



St. George Cabs Co-Operative Limited

ABN: 32 168 402 678



NEVER OFF THE ROAD!

17 May, 2004

FILE No:

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The General Manager
Adjudication Branch
Australian Competition and Consumer Commission
PO Box 1199
DICKSON ACT 2602

Attention: Ms. Isabelle Arnaud

Dear Ms. Arnaud,

RE: Proposed Revocation of Authorisation A90531

We refer to your correspondence dated 7 May 2004 whereby the Commission proposes to revoke the authority granted to St. George Cabs Co-operative Limited in 1992.

St. George Cabs requires its members and operators to display the decals advising customers which forms of payment are accepted. We also require our drivers to accept these cards as payment for a hiring if the customer so requests. Currently the following cards are accepted: Cabcharge, Visa, Mastercard, American Express, Diners Club, JCB and Bankcard. In addition debit cards are accepted only through the electronic terminal.

St. George Cabs Co-operative Limited does **not** prevent its drivers from accepting other forms of payment whereby the driver has an arrangement with a credit provider other than Cabcharge Australia Limited.

Since the Authorisation was granted in 1992 Cabcharge has, at considerable expense, made available to all St. George Cabs a mobile EFTPOS terminal installed in the taxi as a fixed installation. Drivers are encouraged to use the electronic facility as this method offers much improved security of the transaction

As you are aware payment by such cards attracts a surcharge of 10% plus GST on the surcharge if applicable. All of our taxis are required to display a decal in both the front and rear seats of the taxi advising of this surcharge.

St. George Cabs joined the Cabcharge system in 1992 and in the period from 1992 to 1999 the value of fares paid by way of credit cards increased by a factor of three. Steady growth has occurred from 1999 to 2003.


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Telephone: 9554 4000 Facsimile: 9554 4272
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Cabcharge has always demonstrated a professional approach in the provision of these facilities and St. George Cabs is proud to be part of the Cabcharge family.

We believe that revocation of this authorisation would not be in the best interests of St. George Cabs, Cabcharge and most importantly our customers who use these facilities. Our regular customers and those customers from interstate and overseas can observe before they enter a St. George taxi what payment facilities are available to them.

St. George Cabs Co-operative Limited strongly opposes the proposal to revoke this Authorisation A90531.

Yours sincerely
St. George Cabs Co-operative Limited

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. F. Haile', written in a cursive style.

R. F. HAILE
GENERAL MANAGER