

AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE NATIONAL SUMMIT



THE FUTURE OF THE AUSTRALIAN AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY
19–20 AUGUST 2015 | HOTEL REALM CANBERRA

Panel Discussion – ‘Automotive Industry – more than just vehicle building.’ Senator Ricky Muir, Senator John Madigan, Senator Nick Xenophon, Kate Carnell CEO Australian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Eugene Arocca CEO of Confederation of Australian Motorsport and Kevin McCann MD Volvo Cars Australia.

The panel was unanimous in agreeing that the Automotive Transition Scheme be reassessed, as it does not adequately reflect the Automotive Industry. Senators Muir, Madigan and Xenophon stressed that the closure of manufacturing plants, which makes up 20% of the industry, would lead to significant job losses. While it is clear that there is still a feeling that manufacturing is critical to the industry there is still 80% of the sector which will remain and this conversation must be continued into the future. Senator Madigan said that the industry must speak to government with a united and single voice to ensure appropriate policy settings to support the industry going forward. Kate Carnell stressed the need to General support for the ATS but discussion on how the scope of the scheme needs to be changed. The ATS applies to an environment that no longer exists and it must change accordingly.