

Licensed Certifiers Association General Meeting – Minutes

Venue: TAFE Wetherill Park – Zoom Meeting

Meeting Start 6.00pm February 12th 2024

All members present must sign in the LCA attendance book.

Open Meeting Chair: Terry Leeder Time: 6.05pm Date: 12/02/2024

Attendees: Meeting (Live)

John Oste, Terry Leeder, Scott Herning, Ian Carpenter, Ken O’Keefe, Micheal Azzopardi, Ali Akbarian, Andrew Phillips.

Zoom:

Phil Woods, Mark Dewhurst, Mark Woods, Ian Carpenter, Ian Davis

Visitor:

Apologies: Peter Weatherby

Previous Minutes: May be read out by the secretary Or

Nomination that previous meeting minutes to be correct: Micheal Azzopardi Seconded: Mark Dewhurst

Matters arising from the previous minutes: Items 1-12.

Item No	Agenda Item	Action/ Notes	Status
1.	GVM - Axle Weights	NO NEWS, TFNSW Next Meeting Feb 20 th 2024. TFNSW are not looking into this matter as there will be changes to VSB 14. Ongoing: Previously in the last meeting Ken O’Keefe reported GVM axle weights accepted in QLD, details to be published in the “AAAA” magazine. It was reported that TFNSW sitting back to see how it runs as they have bigger items to address, current ruling yet to be accepted by TFNSW & Vic Roads. Lift Kit sizes to be confirmed, TFNSW looking at all objections regarding body lift spacers, extended shackles, Standard ruling being investigated for STD Kit Sizes. TRNSW working group next meeting 22 nd February 2024. No News to date.	OPEN
2.	ADR 68 Seats	Peter has reported that a lot of correspondence has being forwarded to Canberra, Carol Brown (Senator) and to the chief of staff from Nellie Metcalfe (Infra Structure), Jim Betts (Secretary of the Dept of Infra Structure & Transport) with a copy to the executive director Roz Shivers (Bus Industry Federation), Dean Movie (National Technical MGR). This matter has gone to Department of Infrastructure in Canberra together with the bus federation face to face. ADR 5/06 is only mandatory on new vehicles, therefore ADR 68 must be upgraded to resolve the issue of the static testing matter and current problem with the seat anchorage compliance. OEM seat testing procedure is normally undertaken using a	OPEN

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		<p>sledge testing procedure, whereas ADR 68 involves static testing which presents the problem.</p> <p>Peter has received a written acknowledgement from Infrastructure that there is a problem with the ARD 68 and it is on their agenda. The Bus Industry Federation and Infrastructure in Canberra have now also acknowledged the ADR 68 shortfall and the need for the upgrading of this standard. Peter is currently working with APV testing on seat belts anchorages.</p> <p>An NSW Task force has been set up to investigate this matter, who are now due to industry pressure are concentrating on the lack of bus drivers & bus running on time.</p> <p>Peter was not present at the meeting, report next meeting.</p>	
3.	Speaker Presentation "TFNSW"	<p>Ken O'Keefe has contacted TFNSW who reported TFNSW were currently short of staff, waiting for an update. TFNSW are working on a better line of communication next year with LCA certifiers.</p> <p>ON HOLD UNTIL TILL FURTHER NOTICE</p>	On HOLD
4.	New Objectives for 2022 – 2023	<p>New Proposed LCA Objective Listing</p> <p>Note: Currently TAFE do NOT allow any vehicle into the workshop & will not allow any work outside currently. (A political issue at TAFE now). Alternative arrangements to find an alternative venue and proposed hire of a heavy vehicle for the test procedures.</p> <p>Email to be sent to Chris Roberts after Feb 2024 to inquire / arrange access into TAFE workshop for further training.</p> <p>Further training days</p> <p>a) Heavy vehicles)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Dr Air Brake Training Presentation to be prepared at TAFE programmed for May 2023 has been postponed. John Oste has contacted Chris Roberts by phone and email for a suitable date and timing. John oste has meet with Jeff Lowe (Dr Air Brake) and has requested some presentation materials. – Engauge Wabco to deliver a dedicated brake training / awareness program on the Wabco smart electronic brake system at TAFE (2023 TBA) – Peter Weatherby has been unwell may be available late September/ October to present some information and awareness of the CTA "Component Type Approval" (Previously called SARN/CRN) documentation on heavy vehicles in particular buses. <p>b) Crane Installation on heavy vehicles (2023 TBA)</p> <p>c) Light Vehicles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Greg South to deliver a presentation on the RVD system, the best way to look up vehicle history data. <p>Look up details for Rover RVD has been listed on the LCA Website which is available to all members once registered after registering and log in.</p>	<p>OPEN</p> <p>On Hold until the new Year 2024</p>

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5.	Lane Change & Brake testing promotion Videos	<p>Ken is currently undertaking comparison brake testing on 79 Series Landcruiser vehicles (Boosters, Rotors, Pads) and developing an awareness video to be available for all LCA members.</p> <p>Stewart (STC) will put together a testing routine on brake safety stop testing and track testing on double diaphragm booster as opposed to a single diaphragm booster installation.</p> <p>Promotional video of these testing can be made available when completed and posted on the LCA website.</p> <p>Ken has arranged a video next brake day at Nirimba TAFE test track</p>	OPEN
6.	New Forum LCA	<p>Making some in roads into TFNSW regarding the upcoming opportunity for a Forum. TFNSW has reported the currently there are no personnel available for these roles, however TFNSW have assured that they will have a Forum by the end of this year.</p>	OPEN
7.	Changes to VSI 21.	<p>The recent changes to the Australian Standards have affected VSI 21. The update ramp angle of 1.6 Ratio has introduced various problems within the industry. These problems range from the need to articulate foldable ramps in vehicles which take up more storage space & restrict driver view, long ramp length impede into the roadway into the line of traffic at the rear & do not fit into the council allocated bays for side mounted devices. Most wheelchairs are powered, electric winches are fitted on most ramps. Report prepared by Jeff Walters. Ali from mobility engineering who sits on the standards work group reported a ramp angle between 1-4 up to 1-6 with a risk assessment will be acceptable was discussed awaiting approval. The Australian STD,s was changed without any consultation in the industry. This Issue should be addressed at the next STDs working group meeting. Details to follow.</p>	ON HOLD Until Aust STD Update
8.	NSW Police	<p>Peter Gillard had drafted a document for each LCA member to be made available for all certifies to sign to and be presented to local members of parliament, (Apply political pressure)</p> <p>Lesly meet with his local member for discussions on the subject matter and received a response that the minister requested the changes and instructed the Police to take immediate action (DEC LAST YEAR) on the matter. Therefore, there will be no changes to the ON-THE-SPOT AUDITING BY THE POLICE.</p> <p>Peter Gillard is not letting the matter rest as apparently the letter was addressed by the deputies within the department and not by the transport minister. Peter is following up on alternative channels of communication. Details to follow.</p>	OPEN
9.	LCA Website	<p>LCA Website is up and running. John Oste reported that a lot of work and time has gone into the site which requires further support from the LCA Members who have not yet registered onto the site. Terry has forwarded email reminders on the subject matter with little to no feedback. It was stated the website was made available for all LCA Members to make available their VSCCS engineering services to the pubic. The executive</p>	OPEN

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		committee have discussed this matter and will update the new LCA membership form with an additional tick box consent for LCA website membership when joining our organisation.	
10.	Police Operation Defiance (Modified vehicle roadside inspection)	<p>LCA Secretary to contact Chris Roberts to inquire who is training the Police Vehicle Defect Auditing Team.</p> <p>Terry Leader to contact Chris Roberts regarding the training program for police.</p> <p><u>INFORMATION UPDATE</u></p> <p>As part of Operation Defiance, officers from Traffic and Highway Patrol Command and TfNSW regulatory compliance and investigation officers conducted vehicle and driver compliance checks at the Camden and issued safety reports on modified vehicles.</p> <p><i>Note: A further crackdown in Oran Park was undertaken at a later date in the Council car park on Holstein Street, Oran Park.</i></p> <p><i>During the eight-hour operation officers inspected 27 vehicles and issued 23 defect notices for a range of vehicle maintenance issues, including unroadworthy tyres, exhausts, suspensions, lights, and other non-approved vehicle modifications.</i></p> <p><i>Of the 23 defect notices issued, 14 vehicles were issued Red Label defects for dangerous faults and subsequently ordered off the road and towed from the scene.</i></p> <p><i>Six vehicles were issued Yellow Label defects for minor faults, requiring the drivers to fix the vehicle within a limited time frame.</i></p>	CLOSED
11.	TFNSW Technical Support	Robert Holmes has been busy due to the fact of fellow certifiers in his ear being unavailable ATM. Robert is disappointed with TFNSW and their response from the members from the technical department.	CLOSED
12.	TFNSW Updates Mobility Hand Controllers	It was reported that an exemption for hand controller brakes on mobility vehicles has expired on the 31 st December 2023. It was reported that ADR 31 does cover this subject in depth. Terry Leeder to follow up and report next meeting.	OPEN
13.	Lithium batteries	Batteries in motor homes had to com comply to the statutory requirements, in particular lithium batteries. Note: Lithium batteries must have a management system (Page 73 Australian Std 3001-2 & 3001.2)	CLOSED
14.	LCA Newsletter By Peter Weatherby “BLURB”	<p>Peter Weatherby is working on the newsletter called the Blurb. He has some further information to add prior release. (To be posted on website on release)</p> <p>Awaiting further information from Peter Weatherby as he was absent from the meeting.</p>	OPEN

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15.	New LCA Member Training / Awareness Program	<p>John Oste has suggested to change our instauration policy and procedures to provide a means for prospective new members to be allowed to participate in meeting on a silent basis to provide information awareness training for prospective VSCCS members who would like to become a licenced VSCCS certifier. This would include certain conditions to be considered.</p> <p>IE:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Participant the leave the meeting during the discussion of Confidential Matters - Cannot be present during our AGM Meeting and the election of committee members <p>This mater was discussed at the last LCA executive meeting and was supported and approved by the members, raised by John Oste, seconded by Peter Weatherby. The LCA constitution documentation to be updated accordingly.</p> <p><i>Note: This also included the opportunity for retired LCA members to also participate in LCA General Meeting.</i></p>	OPEN
16.	AAAA Magazine Do you Know ??	<p>Opportunity to promote the LCA organisation in the AAAA monthly magazine. A commitment from ALL the executive members that on a roster system would provide 4 different do you know questions every month to be presented to the executive committee for approval prior release to AAAA for publication.</p> <p><u>Roster Listing:</u> John Oste, Terry Leeder, Ken O’Keefe, Ian Carpenter, Scott Herning, Greg South.</p> <p><u>4WD Do You Know Questions</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Do you know if you remove the seats in the rear most position in your vehicle and fit a draw system you will require a VSCCS Engineering Compliance Certificate for a modified vehicle for registration in NSW. 2. Do you Know if you put larger wheels over 7% of the tyre sizes detailed on the tyre placard on your vehicle you will require a VSCCS Engineering Compliance Certificate for a modified vehicle for registration in NSW. 3. Do you know if you change or modify your exhaust system you will require a VSCCS Engineering Compliance Certificate for a modified vehicle for registration in NSW. (Removal of the exhaust silencer / muffler is illegal & will incur a defect notice when inspected by the police. 4. Do you know that most vehicle aftermarket Led lighting sold on eBay or similar are potentially illegal, you must check and ensure the Led Lights are of approved design to the Australian design rules and are marked accordingly. (ADR 1, 46, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53 or CTA Numbers). <p>The do you know subject matter to also cover all areas of light vehicles which at the stage included 4WD vehicles, Modified Sedans / Coupes / Vans, Mobility Do You Know Questions and People Movers / Vans / Buses.</p>	

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17.	AAAA” Legal Support	Ken O’Keefe reported that the “AAAA” are prepared to support all their members within in the LCA with their legal department on unfair dismissal prosecutions against VSCCS Certifiers. (Lesley Yates)	OPEN
	Financials		
18.		John Oste reported in that the financials were in budget at the last LCA Executive Meeting to date for this year period 2023 -2024. Net Assets to Date 4 th Feb 2024 \$35,987.45 Expenditure to date 2023-2024 - 4 th February 2024 \$5672.22	OPEN
	General Business		
19.	TFNSW Updates	It was reported that an exemption for hand controller brakes on mobility vehicles – 31 st December VSI 21 / ADR 31 Not applicable for people with disabilities.	OPEN
20.	Lithium batteries	Batteries in motor homes had to com comply to the statutory requirements, in particular lithium batteries. Note: Lithium batteries must have a management system (Page 73 Australian Std 3001-2 & 3001.2)	OPEN
	Financials		
21.	Treasures Report	John Oste reported in that the financials were in budget at the last LCA General Meeting to date for this year period 2023 -2024. Net Assets to Date December 2023 \$36,012.08 Expenditure to date 2023-2024 - December 2023 \$5297.59	OPEN
	Correspondence		
22.	“AAAA” <u>Australian Auto Aftermarket Expo 2024</u> 11 – 13 April	The Australian Auto Aftermarket Expo is the nation’s only comprehensive exhibition for Australia’s \$25B aftermarket industry. The show will bring together the industry’s best and brightest, and showcase. Date: From: Thursday 11 Apr, 2024 to: Saturday 13 Apr, 2024 Location: Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre. Link Address: https://autoaftermarketexpo.com.au/	OPEN
23.	Robbie Holmes	Robbie Holmes wrote to the LCA secretary stating he has been stood down from VSCCS Engineering in NSW. Robbie said the TfNSW claim this is an unappealable decision. Lots of discussion and emotions were raised on this subject matter with the following actions: The LCA executive team to hold a special meeting ASAP with the following agenda items: <u>1. Challenged by TFNSW</u> - Robbie Holmes wrote to the LCA secretary stating he has been stood down from VSCCS Engineering in NSW. Robbie said the TfNSW claim this is an unappealable decision. It was reported during the last LCA General meeting that Lesley Yates from “AAAA” has taken this matter on board and is to present this via “AAAA” legal department whilst obtaining the facts.	

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		<p>2. <u>Better Communication Channels with TFNSW</u></p> <p>- It was requested that the LCA committee approach TFNSW for better line of communications within the organisation.</p> <p> a) TFNSW Auditing polices & procedures</p> <p> b) VSCCS Legislation appeal process as stated in our VSCCS manual.</p> <p>3. <u>Challenged by TFNSW and NSW Police on the Spot Demands</u></p> <p>- Approach “AAAA” Legal depart to provide a specific written policy / procedure for on the spot demands by the authorities in particular the police department.</p>	
	General Business		

Meeting Closed Time - 7.54pm

Next General Meeting - 11th March 2024

Next Committee Meeting - 4th March 2024