

FEDCAC INDUSTRY CODE UPDATE

**Presented at the ICA Conference on 1 May 2019 by Cecily Zhu,
Secretariat**

Latest Updates

In 2018, the ACCC granted authorisation to ICA to share information and collectively bargain with film distributors. The authorisation has now been in operation for the past year.

The Code Committee is currently focused on completing its review of the Code, as well as general promotion and education about the Code. As the Code is a voluntary code, we are continuing to encourage distributors and exhibitors to become signatories.

We have seen a relatively small number of dispute enquiries over the past year. In the 2017-18 financial year, we received one enquiry. In the current 2018-19 financial year, we have received two enquiries so far.

Code Review

Completing the Code Review is one of the main priorities of the Committee this year. Unfortunately it is a slow process as everyone needs to be heard and changes to the Code require unanimous consent by the Committee.

One particular update to note in light of the ACCC authorisation is to clarify that collective disputes – that is, disputes that involve multiple complainants and relate to similar issues – can be brought under the Code without the need to amend the existing framework. Participation in a collective process is subject to the agreement of all parties involved.

Code Dispute Resolution

We remind everyone of the dispute resolution procedures that are available to signatories under clauses 15 to 17 of the Code.

There are two main paths for dispute resolution under the Code: informal dispute resolution and conciliation. A complainant can refer a dispute to conciliation at any time of the process, but we encourage parties to attempt the early-stage informal steps first as it is low-cost and promotes healthy business relationships.

Contact Us

Anyone is welcome to contact us any time with queries. A list of committee members and their contact details can also be found on our website.

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