



STATEMENT TO AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE – December 6, 2013

FLIGHT CENTRE TO CONSIDER FEDERAL COURT APPEAL

THE Flight Centre Travel Group (FLT) has expressed its disappointment at the Federal Court's judgment upholding the ACCC's competition law test case against it.

FLT managing director Graham Turner said the company was surprised by today's judgment and would consider an appeal, after obtaining further legal advice.

"As an agent that provides considerable free advice and help to the travelling public, FLT asks for adequate commissions from suppliers and also reasonable access to all deals that they release to the market," Mr Turner said.

"Having access to all offers is a logical and natural business request for an agent to make to ensure the customers it serves are not disadvantaged.

"Today's ruling is likely to have implications for the travel industry and for many retailers and agents in other sectors."

The ACCC initiated its Federal Court action under the Trade Practices Act 1974 in March 2012, almost three years after it first requested information from FLT.

The case, which alleged that FLT had attempted to fix airfare prices, was heard in the Federal Court in October 2012.

"As we have maintained throughout this four-and-a-half year saga, the company is not in the business of making airfares more expensive," Mr Turner said.

"In fact, we regularly suggest to airlines that they lower prices to stimulate demand.

"The company will examine today's ruling to determine any possible implications for the business and will consider all options, including grounds for appeal."

A hearing as to whether a penalty should be imposed will be scheduled for a later date.

FLT will update the market in due course

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