Record NT Motor Vehicle Sales In 2008

New ABS figures show Northern Territory sales of new motor vehicles in 2008 were the highest on record for a calendar year.

Treasurer Delia Lawrie today said 10,662 new motor vehicles were sold in the Territory last year, up 7.5% on the previous year compared to a 3.6% decrease nationally in 2008.

“Strong population, economic and employment growth in 2008 were contributing factors to our strong motor vehicle sales figures,” Ms Lawrie said.

“The Northern Territory led South Australia and Victoria in recording increased sales of new motor vehicles last year – despite tough economic times - with the rest of Australia recording a decrease.

“The Northern Territory Government will continue to do everything it can to ensure our economy remains strong in the midst of a global financial crisis.

“New vehicle sales are a good indicator of how an economy is travelling and the Territory had a very strong year with the sale of new motor vehicles near record highs.

“The growth in sales of new motor vehicles in the Territory last year came on the back of 2627 four-wheel-drives sold in 2008, a 31.5% increase on the year before.

“A strong economy means more jobs and more money for Territory families to buy four-wheel-drives to go fishing and camping, which is part of our great lifestyle.

“Figures from the Territory’s Motor Vehicle Registry also show the number of cars registered in Darwin and Alice Springs has increased.

“The number of vehicles registered in Darwin on 31 December 2008 was 69,272, up 20,050 on the previous year.

“And in Alice Springs the number of motor vehicles registered increased from 14,609 to 19,488 over the course of the year.”