



## **Media Release**

### **Mobility Scooters Deliver Big Benefits to Senior Citizens**

Any move to curtail the use of scooters among our senior citizens would be a big step back according to the Independent Rehabilitation Suppliers Association.

Executive Director Chris Sparks said people over 70 are far more likely to be injured driving a car or as a passenger than using a scooter.

“We strongly support Scooters Australia’s submission to the Australian Consumer and Competition Commission Inquiry which calls for the Federal Government to run a campaign promoting industry standards, user training and community awareness,” he said.

He said poor infrastructure, especially ramps from footpath to road were the biggest cause of accidents.

“Sadly there is lack of footpaths in our cities and towns – it is basic infrastructure, but in many cases it is lacking or non-existent.”

Scooters Australia Executive Director Peter Fraser said that his members made sure customers got the right scooter and proper training.

“There are people who purchase off the internet and receive very little or no instruction how to use the scooter properly,” he said.

“This is one area which could be addressed.”

Mr Fraser said that Scooters Australia research showed that scooter use is 2.75 times safer than using the road for the 70 plus age group.

“We would strongly support the implementation of a motor scooter standard, but most importantly we believe that there needs to be greater public awareness.”

“The Motor Cycle Beware Campaign in Victoria is an excellent example of how increased awareness can improve safety,” he said.

**ENDS**

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