

8th May 2002

Automotive Industry Inquiry
Productivity Commission
PO Box 80
BELCONNEN ACT 2616

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Productivity Commission submission

Autofab is a joint venture company formed in 1997, initially operated as a design and marketing group using local commission based manufacturing. Rapid growth in Automotive orders, in the late 1990s, led to the company installing its own state-of-the-art manufacturing facility of circular knitting and finishing equipment in early 2000.

Today, we have 30 staff at our Mulgrave factory with operations from R & D, CAD through to delivery of rolled goods.

Autofab product is 100% polyester, circular knit fabric used in interior automotive trim. Our customers are Holden, Toyota and Ford.

We write to register our support of FAPM's submission and its recommendations. Autofab strongly believes in the importance of research and development, and invests heavily in this area to increase best practice principals in new technology to stay internationally competitive. We are receiving SIP grants and are therefore, not eligible for ACIS but support the help the Government is giving the industry. One can see the strides the industry is making even in my short experience since joining the industry with Nissan in 1986.

Should you need to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to call me on (03) 9560 2488.

Kind regards,

Liz Reece
General Manager