

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
13 Nov 2024

## Racing Ahead: MTA Institute Apprentices Enjoy Exclusive Supercars Experience at Gold Coast 500

MTA Queensland is excited to have partnered with Gates Australia to create new experiences for talented apprentices in the automotive industry. A highlight was a recent event at the Gold Coast 500, where a select group of high-achieving MTA Institute students enjoyed an exclusive day in the Penrite Racing Suite, immersing themselves in the thrilling world of motorsport.

The students were treated to an insider's view of the racing action, including a guided tour of the team garage, where they had the chance to see the car up close and engage with team members. A standout moment was meeting Oscar Targett, a rising star in the Grove Junior Team, who has just been crown the series champion in the 2024 Porsche Michelin Sprint Challenge Australia. Oscar shared insights into his journey and the dedication required to succeed in the competitive world of racing.

This event marks the second year of collaboration between MTA Queensland and Gates Australia, highlighting both organisations' commitment to fostering the next generation of talent in the automotive industry.

Marcello Riotta, Director of the MTA Institute, expressed his enthusiasm for the initiative, stating "Events like these are crucial in bridging the gap between education and industry. They not only inspire our students but also equip them with real-world insights that can shape their future careers in the automotive sector."

Priscilla Robb, Marketing Manager at Gates Australia, added, "We are thrilled to partner with MTA Queensland once again. Providing students with hands-on experiences in a dynamic environment like the Gold Coast 500 is incredibly rewarding, and we look forward to continuing this collaboration."

Additionally, Gates Australia is proud to be the Experience Sponsor for this year's MTA Institute Apprentice of the Year. The winner will receive an incredible opportunity to undertake a week of work experience with the Penrite Racing Team in Melbourne next year, following in the footsteps of last year's recipient, Melissa Smith. Her experience was nothing short of transformative, and you can watch her journey [HERE](#).

Together, MTA Queensland and Gates Australia are paving the way for aspiring automotive professionals, equipping them with the knowledge, skills, and connections needed to excel in their careers.

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



# MEDIA RELEASE



## **For more information:**

Jade O'Shea | Senior Marketing & Communications Coordinator | 3237 8721 | [jadeo@mtaq.com.au](mailto:jadeo@mtaq.com.au)

## **About MTA Queensland:**

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.

## **About Gates Australia:**

For over a century, Gates has worked at the forefront of automotive innovation. Our teams of automotive professionals' design, develop and manufacture automotive parts that are found in millions of vehicles on the road today.

Gates proudly supplies automotive parts to more than 34 OE manufacturers worldwide, and we bring that same quality, reliability, and performance to our OE-equivalent aftermarket parts. Our complete aftermarket solutions feature first-to-market and late model coverage on systems such as accessory drives, engine timing, cooling and more. Gates parts are designed specifically for OE quality and performance requirements of your vehicle. For more information, visit [gatesaustralia.com.au](http://gatesaustralia.com.au).

## **MOTOR TRADES ASSOCIATION OF QUEENSLAND**

Freeway Office Park, Building 8, 2728 Logan Road Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113  
(Postal: PO Box 4530, Eight Mile Plains QLD 4113)



+61 7 3237 8777



Toll Free 1800 177 951



[info@mtaq.com.au](mailto:info@mtaq.com.au)



[www.mtaq.com.au](http://www.mtaq.com.au)

