



**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

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24 May 2012

Stephen Corones
Consultant
DLA Piper
PO Box 7804
Waterfront Place QLD 4001

By email: stephen.corones@dlapiper.com;

Dear Mr Corones

**Etihad Airways and Air Berlin applications for authorisation A91307 & A91308 –
clarification of interim authorisation**

Thank you for your letter dated 17 May 2012 seeking clarification as to the scope of the interim authorisation granted by the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on 16 May 2012.

The ACCC's grant of interim authorisation applies to the conduct as described in your application – the way in which the conduct has been described in the decision document does not impose any additional limit on the scope of the interim authorisation.

Therefore 'Future Initiatives', as described in your application, will be covered by interim authorisation. I note that 'Future Initiatives' are defined in your 26 April 2012 submission as 'explore the possibility of forming and implementing collaborative arrangements...'.

There may be some ambiguity as to the meaning of this term, and whether the application is intended to cover the implementation of these arrangements. Please advise if you wish to make a further submission clarifying this point.

This letter has been placed on the ACCC's public register.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of this matter, please do not hesitate to contact Mark Basile on (03) 9290 1855.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Richard Chadwick', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr Richard Chadwick
General Manager
Adjudication Branch