

Our Ref: 52418
Contact Officer: Michael Drake
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**Australian
Competition &
Consumer
Commission**

17 October 2013

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By email

Dear Sir/Madam

Office Choice Limited application for authorisation A91389 - interested party consultation

The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (the ACCC) has received an application for authorisation from Office Choice Limited (**Office Choice**). The ACCC invites you to comment on the application. Attached is a summary of the authorisation process including how to make a submission to the ACCC.

Office Choice Limited has had authorisation since 2007 to collectively negotiate, and/or appoint a representative to collectively negotiate on their behalf, the terms and conditions on which office supplies are sold to them by suppliers.

Given that Office Choice's current authorisation expires on 22 October 2013, it requested interim authorisation. The ACCC has decided to grant interim authorisation to enable Office Choice to continue to collectively negotiate and to minimise disruption while the ACCC assesses the substantive application. Interim authorisation can be reviewed at any time and should not be taken to be indicative of whether or not final authorisation will be granted by the ACCC.

A full copy of the application for authorisation is available on the ACCC's website <www.accc.gov.au/AuthorisationsRegister>. Alternatively, you can contact Michael Drake on (03) 9658 6517 to obtain a hard copy of the application and submission.

Request for submissions

The ACCC invites you to make a submission on the likely public benefits and effect on competition, or any other public detriment, from the proposed arrangements.

If you intend to provide a submission in relation to this application for authorisation, please do so by **8 November 2013**.

Alternatively, if you would like to provide comments orally, please contact Michael Drake on (03) 9658 6517 to organise a suitable time.

Submissions, including oral submissions, will be placed on the ACCC's public register subject to any request for exclusion (guidelines are attached).

Timetable

The ACCC will progress its assessment of the application in a timely manner. An indicative timetable is set out below for your information.

10 October 2013	Lodgement of application and supporting submission.
16 October 2013	Public consultation process begins.
8 November 2013	Closing date for submissions from interested parties.
November-December	Applicant responds to issues raised in the public consultation process.
December-January	Draft determination.
January-February	Public consultation on draft determination including any conference if called.
March	Final determination.

Please advise if you do not wish to make a submission at this time, but would like to be informed of the progress of the application at the draft and final determination stages. If you are able to please provide a nominated contact email address for future correspondence.

You can also forward this letter to any other party who may wish to make a submission to the ACCC regarding the application.

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 Michael Drake on (03) 9658 6517.

Yours sincerely



Baethan Mullen
Director
Adjudication Branch

List of interested parties consulted

3M Australia Pty Limited
Acco Aust
Australian Office
Avery Dennison
Bantex Pty Ltd
BIC Australia Pty Ltd
Brother International
Canon Australia
Colby Office Products
Corporate Express
Crayola
Collins Debden Pty Ltd
Cumberland Stationery
DATS
Double A
Epson
Faber Castell
Fellowes Manufacturing P/L
Fuji Xerox
Henkel
Hewlett Packard
Hunter Leisure
Imation
Italplast
Jasco P/L
Kyocera Mita
Lexmark
Mitsubishi Pencil Australia
Newell Rubbermaid – Office Products Group
Notepad Manufacturers Australia
Officeworks
Pelikan Artline
Peline Mon Ami Australia Pty Ltd
Pentel
Pilot Pen Aust.
Quill Stationery Manufacturers
Staedtler Pty Ltd
Wigg & Son
Zions Pty Ltd