



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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2 May 2007

Ms Elizabeth Ritchie
Partner
Home Wilkinson Lowry
GPO Box 5408
Sydney 2001
NSW

Dear Ms Ritchie

Third line forcing notification N92892 lodged by Fastsigns International Pty Ltd

I refer to the above notification lodged with the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) on 26 April 2007. The notification has been placed on the ACCC's public register.

You have described the notified conduct as follows:

Fastsigns proposes to offer new franchise agreements and renew existing franchise agreements on condition that the franchisee acquires goods or services from suppliers nominated by Fastsigns for the set up of the franchise.

Legal immunity conferred by notification will come into force on **10 May 2007**.

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.

As with any notification, please note that the ACCC 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.

I would like to bring to your attention an issue arising from the notification. The ACCC originally received the notification from Fastsigns on 23 April 2007. However, as the notification was lodged on an old form, the ACCC did not receive the information required under the new Form G until April 26 2007.



An exclusive dealing notification is not validly lodged until the ACCC receives the appropriate information. Consequently, the ACCC considers that the notification sought to be lodged by Fastsigns was invalid until the requisite information was received by the ACCC on 26 April 2007.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Lauren Roy on (02) 6243 1354.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott Gregson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Scott Gregson
General Manager
Adjudication Branch