



## MEDIA RELEASE

13 February 2023

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Keeping Industry Safe with New Hybrid and Battery Electric Vehicle Micro-Credentials

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) is launching a series of new micro-credential courses that explore the safety aspects and risks associated with Hybrid Electric Vehicles (HEV) and Battery Electric Vehicles (BEV).

Created to help address the workforce development needs of the emerging electric vehicle sector, the courses offer short, affordable, and immediate safety skills upgrades for business owners, tradespeople, and apprentices alike.

Proudly supported and funded by the Queensland Government under the new \$15m VET Emerging Industries initiative, the program will help prepare Queensland automotive businesses for the impending arrival of more electric vehicles in the workshop.

Minister Farmer said the initiative includes a \$4 million dollar commitment towards supporting energy skills including for hydrogen, electric vehicles, and renewable energy.

“It’s important we continue to invest in future skills and our future workforce, and these industry-led micro-credentials are a forward-thinking approach to upskilling,” Minister Farmer said.

“Micro-credentials help businesses to quickly upskill and train their staff, help industries meet workforce challenges, such as keeping up with changing technologies and help jobseekers update their knowledge and qualifications by completing a short course.

“I thank the Motor Trades Association of Queensland for their ongoing support and commitment to creating a skilled future workforce for Queensland.”

### 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)

The first course, HEV/BEV Light & Commercial Vehicle Technician Safety, is now available to industry, and covers the potential dangers that can arise during the repair and maintenance of electrified vehicles, and how best to mitigate them.

MTA Queensland Director of Industry Initiatives Paul Kulpa said “As we face what is arguably the biggest transition in our sector’s history, it is crucial that training is available now to ensure employees have the knowledge to work safely on and around these high voltage vehicles.

“The world of work is changing, and with it, so must we. Already in 2022, a total of 33,410 battery electric vehicles were sold across Australia. Combine this with the 81,786 Hybrid and 5,937 Plug-in Hybrid, electric vehicles account for roughly 11 per cent of the total new car market, and this number is not slowing anytime soon.

“MTA Queensland is proud to bring these courses to market; helping to instil confidence to work safely and paving the pathway to specialised training.”

Further to the HEV/BEV Light & Commercial Vehicle Technician Safety course, new micro-credentials will be released in the coming months covering micro-mobility and outdoor power equipment, heavy vehicle and mobile plant, as well as driver/operator safety.

Available online, these non-accredited courses can be completed anytime, anywhere, and only take a few hours to complete. Each course is full of tips, takeaways, and reflective questions to test and build a participant’s knowledge, with a Certificate of Completion issued at the end of each course.

To find out more, visit the MTA Queensland website [HERE](#).

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

**For more information:**

Matthew Ivers | Marketing & Communications Coordinator | 3722 3007 | [matthewi@mtaq.com.au](mailto:matthewi@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 industry. MTA Queensland has been performing its vital representative role for the automotive industry since 1929. In Queensland there are some 16,000 automotive businesses employing more than 90,000 people, that generate more than \$7.24 billion to the state economy annually. The automotive industry is estimated to contribute \$37 billion to the Australian economy each year. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to all levels of government. 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.

**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)

The **MTA Institute (RTO 31529)** is the leading automotive training provider in Queensland offering nationally recognised training, covering technical, retail and the aftermarket sectors of the automotive industry. The MTA Institute is the largest independent automotive training provider 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 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 ecosystem that supports innovation and research for 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](mailto:info@mtaq.com.au) | Website | [www.mtaq.com.au](http://www.mtaq.com.au)