



Geelong and Region Trades and Labour Council

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1 August, 2002

Automotive Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
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The Geelong and Region Trades and Labour Council is of the view that the Tariff must not go below 15% post 2005, so that this region can sustain a Manufacturing Industry.

To illustrate the importance of vehicle and component manufacture to our region the issues are listed below.

Geelong is a region of manufacturing excellence for not only automotive components, but also for metals, chemicals, textiles, food processing and aerospace engineering. In 1999, its manufacturing sector comprised 532 enterprises of which 20 are directly manufacturing automotive products or components.

These 20 businesses employ 3,811 people out of a work force of 95,000 in Geelong, and it has been estimated that the strong linkages with other industries and suppliers generates employment multipliers of 1.54 resulting in up to 5,800 more staff. Payroll for these employees is more than \$210m annually and the turnover of these companies is in the order of \$857m.

Geelong's two tertiary institutions, the Gordon Institute of TAFE and Deakin University, are the main providers of education and training for Geelong's industry and more particularly for the automotive industry. The Gordon's Manufacturing Industry Training Centre is a leader in practical and theoretical tuition for apprentices and trainees in the auto industry. A range of smaller private providers of training course supports these institutions.

In 2001, there were 403 people undertaking an apprenticeship or traineeship in the Automotive, Motor & Transport Sectors in Geelong.



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The automotive industry is a key sector in the Geelong manufacturing industry, comprising over 25% of the manufacturing workforce. However, its importance extends beyond this in terms of its influence and impact on the export orientation, quality standards and education and training for other manufacturers in the region. The automotive industry in Geelong, in company with the rest of the Australian automotive industry, has improved its performance in quality and productivity over recent years to match world standards.

Yours sincerely

John Kranz
Secretary GRTLC