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The Australian Automotive Industry Beyond 2017 – a chance to get it right

The Australian Motor Industry Federation (AMIF) and Motor Trades Association of Australia (MTAA) Limited today released an interim submission to the Australian Government Senate Economics References Senate Committee Inquiry into the future of Australia's automotive industry.

AMIF CEO Richard Dudley said the AMIF /MTAA submission concentrates on the unprecedented change profoundly reshaping the automotive retail, service, repair, recycling and associated sectors, the opportunities arising from change, and the need for a plan for the automotive industry post 2017.

'So complex, so many, and so varied, are the issues currently or potentially impacting the future of the Australian automotive industry and sectors within it, AMIF /MTAA have developed key objectives, themes and future work programs to assist its thinking, that of its members, their constituents, other industry organisations and work of the Senate Committee,' Mr Dudley said.

'The Federation's submission builds on the work done in its 'Automotive 2018 – An Industry at Crossroads' platform and looks at issues including future business models, sustainability, future workforce needs, a whole of industry approach, taxation and user charging, infrastructure, and improving the competitiveness and transparency in the industry', he said.

Mr Dudley said past policy failed to recognise that the domestic automotive industry does not begin and end with vehicle and component manufacturing and that a new approach and partnership is needed.

'The Senate Inquiry is an opportunity to recognise and plan a future for an industry that as a whole accounted for approximately \$38.3 billion or 2.5% of Australia's annual GDP in 2012/2013 and will continue to employ more than 340,000 Australians post 2017.

'Our ability to tap further into global supply chains, assure that the needs of a nation reliant on road transport continue to be met and that the Government's policy settings are appropriate will be dependent on a whole of industry and government approach to addressing all the issues impacting the industry,' he said.

Mr Dudley said to facilitate this approach and to assist the Senate Inquiry process, AMIF / MTAA will be hosting the inaugural Australian Automotive National Summit on 19-20 August 2015 in Canberra.

'This Summit will enable Government and industry leaders an opportunity to hear of the opportunities, the difficult challenges and the need for Industry and government to identify and prioritise critical issues and the requirements of a future national policy framework and whole of industry approach,' Mr Dudley said.

For further information, please contact Mr Richard Dudley CEO of AMIF on (02) 6273 8222 or 0412 146 828.

The Australian Motor Industry Federation (AMIF) is the national peak body of the nation's automotive retail, service, repair and recycling industry. AMIF's position paper Automotive 2018 – An Industry at Crossroads, can be viewed at www.amif.com.au.

Representing: Motor Traders Association of NSW (MTA-NSW) * Victorian Automobile Chamber Of Commerce (VACC) * Motor Trades Association of NT (MTA-NT) * Tasmanian Automobile Chamber of Commerce (TACC) * Motor Trades Association of SA (MTA-SA) * Motor Trades Association of ACT (MTA-ACT) * Motor Trade Association of WA (MTA-WA) * Automobile retailers * Australian Motor Body Repairers Association (AMBRA) * Automotive Repairers Association of Australia (ARAA) * Auto Parts Recyclers Association of Australia (APRAA) * Australian Motorcycle Dealers Association * Australian Service Station and Convenience Store Association (ASSCSA) * Australian Tyre Dealers and Retreaders Association (ATDRA) * Farm and Industrial Machinery Dealers Association of Australia (FIMDAA) * Engine Reconditioners Association of Australia (ERA of A) * National Rental Vehicle Association (NRVA) * Australian National Radiator Repairers Association (ANRRA) * Australian National Towing Association (ANTA) * Automotive Transmission Association of Australia (ATAA) * National Brake Specialists Association (NBSA) * National Heavy Vehicle Repairers Association (NHVRA) * National Steering and Suspension Association (NSSA) * National Vehicle Airconditioning Association (NVAA)