

Questions we put to the ABC:

1. Did the ABC know that Tony Armstrong is the voice of the NRMA ads?
2. Did the ABC give Tony Armstrong approval to do this commercial advertising campaign?
3. If the ABC did give approval, why is it OK for a high-profile TV presenter/journalist to be doing commercial advertising work?
4. If the ABC didn't give approval, what action will be taken now?
5. How much was Tony Armstrong paid for this NRMA gig?
6. Does the ABC believe this kind of commercial advertising work is an appropriate side-hustle for ABC journalists/presenters/employees?
7. Are other ABC presenters/journalists doing commercial advertising work outside the ABC and if they are, can you please provide details of that?
8. Given that Tony Armstrong is now doing commercial advertising work, is the announcement this week that he's leaving ABC News Breakfast an indication that he will be leaving the ABC to pursue a commercial media career?

Response from an ABC spokesperson:

The voiceover was done without the ABC's knowledge, this was due to a misunderstanding with Tony's external representation. They have been provided a copy of the external work guidelines and reminded all ABC employees are required to meet them. Tony is a high valued employee and has the ABC's full support.