

New EV apprenticeships in NSW a 'win for the sector', says industry association

Sydney, 16 December 2024 - The Motor Traders' Association of New South Wales (MTA NSW) welcomes the announcement by the NSW Government's Automotive Training Board of new electric vehicle (EV) apprenticeships, marking a critical step forward in addressing the automotive sector's workforce challenges.

The two apprenticeship vocations are Automotive - Electric Vehicle Technology – Heavy Vehicle: AUR32721 Certificate III in Automotive Electric Vehicle Technology and Automotive - Electric Vehicle Technology – Light Vehicle: AUR32721 Certificate III in Automotive Electric Vehicle Technology.

The new EV apprenticeships reflect the culmination of extensive work by MTA NSW in collaboration with the Automotive Training Board.

The new programs are designed to future-proof the workforce and ensure the automotive sector in NSW remains competitive in the global transition to sustainable automotive solutions.

MTA NSW continues to advocate for comprehensive strategies to address the skills shortage, including incentives for training and upskilling, improvements to apprenticeship pathways, and enhanced collaboration between industry and government.

MTA NSW's Head of Government Relations & Advocacy, Collin Jennings, applauded the government's initiative while highlighting the ongoing challenges faced by the sector:

"We're delighted to see the government has listened to the concerns of the industry and taken these steps to address the skills shortages in our critical automotive sector. This is a great advocacy win for the sector, reflecting the collective effort and shared commitment to addressing critical challenges.

"While this is a positive step toward bringing apprentices into the pipeline, MTA NSW stresses that the NSW government must urgently approve new EV repair licenses and pathways to upskill the current workforce.

"It has been over 12 months since the Motor Dealers and Repairers Bill passed the Parliament, yet the industry remains in limbo and no closer to these crucial licenses being approved. This delay is hindering the transition of the existing workforce to EV repair capabilities and creating significant challenges for motorists."

As the automotive industry shifts towards electrification, MTA NSW remains committed to leading the charge in workforce development to support members and the wider industry in navigating this transformation.

ENDS



Notes to editors

About The Motor Traders' Association of New South Wales (MTA NSW):

The Motor Traders' Association of New South Wales is one of Australia's largest state-based industry associations, dedicated to representing owners and business principals in the New South Wales automotive industry.

MTA NSW provides extensive industry information to its membership base, representing 28 different motor trades, including member forums and on-site visits. It assists members in the daily running of their businesses, as well as lobbying governing bodies to ensure a robust and thriving automotive industry.

Their policy interests are varied, encompassing taxation, fair trading, vehicle repair standards, employment relations, the environment, and industry training.

MTA NSW works to maintain the public's confidence in dealing with MTA members through a Code of Ethics, a landmark statement with a framework setting standards of behaviour, not just legal obligations, that MTA members must follow in their dealings with the public.