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The benchmark of training standards.

## MEDIA STATEMENT

Tuesday 16 October 2018  
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### New Opportunities for Engineers in the Australian Automotive Sector

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) is pleased to support the announcement today by the Minister for Industry, Science and Technology Karen Andrews, regarding a \$5 million program to encourage high-quality graduate engineers into Australia's automotive sector.

The program will provide funding for selected graduate engineering students to undertake research projects that connect to the automotive sector, presenting enormous opportunity for building Australia's capacity in a highly evolving technology and design space, incorporating all forms of mobility.

Dr Brett Dale, Group Chief Executive for MTA Queensland said, "This announcement is exciting for the future of the automotive industry. We have developed Australia's first automotive innovation hub at MTA Queensland which is already leading the way for entrepreneurs and start-ups who are disrupting and transforming the industry. This program will really support and boost the work we are doing and further connect academia with industry.

"The funding will see engineers using advanced manufacturing and cutting-edge technology to bring Australia into the global market by commercialising automotive design, resulting in new products and services."

Program applications close on 7 December 2018 and can be made at [www.business.gov.au/AEGP](http://www.business.gov.au/AEGP)

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

#### Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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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.

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