

12 DEC 2002

Gillian McElroy
Unit 23 College Street
Drummoyne
2047.

10th December 2002,

FILE No:

DOC:

MARS/PRISM:

Dear Mr Fels,

I am writing to express my concern on the proposed merger of QANTAS and Air New Zealand.

I am worried because at present Air New Zealand have a *seat-pitch of 34 inches in economy class for long haul flights. QANTAS has a seat pitch of 31 inches on long haul economy flights.

I fear the merger will see more seats squeezed into economy class by QANTAS management.

* Seat-pitch is the distance between headrests.

I looked up "SEAT-pitch" on the Internet where I found a table of 78 Airlines giving seat-pitch for each, of the 78 only 17 Airlines had a seat-pitch of 31 inches or less. In light of the recent incidence of DVT (deep vein thrombosis) QANTAS should be trying to increase seatpitch, but because of the need for profit QANTAS wants to put more seats into economy and it will do the same to Air New Zealand if it gets its hands on the Airline. I hope you will consider this.

Thank you

Gillian McElroy.

Also my husband and I have
the utmost respect for you.