

Mr G Banks
Chairman Automotive Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
P O Box 80
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

01 August 2002

File No: G071.48.01
Our Ref: TH
Your Ref:

Dear Mr Banks

Re: Additional Information following Council's Presentation

Following Council's presentation to the Public Hearing on 31 July 2002, and your subsequent discussion with Stuart Walker, I now forward some additional information regarding niche opportunities that have been pursued by former Ford employees.

I am aware that approximately 15 or so former design engineers from Ford have established an industrial and automotive design studio in Geelong. The bulk of their work comes from Ford, but I also believe that they also have an increasing clientele of overseas automotive companies. Their work and reputation is growing rapidly.

Another business that I am aware of is a former Ford engineer has established a business which makes right-hand-drive conversions of Transit Vans for use by the United States Postal Service. I believe that the contract is to export up to 15,000 vehicles over the next three years.

In addition, there are many small engineering companies that have been established, principally by former Ford employees, supplying smaller engineering components for Ford vehicles.

I trust this information will be of assistance and thank you again for the opportunity to present Council's views to the Public Hearing.

Yours sincerely

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