

**Submission
No 181**

INQUIRY INTO NSW WORKERS COMPENSATION SCHEME

Organisation: Penrith Auto Parts Plus

Date received: 17/05/2012



32-34 Cox Avenue, Kingswood, NSW, 2747

Tel: (02) 4721-0006 Fax: (02) 4731-2006

ABN: 78 133 975 383 Licence No: MD 21331

To: The Chairman
Joint Parliamentary Committee Reviewing the NSW Workers Compensation Scheme
FAX (02) 9230 2981

Dear Sir,

We understand that the Motor Traders' Association of NSW has made a submission to you, supporting your commitment to reform the Workers Compensation System, and detailing why industry associations should be allowed to take control of the management of Workers Compensation Liabilities.

As members of the MTA of NSW, we fully support their submission, and believe that they could manage a far more effective Workers Compensation scheme relevant to our industry, AND our business needs, as well as offer reduced premiums to their policy holders.

WorkCover premiums are extremely high, and impact greatly on our business costs.

Our business is quite small and has only been operating for 3 years. We have invested a lot of money into advertising to grow our business over those 3 years, and the results have been astounding. We have so much more potential to substantially increase our customer base, however, this would require hiring more employees to keep up with the demand. Our decisions on hiring extra employees though, are impeded due to the extra premiums we would have to pay for Workers Compensation.

WHY is the government hindering the expansion of small business ???

We take workplace safety extremely seriously and believe the MTA of NSW is far more superior in its correspondence relating to workplace safety issues. We receive regular correspondence regarding various issues such as new policies, workplace safety checklists, and hints and tips to follow, to enable us to be competent leaders in our industries workplace safety requirements. The MTA of NSW also offer onsite visits to assist their members with workplace safety compliance.

On the other hand, we receive only two lots of correspondence from WorkCover per year !! One to calculate annual wages, and the other to advise of our annual/monthly premium.

It appears that workplace safety to WorkCover is purely about money revenue.

Workplace safety is about ensuring each industry is aware of, and complies with workplace safety procedures, with regular updates and education relevant to that industry. The MTA of NSW has already proven that it has the ability and capacity to do this, and by far surpasses WorkCover in its commitment to workplace safety.

This is why we firmly support the submission to you by the MTA of NSW, and hope that you will give great consideration to the issues above, in your review.

Yours sincerely,

John Camilleri & Peter Hackney
(Directors)
