



MEDIA STATEMENT

Wednesday 18 March 2020
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Queensland and MTA Institute Supporting Our Members and Apprentices Through COVID-19

COVID-19 is affecting our community and the world in an unprecedented way. Coronavirus is having a shocking impact on the economy and businesses are being pushed into uncharted financial waters.

We want to reinforce to our members that we are here.

Until the government advises otherwise, our MTA Institute trainers will support employers and apprentices and our MTA Queensland team will support all our member businesses, as we have always done.

Dr Brett Dale, Group Chief Executive said, "These are challenging times. But now more than ever is the time for us to support our industry. We will do this through:

- Strong leadership for industry. We know our members are worried as this health crisis impacts their businesses, livelihoods and loved ones. We intend to strengthen our advocacy at every opportunity, to ensure governments at all levels, are supporting the automotive industry. We are seeing some well-considered and appropriate policy initiatives from the Federal Government and some States. The challenge now is for the Queensland Government to lead the way in supporting businesses through courageous and sensible policy.
- Being the source of truth. Our member businesses need reliable, up-to-date information on the issues that affect them. We will be initiating a "COVID-19 Daily Briefing" to all members to ensure they are updated with the latest information. We

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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have also developed a [Member Resource Area](#) on our website. Members can find an up-to-date library of resources specifically for automotive employer businesses and members including:

- Australian Dept of Health Updates
 - Chamber of Commerce & Industry Queensland COVID-19 Employer Guide
 - Federal Govt Stimulus Package
 - ATO Relief
 - Qld Govt Assistance Package
 - Legal Information
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- Facilitating connections between members. We encourage members to follow our [MTA Queensland Facebook](#) page to keep connected to other members and join in industry discussions.
 - Encouraging members to utilise our Industrial Relations (IR) department. This vital team at MTA Queensland can help members navigate the significant challenges that will be presented in the coming months. The IR team can be called on 07 3237 8777."

There will be some silver linings to this crisis, and we will encourage the community to rally behind our member businesses and to show the spirit depicted in the recent bushfire tragedy.

There are tough times ahead and MTA Queensland and the MTA Institute will work with our employer members and apprentices to get through this challenge.

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For more information:

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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. 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

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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.

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