MEDIA RELEASE

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ELECTRIC VEHICLE STANDARDS DEVELOPMENT

Standards Australia has today announced plans to develop new standards for the electric vehicles industry with the support of the Victorian Government.

"Electric vehicles are capturing the imagination of both consumers and the automotive industry. We see the opportunity to develop and adopt internationally aligned standards to support industry growth," said Colin Blair, Chief Executive, Standards Australia.

Standards Australia will be forming a working group of major industry players, government and stakeholders to work towards common goals and objectives for standardisation. The first part of the initiative will be funded by the Victorian Government.

"We'll be considering the potential application of standards across areas such as charging stations, vehicle design and safety. We see international alignment as fundamental to the advancement of the domestic electric vehicle industry," Mr Blair said.

Mr Blair said the development of common standards would assist the industry in the roll-out and development of new technologies.

"The movement towards electric vehicles represents an exciting opportunity for Australian automotive industry given the significant market potential.

"Globally the automotive industry is increasingly focussed on clean technologies, which means electric vehicles will become increasingly dominant.

"The working group will consider how market participants can utilise standards, and how this relates to regulatory considerations.

"We need to take our cue from developments overseas to ensure that Australian industry is a leader in the field. This can be done in a spirit of both cooperation and healthy competition," Mr Blair concluded.

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