



MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Time to Revisit Flexibility in Awards for SMEs

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) supports the proposals from the Council of Small Business Organisations Australia and the Australian Industry Group urging the federal government to reconsider workplace reforms proposed by the Productivity Commission as part of COVID-19 recovery. MTA Queensland supports the view that employers be able to enter “enterprise contracts” that allow award flexibility.

MTA Queensland Group Chief Executive, Dr Brett Dale said, “It is time to revisit the idea of award flexibility for small businesses to encourage hiring as part of post-COVID-19 reforms. It is imperative that as we support the government’s growth strategy moving out from COVID-19 restrictions, we also remove barriers to businesses hiring staff essential for that growth.

“MTA Queensland represents thousands of small to medium sized businesses in the automotive industry and enterprise contracts should be explored, along with other proposals, for simple and flexible employment arrangements. These agreements would be integral to restarting the economy and should be appropriate to the size of the entity.”

ENDS

For more information:

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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 / mobility

Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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industry. There are some 15,500 automotive value chain businesses employing in excess of 90,000 people, that generate more than \$20 billion annually. The Association represents and promotes issues of relevance to the automotive / mobility industry to all levels of Government and within Queensland's economic structure. 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 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 (RTO 31529)** - a registered training organisation. It is the largest independent automotive apprentice trainer 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 announced 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 for mobility and the motor trades.

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