



Australian  
Competition &  
Consumer  
Commission

# ACCC *update*

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The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission operates nationally at the forefront of administration and enforcement of competition and consumer protection law.

Legislative changes, mainly springing from national competition policy reform, have given the Commission new regulatory roles in many sectors — such as the electricity, gas and telecommunications industries.

Further changes are proposed affecting the huge small business sector, which is a particular focus for the Commission.

The Trade Practices Act now covers all businesses in Australia, including government enterprises and many thousands of previously exempt unincorporated firms such as professional practices.

This continuing growth in responsibilities imposes new and wider obligations on the Commission to inform the public about its activities. It is important that businesses, and their customers, be well informed about rights and obligations under the law.

ACCC *update* is published not for the experts in trade practices law but to give the wider community general information about the Commission's work and responsibilities.

The aim is to report regularly on new developments and issues of particular interest and to encourage 'feedback' from the community.

Much more detailed information is available in the wide range of ACCC publications (available from all the offices listed at the back) or from the Commission's regularly updated Internet site at <http://www.accc.gov.au>.