



Australian Competition & Consumer Commission

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Our Ref: C2002/1057
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24 July 2002

Ms Peta Maloney
Partner
PricewaterhouseCoopers Legal
GPO Box 427
SYDNEY NSW 1041

Dear Ms Maloney

**Notification of Third Line Forcing – Australian Partnership of
PricewaterhouseCoopers (N 31168)**

I refer to the above third line forcing notification lodged by the Australian Partnership of PricewaterhouseCoopers (N 31168) with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the Commission).

The notification details a proposed arrangement whereby PricewaterhouseCoopers will offer eValue Accounts to consumers on the condition that the consumer also obtains software from CaseWare International Inc.

This notification was placed on the Commission's public register on 11 July 2002 following the withdrawal of PricewaterhouseCooper's claim for confidentiality. As discussed with Mr McDonald in order for a notification to be validly lodged it is our view that it is necessary for sufficient details of the notified conduct to be placed on the public register so as to enable both the Commission and interested parties to perform an initial assessment of the notified conduct. Accordingly it is the Commission's view that the statutory time period under section 47(7A) commenced on 11 July 2002 and not 2 July 2002. Immunity from the Trade Practices Act will therefore come into effect on 25 July 2002.

On the basis of the information that you have provided, it is not intended that further action be taken in this matter at this stage.



Please note that the Commission may act to remove the immunity afforded by this notification at a later stage if it is satisfied that the likely benefit to the public from the conduct will not outweigh the likely detriment to the public from the conduct.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Peter McDonald on (02) 6243 1051 or Susan Sullivan on (02) 6243 1354.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T. Grimwade', written in a cursive style.

Tim Grimwade
General Manager
Adjudication Branch