

I am writing to voice my concerns of the ACCC's proposed "Consumer Goods (Quad Bikes) Safety Standard 2019" and if it becomes law, Honda will withdraw from the ATV market here in Australia. My husband and I operate the local Honda Dealership in Seymour, Victoria. Which is located in a rural area with majority of our Honda Motorcycle sales being ATV's to local farmers, horse studs, hobby farmers and weekenders.

If the new ACCC's proposed "Consumer Goods (Quad Bikes) Safety Standard 2019" becomes law and ATV's must be fitted with an OPD, Honda has stated that in two year they will stop selling ATV's.

If this was to come in to affect and Honda was to stop sale of ATV's it would affect our business significantly as ATV sales, service and repairs make up at least 50% of our business. We would be forced to downsize our business and even be forced layoff employees, we currently employ four full-time staff members not counting my husband and I who also work full-time in the business.

The 5 –Star ATV safety initiative developed by the FCAI recommends the below advise for ATV's and their riders

1. Choose a vehicle which is fit for purpose – for the task and the rider.
2. Wear a helmet – the most effective safety device.
3. Rider training – will allow you to fully understand both the ATV's features and its limitations.
4. Don't allow passengers on single seat ATVs, and no kids under 16 on adult size ATVs.
5. Follow the manufacturer's guidance and warnings.

When we sell the ATV's to customers they are asked what purpose they are planning to use the ATV for, we advise them of the most suitable vehicle for their requirements.

They are given safety brochures and pre-delivery instructions of the features of the motorcycle. Honda has safety and warning stickers fitted to all their ATV's and Motorbikes also.

In conclusion if the in laws come in to place and Honda stops selling ATV's into the Australian market our business will suffer, local customers, farmers and other rural users will suffer as we will not be able to offer a reliable product and service.

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