

• EBAY CUSTOMERS

Bidding farewell

Matt Sun

Internet auction site eBay has told sellers who do not like plans to introduce PayPal-only transactions to buy elsewhere.

In a bizarre move, eBay has also used examples of angry sellers deserting the auction site in protest to justify its case to the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission.

The ACCC will decide if eBay should be allowed to offer PayPal as the sole payment method.

The move would force sellers to pay twice as many fees, eBay also owns PayPal.

"eBay buyers and sellers who do not wish to pay PayPal fees are able to avoid doing so by listing and purchasing items through competing services," the eBay submission states.

"Since the announcement of the proposed implementation of the project, Oztion's (auction site) membership has reportedly increased by approximately 22 per cent to 250,000.

"It would appear that this is attributable to migration of buyers and sellers from eBay. Accordingly, there is evidence to suggest that a number of sellers will choose alternative sales platforms."

It comes as the *Trading Post* today announced it would take on eBay by offering auctions on its website.

"Trading Post's new website and auctions means we now offer a strong local alternative to eBay, one that lets you choose payment options and provides terrific value for money," Sensis CEO Bruce Alhurst said.

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