

Dear Sir / Madam,

Please accept my submission opposing eBay International AG's intended restriction of acceptable payment methods.

The move to having PayPal (also owned by eBay) as the ONLY means of payment offered by eBay sellers is monopolistic, un-Australian, anti-choice and is the same as forcing Westfield mall proprietors of all stores therein to accept only a Westfield credit card as payment, or Myer stores only accepting a MYER card as payment.

The "cash on pick up" option is not applicable given that most eBay transactions are conducted on an interstate basis. Those in remote areas will also be placed at a disadvantage having even less choice.

There is no benefit to the eBay buyer by allowing this change. There are NO benefits for eBay sellers by allowing this change. The only entity that will benefit is eBay and PayPal also owned by eBay.

I offer PayPal as one of many methods of payment to my buyers because I believe they should be afforded just that - a choice.

The proposed conduct will result in a substantial lessening of competition as some sellers currently do their own credit card processing with their current financial institution. If this option is taken away this is reducing competition for **ANZ bank, Commonwealth Bank, Westpac bank, St George bank, National Australia Bank, Bankwest, Bank of Queensland, Bendigo bank, Suncorp Metway**, and any other financial institution involved with merchant accounts.

Some Sellers currently accept Money order with this option taken away this is reducing competition for **Australia Post** as they currently charge a fee for money orders.

A lot of sellers don't trust PayPal as many have had their accounts frozen or payments refunded back to the buyer with PayPal acting as Judge, Jury and executioner. A lot of buyers prefer to do direct deposit, or another payment method. A lot of buyers don't trust PayPal due to the fact that you have to give them all your financial information just to open an account.

The PayPal system, whilst convenient in some ways, is horribly flawed. It is far too easy for a buyer to simply claim non receipt of an item without having to prove such a claim and PayPal will simply take the money from the sellers account with little or no communication and practically no recourse.

In other very well publicised cases PayPal "freeze" a seller's account, often with many thousands of dollars in it, and simply say "we are investigating ""we are investigating a **possible** fraudulent transaction"." This "investigation" can often take many months. PayPal never offer any information about the freeze citing "privacy issues".

In summary, I don't believe opposing the proposed changes will protect the consumer any more than the current conditions presently provided. I also believe that the Complaints will rise due to such drastic changes as it definitely does not offer any more protection.

EBay are just trying to increase their bottom line, being PROFIT disguising it as Buyer Safety. It is just a roundabout way of increasing fees, trying to take another % of the Total Cost including taking fees on the actual postage costs. Higher Prices for buyers, Higher Fees for sellers and overall More Money for eBay.

REGARDS

Sean Deverell