

LEADING AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION

MEDIA RELEASE

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To Service or Not to Service... MTA Queensland Welcomes Further Consultation on EV Maintenance & Repair

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) applauds the State Government's response to the Review of Queensland's *Electrical Safety Act* (2002) final report, opting <u>not</u> to proceed with the recommendation which proposed the electrical components of electric vehicles (EVs) should be serviced and repaired by appropriately licensed electrical workers rather than qualified automotive technicians.

In their response document, the Queensland Government determined that the recommendation would not be implemented as proposed. Instead, further consideration of how to maintain and improve electrical safety in the context of electric vehicles will occur through a roundtable that will liaise with the Commonwealth and other Australian jurisdictions. The roundtable will be chaired by the Commissioner for Electrical Safety, with outcomes to be referred for national consideration later this year.

Following months-long advocacy efforts to dissuade the implementation of the recommendation, MTA Queensland considers the response a positive outcome for the automotive industry and looks forward to further consultation with both state and national bodies to determine the best path forward.

"When the Review was first published in May 2023, we were astounded that neither MTA Queensland nor any other automotive association had been consulted in its development, despite the potentially catastrophic impact the recommendations would have on our industry," said Rod Camm, CEO of MTA Queensland.

"While there is still work to do, it is encouraging to see the Queensland Government take our concerns under advisement and reject the initial recommendation."

MTA Queensland will continue to advocate for EV service and repair jobs to remain the responsibility of automotive technicians while ensuring the safety and wellbeing of workers as a top priority. Read our full submission <u>HERE</u>.

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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 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.