

CURRENT ISSUES

EDUCATION, EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING WORKING GROUP

- **AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY TRAINING**

There have been on-going discussions relating to the nature of the provision of training arrangements for the automotive industry.

Manufacturing Skills Australia was appointed by the Federal Government's Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) in March 2009 to be the Skills Council for the automotive industry and to provide the training requirements for the industry.

Concerns were raised by representatives of the motor car sector of the industry (FCAI, MTAA and VACC), resulting in a review being undertaken by the Hon Steve Bracks in November 2009. At this Round Table discussion CMEIG was represented by Ross Goodlet, Chairman of the EE&TWG, who indicated our full support for MSA and for the work they were doing in upgrading AUR05 and in the development of the MSA Environmental scan 2010. However the recommendations of the Bracks review was a proposal for the establishment of a wholly owned subsidiary of MSA, to be located in Melbourne, to assume responsibility for the automotive industry training advisory arrangements.

DEEWR accepted this recommendation and requested the Board of MSA to proceed towards the setting up of this subsidiary company. MSA convened a meeting in Melbourne of all stakeholders on 4 June 2010 to:

- Identify the key issues to be addressed
- Seek agreement on the nature of the subsidiary
- Seek agreement on the issues regarding the Board of Directors

CMEIG was represented at this meeting by John Reid, CEO.

While substantial progress was made on the first two issues, the details regarding the Board of Directors were not fully resolved. MSA are now considering a revised proposal which they will convey to stakeholders in the near future.