

MEDIA RELEASE

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Competition Commission withdraws case against 28 bicycle wholesalers and retailers

The Competition Commission has withdrawn its price fixing case against 28 bicycle wholesalers and retailers on 10 June 2011. The case was withdrawn after several respondents raised technical challenges such as whether there was a proper referral against them and the Tribunal's jurisdiction to hear the matter. These challenges come against the back of recent decisions of the superior courts dealing with the Commission's initiation, investigation and referral of cases.

The Commission believes that there is still a case to answer and will be going back to the drawing board. Specifically, it will reinitiate the case to ensure that it is not vulnerable to technical legal challenges

This matter relates to allegations that the respondents colluded to set the wholesale and retail prices of cycles and accessories and was referred to the Tribunal for prosecution on 25 June 2010.

The case involved the following retailers and wholesalers: Fritz Pienaar Cycles, Melody Street 18 (PTY) Ltd, Moneymine 88 CC t/a Hotspot Cycles, Pedal-on-Marketing CC t/a Maverick Cycles, Pedaling Dynamics CC t/a Dunkeld Cycles, Summit Cycles, Dynamic Choices Two CC t/a Bester Cycles, Johnson Cycle Works CC, Saloojee's Cycles CC, West Rand Cycles CC, Bowman Cycles (PTY) Ltd, Albatross Fishing & Cycling, DBS Distributing CC t/a Thule Car Rack Systems CC, The New Just Fun Group (PTY) Ltd, Omnico (PTY) Ltd, Cytek Cycle Distributors CC, Cape Cycle Systems (PTY) Ltd, Silverbaack Technologies CC t/a Silverback, Coolheat Cycle Agencies (PTY) Ltd, Emotion Cycling (PTY) Ltd, International Agencies CC, J & J Cycling (PTY) Ltd, Le Peloton (PTY) Ltd, Ravx Design CC, RFA Distributors (PTY) Ltd, Supersport Cycling (PTY) Ltd, Maillot Jaune Trading (PTY) Ltd and Tridirect SA (PTY) Ltd t/a Bicletta

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