### • PHILLIPS FOX•

ACCC 16 NOV 2000 PERTH

Our Ref: Your Ref: CRW:IRF:685653 Iewel Gilbert (ACT)

N70086 to N70135

Contact: Direct Line: Claire Whisker (08) 9288 6927 Iain Freeman

Partner: Direct Line:

lain Freeman (08) 9288 6759

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Australia

16 November 2000

Adelaide Brisbane Canberra Melbourne Perth Sydney Auckłand Wellington Hanoi Ho Chi Minh City

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ABN 47 488 578 158

**BY HAND** 

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission 233 Adelaide Terrace

PERTH WA 6000

Attention: Ms Jewel Gilbert (ACT)

Dear Ms Gilbert

#### THE ROYAL AUTOMOBILE CLUB OF WESTERN AUSTRALIA (INC) NOTIFICATIONS OF EXCLUSIVE DEALING – THIRD LINE FORCING RAC REWARDS AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM

#### New Notifications and Request for Confidentiality

We refer to our letter, dated 18 October 2000, enclosing a table showing the modifications to the RAC rewards and recognition member loyalty program known as attractions ('the Program') effective 1 October 2000.

We **enclose** additional notifications which arise out of the Program, together with a cheque for \$700.00 in payment of the lodgement fees. The notifications pertain to goods and services supplied in Western Australia by the following:

- Cellarmaster Wines Pty Ltd trading as Cellarmaster Wines
- Seraph Communications Pty Ltd trading as Cellular One
- DMS Energy Pty Ltd trading as DMS Energy
- Genex Corporation Pty Ltd trading as Rabbit Photo
- Roadshow Film Distributors Pty Ltd trading as Roadshow Film Distributors
- Abbco Ptv Ltd trading as The Engine Exchange
- O'Brien Glass Holdings Pty Ltd trading as O'Brien Mirror Service.

The Notifications are supported by a set of Submissions and an annexed Schedule of Offers proposed to be made to RAC members pursuant to the Program.

The details of the offers to be made by the Retail Partners to RAC members pursuant to the Program is commercially sensitive information. The RAC, in conjunction with the RAC Group and the Retail Partners, will promote the offers in accordance with the marketing objectives of the RAC. If the details of the offers are made publicly available prior to their release by the RAC, competitors to the RAC, and competitors to the Retail Partners proposing to make offers to RAC members, will receive an unfair advantage and the RAC and the Retail Partners will not achieve their marketing objectives.

To this end, the RAC requests that the annexed Schedule of Offers, detailing the offers proposed to be made pursuant to the Program, be kept confidential and not placed as part of the materials that are available for inspection on the public register of notifications lodged with the ACCC.

#### Letter from the Adjudication Branch

We refer to the letter of the Acting General Manager of the Adjudication Branch at the ACCC, dated 11 October 2000, confirming that the Notifications lodged on 19 September and 27 September 2000 (N70182 and N70183) will stand.

In due course, we request that the Adjudication Branch send us a similar letter confirming receipt of the **enclosed** Notifications, together with the status of the Notifications.

We look forward to hearing from you shortly. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Claire Whisker on direct line (08) 9288 6927.

Yours sincerely

Iain Freeman Partner

Enc.

- 1. Notifications (x7)
- 2. Submissions
- 3. Schedule of Offers
- 4. Cheque for lodgement fees \$700

ACCC 16 NOV 2000 PERTH

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) EXCLUSIVE DEALING: **NOTIFICATION** 



To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

PERTH

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

Name of person giving notice: 1. (a)

#### ABBCO PTY LTD (ACN 009 283 345)

Short description of business carried on by that person: (b)

Sale and service of reconditioned vehicle engines. Trading as The Engine Exchange at 4 Christian Court, BAYSWATER WA 6053

- Address in Australia for service of documents on that person: (c)
  - 4 Christian Court, BAYSWATER WA 6053
- Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates 2. (a)

Various retail goods and services in the category of reconditioned vehicle engines. Membership of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia

Description of the conduct or proposed conduct (b)

> Under the RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented by the RAC member to third parties known as the Retail Partners or related companies of the RAC. The person giving this notice is a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:

- supply or offer to supply; (1)
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC membership; and/or

The Retail Partners may refuse to:

- (1) supply or offer to supply goods or services;
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become ember or ha acquired RAC membership.

- Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates 3. (a)
  - Number of those persons? (b)

(i) At present time 402.532

Estimated within the next year (ii)

412,785

Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names an

Name and address of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this notice Peter Birch c/- of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and

Helen Wells of 4 Christian Court, BAYSWATER WA 6053

200-0

November 2000

NOV 2000

Signed by/on behalf of the person giving this notice

PETER JOHN BIRCH

#### COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) **EXCLUSIVE DEALING:** NOTIFICATION



To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that

Act in	which th	ne perso	n giving r	notice er	ngages or propos	ses to engage.
_	4.				4.1	

Name of person giving notice: (a)

### ROADSHOW FILM DISTRIBUTORS PTY LTD (ABN 84 000 025 123)

Short description of business carried on by that person: (b)

> Distribution of film and videos. Trading as Roadshow Film Distributors at 3/30 Walters Drive, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Address in Australia for service of documents on that person: (c)

3/30 Walters Drive, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates 2. (a)

Membership of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia

Description of the conduct or proposed conduct (b)

> Under the RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented by the RAC member to third parties known as the Retail Partners or related companies of the RAC. The person giving this notice is a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:

- (1) supply or offer to supply;
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC membership; and/or

The Retail Partners may refuse to:

- (1) supply or offer to supply goods or services;
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become a RAC member or has acquired RAC membership. KECEIVEU

- Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates 3. (a)
  - Number of those persons? (b)

At present time (i)

402,532

Estimated within the next year (ii)

412,785

Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names and add

Name and address of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this notice Peter Birch c/- of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and 4. Sian Delaney of 3/30 Walters Drive SBORNE PARK WA 6017

Signed by/on/behalf of the person giving this notice

November 2000

NOV 2000

PÉTER JOHN BIRCH

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1)
EXCLUSIVE DEALING: NOTIFICATION



To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

1. (a)	Name of p	person giving	notice:
--------	-----------	---------------	---------

#### O'BRIEN GLASS HOLDINGS PTY LTD (ABN 74 000 022 275)

(b) Short description of business carried on by that person:

Provision of repairs to and replacement of windscreens for vehicles. Trading as O'Brien Mirror Service at 420 Scarborough Beach Road, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Address in Australia for service of documents on that person: (c)

420 Scarborough Beach Road, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates 2. (a)

> Various retail goods and services in the category of windscreens for vehicles. Membership of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia

Description of the conduct or proposed conduct (b)

> Under the RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented by the RAC member to the RAC. The person giving this notice is a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:

- supply or offer to supply; (1)
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC membership; and / or

The Retail Partners may refuse to:

- supply or offer to supply goods or services; (1)
- supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or (2)
- give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of, (3)

other goods or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC membership.

- Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates 3. (a)
  - (b) Number of those persons?

(i) At present time 402.532

Estimated within the next year (ii)

412,785

Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names and (c)

Name and address of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this notice Peter Birch c/- of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and Keith Tulip of 420 Scarborough Beach Road, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017 4.

Dated

November 2000

NOV 2000

Signed by/oh behalf of the person giving this notice

PETER JOHN BIRCH

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) EXCLUSIVE DEALING: NOTIFICATION ACCC 16 NOV 2000

To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

PERTH

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

Act in	waich ti	te person g	twing notice engages of proposes to engage.						
1.	(a)	Name of p	person giving notice:						
		GENEX C	CORPORATION PTY LTD (ABN 47 001 784 827)						
	(b)	Short desc	escription of business carried on by that person:						
			of photograph development and related goods and services. Trading as Rabbit Photo at 145 High Road, ON WA 6155						
	(c)	Address i	n Australia for service of documents on that person:						
		145 High	Road, WILLETTON WA 6155						
2.	(a)	Description	on of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates						
		Various ro Members	etail goods and services in the category of photograph development. hip of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia						
	(b)	Description	on of the conduct or proposed conduct						
		Western A	RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented be member to third parties known as the Retail Partners or related companies of the RAC. The person giving a set a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:						
		(1)	supply or offer to supply;						
		(2)	supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or						
		(3)	give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,						
		other goo membersl	ds or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC nip; and/ or						
		The Retai	Partners may refuse to:						
		(1)	supply or offer to supply goods or services;						
		(2)	supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or						
		(3)	give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,						
			ds or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has RAC membership.						
3.	(a)	Class or c	lasses of persons to which the conduct relates						
	(b)	Number o	of those persons?						
		(i)	At present time 402,532 1 7 NOV 2000						
		(ii)	Estimated within the next year 412,785						
		(c)	Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names and addresses: Not applicable						
4.	Name a	Peter Bird	s of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this the circle of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and Stevens of 145 High Road, WILLETTON WA 6155						
Dated	lt	{/	November 2000						
Signe	d by/on	behalf of th	ne person giving this notice						

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) **EXCLUSIVE DEALING:** NOTIFICATION

ACCC 1 6 NOV 2000

To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

1.	(a)	Name of person giving notice:						
		DMS	ENERGY PTY LTD (ABN 12 009 241 098)					
	(b)	Short o	Short description of business carried on by that person:					
		Provis	ion of window tinting for vehicles. Trading as DMS Energy at 44 Hutton Street, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017					
	(c)	Addre	Address in Australia for service of documents on that person:					
		44 Hut	tton Street, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017					
2.	(a)	Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates						
		Various retail goods and services in the category of window tinting for vehicles.  Membership of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia						
	(b)	Description of the conduct or proposed conduct						
		Under the RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented by the RAC member to third parties known as the Retail Partners or related companies of the RAC. The person giving this notice is a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:						
		(1)	supply or offer to supply;					
		(2)	supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or					
		(3)	give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,					
		other ( memb	goods or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC ership; and/ or					
		The Re	etail Partners may refuse to:					
		(1)	supply or offer to supply goods or services;					
		(2)	supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or					

Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates 3. (a)

> Number of those persons? At present time (i)

402.532

acquired RAC membership.

412,785

Estimated within the next year (ii)

Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names as (c)

other goods or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become an

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17 NOV 2000

Name and address of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this notice Peter Birch c/- of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and David Shaw of 44 Hutton Street, OSBORNE PARK WA 6017

Dated

November 2000

Signed by/on behalf of the person giving this notice

PETER JOHN BIRCH

give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,

61717627/685653

(b)

#### COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) EXCLUSIVE DEALING: NOTIFICATION

ACCC 16 NOV 2000

To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

PERTH

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

1. (a) Name of person giving notice:

#### CELLARMASTER WINES PTY LTD (ABN 95 076 727 949)

(b) Short description of business carried on by that person:

Provision and delivery of wine and other alcoholic beverages. Trading as Cellarmaster Wines at Level 25, Tower 2, 500 Oxford Street, BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022

(c) Address in Australia for service of documents on that person:

Level 25, Tower 2, 500 Oxford Street, BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022

2. (a) Description of the goods or services in relation to the supply or acquisition of which this notice relates

Various retail goods and services in the category of wine and other alcoholic beverages. Membership of the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia

(b) Description of the conduct or proposed conduct

Under the RAC Reward & Recognition Program, where a person is a member of The Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (inc) ("the RAC"), he or she will be given an RAC member card, and that card may be presented by the RAC member to third parties known as the Retail Partners or related companies of the RAC. The person giving this notice is a Retail Partner. The Retail Partners will:

- (1) supply or offer to supply;
- (2) supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or
- (3) give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,

other goods or services to the person on condition that the person will become an RAC member or has acquired RAC membership; and/or

The Retail Partners may refuse to:

- supply or offer to supply goods or services;
- (2) supply or offer to supply at a particular price; or
- (3) give or allow, or offer to give or allow, a discount, allowance, rebate or credit in relation to the supply of,

other goods or services to the person unless or on condition that the person will become an RAC membership.

- (a) Class or classes of persons to which the conduct relates
  - (b) Number of those persons?

(i) At present time

402,532

(ii) Estimated within the next year

412.785

(c) Where number of persons stated in item 3 (b) (i) is less than 50, their names and addresses

4. Name and address of person authorized by the person giving this notice to provide additional information in relation to this notice

Peter Birch c/- of RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace Perth WA 6000 and

Yelly House of Lovel 25, Towns 2, 500 Octood Street, PONDLY WAS 2002

Kelly Howe of Level 25, Tower 2, 500 Oxford Street, BONDI JUNCTION NSW 20

Dated 6///8-3

November 2000

Signed by/on behalf of the person giving this notice

PETER JOHN BIRCH

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA Trade Practices Act 1974-Sub-section 93 (1) EXCLUSIVE DEALING: NOTIFICATION 1 6 NOV 2000

To the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission:

61717622/685653

**PERTH** 

Notice is hereby given, in accordance with sub-section 93 (1) of the Trade Practices Act 1974, of particulars of conduct or of proposed conduct of a kind referred to in subsection 47 (2), (3), (4), (5), (6) or (7), or paragraph 47 (8) (a), (b) or (c) or (9) (a), (b), (c) or (d), of that Act in which the person giving notice engages or proposes to engage.

ACCIN	Militar ri	ie person g	IVING HOUSE CHAUGED	2. brobeses to 11.9.	o						
1.	(a)	Name of p	person giving notice:								
		SERAPH	COMMUNICATION	IS PTY LTD (ABN	95 064 242 075)						
	(b)	Short desc	ription of business ca	rried on by that per	rson:						
		Provision PERTH W	of mobile telephones VA 6000	and related service	s. Trading as Cel	llular One at	Level 1, 44	St Georg	es Ter	тасе,	
	(c)	Address in	n Australia for service	e of documents on t	hat person:						
		Level 1, 44	St Georges Terrace, l	PERTH WA 6000						٠	
2.	(a)	Description	on of the goods or serv	vices in relation to t	he supply or acq	uisition of w	hich this no	otice relat	es		
		Various re Membersh	etail goods and service nip of the Royal Autor	es in the category of mobile Club of Wes	f mobile telephoi tern Australia	nes.					
	(b)	Description	on of the conduct or p	roposed conduct							
		Western A	RAC Reward & Reco Australia (inc) ("the Ra nember to third partic is a Retail Partner. The	AC"), he or she will es known as the Ret	be given an RAG ail Partners or re	C member ca	rd, and tha	t card ma	ıy be j	presented	by
		(1)	supply or offer to su	pply;							
		(2)	supply or offer to su	pply at a particular	price; or						
		(3)	give or allow, or offe	er to give or allow, a	discount, allow	ance, rebate	or credit in	relation t	o the	supply of	,
			ds or services to the paip; and/or	erson on condition	that the person v	will become a	in RAC me	mber or h	as acc	quired RA	vC
		The Retail	Partners may refuse	to:							
		(1)	supply or offer to su	pply goods or servi	ces;						
		(2)	supply or offer to su	pply at a particular	price; or						
		(3)	give or allow, or offe	er to give or allow, a	discount, allow	ance, rebate	or credit in		a francisco	1 : 5 / /	
		other good	ds or services to the p RAC membership.	erson unless or on o	condition that the	e person will	become an	RAC から		or has	Ø
3.	(a)	Class or c	lasses of persons to w	hich the conduct re	lates			H	RI	ECEIVED	1
	(b)	Number o	of those persons?			e.		[2]	17	NOV 20	00
		(i)	At present time			402,532		目			1
		(ii)	Estimated within the	e next year		412,785			<i>\</i>		S
		(c)	Where number of pe			1			S. No	Applica	He "
4.	Name a notice	Peter Birc	s of person authorized h c/- of RAC 228 Ade Whiteman of Level 1,	galge Terrace Pertit	YY A OUUU ahu		itional info	rmation i	n relat	tion to thi	S
Dated	161	//// &~	) .			/	Novembe	r 2000			
Signed	i by/øn	behalf of th	e person giving this r	notice	PETERYOHN B	BIRCH		<del>,</del>			



# SUBMISSIONS IN SUPPORT OF NOTIFICATIONS OF EXCLUSIVE DEALINGS RELATING TO RAC REWARDS AND RECOGNITION PROGRAM

1. This submission is in support of separate exclusive dealing notifications by a number of companies in connection with a member loyalty scheme commenced by the Royal Automobile Club of Western Australia (Inc) ('the RAC") in October 1999.

#### The RAC Club

- 2. The RAC Group comprises the RAC, an incorporated association under the WA Associations Incorporations Act, and its subsidiaries RAC Insurance Pty Ltd, RAC Travel Services Pty Ltd, RAC Finance Limited, RAC Insurance Investments Pty Ltd and RAC Glass and Security Services Pty Ltd.
- 3. The governing body of the RAC is the Council, which comprises 15 councillors elected by the members of the Club. Each subsidiary has a separate Board of Directors comprising senior management and representatives from the Council.
- 4. Membership of the RAC is open and on joining a member of the public is required to pay one-off joining fee, which is currently \$33.00, and there is also an annual subscription fee, which is currently \$53.90 for standard cover and \$93.50 for plus cover.
- 5. At 31 August 2000, the RAC had approximately 402,532 members and provides 24-roadside assistance to approximately 511,000 vehicles nominated by members. It is anticipated that by June 2001, the number of members will be 412,785.
- 6. The RAC is a non-profit organisation, which under the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act in its Rules cannot trade. It provides motoring goods and services to members in return for an annual subscription fee. Its subsidiaries have been formed to carry on trading enterprises that provide further services and provide funds to further the provision of benefits. The RAC and its subsidiaries ('RAC Group') are a mutual incorporated group the ultimate members of which cannot, under the provisions of the Associations Incorporations Act and its Rules, share in profits. It operates for the mutual benefit of those ultimate members. Its activities and trading are carried on through the subsidiaries, without maximising profit, for the mutual benefit of RAC members and provide a wider community service.

# 16 NOV 2008 PERTH

#### **Member Loyalty Program**

- 7. In October 1999, the RAC commenced marketing a member loyalty program known as 'RAC Rewards and Recognition Program' and marketed at 'attractions'.
- 8. Each member of the RAC has been issued with a new membership card, which entitles them to a range of discounted goods and services supplied by:
  - 8.1 external third parties; and
  - 8.2 the RAC Group.
- 9. To this end the RAC applied for tenders to interested third parties to participate in the RAC Rewards Program, and who agree to provide a range of discounted goods or services, or special goods or services to RAC members.

#### **Categories of Membership**

- 10. Five different types of cards were issued corresponding to the length of time a person has been a member of the RAC. The categories are Blue Card (0-4 years), Bronze Card (5-9 years); Silver Card (10-24 years); Gold Card (25-49 years) and Life Card (50 years plus).
- 11. It is anticipated that future offers may distinguish between the different categories of members.

## The Terms of the Agreement between the RAC and the Retail Partners

- 12. Individual agreements have been entered into between the RAC and each of the third parties who successfully tendered for participation in the RAC Rewards Program. These third parties are referred to as Retail Partners.
- 13. It is a term of the agreements that the Retail Partner will provide certain offers to RAC members.
- 14. To avoid any negative implications under the Trade Practices Act, it is not a term of the agreements that the Retail Partners must only extend the offer to RAC members.
- 15. The Retail Partners will be at liberty to provide the special offers to other members of the public.

#### Promotion of the RAC Rewards Program

- 16. The primary vehicle for promotion of the RAC Rewards Program is via a colour insert in each issue of the bi-monthly publication sent to RAC members called "Road Patrol".
- 17. In addition the RAC distributes to each of its members a directory of services, which details the Retail Partners, and the special offers that they will extend to RAC members.
- 18. RAC members, if they choose to elect to purchase goods or services from the Retail Partners provide at the point of sale their membership card as proof of membership of the RAC in order to avail themselves of the offer.
- 19. The RAC Rewards Program is promoted throughout merchandising at retail outlets of the Retail Partners and within the RAC Group.

# Offers made by the Retail Partners pursuant to the RAC Rewards Program

20. We refer to the notifications lodged on 28 March 2000, 9 May 2000, 17 July 2000, 19 September 2000 and 27 September 2000 and the annexures to the notifications. In addition to the current Retail Partners, attached is a schedule of the new Retail Partners and the special offers they have agreed to provide to RAC members. The new Retail Partners will be advertised and commence the provision of offers from 1 December 2000.

#### Offers made by RAC Group pursuant to the RAC Rewards Program

- 21. In addition to offers made by the Retail Partners, the following entities within the RAC Group will continue to offer discounted goods and services to members of the Club:
  - 21.1 RAC Glass and Security Services Pty Ltd;
  - 21.2 RAC Travel Services Pty Ltd; and
  - 21.3 RAC Finance Limited

#### **Spot Promotions**

22. It is also anticipated that spot promotions will be run by the RAC Group in which third parties will agree to extend offers to RAC members from time to time, and that these offers will be promoted in the "Road Patrol" and within the RAC Group.

#### Possible application of Trade Practices Act

23. On one interpretation of the RAC Rewards Program the offers to be made by the Retail Partners and the RAC Group are conditioned by the requirement that the proposed acquirer of the goods or services must have first acquired membership from the RAC. Hence section 47(6) and (7) of the Trade Practices Act may arguably apply.

#### **Public Benefit**

- 24. We refer to notifications N70086 to N70135. The Senior Assistant Commissioner of the Adjudication Branch of the ACCC held, by letter dated 22 October 1999, that it is unlikely that the detriment to the public from the conduct will outweigh the likely benefit. Accordingly, notifications N70086 to N70135 were allowed to stand.
- 25. For the same reasons as lodged on 1 October 1999, we submit that it is unlikely that the detriment to the public from the conduct will outweigh the likely benefit and request that the enclosed notifications be allowed to stand. Please let us know if you require further submissions.

#### **Market Position**

- 26. Neither the RAC nor any of the Retail Partners have sufficient market power in the markets they operate to force a member of the public to become a member of the RAC. The RAC Rewards Program simply confers additional benefits to membership of the Club. An analysis of the Retail Partners and the discounts offered reveals that there is no actual or practical compulsion on members of the public to join the RAC beyond that which can be characterised as a normal exercise of a person's consumer sovereignty to acquire the most value for his or her consumer dollar.
- 27. In any event the offers to be extended by the Retail Partners are not exclusive to members of the RAC. There will be no contractual requirement on the Retail Partners that they must refrain from extending the same or similar offers to members of the public generally. A member of the public will be able to negotiate the best deal for him or herself to acquire goods or services from the Retail Partners without the necessity of becoming an RAC member.

Peter John Birch RAC 228 Adelaide Terrace PERTH WA 6000

DATE: 16 November 2000

#### **SCHEDULE**



### **RAC Rewards Program offers**

### New Retail Partners – from 1 December 2000

COMPANY/ASSOCIATION NAME	OFFER
Cellarmaster Wines Pty Ltd trading as Cellarmaster Wines	Save \$92 on the RAC dozen. RAC members' price is \$125.40 with the normal price being \$217.89.
	Receive 6 months free membership to Cellarmasters: The Wine Cellar.
	Receive a bottle of Evans & Tate Gnangara Chardonnay, valued at \$14.99, free with every case.
Seraph Communications Pty Ltd trading as	Up to \$17 free calls per month.
Cellular One	December Bonus: Sign up before 31/12/00 and get free 4 hour AOL internet access per month for term of contract.
	Visit any AAPT store and get all of the above plus free first month's access and accessory pack.
	Access and Accessory pack:
	Free Nokia 3210 phone
	Free connection to Network Vodafone
	Choice of free calls to other Vodafone mobile phones or  fined line who are noticentials.
	fixed line phones nationwide  Choice of free SMS messages or voicemail deposit.
DMS Energy Pty Ltd trading as DMS Energy	Save \$50 on vehicle window tinting.
Genex Corporation Pty Ltd trading as Rabbit Photo	Save up to 30% on developing and printing of 35mm colour negative film.
Roadshow Film Distributors Pty Ltd trading as	Receive a free movie ticket to see the film 'The Family Man'
Roadshow Film Distributors	with the purchase of 1 full paying ticket at Movie Masters Cinemas.
Abbco Pty Ltd trading The Engine Exchange	Save \$100 on a reconditioned engine.
O'Brien Glass Holdings Pty Ltd trading as	Receive 1 free windscreen repair per year.
O'Brien Mirror Service	Free 24-hour hotline mobile service.
	Free autoglass damage inspection.
	All other windscreen repairs \$40
	Windscreen replacement (all makes) \$187 plus GST.