

TRADE PRACTICES LAW JOURNAL

Volume 14, Number 2

June 2006

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The enforcement priorities of the ACCC – Graeme Samuel

The time taken to resolve alleged breaches of the *Trade Practices Act 1974* (Cth) through the courts has been a significant concern to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC). Improving the ACCC's own enforcement procedures has resulted in better, more timely outcomes for consumers. This article examines those procedures, particularly in relation to cartels. 71

Multi-jurisdictional merger review procedures – a better way – Julie Clarke

Corporate mergers whose effects transcend national borders have faced increasing regulation over the past few decades as more jurisdictions have developed merger laws and imposed pre-merger notification requirements. The level of regulatory response to multi-jurisdictional mergers is likely to continue to increase as even more jurisdictions contemplate the introduction of competition laws. This level of regulation now goes beyond that required to protect national economies from potentially harmful mergers and has seen burgeoning costs to business, regulators and, ultimately, the public. In recognition of this, the relatively newly formed International Competition Network has placed merger regulation at the forefront of its agenda for greater harmonisation and cooperation in competition law. This has seen, over the past three years, the development of a set of guiding principles and recommended practices for merger notification procedures designed to reduce the regulatory burden. This article evaluates these recommendations and discusses areas for further reform. 90

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