

14 September 2007

Allen Consulting Group
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210 George Street
Sydney NSW 2000
By email: dstransport@allenconsult.com.au

Dear Sir / Madam

RE: DISABILITY STANDARDS FOR ACCESSIBLE PUBLIC TRANSPORT REVIEW

Please find attached for your consideration a copy of the report prepared for the European Conference of Ministers of Transport and the International Road Transport Union titled, "Improving Access to Taxis".

The report supports and complements the Australian Taxi Industry Association's (ATIA) previous submission to the 5 year review of the Disability Standards for Accessible Public Transport (DSAPT). It articulates, in a European context, the obstacles and difficulties associated with the delivery of accessible taxi services - for both regulators and service providers.

Importantly, the report demonstrates 2 matters in particular.

1. The universal accessible taxi regulatory model, variously adopted in different cities in the United Kingdom, is based on dimensional specifications significantly inferior to those prescribed in the DSAPT. Accordingly, irrespective of any other considerations of a financial, engineering or supply chain nature, the LTI's iconic London Cab (and its competitors' products) would not be a suitable vehicle for the delivery of accessible taxi services in Australia.
2. In combination, the DSAPT's targets set expectations for service delivery by Australian taxis well in excess of any of their European counterparts.

Finally, should you require any further information or clarification in regard to any matters raised in this letter and its attachment please do not hesitate to contact me directly on (07) 3847 3500.

Yours sincerely



Blair Davies
Executive Director