



## **Public hearing in Melbourne 21 March 2006**

# **Employment in automotive component manufacturing**

Globalisation of the automotive industry, training, skill shortages and a quota system for imports will be among the issues raised at a public hearing of the House of Representatives Employment Committee in Melbourne next week.

The public hearing on Tuesday 21 March will be the first for the Committee's inquiry into employment in the automotive component manufacturing industry. Following the hearing, the committee will visit two component factories in Melbourne.

Recent announcements of retrenchments in the automotive manufacturing industry are accompanied elsewhere by evidence of skill shortages in manufacturing. There is a growing need to ensure the viability of automotive component manufacturing, as well as effectively redeploying skilled workers to job vacancies.

The Committee is inquiring into employment opportunities and challenges in the Australian automotive component manufacturing sector with particular focus on:

- Current and future employment trends in the industry;
- Emerging skill shortages and appropriate recruitment and training strategies;
- Labour adjustment measures required to assist redeployed and affected workers; and
- Measures to support skills development, innovation and investment in the industry.

The Committee Chair Phillip Barresi said the automotive components manufacturing industry forms an important part of the Australian economy.

"The industry is being challenged by international competition and the rapid advances in technology. It is vital that the industry is able to meet these challenges to ensure its own sustainability," Mr Barresi said. "The Committee will be working to assess and make recommendations on ways to support automotive component manufacturing companies as they seek to face the challenges of an ever competitive industry."

### **Public hearing program: Tuesday 21 March 2006**

**Venue: Committee Rooms 2/3, 35 Spring St, Melbourne**

<b>9.30</b>	<b>Victorian Automotive Chamber of Commerce</b>
<b>10.10</b>	<b>Australian Automotive Aftermarket Association</b>
<b>11.00</b>	<b>Kangan Bagman Tafe</b>
<b>11.30</b>	<b>Society for Australian Industry and Employment</b>

Further details on the inquiry, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and submissions are available at <http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ewrwp/> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or emailing [ewrwp.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ewrwp.reps@aph.gov.au)

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Phil Barresi, at his electorate office (03) 9873 8351 or Parliament House, Canberra (02) 6277 4350.

**For background information**, contact the Committee Secretary, on (02) 6277 4162