

STATEMENT TO AUSTRALIAN SECURITIES EXCHANGE - August 28, 2015

FLIGHT CENTRE SURPRISED BY ACCC APPEAL ACTION

THE Flight Centre Travel Group (FLT) is surprised and disappointed that the ACCC has launched a further appeal in relation to the long running competition law test case it initiated in 2012.

The ACCC announced this afternoon that it would seek special leave of the High Court to appeal the decision of the Full Court of the Federal Court of Australia handed down in FLT's favour on July 31 2015,

In the July 31 decision, the Full Court of the Federal Court found that the primary judge in the initial case erred in finding that "Flight Centre and the airlines competed in a market for distribution and booking services" and ruled in FLT's favour.

The decision in FLT's favour was unanimous and the ACCC was ordered to pay FLT's legal costs for both the initial Federal Court case and the appeal.

"We are disappointed that the ACCC has chosen to continue this action and are surprised that the ACCC has not accepted the clear and unanimous judgment of a Full Court that included the highly respected Chief Justice of the Federal Court," FLT managing director Graham Turner said.

"We will, of course, oppose the action and continue to vigorously defend our position.

"For more than 30 years the company has sought to deliver cheaper airfares to the travelling public.

"We are not in the business of attempting to make airfares more expensive and we will continue to seek access to all fares to ensure the millions of customers that we serve are not forced to pay more for their flights."

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