



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

Our Ref: C2006/1984
Contact Officer: Nadia Cooke
Contact Phone: (03) 9290 1478

PO Box 1199
Dickson ACT 2602
470 Northbourne Ave
Dickson ACT 2602
ph (02) 6243 1111
fax (02) 6243 1199
www.accc.gov.au

8 June 2007

By email

Dear Sir/Madam

**Notifications N50197, N50198, N50199 and N92676
- Conference in relation to the draft notices**

The Seal-A-Fridge franchisors have requested that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) hold a conference in relation to the draft notices issued by the ACCC on 23 May 2007.

The ACCC concluded in the draft notices that it was satisfied that the likely benefit to the public from the proposed conduct would not outweigh the likely detriment to the public. Accordingly, the ACCC proposed to revoke each of the above third line forcing notifications.

A pre-decision conference provides an opportunity for notifying and interested parties to make oral submissions to the ACCC about the draft notices. The conference will only be in relation to the draft notices proposing to revoke third line forcing notifications lodged by the Seal-A-Fridge franchisors, and not notification N50196 lodged by Seal-A-Fridge Pty Ltd. While some of the background information may be relevant to all of the notifications, matters specific to notification N50196 will not be canvassed at the conference—any outstanding issues relating to N50196 can be raised separately with the ACCC, preferably in writing.

The ACCC will hold the conference on Friday **22 June 2007**, at the ACCC's Brisbane office, Level 3, 500 Queen Street, Brisbane QLD 4000. The conference will commence at **10.30 am**. The conference will be chaired by Commissioner John Martin.

The ACCC may consider offering a video link to a small number of capital cities if required. Given the nature of conference proceedings, it would not be practical to link all locations. I note that a record of the oral submissions made at the conference will be made available on the ACCC's public register and website following the conference. Notifying and interested parties will be given the opportunity to provide written comment on submissions made at the conference.



Under the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (the Act), the conference may be attended by the notifying parties and any other interested parties. If you wish to attend, you must notify the ACCC of your intention by Friday **15 June 2007**. Confirmation of your attendance must be in writing and addressed to:

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

You can also confirm your attendance by e-mail to: adjudication@accc.gov.au or by facsimile on (02) 6243 1211.

You should provide details of the names of each person attending and a telephone number so that you can be notified of any late changes to conference arrangements.

I also note that, while conference participants may bring outside legal or other professional advisers to assist them, the Act states that these advisers are not entitled to participate in conference discussions.

Attached for your information are procedures usually followed at conferences in relation to draft notices.

A copy of this letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register. If you require further information regarding the conference, please contact Nadia Cooke on (03) 9290 1478.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S. Gregson', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Scott Gregson
General Manager
Adjudication Branch

Correspondence sent to the following interested parties:

Austwide Plastics Pty Ltd

Patrick Products

RBM Plastic Extrusions Pty Ltd

Seal-A-Fridge franchisees