

Financial Penalties vs. Prosecution

Australia's New Penalty system for cases of non-compliance:

In a news release of February 17, 2003 the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) announced the introduction of a new enforcement mechanism to ensure compliance with the Telecommunications Act. The new mechanism allows the ACA to issue infringement notices for offences mentioned in section 453 of the Telecommunications Act instead of following the usual approach of court prosecution. Examples of these offenses include:

- Contravention of the terms of a connection permit for telecommunications equipment or cabling
- Failure to retain records
- Contravention of cabling provider rules; and
- Contravention of labeling notice requirements and conditions applying to connection permits.

According to the Commission, the new penalty system promises to simplify telecom regulation by offering a speedier and cheaper enforcement mechanism than enforcement through court prosecution.

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Adapted from ACA

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New penalty system to simplify telecommunications

regulation http://www.aca.gov.au/aca_home/media_releases/media_enquiries/2004/04-09.htm