

NSW Written Off Vehicle Laws

“A time of change in the recycling industry!”



The statutory write off changes that commenced on 31st January 2011 in NSW are now in place and although the full effects have not been seen yet, the general industry feedback is that this change is having a positive effect on both, the motor body repair and recycling/dismantling industries.

Early indications point to the increased availability of later model vehicles, long sort after but virtually impossible to acquire for legitimate recycling and dismantling businesses.

The potential for repairing more vehicles brings with it greater opportunities for recyclers to supply this new growth in the smash repair industry and heralds a time of change in the recycling industry!

The challenge will be determining the extent of that growth, identifying the years of vehicle manufacture warranty ranges and the availability of those recycled parts needed to make the most out of this new opportunity. As with the Holden Commodore above, these higher quality and later model salvaged vehicles will be able to be recycled quicker back into the motor vehicle body repair industry.

Recycling parts is amongst the most efficient and environmentally friendly ways to effectively reduce the carbon foot print that is created in the repair process of motor vehicles.

The “next logical step” for the recycling and dismantling industry Australia wide is for MTA’s National body APRAA (Automotive Part Recyclers Association of Australia) to actively lobby the other State governments to endorse similar laws that were introduced so effectively in NSW.

As was the case in NSW, this will not be an easy task and will require the full support of all the State, and Territory based Associations to achieve this goal. The overall safety and sustainability of the motor vehicle repair industry will be greatly assisted by having all Governments across Australia recognise the importance of having a uniform approach to written off vehicles... STAT THEM!!

By Greg Preston (MTA Senior Division Manager) and Matthew Perfrement (MTA NSW Auto Parts Recyclers Chairman).