long-held ambition to work at the top levels of motorsport.

The opportunity has come after the Ormiston 21-year-old was awarded a scholarship from the Queensland Overseas Foundation (QOF).

The Automotive Skills Queensland, QOF Industry Partnership Scholarship is an automotive scholarship founded via a partnership between QOF, MTA Queensland, the Heavy Vehicle Industry Australia, the Institute of Automotive Mechanical Engineers and the Construction & Mining Equipment Industry Group. It is the first such scholarship to be presented by the Foundation and is designed to offer graduates in the Queensland automotive industry the chance to work abroad with the help of a \$7500 scholarship.

Elliott received the award from the Governor of Queensland, His Excellency, Paul de Jersey AC at a special ceremony held at Parliament House in Brisbane.

The scholarship comes at the end of a whirlwind couple of years for Elliott. Back in October 2017, the then third-year apprentice won the MTA Institute's Apprentice of the Year award and in the ensuing 18 months. On top of completing his qualification and developing his skills at various employers across Brisbane, he has been a pivotal member of the MTAQ Racing Team Support Crew and has had the privilege of working with the Triple Eight Supercar racing team at their Banyo HQ as well as at the Ipswich and Gold Coast rounds of the Supercar championship.

It has been a tremendous grounding for a young man with his sights set firmly on a career in the fast-paced and high-pressured world of professional motorsport. With the help of the QOF scholarship, Elliot's hard work and ambition has paid off and he is making his first foray into the world of international competition to join the powerhouse racing outfit Absolute Racing. A team that operates from China, Malaysia and the U.S, and competes in multiple

### 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](mailto:info@mtaq.com.au) | Website | [www.mtaq.com.au](http://www.mtaq.com.au)

categories across the region, including the Asian Le Mans Series, Audi R8 LMS Cup, Blancpain GT Series Asia, China GT Championship, GT Asia Series, Pirelli World Challenge, Porsche Carrera Cup Asia and Formula Masters Series.

\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\*

**For more information:**

Lysa Dugandzic | Marketing & Communications Manager | 0428 510 163 | [lysad@mtaq.com.au](mailto: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 of relevance to the automotive / mobility industry to all levels of Government and within Queensland's economic structure.

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** - a registered training organisation. It is the largest private automotive apprentice trainer in Queensland employing experienced trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba to Emerald. The MTA Institute in the last financial year accredited courses to more than 2,000 apprentices and trainees.

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

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