

Roy, Lauren

From: Petreski, Sonya on behalf of Adjudication
Sent: Monday, 28 April 2008 10:09 AM
To: Chisholm, Shane; Roy, Lauren
Subject: FW: Submission re: N93365 - eBay International AG [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]
Categories: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED
ACCC Classification: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

From: Paul Milchem [mailto:[\[REDACTED\]](mailto:)]
Sent: Friday, 25 April 2008 11:52 AM
To: Adjudication
Subject: Submission re: N93365 - eBay International AG

**EXCLUDED FROM
PUBLIC REGISTER**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to voice my very strong objection to the eBay's submission, N93365.

I have been completed around 250 transactions on eBay since 2001, having bought and sold within Australia and, very occasionally, internationally.

In all the transactions I have conducted I have never had a single issue with paying or receiving funds.

eBay's argument that the change will benefit the consumer is very questionable. How can restricting consumer choices be beneficial?

When listing on eBay currently, the lister may provide a range of payment options to buyers. The benefit to the seller is clear. The more payment options, the more attractive the item may be to prospective buyers. Isn't this why all retailers offer various payment options?

eBay offers a fantastic opportunity for the general public to buy and sell goods. Unfortunately eBay also has a virtual monopoly in the online auction of general goods. Indeed 'to eBay' seems to have become a verb in the global vernacular.

This seems to have created a business which is out of touch with the real needs of it's customers and solely driven by financial objectives. eBay's proposal to force buyers to use PayPal is clearly driven by no more than mercenary concerns.

Over the years I have notified eBay on a number of occasions of counterfeit products listed on their site. Not once have I had return correspondence or seen the offending items removed from the site. I know of users personally who have been defrauded by other users but their complaints to eBay have fallen on deaf ears. eBay's position on such issues seems to be that they are merely the conduit of transactions and all such issues are the domain of the relevant buyer and seller. Has that not been eBay's contention with respect to scalpers selling entertainment tickets on their site?

And yet eBay is now so concerned for the welfare of it's members that, for their own good, it is going to restrict the payment options. It is merely a fortunate happenstance that eBay's sister company, PayPal, will make very healthy profits from it's deep, altruistic concern.

Surely the directors of eBay do not think that either the general public or the ACCC will believe this.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission.

Yours sincerely,
Paul A Milchem