



IN THE COMPETITION
APPEAL TRIBUNAL

Case No: 1727/5/7/25 (T)

BETWEEN:

THE WORKS STORES LIMITED

Claimant

- v -

(1) VISA EUROPE LIMITED
(2) VISA EUROPE SERVICES LLC
(3) VISA UK LIMITED

Defendants

ORDER (ADDITIONAL HOST CASE) (STAY)

UPON the Claim Form in the proceedings being issued in the High Court on 20 May 2021 (CL-2021-000309) (the “**Claim Form**”)

AND UPON the Order of the High Court sealed on 1 May 2025 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 considering the letter from the solicitors for the Claimant dated 7 May 2025 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 BY CONSENT 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.
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 Claimant 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.
5. Notwithstanding the Stay, the Claimant remains 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.
6. There be liberty to apply.
7. Costs in the case.

Mrs Justice Bacon
President of the Competition Appeal Tribunal

Made: 28 May 2025
Drawn: 28 May 2025