

Roy, Lauren

From: Petreski, Sonya on behalf of Adjudication
Sent: Wednesday, 16 April 2008 1:30 PM
To: Chisholm, Shane; Roy, Lauren
Subject: FW: Proposed changes to eBay [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Categories: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED
ACCC Classification: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

From: Sabrina Antoniou [mailto:[\[REDACTED\]](mailto:)]
Sent: Tuesday, 15 April 2008 4:58 PM
To: Adjudication
Subject: Proposed changes to eBay

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Dear Sir or Madam:

I am writing this note to express my concern and articulate a formal objection to the changes to payment methods recently proposed by eBay. I do this on the following grounds:

1. I believe the changes are anti-competitive.
eBay already dominates the online auction and payments spaces through their auction solution and through PayPal. The proposed changes preclude other payment methods – such as the Australian company, Paymate, from being used.
2. I believe the changes are unfair to sellers.
Surely if you sell a personal belonging, you have the right to determine how you will be paid for it, regardless of the method you use to advertise that item. eBay is already charging a listing fee, and already getting a percentage of the sale price. What right do they have to forcibly 'clip-the-ticket' yet again on the transfer of money from buyer to seller?
3. Third line forcing.
I have heard conjecture that the third line forcing rule does not strictly apply in this situation due to the fact that eBay owns PayPal. However PayPal is a separate company, so I fail to see how the rule would not apply. We are acquiring the PayPal service from PayPal, not from eBay, and our PayPal contracts are agreements made with PayPal as a separate company.
4. Cash flow is pushed out of Australian held companies into foreign hands.
At least when a payment is made from one person to another via direct deposit, the money stays in Australia. When a payment is made via PayPal, they are able to hold the funds for up to 21 days, earning income from cash that would otherwise (mostly) be held locally.

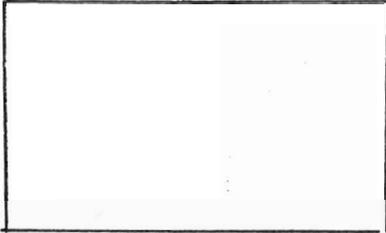
eBay is, without a doubt, exploiting their market-leading position. And the rudest thing about it, is that they're doing it under the guise of it being in their customers' best interests. I have used eBay since October 2004. Never in this time have I experienced any difficulty with being paid via direct deposit into my bank account. It's really very simple – people pay, and I dispatch their goods. If they didn't pay, I wouldn't.

eBay is, at its best, a system based on honour. I believe in people's ability to self-regulate their actions, based on a set of rules. There is no need for eBay to step in here to 'protect' its customers. Their motives are based purely, I feel, in greed. Perhaps the people who have made an honour system their hallmark

should focus on behaving honourably.

Yours sincerely,
Sabrina Antoniou

Sabrina Antoniou



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PLEASE NOTE! My telephone details have changed. Please update your records accordingly.