



22 March 2016

ACCC Final Determination - ihail

Cabcharge is pleased that the ACCC has granted authorisation to ihail Pty Ltd to launch and operate a new smartphone booking app.

ihail is a different proposition to Cabcharge's proprietary apps as it allows passengers to book the nearest legal taxi which is signed up to its service irrespective of network affiliation. ihail's intention is to service passengers across Australia and internationally. Cabcharge holds a stake of approximately 10% in ihail Pty Ltd.

Andrew Skelton, Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer explains: "It's good news. We certainly appreciate the ACCC's willingness to revisit ihail's proposal after previously indicating they would block it."

"It's encouraging that the ACCC has understood and accepted the dynamic nature of the taxi industry. We believe the authorisation will enhance competition in the local market which in recent times seems to have all but been reserved for players outside the traditional taxi industry."

"There can be a remarkable premium attached to being regarded as agile and innovative, which can make it frustrating when regulators block efforts by existing players to improve their service. From ihail's perspective it now has a ticket to play across different taxi networks just like the other competitors, who are typically regarded as innovative, have been doing for some time. To get there ihail has amended its business model to facilitate in car payments as well as in app payments which is at odds with some of its competitors. However, we are pleased that ihail can get on with business and begin servicing passengers."

"The convenience of the ihail app for consumers is the ability to use the same app wherever they are, without needing to navigate different apps servicing various brands" Mr Skelton concluded.

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