



**Cooper-Standard Automotive
Fluid Systems Division**

**Cooper-Standard Automotive
(Australia) Pty Ltd.**

6 Sheffield Street
Woodville North
South Australia 5012
Australia

Telephone + 61 8 8243 5200
Facsimile + 61 8 8445 9815

A.B.N. 62 004 238 368

8th May 2002

Automotive Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
PO Box 80
Belconnen ACT 2616

Dear Sirs,

Cooper-Standard Automotive Australia is a wholly owned subsidiary of Cooper-Standard Automotive an operating group of Cooper Tire & Rubber Co. of Findlay Ohio, USA.

We are located at Woodville North in Adelaide, employ 212 people and produce fluid system products for all four of the local OEM's.

The turnover in 2001 was \$26.7 million all local sales.

We formally register our support for the FAPM submission to the commission and its recommendations.

Our company is committed to developing products for our customers in Australia and is appreciative of the ACIS assistance enabling increased R&D and capital investment in new technology.

This past year we have invested \$1.8 million dollars in a new cell to manufacture rack cylinders. This cell includes a robot operated welding cell developed by CSIRO. The quality of the finished product has received very favourable comment and interest in the process from our customer's overseas parent.

We plan to become involved in export in the future and market access and development is important for our plans to succeed. We appreciate the government efforts and commitment to improving market access.

Our greatest concern is for industrial harmony. Australia still has a bad reputation with our overseas owners for industrial disruption. Recent events have only reinforced this reputation.

A mandatory secret ballot before any strike action we believe would help reduce the incidence.

Militant unions who ignore IRC orders must have penalties levied and enforced.
Thereby sending a clear message, unacceptable behaviour will not be tolerated.

We believe our company has a bright and vibrant future in the Australian automotive industry and potential for export provided the above issues are addressed and progress made.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Barry Lee', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

BARRY LEE
Deputy Managing Director