



**MTA*i*Q** | **LEADING AUTOMOTIVE INNOVATION**

## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Celebrating Training Excellence as MTA Institute Trainer Gareth Hartley Crowned CQ's VET Trainer of the Year

MTA Institute (RTO No. 31529), the leading industry-owned provider of automotive apprenticeships and training in Queensland, congratulates Technical Trainer Gareth Hartley on being crowned Central Queensland's regional winner for VET Teacher or Trainer of the Year at the 2024 Queensland Training Awards.

Since joining the MTA Institute back in 2021, Gareth has continually demonstrated immense passion and commitment to the training and development of his students. With over 30 years' experience in the automotive industry, Gareth's working history and in-depth understanding of each sector has equipped him with all the necessary technical skills and knowledge to prepare them for a career in the trade.

"I am incredibly honoured to receive this award," said Gareth. "It still feels a bit unreal... Queensland is a massive state and to take out the top place for Central Queensland is a huge goal both personally and professionally. I am truly grateful for the recognition and extend my thanks to everyone who has supported me and played a part in this success."

Gareth's teaching style and dedication to student success has seen him recognised before, recently being announced as MTA Institute's 2023 Trainer of the Year.

"Gareth is fully committed to his craft, his students, their employers and industry in general. He doesn't do things by halves, nor does he shy away from a challenge. Both his apprentices

### **Motor Trades Association of Queensland**

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and their employers commend Gareth for his professional acumen and modern approach to teaching,” said Marcello Riotto, the Director of MTA Institute.

“The MTA Institute takes immense pride in having Gareth as part of our team. These awards highlight the importance of quality vocational education and training. They underscore the critical role that dedicated educators play in shaping the future workforce, particularly in specialised fields like the automotive industry.

“As the automotive industry continues to evolve, the contributions of accomplished trainers like Gareth will be essential in driving innovation and upholding the benchmark of training standards.”

Gareth will now move forward as a finalist for the statewide VET Teacher or Trainer of the Year award, pitting him against winners of other regional finals. The winner will be announced at the State Finals, to be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September.

MTA Institute congratulates Gareth on his success and wishes him the best in the state final. Find out more <https://desbt.qld.gov.au/training/qta/>

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

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**Images:**

Gareth Hartley x2

**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

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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.

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