

To all stakeholders and consumers within the Automotive and related Industries. December 2023.

As the year approaches its end, it is time for us to reflect on the year that was. 2023 proved to be a difficult year for the automotive and related industries. With inflation rising, and fuel prices going through the roof as well as battling the ongoing loadshedding, it is not a year that we will remember with fondness.

In concluding this chapter taking a break allows us to rejuvenate for the year ahead. It's time to rest, reflect and renew. It is also a time of gratitude for outstanding events of the past year and for me personally to be officially recognised by the industry for mine and my office's steadfast and unbiased approach to the challenges that faced us during this past year. The award was accepted with gratitude and pride in that we are trusted with the very important task of maintaining the good relationships between the industry and its consumers.

It only remains for me to wish all the stakeholders and consumers a peaceful and wonderful festive season.

Johan van Vreden

Motor Industry Ombudsman of South Africa