

Bulletin

Commercial Vehicle Industry Association (Vic)



Reference No. Mercedes-benz halts bus and coach sales/mm-2-23

Date: 21/02/2023

Local manufacturing jobs at risk as Mercedes-Benz halts bus and coach sales in Australia

Members are advised of a [media release](#) issued on 20 February 2023 by the Bus Industry Confederation (BIC) with regards to Mercedes-Benz ceasing its bus and coach operations in the Australian Market with immediate effect.

What will this mean for the industry?

In simple terms Mercedes Benz will discontinue to sell new bus and coach products locally. It is important to note that Fuso remains unaffected by this announcement.

Mercedes-Benz will continue to assist their existing customers via its Australian dealership network with technical and ongoing support for their coach and bus products in the market.

What are the ramifications for the industry?

The Mercedes-Benz decision is likely to have serious fallout for local manufacturing and local jobs. The BIC advise that there are approximately 40 manufacturing and parts supply companies that contribute to the final assembly of a single bus. The decision has accelerated the need for governments at all levels to support the automotive manufacturing sector with a level of support that will ensure its long-term viability, protect jobs, support local communities that rely on this this sector.

What should CVIA members do?

If members are affected by the announcement, you should ensure that you source legal advice to understand your rights. VACC can assist by connecting you with an appropriate legal firm with capability in this area.

Please feel free to contact me, Michael McKenna, at VACC to discuss any other concerns you may have with regards to the Mercedes Benz decision.

VACC thanks the BIC for the update.

Michael McKenna MBA MBLaw
Industry Policy Advisor