

LEADING AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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Electric Vehicle Discussion Paper Forms the Framework for Australia's Journey to Zero Emission

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) applauds the Federal Government on their release of a consultation paper that outlines the framework for a new National Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy.

The paper is an important step forward in Australia's journey to electrification, building on the platforms that government and industry have created to deliver a consistent, comprehensive, and overarching foundation for the transport sector.

MTA Queensland Group Chief Executive Rod Camm said, "To date our approach has been fragmented, with each state and territory developing independent policy measures in the absence of national leadership. A national strategy that coordinates and aligns these models will drastically change our trajectory to electrification by attracting a better supply of vehicles and facilitating the transition to new technology, business viability, and employment."

The paper provides a balanced approach to consolidating these policies, reflecting both the Government's commitment to emission reduction while also recognising the questions expressed by industry.

"Australia is escalating its transition to zero-emission vehicles. This paper provides the opportunity to bring everyone together to reimagine an exciting future, including how we reduce emissions over the entire vehicle fleet," said Rod.

The timing of the paper's release could not have been better, with delegates from Australia's most prominent automotive industry bodies, including the Motor Trades Associations from

Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia, Western Australia, and the Victorian Automotive Chamber of Commerce, returning this week from a comprehensive, in-depth examination of the EV strategies applied across Europe.

"Looking to the experiences of Norway, Sweden, the Netherlands, Germany, and the United Kingdom, we can gain a clear insight into the impact electric vehicles will have on Australia's automotive industry and broader community.

"Our findings will allow for long-term planning that oversees the transition of Australia's fleet as well as a deeper understanding of the strategies we can employ locally to maximise benefits and mitigate business losses," said Rod.

MTA Queensland recognises that while EV uptake is still in its infancy in Australia, a national strategy will assist us to become a globally competitive market, and a leader in the Asia Pacific.

"Success will require a collected effort by government and industry to develop the right policy settings and investments. The Association remains a valued and influential voice for the Queensland automotive value chain and will continue to represent members on the important topics affecting the industry," said Rod.

Read the full discussion paper <u>HERE</u>.

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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 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.

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.