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## MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday 9 October 2018 FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## New Office of Future Transport Technologies Will Develop National Road Safety Model

Last week the Deputy Prime Minister announced a decision to establish the Office of Future Transport Technologies. The new federal body's role will be to prepare for the arrival of automated vehicles and other emerging vehicle technologies.

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) has been working actively in this space for the past year, with government and other key stakeholders locally and across the globe, to ensure the automotive industry in Queensland is informed, engaged and responsive to the impending disruption.

MTA Queensland has established MTAiQ, Australia's first automotive innovation hub, which supports new technologies in the industry and the future of mobility. The hub is working with start-ups and entrepreneurs who have various capabilities and skills in the autonomous vehicle sector.

Dr Brett Dale, Group Chief Executive for MTA Queensland said, "Leadership at the national level will help manage the opportunities and challenges of automation and will assist both business and consumers.

"Safety must always be at the forefront of this emerging technology, so the new national road safety model will allow driverless cars to evolve in our society under guiding regulations. The introduction of driverless cars will result in major benefits for road safety and traffic management, as well as enormous productivity and lifestyle enhancements. MTA Queensland look forward to working with the Office of Future Transport Technologies."

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

## For more information:

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## **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. There are some 15,500 automotive value chain businesses employing in excess of 90,000 persons and generating in excess of \$20 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 financial year accredited courses to more than 2 000 apprentices and trainees.

**MTAiQ**, Australia's first automotive innovation hub established by MTA Queensland, is a facility offering an eco-system that supports innovation in the motor trades.