

AASRA: THEN AND NOW

The Australian Automotive Service and Repair Authority provides an update

As the Australian Automotive Service and Repair Authority (AASRA) moves into the final quarter of its third year, *AAA Magazine* caught up with Executive Officer Joe McFadries to reflect on where AASRA has come from, where it is, and where it is going.

In 2022 AASRA was appointed as Scheme Adviser to the Motor Vehicle Service and Repair Information Sharing scheme and very quickly established its operational foundations, including licensing software from The National Automotive Service Task Force in the USA.

Further investment in software modifications customised the platform to meet legislative requirements and an income stream was established to fund AASRA's ongoing growth and development.

On reflection, Joe says those early days were a real challenge for manufacturers, independent repairers, and AASRA itself, as all parties came to grips with the new legislation.

"Today, as a not-for-profit business, AASRA has found its mark, delivering value for both its members and the vehicle manufacturers who have

chosen to partner with AASRA as participating brands," Joe said.

AASRA's key functions include assessing the credentials of all independent repairers seeking service and repair information, as well as ensuring that safety and security information is only released to repairers who are suitably qualified.

In addition, AASRA provides guidance to manufacturers to maintain compliance with the legislation and will facilitate solutions in the event of a dispute.

"AASRA's 36 participating brands represent 87 percent of the Australian car parc, including nine of the top 10 manufacturers in the country," Joe said.

"For a modest annual subscription and a one-time registration process, it is no wonder so many independent repairers rely on AASRA for complete, up-to-date genuine service and repair information."

Looking ahead to the new financial year, Joe says AASRA will continue to develop relationships with its participating brand partners to further streamline the independent repairers' access to service and repair information.



"Also, with the influx of new brands in the coming years, AASRA is perfectly positioned to help them meet their legislative requirements, which in turn will further increase the availability of service and repair information for the independent members. It really is a symbiotic relationship," Joe said.

Finally, AASRA has ramped up its activity and presence across the industry.

"Both members and participating brands partners can expect to hear from us through our monthly e-newsletters and quarterly updates, as well as see our rebranded marketing collateral in digital and print media," Joe said.

"Also, look out for AASRA at various state-based trade nights and major national events."

For more information about AASRA, visit www.aasra.com.au

SMARTER SUPPLY CHAINS FOR THE AUTOMOTIVE AFTERMARKET

Demand Management Systems (DMS) helps automotive businesses move beyond guesswork

In an industry where vehicle models, part numbers, and customer needs constantly evolve, getting supply chain planning right is critical. Yet many businesses still rely on outdated tools, gut-feel forecasting, or disconnected spreadsheets—resulting in stockouts, excess inventory, and missed sales.

"At Demand Management Systems (DMS), we support automotive businesses in replacing guesswork with informed, data-driven decision-making," DMS Business Development Manager, Alice Brimicombe, said.

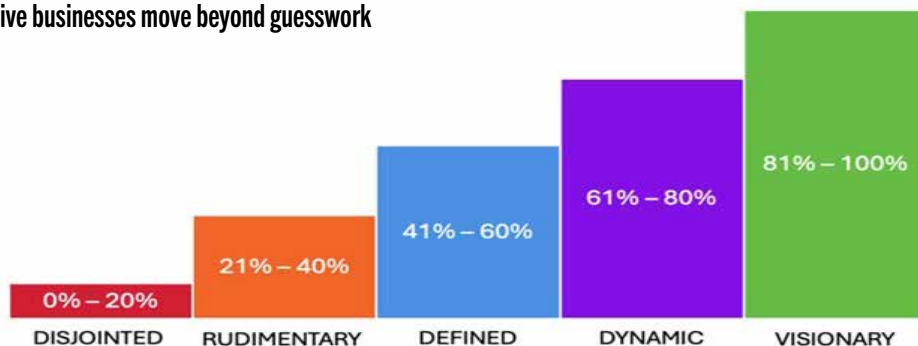
"Backed by 37 years of experience, our advanced supply chain planning services give you the clarity and confidence to make faster, smarter decisions."

From complexity to clarity

"We work with automotive retailers, distributors, and manufacturers to bring structure to the chaos," Alice added.

Whether you're juggling thousands of SKUs, seasonal demand, or long lead times, Alice says DMS' tools and expertise help you to:

- Improve forecast accuracy by using intelligent models that adapt to real-world demand patterns
- Optimise inventory to balance availability with



working capital, ensuring the right parts are in the right place at the right time

- Streamline replenishment so ordering is proactive, not reactive
- Unify planning teams by aligning sales, supply chain, and finance around a single, data-driven plan

Results that matter

"It's not about more reports—it's about better outcomes," DMS Senior Business Consultant, Elton Brown, said.

"One client in the automotive sector reduced excess inventory by 28 percent within six months while also improving service levels. Another improved forecast accuracy by 35 percent and cut back on emergency shipments.

"Across the board, our clients gain greater control, visibility, and confidence in their supply chain decisions."

Not sure where to start?

DMS explains that it offers a quick Supply Chain Maturity Assessment, designed specifically for the automotive aftermarket.

"In just five minutes, you'll receive a view of your current capabilities along with insights into areas of opportunity," Elton said.

"To access the assessment, please visit www.supplychainmaturityscore.com.

"We're not just software experts, we are supply chain practitioners.

For more information, visit www.demandmgmt.com