

05/06/2019

To: ACC

Subject: Quad Bike Safety Standard – Operator Protection Devices on ATV

From: Fernando Figueiredo – Gympie, QLD 4570

Please find below my response to the proposed ACC compulsory fitting of Operator Protection Devices on all quad bikes.

I have been working in the motorcycle industry for now 17 years, and have sold many ATV vehicles and products in this time. I have met many different people and several different reasons as to why people want to purchase and use ATV's in QLD.

It really upsets me that because of the miss use and complete ignorance of individuals operating ATV's or any kind of machinery is now affecting others that always take good measures to ensure their safety while operating machinery. People under the age of 16, under influence of alcohol or drugs, people with no training or understanding of machines are given the keys to these machines and putting their lives at risk. It is time for these individuals to take full responsibility of their actions and not blame another party, or the machines they are operating.

I have been following the devilment of this argument proposed by the ACC and I believe this will not save lives. As a matter of fact it will only make things worse.

I propose that mandatory training, compulsory wearing of helmet and following of manufacturer's specifications be followed by all users and operators of ATV.

I myself have completed the ATV training offered by H.A.R.T and I can genuinely see that this would be much more beneficial for the customer than the fitting of an OPD.

It would be a shame to lose ATV's in Australia and also for the industry to suffer from this due to loss of jobs (sales people in dealerships), mechanics servicing ATV's and the people using ATV's. ATV's offer the farmers and users a unique service that no other vehicle can do.

I request for the ACC to reconsider their proposal as this is definitely not the way to go.