

Structural Separation and Access Pricing: A New Synthesis

**Amsterdam,
The Netherlands
Friday 21 November, 2003**

A Conference for Regulators,
Competition officials and Industry
representatives

SCHEDULE

- 09.00** **Introductory remarks**
Chairman: Alberto Heimler, Competition Authority, Italy
- 09.15** **Session 1 - Telecommunications**
Keynote speaker: Paul de Bijl, Tilburg Institute of Law and Economics, The Netherlands
Discussants: Tomasso Valletti, Imperial College London, United Kingdom; Tom Marten, MCI Worldcom, France
- 10.45** **Coffee**
- 11.00** **Session 2 - Electricity**
Keynote speaker: Frank Wolak, Stanford University, United States
Discussants: Darryl Biggar, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission, Australia; Industry representative (t.b.a.)
- 12.30** **Lunch**
- 02.00** **Session 3 - Railroads**
Keynote speaker: Russ Pittman, Department of Justice, Antitrust Division, United States
Discussants: John Thomas, Office of the Rail Regulator, United Kingdom; Didier van de Velde, Erasmus University Rotterdam, The Netherlands
- 03.30** **Coffee**
- 03.45** **Session 4 - Postal services**
Keynote speaker: Martin Cave, University of Warwick, United Kingdom
Discussants: Dag Johansson, DG Competition, European Commission, Belgium; Bart Stomphorst, Sandd, The Netherlands
- 05.15** **Lessons and conclusions: a panel discussion**
Chairman: Alberto Heimler
Discussants: Paul de Bijl, Frank Wolak, Russ Pittman, Martin Cave
- 06.00** **Reception**

Overview

The OECD Competition Division (Paris), the Knowledge Center for Economic Regulation (Ministry of Economic Affairs, The Netherlands) and the Economics Network for Competition and Regulation (University of Amsterdam) are jointly organizing a conference on structural separation and access pricing on Friday 21 November 2003 at the hotel The Grand in Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

In recent years, structural separation and access pricing have been suggested as methods to open the door to competition in industries formerly considered as unassailable natural monopolies. In these industries, competition can occur after structural separation between vertical portions of an industry, or after access is provided to various levels of infrastructure that appear to remain natural monopolies, whether vertically integrated or not. The conference will focus on structural separation and access pricing issues in a number of different industries with an emphasis on general lessons that can be learned from experiences that are both industry and country specific.



Questions to be asked of each industry include:

- Does this industry have the potential for competition in at least some segments?
- Will the industry benefit from some form of separation and should this be in the form of accounting separation or structural separation?
- If the industry would benefit from separation, what segments of the vertical chain should and should not be separated?
- How should access pricing be implemented, if at all, in different possible regimes of separation?
- What are the lessons that can be learned from past efforts at separation and access pricing in particular industries?
- How can these lessons be applied to other industries?

The industries examined will include both those with significant experience of structural separation and access pricing and those with less experience, in particular:

- Telecommunications
- Electricity
- Railroads
- Postal services

Who should attend and why?

Who: Regulators, competition officials, policy specialists and regulatory affairs specialists in telecommunications, electricity, railroads and postal services.

Why: To hear senior policy analysts, regulators and industry representatives discuss applied lessons that can be used for deciding whether and how to implement structural separation and access pricing. Substantial time will be left for audience participation.

General information

Date: Friday 21 November, 2003

Time: 9.00-18.00

Venue: Hotel The Grand, Amsterdam

Hosts: OECD Competition Division (www.oecd.org/competition), Knowledge Center for Economic Regulation (www.marktordening.nl) and Economics Network for Competition and Regulation (www.encore.nl)

Location

Hotel The Grand, Oudezijds Voorburgwal 197

1012 EX Amsterdam, The Netherlands

Phone: +31 20 555 31 11, Fax: +31 20 555 32 22

Website: www.thegrand.nl



Hotel The Grand

Registration & bookings

There is no registration fee for this conference. Attendance will be limited and advance registration is required, so please register early. To register, kindly complete and return the enclosed registration card, or e-mail your name, job title, employer and contact information to registration@21november.nl. After registration you will receive more detailed information about the conference programme. All conference sessions and materials will be in English.

Enclosed is a note regarding hotel accommodations in Amsterdam.

If you have any questions regarding the registration procedure, hotel bookings or other matters please contact our conference bureau, PINO Productions, at +31 30 275 96 26 (phone), +31 30 275 96 27 (fax) or registration@21november.nl. (e-mail).

How to get to Hotel The Grand

From the Amsterdam Central Station you can take the following tram numbers: 4, 9, 16, 20, 24 or 25. Get off at the first stop (near Dam Square) and walk from Dam Square heading east through the Damstraat. Cross the first bridge and turn right to Oudezijds Voorburgwal. Hotel The Grand is just a few metres ahead. You can also board the subway and disembark at the Nieuwmarkt. Take the exit marked Hoogstraat, head west and turn left on the third bridge. Hotel The Grand is at number 197.

Fax Respond Form

Conference Structural Separation and Access Pricing: A New Synthesis

Please respond **before 3 October 2003** to fax number +31 30 275 96 27

21 November 2003
9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Hotel The Grand
Amsterdam (the Netherlands)

Company/Organization: _____

Last Name: _____

First Name _____

Address: _____

Postal code: _____

Country: _____

Address: _____

E-mail address: _____

Telephone number: _____

YES, I will be present at the Conference on 21 November in Amsterdam (the Netherlands)

NO, I will not be present at the Conference on 21 November in Amsterdam (the Netherlands) but please send me the report from the conference

NO, I will not be present at the Conference on 21 November in Amsterdam (the Netherlands) and I don't want to receive any further information in the future

I have special requirements (diets etc):

Fax number +31 30 275 96 27