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## MEDIA RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# MTA Queensland Applauds Gov't for Taking Action to Combat Dodgy Roadworthy Certificates

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) applauds the Hon. Bart Mellish, Minister for Transport and Main Roads (TMR) and Minister for Digital Services, for taking action to investigate and combat non-compliant vehicle safety certificates.

MTA Queensland has long advocated for reform of the Approved Inspection Station (AIS) scheme to tackle unscrupulous practices that undermine reputable member businesses and compromise the safety of Queenslanders.

Earlier today, Minister Mellish announced TMR will establish a dedicated taskforce and information hotline to enforce vehicle safety certificate compliance and ensure that in-person physical inspections are being carried out by an approved examiner.

“We commend the Government for heeding MTA Queensland’s advice in addressing this criminal behaviour and look forward to working closely with the new task force,” said Rod Camm, CEO of MTA Queensland.

Camm highlighted the detrimental impact that fraudulent roadworthy certificates have on both consumers and businesses.

“This is a major issue for our industry. These “phoneworthies”, acquired without inspection via online social platforms, jeopardise legitimate businesses by linking their names to questionable certificates,” said Camm.

### Motor Trades Association of Queensland

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“These unethical practices not only undermine the credibility of members but also mislead unsuspecting consumers with inaccurate advice, leaving new car buyers in a difficult position.”

While further details on the task force are yet to be announced, MTA Queensland urges the Government to include the association as industry representation, serving as a voice for local automotive businesses across the state.

“We acknowledge the work that TMR is doing to raise consumer awareness on how to properly obtain a roadworthy certificate, but believe it is equally important to address the concerns of the businesses that are being impacted by these unscrupulous practices. A collaborative approach, involving both government bodies and industry stakeholders, will ensure that the strategies implemented are practical, fair, and beneficial to all parties involved.”

Individuals suspecting that they have been issued a safety certificate without a thorough vehicle inspection can contact TMR on (07) 3550 7035.

\*\*\*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 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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