News story: Tracking the status and events of a trade mark

As part of our ongoing work to improve our digital services, we are making changes to the current trade mark eAlerts service.

The service is renamed as 'Track a trade mark' and will replace the current trade mark eAlerts service. This is a free tracking service which notifies you via email of specific events occurring to a trade mark (for both United Kingdom (UK) and International Registration (IR) trade marks).

Track a trade mark will function the same but with improvements to the look and style of the service.

The change will take effect on 27 April 2017 and the first screen will look like:

Improved look and style of service.

We would welcome further feedback to continue to improve this service going forward. Please email any comments to feedback@ipo.gov.uk.

News story: 2017 Clinical Excellence Awards closed

The 2017 National Clinical Excellence Awards round has now closed.

The 2017 National Clinical Excellence Awards round closed at 5pm on Tuesday 25 April 2017.

We received over 1,200 new and renewal applications.

The volume of applications for new awards means that the process will once again be highly competitive.

We will review and score all applications and announce results at the end of the year.

New awards will be backdated to 1 April 2017. Renewals will be renewed from 1 April 2018. Unsuccessful renewals will cease on 31 March 2018.

As in previous years, we will publish personal statements for successful

Press release: New charity investigation: ANO

The Charity Commission, the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales, has opened a statutory inquiry into ANO, registered charity number 1155123. The inquiry was opened on 3 April 2017.

The Leicester-based charity, also known as Aid for the Needy & Oppressed, has objects to provide relief of poverty, in particular countries affected by disasters and war, through financial support, goods and services.

In December 2016, a trustee of the charity was stopped by UK Ports Officers where cash totalling £19,300 belonging to the charity was seized. These funds are subject to a cash detention order and are at risk of loss in the event of a successful forfeiture application. The trustee submitted a Serious Incident Report (RSI) to the Commission regarding the incident in January 2017.

The Commission sought additional information from the charity's trustees regarding their decision to courier the charity's funds in cash, and exercised its powers under section 52 of the Charities Act 2011 to obtain copies of the charity's bank statements. The Commission's analysis of the information obtained to date has identified a number of regulatory concerns which warrant further investigation.

The investigation will consider:

- the administration, governance and management of the charity by the trustees;
- the financial controls and management of the charity and whether its funds have been properly expended solely for exclusively charitable purposes and can be accounted for;
- the conduct of the trustees; and
- whether or not the trustees have complied with and fulfilled their duties and responsibilities as trustees under charity law.

The Commission recently <u>issued an alert</u> to charities strongly advising against the use of cash couriers.

It is the Commission's policy, after it has concluded an inquiry, to publish a report detailing what issues the inquiry looked at, what actions were undertaken as part of the inquiry and what the outcomes were. Reports of previous inquiries by the Commission are available on GOV.UK.

The charity's details can be viewed on the Commission's <u>online charity search</u>

tool.

Ends

PR 34/17

Notes to editors

- 1. <u>The Charity Commission</u> is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. To find out more about our work, see our <u>annual</u> report.
- 2. Search for charities on our <u>online register</u>.
- 3. Details of how the Commission reports on its regulatory work can be found on GOV.UK.
- 4. Section 46 of the Charities Act 2011 gives the Commission the power to institute inquiries. The opening of an inquiry gives the Commission access to a range of investigative, protective and remedial legal powers.
- 5. The Commission's decision to announce the opening of a statutory inquiry is based on whether it is in the public interest to do so and with consideration of our objective to increase public trust and confidence in charities.

Press release: Privy Council appointments: Gavin Barwell and Mel Stride

The Queen has been pleased to approve the appointment of Gavin Laurence Barwell MP and Melvyn John Stride MP as Privy Council members.

The Queen has been pleased to approve that Gavin Laurence Barwell MP and Melvyn John Stride MP be sworn of Her Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council.

News story: CMA provisional decision

on ICE/Trayport agreement

In March following a challenge by Intercontinental Exchange, Inc. (ICE), the Competition Appeal Tribunal (CAT) <u>upheld the CMA's findings</u> that the merger between the 2 results in a loss of competition and that in order to resolve this, <u>ICE must sell the Trayport business</u>.

At the same time, the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) was also asked by the CAT to reconsider its additional requirement that the companies terminate a new agreement that had been entered into during the course of the original investigation and which would significantly expand their commercial relationship.

In its provisional remittal decision, the CMA has found that the new agreement represents a significant step-change in relations between 2 companies which had historically not co-operated. It has also provisionally found that the agreement could risk an effective sale of the Trayport business and benefit ICE in the future whilst disdvantaging the new owner of Trayport.

In view of these risks and the low costs arising from ending an agreement that has not yet been implemented, the CMA has provisionally concluded that it is necessary to terminate it.

The CMA will now consider responses to its provisional decision before publishing its final decision in late May. The provisional findings report is available on the <u>case page</u> along with all other published information relating to the investigation.

Anyone wishing to respond to the provisional findings should do so in writing, by no later than 5pm on 10 May 2017.

Email ice.trayport@cma.gsi.gov.uk or write to:

Project Manager
ICE/Trayport merger inquiry
Competition and Markets Authority
Victoria House
Southampton Row
London
WC1B 4AD