ECONOMICS OF COMPETITION POLICY FOR ECONOMISTS

C'C'P

5 – 6 October 2017, 9.15am – 5.00pm, etc.venues Moorgate, Bonhill House, London EC2A 4BX

DAY ONE: Thursday 5 October

INTRODUCTION: 09:15 – 09:20

SESSION 1 09:20 – 10:45

Overview: Legal Framework and Key Economic Concepts

Morten Hviid, CCP & UEA Law School

- Key principles, institutions and procedures: UK/EU
- Why care about competition?
- · Optimal competition policy design
- Demand and consumer behaviour: elasticities and welfare
- Supply and supplier behaviour: Different types of competitive process and implications

BREAK

SESSION 2 11:05 – 12:40

Market Definition and Market Power

Amelia Fletcher, CCP & Norwich Business School, UEA

- What is market power and why do we care about it?
- · Market definition: Theory and Practice
- Market definition: Pros, cons and difficult issues
- The role of market shares and concentration
- Barriers to entry and expansion and buyer power

LUNCH

SESSION 3

13:40 - 15:15

Mergers: Unilateral Effects

Kate Collyer, Competition and Markets Authority (CMA)

- The substantive merger test in EU/UK law
- The counterfactual
- Differentiated vs non-differentiated markets
- Evidence on closeness of competition
- Methodologies for estimating likely merger effects: price-concentration analysis, UPP, merger simulation

BREAK

SESSION 4

15:35 - 17:10

Exclusionary Abuse I: Introduction, Predation and the Google Wars

Oliver Latham, Charles River Associates

- What is exclusionary abuse of dominance?
- Main categories of exclusionary abuse
- Basic principles for assessing exclusionary abuse
- Assessing predation the role of cost-based tests
- Tying/bundling and the EU Google cases

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DAY TWO: Friday 6 October

SESSION 5

09:15 - 10:50

Exclusionary Abuse II: Rebates & Margin Squeeze

Adrian Majumdar, RBB Economics

- Introduction to rebates: Pro- and anti-competitive effects
- Economic tests for anti-competitive effects
- Intel and Post Danmark II
- Introduction to margin squeeze
- · Pros and cons of different cost tests

BREAK

SESSION 6

11:10 - 12:40

Session 6: Horizontal Agreements & Coordinated Effects

Matthew Johnson, Oxera

- Basic theory of collusion: tacit and explicit
- Testing for collusion: actual and potential
- The impact of pricing algorithms on coordination
- Trading off potential efficiency benefits of horizontal agreements
- Quantifying the harm from anticompetitive agreements

LUNCH

SESSION 7

13:40 - 15:00

Exploitative Abuse

Laura Phaff, Compass Lexecon

- What is exploitative abuse of dominance?
- Testing for excessive prices
- Problems with intervening against excessive pricing
- Alternative approaches
- Special cases: aftermarkets, standards.

BREAK

SESSION 8

15:20 - 17:00

Vertical Restraints and Non-Horizontal Mergers

David Parker, Frontier Economics

- Pros and cons of vertical restraints
- EU Guidelines and block exemption
- RPM and MFNs
- Selective distribution and the Internet
- Assessing non-horizontal mergers

ALL DELEGATES ARE INVITED TO JOIN THE SPEAKERS AT THE LOCAL PUB AFTER THE LAST SESSION