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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MTA Queensland Welcomes Independent Review of Australian Design Rules

The Motor Trades Association of Queensland (MTA Queensland) has welcomed the Australian Government's decision to launch an independent review of the Australian Design Rules (ADRs), viewing it as a critical opportunity to modernise regulations, eliminate unnecessary barriers, and foster innovation across Australia's vehicle market.

MTA Queensland supports the Government's decision to focus the review on addressing key challenges in the supply of electric and low-emission vehicles, which are in growing demand as Australia shifts towards a more sustainable transport fleet.

"We commend the Government for taking the crucial step of initiating this independent review. It is vital for ensuring a competitive, future-focused market that meets the evolving needs of Australian consumers," said MTA Queensland CEO Rod Camm.

"In working alongside the Motor Trades Association of Australia (MTAA) and other industry partners, MTA Queensland is committed to ensuring the views and interests of our members are well represented throughout this process."

The goal of the review is to ensure Australia's vehicle standards evolve to better support consumer choice, drive price competition, and encourage technological innovation in the automotive sector. The review aims to assess whether Australia's current ADRs align with international standards, identify areas for improvement, and streamline the adoption of globally harmonised rules.

This review comes at a critical time, as the introduction of the New Vehicle Efficiency Standard (NVES) approaches. With manufacturers preparing their product strategies for the Australian market, it is vital to remove unnecessary regulatory hurdles to ensure a smooth transition.

"As the global shift toward electric vehicles and cleaner technologies continues, aligning the ADRs with international standards is key to supporting Australia's path to net-zero emissions," said Mr Camm.

"While harmonisation offers significant benefits, it's important to balance this with the need for locally tailored standards. If these standards are overly complex, they can drive up compliance costs for manufacturers, which may be passed on to retailers and consumers."



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“This review presents a timely opportunity to reassess whether these standards remain necessary or if more efficient, globally aligned alternatives could streamline production while still achieving safety and environmental objectives,” added Mr Camm.

MTA Queensland will work closely with MTAA and other state and industry bodies throughout the review process. By collaborating on shared goals and priorities, MTA Queensland will ensure that the views and needs of its members are represented in discussions that shape the future of the Australian automotive market.

To find out more about this review and have your say on ADR harmonisation, please visit the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications and the Arts website [HERE](#). Submissions are open until 24 January 2025.

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 ecosystem that supports innovation and research for the motor trades.

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