



## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### MTA Queensland Supporting VET Trainer Ambitions through Scholarship Program

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) is delighted to announce Round 2 of the 2023 Vocational Education and Training (VET) Trainer Scholarship has been awarded to Rhys Purkis from Western Truck Group in Rockhampton.

Rhys is a 29-year-old light vehicle mechanic, currently completing his second qualification in Heavy Commercial Vehicle Mechanical Technology with Western Truck Group in Rockhampton. Having mentored many apprentices in his role, Rhys has developed an enthusiasm for helping his team progress and hopes to use the TAE to further hone his skills.

“It’s an exciting time for the industry, with technology advances giving us all new challenges to learn from and build upon. I look forward to bettering myself so I can assist and lead future apprentices in achieving their training goals,” said Rhys.

Through the scholarship, Rhys will have the opportunity to complete a TAE40122 - Certificate IV in Training and Assessment, valued at over \$3,000. Designed to teach the skills and knowledge required to deliver training in the VET sector, participants learn skills in designing, conducting, and assessing training, while also receiving knowledge on how to facilitate learning in various conditions and evaluate the impacts of various learning programs.

MTA Group CEO Rod Camm said, “MTA Queensland is committed to progressing the careers of those within the industry and to date has supported ten individuals through our scholarship program. With the automotive industry continuing to experience critical skills shortages, it is important to have ambitious individuals such as Rhys expand their knowledge to help deliver training to the next generation of automotive technicians.”

#### Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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The VET Trainer Scholarship is offered twice per year to trade-qualified automotive professionals employed in the Queensland automotive industry, with the next round opening 1 February 2024. For more information, [click here](#).

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

**For more information:**

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**Images:**

Rhys Purkis

**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 eco-system that supports innovation and research for the motor trades.

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