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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### MTA Queensland supports BMW on their push for low emission vehicles

The Motor Trade Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) was pleased to see BMW lead the call from car-makers to encourage the Australian Government to support low and zero-emissions vehicles as they begin their rollout of i-Performance plug-in vehicles.

From a global perspective, it's clear that low emission and electric vehicles are the way forward, with billions of dollars being invested in the pursuit of a cleaner future. However, the Australian Government is yet to act and BMW, along with many other car-making companies, is pushing for a robust policy supporting and adding incentives to the introduction of low-emission vehicles in the Australian market.

To date BMW has sold more than 100,000 electric vehicles globally, however from that number only 124 were sold in Australia. MTA Queensland has engaged extensively in an attempt to educate government on emerging technologies to ensure policy aligns with future developments.

Additionally, MTA Queensland strongly supports BMW in its push for government to act now and has been lobbying for several years for the need to reform taxes and charges on vehicles, including the luxury car tax (LCT), to encourage the supply of more efficient vehicles as we head into a new era of automotive technology. The current LCT threshold impacts on many Australian families whose family size and need require vehicles that exceed the threshold.

Dr Brett Dale, Group CEO for MTA Queensland said, "Now is the time to act and remove outdated policy that impacts on the average Australian family. As we enter the age of electric and autonomous vehicles we urge the government to remove barriers that restricts investment from manufacturers through disincentives to consumers. Government must review its LCT and at a minimum lift the threshold significantly, or remove it altogether, and stop penalising average-earning Australian families.

"Australia continues to lag behind comparable countries to encourage consumers to purchase low-emission vehicles and the government needs to put their support behind abolishing its LCT in favour of green vehicle incentives."

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

#### **For more information:**

Lysa Dugandzic | Marketing & Communications Manager | 0428 510 163

#### **Background:**

**MTA Queensland** is the peak organisation in the State representing the specific interests of businesses in the retail, repair and service sector of Queensland's automotive industry located in the State. There are some 13,000 automotive value chain businesses employing in excess of 90,000 persons generating in excess of \$14.5 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to the automotive industries 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 many trainers who are geographically dispersed from Cairns to the Gold Coast and Toowoomba and Emerald. The MTA Institute last

