



15TH May, 2003.

FILE No:
DOC:
MARS/PRISM:

The General Manager,
Adjudication Branch,
Australian Competition & Consumer Commission
PO Box 1199
Dickson. ACT 2602

Dear Sir,

**Re: Authorisation applications lodged by
Qantas Airways Limited & British Airways Plc,
(A 30226 & A 30227)**

As stated by the applicant, this 'Joint Services Agreement' has been in operation for seven (7) years.

I strongly believe agreements between International Airlines should be reviewed regularly because of changing circumstances.

In 1996 when the initial application was approved, the balance between Public Benefit/Anti-Competition Effects and Public Detriment would have been far closer than where the scales are positioned today.


Since 1996, as we all know, the International Aviation Industry has suffered three major set-backs:

- a) 11th September, 2001
- b) Iraq War
- c) SARS

The markets relevant to the flights contained in this 'Joint Services Agreement' have been affected by these three unusual happenings.

As stated by the applicant, notwithstanding the downturn in the aviation industry competition on the Australia-Europe-Australia route remains active.

AUST. COMPETITION & CONSUMER COMMISSION CANBERRA 19 MAY 2003

A member of the Wilson Logistics Group 

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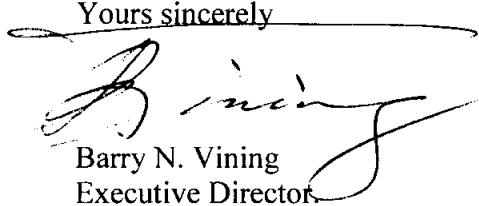
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After considering all the factors at this time I am compelled to support the continued authorisation of the application lodged by Qantas Airways Limited & British Airways Plc (A 30226 and A 30227).

Many thanks for the opportunity to respond to this application.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "B. Vining", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the left.

Barry N. Vining
Executive Director