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From: Colleen Poulter [mailto:

Sent: Tuesday, 17 June 2008 8:03 PM

To: Adjudication

Subject: eBay Notification Paypal - anti-competitive actions proposed by eBay

Hi - I am a user on eBay.

There have been notifications on eBay "forcing" users to accept Paypal as a form of payment - citing buyer safety as an issue.

Paypal is owned by eBay and subject to fraud and misuse like any other financial transaction system - it appears to be no more secure or safe than competing systems like Paymate Express or Bidpay. There is no evidence to prove its any better than its competitors...

Furthermore eBay are suggesting that other than COD, they want to make Paypal the only accepted payment method on eBay. This I consider anti-competitive to the extreme, because once they have cornered the payments market, what is to stop them raising fees at will...?

An analogy is a shopping centre that forces stores to accept their credit card, even though some sellers may not wish to (eg not all stores accept American Express or Diners and this refusal is not illegal under the Trade Practices Act). Then its like turning around and saying the only method acceptable (other than cash over the counter) is the shopping centres credit card alone.

I think that both are anti-competitive actions designed to create a monopoly environment for eBay to increase its revenue at the expense of the public. eBay is effectively a large shopping mall - would Westfield's (for example) be allowed to conduct such practices..? I don't think so.

Please add this to your list of "complaints" from users of eBay over their actions...

btw the "compulsory" paypal policy is already in place and is being enforced (I've heard of complaints about listings ended due to this)... I think this needs be squashed ASAP before they attempt to run the next step. Up until recently 90% of my local Australian buyers did NOT use paypal. It is largely an international thing and has its place in the market..., however some 20% of my international customers have used other methods - eg Paymate Express. So it's really about choice and competition - which their policies are looking to kill...

Regards
Colleen Poulter
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