#### STATUTORY INSTRUMENTS

## 2008 No. 1277

# **CONSUMER PROTECTION**

# The Consumer Protection from Unfair Trading Regulations 2008

Made - - - - 8th May 2008

Coming into force 26th May 2008

# THE CONSUMER PROTECTION FROM UNFAIR TRADING REGULATIONS 2008

#### PART 1

#### **GENERAL**

- 1. Citation and commencement
- 2. Interpretation

#### PART 2

#### **PROHIBITIONS**

- 3. Prohibition of unfair commercial practices
- 4. Prohibition of the promotion of unfair commercial practices
- 5. Misleading actions
- 6. Misleading omissions
- 7. Aggressive commercial practices

#### PART 3

#### **OFFENCES**

- 8. Offences relating to unfair commercial practices
- 9. A trader is guilty of an offence if he engages...
- 10. A trader is guilty of an offence if he engages...
- 11. A trader is guilty of an offence if he engages...
- 12. A trader is guilty of an offence if he engages...
- 13. Penalty for offences
- 14. Time limit for prosecution
- 15. Offences committed by bodies of persons
- 16. Offence due to the default of another person

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- 17. Due diligence defence
- 18. Innocent publication of advertisement defence

#### PART 4

#### **ENFORCEMENT**

- 19. Duty to enforce
- 20. Power to make test purchases
- 21. Power of entry and investigation, etc.
- 22. Power to enter premises with a warrant
- 23. Obstruction of authorised officers
- 24. Notice of test and intended proceedings
- 25. Compensation
- 26. Application of Part 8 of Enterprise Act 2002
- 27. Evidence as to factual claims

#### PART 5

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY**

- 28. Crown
- 29. Validity of agreements
- 30. Amendments, repeals and transitional and saving provisions Signature

SCHEDULE 1 — Commercial practices which are in all circumstances considered unfair

- 1. Claiming to be a signatory to a code of conduct...
- 2. Displaying a trust mark, quality mark or equivalent without having...
- 3. Claiming that a code of conduct has an endorsement from...
- 4. Claiming that a trader (including his commercial practices) or a...
- 5. Making an invitation to purchase products at a specified price...
- 6. Making an invitation to purchase products at a specified price...
- 7. Falsely stating that a product will only be available for...
- 8. Undertaking to provide after-sales service to consumers with whom the...
- 9. Stating or otherwise creating the impression that a product can...
- 10. Presenting rights given to consumers in law as a distinctive...
- 11. Using editorial content in the media to promote a product...
- 12. Making a materially inaccurate claim concerning the nature and extent...
- 13. Promoting a product similar to a product made by a...
- 14. Establishing, operating or promoting a pyramid promotional scheme where
- 15. Claiming that the trader is about to cease trading or...
- 16. Claiming that products are able to facilitate winning in games...
- 17. Falsely claiming that a product is able to cure illnesses,...
- 18. Passing on materially inaccurate information on market conditions or on...
- 19. Claiming in a commercial practice to offer a competition or...
- 20. Describing a product as 'gratis', 'free', 'without charge' or similar...
- 21. Including in marketing material an invoice or similar document seeking...
- 22. Falsely claiming or creating the impression that the trader is...
- 23. Creating the false impression that after-sales service in relation to...
- 24. Creating the impression that the consumer cannot leave the premises...

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- 25. Conducting personal visits to the consumer's home ignoring the consumer's...
- 26. Making persistent and unwanted solicitations by telephone, fax, e-mail or...
- 27. Requiring a consumer who wishes to claim on an insurance...
- 28. Including in an advertisement a direct exhortation to children to...
- 29. Demanding immediate or deferred payment for or the return or...
- 30. Explicitly informing a consumer that if he does not buy...
- 31. Creating the false impression that the consumer has already won,...

#### SCHEDULE 2 — Amendments

#### PART 1 — Amendments to Acts

- 1. Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty Act 1914
- 2. Anglo-Portuguese Commercial Treaty Act 1916
- 3. Fraudulent Mediums Act 1951
- 4. Trading Representations (Disabled Persons) Act 1958
- 5. Trading Representations (Disabled Persons) Act (Northern Ireland) 1958
- 6. Mock Auctions Act 1961
- 7. Trade Descriptions Act 1968
- 8. The following provisions shall cease to have effect—
- 9. In section 1, for subsection (2) substitute—
- 10. In section 12 (false representations as to royal approval or...
- 11. In section 38 (orders), in subsection (3), for the words...
- 12. In section 39 (interpretation), in subsection (1), for "2 to...
- 13. Administration of Justice Act 1970
- 14. Greater London Council (General Powers) Act 1972
- 15. Fair Trading Act 1973
- 16. Hallmarking Act 1973
- 17. Consumer Credit Act 1974
- 18. Section 46 (false or misleading advertisements) shall cease to have...
- 19. In section 77 (duty to give information to debtor under...
- 20. In section 78 (duty to give information to debtor under...
- 21. In section 79 (duty to give hirer information), in subsection...
- 22. In section 85 (duty on issue of new credit tokens),...
- 23. In section 97 (duty to give information), in subsection (3),...
- 24. In section 103 (termination statements)—(a) omit subsection (5), and...
- 25. In section 107 (duty to give information to surety under...
- 26. In section 108 (duty to give information to surety under...
- 27. In section 109 (duty to give information to surety under...
- 28. In section 110 (duty to give information to debtor or...
- 29. Telecommunications Act 1984
- 30. Companies Act 1985
- 31. Weights and Measures Act 1985
- 32. Airports Act 1986
- 33. Consumer Protection Act 1987
- 34. Sections 20 to 26 (misleading price indications) shall cease to...
- 35. In section 39 (defence of due diligence), in subsection (5),...
- 36. In section 46 (meaning of "supply"), in subsection (7), for...
- 37. In section 49 (Northern Ireland), in subsection (1)(a), for "Parts...
- 38. County of Cleveland Act 1987
- 39. Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988
- 40. In section 114A (forfeiture of infringing copies, etc: England and...
- 41. In section 114B (forfeiture of infringing copies, etc. Scotland), in...
- 42. In section 204A (forfeiture of illicit recordings: England and Wales...

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- 43. In section 204B (forfeiture: Scotland), in subsection (15), for the...
- 44. In section 297C (forfeiture of unauthorised decoders: England and Wales...
- 45. In section 297D (forfeiture of unauthorised decoders: Scotland), in subsection...
- 46. Road Traffic Act 1988
- 47. Water Act 1989
- 48. Courts and Legal Services Act 1990
- 49. Water Industry Act 1991
- 50. Water Resources Act 1991
- 51. North Yorkshire County Council Act 1991
- 52. Railways Act 1993
- 53. Trade Marks Act 1994
- 54. In section 91 (power of Commissioners for Revenue and Customs...
- 55. In section 97 (forfeiture: England and Wales or Northern Ireland),...
- 56. In section 98 (forfeiture: Scotland), in subsection (14), in the...
- 57. Coal Industry Act 1994
- 58. London Local Authorities Act 1996
- 59. Greater London Authority Act 1999
- 60. Postal Services Act 2000
- 61. Utilities Act 2000
- 62. Transport Act 2000
- 63. Criminal Justice and Police Act 2001
- 64. In Schedule 1 to that Act, in Part 1 (powers...
- 65. (1) In Schedule 2 to that Act, Part 1 (application...
- 66. Kent County Council Act 2001
- 67. Medway Council Act 2001
- 68. Enterprise Act 2002
- 69. Section 10(2) (saving of section 22 of the Fair Trading...
- 70. In Schedule 13 (listed Directives and Regulations)—
- 71. Licensing Act 2003
- 72. Communications Act 2003
- 73. Nottingham City Council Act 2003
- 74. Wireless Telegraphy Act 2006
- 75. Companies Act 2006
  - PART 2 Amendments to other legislation
- 76. Tourism (Sleeping Accommodation Price Display) Order 1977
- 77. Weights and Measures (Northern Ireland) Order 1981
- 78. Road Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations 1986
- 79. The Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986
- 80. Consumer Protection (Northern Ireland) Order 1987
- 81. Control of Misleading Advertisements Regulations 1988
- 82. Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations 1989
- 83. Estate Agents (Specified Offences) (No. 2) Order 1991
- 84. Airports (Northern Ireland) Order 1994
- 85. Motor Cycle Silencer and Exhaust Systems Regulations 1995
- 86. Energy Information (Washing Machines) Regulations 1996
- 87. Energy Information (Tumble Driers) Regulations 1996
- 88. Energy Information (Combined Washer-Driers) Regulations 1997
- 89. Motor Cycles (Protective Helmets) Regulations 1998
- 90. Motor Cycles (Protective Headgear) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999
- 91. Motor Vehicles (Construction and Use) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999
- 92. Energy Information (Lamps) Regulations 1999

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- 93. Energy Information (Dishwashers) Regulations 1999
- 94. Road Vehicles Lighting Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2000
- 95. Control of Misleading Advertisements (Amendment) Regulations 2000
- 96. Consumer Protection (Distance Selling) Regulations 2000
- 97. Sale and Supply of Goods to Consumers Regulations 2002
- 98. Energy (Northern Ireland) Order 2003
- 99. Energy Information (Household Electric Ovens) Regulations 2003
- 100. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Community Infringements Specified UK Laws)
  Order 2003
- Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Notice to OFT of Intended Prosecution, Specified Enactments, Revocation and Transitional Provision) Order 2003
- 102. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Domestic Infringements) Order 2003
- 103. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 9 Restrictions on Disclosure of Information) (Amendment and Specification) Order 2003
- 104. Price Marking (Food and Drink) Services Order 2003
- 105. Control of Misleading Advertisements (Amendment) Regulations 2003
- 106. Price Marking (Food and Drink) Services Order (Northern Ireland) 2004
- 107. Energy Information (Household Refrigerators and Freezers) Regulations 2004
- 108. Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 2004
- 109. Contracting Out (Functions relating to Broadcast Advertising) and Specification of Relevant Functions Order 2004
- 110. Financial Services (Distance Marketing) Regulations 2004
- 111. Duty Stamps Regulations 2006
- 112. The Water and Sewerage Services (Northern Ireland) Order 2006
- 113. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Community Infringements Specified UK Laws)
  Order 2006
- 114. Licensing (Relevant Offences) (Scotland) Regulations 2007
- 115. Legislative and Regulatory Reform (Regulatory Functions) Order 2007

#### SCHEDULE 3 — Transitional and Saving Provisions

- 1. Trade Descriptions Act 1968
- 2. The repeal of section 19(4)(b) and (c) of the Trade...
- 3. The repeal of section 24(3) of the Trade Descriptions Act...
- 4. Notwithstanding the repeal by these Regulations of section 39(2) of...
- 5. Application of the Consumer Protection Act 1987 to the Price Indications (Bureaux de Change) (No. 2) Regulations 1992
- 6. Notwithstanding the repeals and amendments made by these Regulations to...
- 7. Application of the Consumer Protection (Northern Ireland) Order 1987 to the Price Indications (Bureaux de Change) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1992
- 8. Notwithstanding the repeals and amendments made by these Regulations to...
- 9. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Notice to OFT of Intended Prosecution, Specified Enactments, Revocation and Transitional Provision) Order 2003
- 10. Notwithstanding the amendments made by these Regulations to the Enterprise...
- 11. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Domestic Infringements) Order 2003
- 12. Notwithstanding the amendments made by these Regulations to the Enterprise
- 13. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Community Infringements Specified UK Laws)
  Order 2003

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- 14. Enterprise Act 2002 (Part 8 Community Infringements Specified UK Laws) Order 2006
- 15. Disclosure of information

SCHEDULE 4 — Repeals and Revocations
PART 1 — Repeals
The repeal of sections 29 to 33 of the Fair...
PART 2 — Revocations

**Explanatory Note** 

#### **Status:**

Point in time view as at 26/05/2008.

### **Changes to legislation:**

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