# **Australian Law Journal**

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#### **ARTICLES**

MARKET POWER, COLLECTING SOCIETIES AND THE ROLE OF THE COPYRIGHT TRIBUNAL

### Justice K E Lindgren

Collecting societies collect, for the benefit of their members, remuneration in respect of uses made of copyright material. They serve an important purpose in the interests of the copyright owners, and provide a procedural benefit to the users as well. They administer both voluntary licensing schemes and licences created in favour of particular classes of uses by the Copyright Act 1968 (Cth). Under that Act, the Copyright Tribunal is given the role, in various contexts, of determining amounts of 'equitable remuneration' payable by users of copyright material to collecting societies. This article considers the relationship between the effect of the societies' market power on price and the role of the Tribunal in quantifying the amounts of remuneration that are "equitable". It does so, in particular, in the light of a recent suggestion that the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission might issue "guidelines" in this respect.

# ARBITRABILITY OF COMPETITION DISPUTES IN AUSTRALIAN LAW

### **Max Bonnell**

It is presently unclear whether competition law disputes are capable of resolution by arbitration under Australian law. Although there is a pronounced international trend in favour of allowing such disputes to proceed to arbitration, and although a number of Australian cases have suggested that there should be no impediment to such arbitrations, in practice Australian judges have been reluctant to permit the arbitration of disputes under Pt IV of the Trade Practices Act. It would be consistent with international developments in arbitration law, and with the policy of party autonomy which is the foundation of Australian arbitration legislation, if competition law disputes were to be arbitrable under Australian law, notwithstanding the fact that arbitration may not always be the most suitable vehicle for resolving such disputes. 585

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