

Roy, Lauren

Subject: Submission re proposed restriction of payment methods for merchants dealing on eBay
[SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Categories: SEC=UNCLASSIFIED

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From: Michael [mailto:
Sent: Sunday, 18 May 2008 9:51 AM
To: Adjudication
Subject: Submission re proposed restriction of payment methods for merchants dealing on eBay

I have been dealing on ebay for several years as a seller, and in that time have dealt with many people from all over the world using many different payment methods.

While there are certain payment methods I prefer not to use, I have never had a 'security' problem, even when that payment has been sent in cash (domestic or foreign). I like to offer my buyers the freedom to pay me in whatever manner is best for them and I believe this increases my sales.

Many people in Australia prefer to send an Australia Post Money Order for instance, and I am happy to receive payment this way.

Paypal is quick, relatively secure as far as I can judge and convenient, but the fees charged are very off-putting for many buyers. I have also noticed that their currency exchange rates are always significantly different from the official rates, which I believe maximises their profit when converting payments in foreign currency.

I do not see how eBay can legally enforce restrictions and I will continue to offer and accept payment in whatever form I, and my buyers, wish to use.

It is my opinion that eBay and its partner Paypal are attempting to restrict payments to Paypal for their own ends and force out other institutions that may be making a dollar on the payments, purely in the interests of maximising profit. The suggestion that this has been brought about for reasons of security does not stand up as I think other payment methods, such as direct bank deposits, are equally, if not more, secure.

Regards;
Michael Howe
Address excluded

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