



**IN THE COMPETITION
APPEAL TRIBUNAL**

Case No: 1762/5/7/26 (T)

BETWEEN:

**(1) SCREWFIX DIRECT LIMITED
(2) SCREWFIX SPARES LIMITED
(3) SCREWFIX DIRECT (IRELAND) LIMITED**

Claimants

- v -

**(1) MASTERCARD INCORPORATED
(2) MASTERCARD INTERNATIONAL INCORPORATED
(3) MASTERCARD EUROPE S.A.
(4) MASTERCARD / EUROPAY UK LIMITED**

Defendants

(the “Proceedings”)

ORDER (ADDITIONAL HOST CASE) (STAY)

UPON the Claim Form in the proceedings being issued in the High Court on 10 October 2025 (CL-2025-000466) (the “**Claim Form**”)

AND UPON the Order of the High Court sealed on 26 January 2026 transferring the proceedings from the High Court to the Competition Appeal Tribunal (the “**Transfer Order**”)

AND UPON the Umbrella Proceedings Order of the President dated 4 July 2022 in Case No 1517/11/7/22 (UM) Merchant Interchange Fee Umbrella Proceedings (the “**Merchant Umbrella Proceedings**”) designating various individual merchant interchange fee proceedings listed in the schedule to that order as “Host Cases” and designating all issues, matters or features arising out of the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings as Ubiquitous Matters (the “**Umbrella Proceedings Order**”)

AND UPON the Tribunal's Order made and drawn on 16 March 2022 (the "**March 2022 Order**") appended to the Tribunal's Ruling of 16 March 2022 ([2022] CAT 14) and Rule 53(2)(k) of the Competition Appeal Tribunal Rules 2015

AND UPON the Order of the President made on 23 December 2022 and drawn on 13 January 2023 (as amended by Orders of the Tribunal dated 10 May 2023 and 20 October 2023) regarding the future conduct of the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings (the "**Future Conduct Order**")

AND UPON the Judgment of the Tribunal in *Umbrella Interchange Fee Claimants v Umbrella Interchange Fee Defendants* [2025] CAT 37 (the "**Umbrella Interchange Fee Trial 1 Judgment**")

AND UPON considering the letter from the solicitors for the Claimants dated 30 January 2026 on behalf of the parties proposing that these proceedings be designated as a Host Case in the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings and requesting a stay of these proceedings

IT IS ORDERED THAT:

1. The Umbrella Proceedings Order and the schedule thereto are varied to include these Proceedings which are named as a Host Case in the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings for the purpose of disposing of all Ubiquitous Matters except those matters dealt with by the Umbrella Interchange Fee Trial 1 Judgment.
2. Upon service of the Claim Form, which is permitted by electronic communication upon identified individuals at the Solicitors for the Defendants, the proceedings shall be stayed immediately until further order (the "**Stay**") in accordance with the terms of paragraph 4 of the March 2022 Order.
3. The Claimants shall not be required to serve any Particulars of Claim during the Stay and time for serving Particulars of Claim shall be extended until 12 weeks after the date of the order lifting the Stay, unless the Tribunal shall order otherwise.
4. Notwithstanding the Stay, the parties shall be bound by the outcome of any determinations in the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings (including any appeals) in respect of all designated Ubiquitous Matters except those matters dealt with by the Umbrella Interchange Fee Trial 1 Judgment.

5. The findings from the Umbrella Interchange Fee Trial 1 Judgment will apply in the determination of the Proceedings, subject to the outcome of any appeal of the Umbrella Interchange Fee Trial 1 Judgment to the Court of Appeal and/or the Supreme Court, which will also apply in the determination of the Proceedings.
6. Notwithstanding the Stay, the Claimants remain liable to provide information or disclosure if the Tribunal considers such information or disclosure necessary to resolve a wider issue in the Merchant Umbrella Proceedings.
7. There be liberty to apply.
8. Costs in the case.

The Honourable Ms Justice Bacon
President of the Competition Appeal Tribunal

Made: 17 February 2026
Drawn: 17 February 2026